



st. cecilia church
lagunitas

October 10, 2021

Mission Statement of St. Cecilia's & St. Mary's

To be Nurtured by Christ's Word, Supported by a Faith Loving Community, and to Serve the Needs of Others as Called to Minister

✦ St. Joseph Church, Magdalena, Colombia (sister parish) ✦



st. mary church
nicasio

MASS	Sunday **	St. Cecilia	9:30 a.m.
		St. Mary	11:15 a.m.
		<i>** Children Liturgy, last Sunday of the month</i>	
	Monday	St. Cecilia	8 a.m. Holy Hour follows
	Wednesday	St. Cecilia	8 a.m.
	Thursday	St. Mary	8 a.m.
	Friday	St. Mary (1 st Fri.)	8 a.m. Holy Hour follows
	Saturday	St. Cecilia (other Fri.)	8 a.m.
		St. Cecilia (last Sat.)	8 a.m. Padre Pio & Rosary Devotion
		St. Mary (other Sat.)	8 a.m.
Reconciliation	Saturday	St. Cecilia	4 to 4:30 p.m.
		St. Mary (except last Sat.)	8:30 to 9:15 a.m.
Religious Education Confirmation Prep.	Monday	St. Cecilia	3:45 to 4:45 p.m. (1 st thru 6 th graders)
	Wednesday	St. Cecilia	6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

There is a story of a tiny Mickey Mouse and a giant cat in a cartoon movie. Mickey Mouse seems very clever and cautious. With his thin body, he can easily run into a narrow tunnel in an old brick wall and quickly disappear whenever the cat comes. The cat always feels angry to be a loser.

But this time, Mickey Mouse cannot escape the cat just because of the temptation of a big block of cheddar cheese. The cat stands quietly at a distance and observes the tiny mouse enjoying his meal. He eats too much. His body becomes bigger and bigger. He cannot finish the cheese, but tries to carry the leftover to the tunnel.

The cat knows this is perfect time to jump out. In fear, Mickey Mouse tries to run fast as he can, but too late. This time, he cannot squeeze his fat body into the narrow tunnel anymore. The cat now enjoys both the poor rat and the cheese block.

We can see in today's Gospel the struggle of the rich young man because of his "many possessions." When Jesus reminds him of the Commandments, the young man responds confidently: "All of these I have observed from my youth." This young man takes his religion seriously and is faithful to his religious duties. If he lived today, he would be a devout churchgoer, keeping all the rules of his religion.

How bad the young man must have felt, when Jesus challenges him: "sell everything." Renounce your possessions if you want to follow me to have eternal happiness. We can imagine him asking Jesus in shock: "sell everything!" And "he went away sad."

How about us? If Jesus challenged you and me the same thing: "go and sell everything you have and give to the poor and come back and follow me!" We probably say: it is not easy to be Jesus' disciple. It is not easy to be a Catholic. Sorry Jesus. I quit.

We are no better than this rich young man; no better than the rat that hangs on to the big block of cheese and forgets its life. That's why Jesus said: "How hard it is to enter the kingdom of God (KoG)! It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for one who is rich to enter the KoG."

This saying of Jesus perhaps offends many of us here too. Like the disciples, we may ask Jesus: "Then who can be saved?" Look, I spend my whole life trying to be a good parishioner. I have contributed to the Church a lot of my money, time, work... But it seems that I would hardly enter the KoG, if I am rich. Is it true that if I am wealthy then I don't have much chance to enter the KoG?

Actually, Jesus wants to tell us not to feel guilty about being wealthy. Richness is a blessing from God. The problem is if we are rich but we don't share our gifts. Jesus curses the rich man who wears luxurious clothes and has fancy party every day, but forgets the beggar Lazarus lying at his gate begging for food, but nobody gives him anything. Jesus curses the rich man, not because of his wealth, but because he does not show compassion to the poor and the unfortunate.

The entry into the KoG is reserved for those who, in addition to keeping all the commandments, give away possessions for the love of God and neighbors. Jesus does not say that material richness is evil. Indeed, wealth is good if rightly used. Riches only become danger for us, when we hang on to them too tightly. Riches also become danger whenever they give us a false sense of security – like the unlucky rat, being so busy with the food, forgets that the giant cat is approaching.

The first reading from the Book of Wisdom affirms this to us: "riches are nothing in comparison with Wisdom of God." God gives us this wisdom to be able to "discern reflections and thoughts of our hearts." God gives us this wisdom to seek and to choose what is more valuable in our life: God or material possessions? Heavenly happiness or worldly pleasure?

Jesus challenges the rich young man: "sell what you have, give to the poor, and then follow me." We may be challenged the same: leave behind everything unnecessary to follow Jesus. We are called to love and to serve God and the poor. Let us come before God with our grateful hearts for all blessings we receive in our lives, and so in turn, we can share our gifts to the service of God and of those who are less fortunate.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The Annual October Count continues today, Sunday 10/10, and throughout this month.
2. Last reminder for those who are interested in joining the Liturgical Training for Readers and Eucharistic Ministers at St. Sebastian Church, Greenbrae, this Saturday 10/16. Please contact Robyn Torres (415) 663-9320 or wakerobyn425@gmail.com for more information.
3. You are invited to join other Christians for 40 Days for Life from 09/22 to 10/31. For more information, and especially if you'd like to volunteer to help, please contact: Ruth Ann Cawley at racawley60@gmail.com. You can sign up at 40daysforlife.com.

MASS INTENTIONS: from Sunday, October 10 to Saturday, October 16

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	SC	... Claire Straube (for healing)
	11:15 a.m.	SM	... Melvin Lafranchi (repose)
Monday	8 a.m.	SC	...Sean & Stephanie O'Connell (marriage blessing)
Tuesday	No Mass		
Wednesday	8 a.m.	SC	... George Kerbs (for health)
Thursday	8 a.m.	SM	... Martha McNeil (repose)
Friday	8 a.m.	SC	... Rose de Rutte (special intention)
Saturday	8 a.m.	SM	... Grandpa Peter Nguyen (repose)

Last Week Collections:

<u>St. Cecilia</u>	
Offertory	\$ 437.00
Maintenance	\$ 40.00
Total	\$ 477.00
<u>St. Mary</u>	
Offertory	\$ 348.00
Memorials	\$ 450.00
Preservat'n	\$ 700.00
Total	\$ 1,498.00

We have met the goal for 2021 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!