



st. cecilia church
lagunitas

January 02, 2022

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
Reconciliation	Saturday	St. Cecilia	4 to 4:30 p.m.
		St. Mary (except last Sat.)	8:30 to 9:15 a.m.
		St. Cecilia (last Sat.)	8 a.m. Padre Pio & Rosary Devotion
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.

SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Is 60:1-6; Ps 72; Eph 3:2-6; Mt 2:1-12

What is "epiphany"? Epiphany is the revelation of God – God reveals himself to us. On this day, God reveals his Only Begotten Son to the nations by the guidance of a star. Epiphany is the manifestation of the Son of God to the world as we sing from the psalm today: "Lord, every nation on earth will adore you." All kings shall pay him homage. All nations shall serve him.

Prophet Isaiah in today's first reading also tells us: "the glory of the Lord shines upon you." Nations shall no longer walk in darkness, but in the Light... to see the Lord and adore Him, our God, our Savior, our Light, and our Hope... All peoples shall come, bearing gold and frankincense to offer him, and proclaiming the praises of the Lord.

All the dreams of the people in the Old Testament have been fulfilled as the gospel tells us. The magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem to search for the Lord. They were overjoyed at seeing the child Jesus, the newborn King. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. They offered gold to proclaim Christ's kingship, incense to adore his Godhead, and myrrh to acknowledge his mortality. This is as a prophecy that Jesus is born to die for love.

Three magi represent different peoples/nations/countries. All peoples/nations come to adore God in Christ Jesus. St. Paul tells us through his Letter to the Ephesians: "Now it has been revealed that the gentiles are coheirs of the promise." God reveals himself to the non-Jews, the gentiles, so they may share in the light of salvation. The Messiah came to establish his church for all people and nations. By God's eternal plan, the Church opens door to all people who wish to enter. In this sense, the Church belongs to all people of all nations, races, colors, and tongues.

Because of a deep desire to see God, the magi leave everything behind: their homeland and families, so that they can begin their journey to seek God. They follow the leading star to find the Baby Jesus – the newborn king, the Son of God.

On this Epiphany, we give thanks to God for having revealed himself to the gentiles like us, for we ourselves were once gentiles, but now we are children of God through Baptism. Baptized as infant, we might have the same complacent attitude as of the religious leaders of the time of King Herod, practicing our faith as in our daily routine fashion. But indeed, we need to search for the Lord every day; we need to see his presence in our life. We still have to seek him, seeking his way of love, holiness, wisdom, justice, and peace.

There is another point in the gospel for us to reflect on. "Having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, the magi departed for their country by another way." When we meet Christ, we no longer go back to our same old way of sinfulness, but the light of Christ changes our life, and leads us home by another way. We may need to ask ourselves: does Christ Jesus, of whom we celebrate at Christmas, Holy Family, Epiphany, and every day Mass, make any difference in our lives, or just remain the same? When receiving Holy Communion, it means we have seen Christ Jesus, we have been changed into a new being. We are reminded to "change another way" – a better way – as we go back from the Eucharistic table to the life of every day.

Oh, Infant Jesus, when the magi searched for you, your star guided them to Bethlehem to worship you. Teach us, Lord, to sincerely seek you day by day, that we may truly know your presence in our life.

May God, who has called us out of darkness into his wonderful light, pour out in kindness his blessing upon us! May we perceive the Lord with clear sight, so to bring the light of Christ to our brothers and sisters! May God make our hearts firm in faith, hope and charity!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. First Friday, January 7, Mass at 8 a.m., then Adoration until 12 noon at St. Mary Church.
2. Pope Francis invites the whole Church to participate in the preparatory process for the upcoming Synod of Bishops on Synodality (see the insert). This unprecedented opportunity will facilitate discussion and reflection to help shape the Church's understanding of herself and her mission of evangelization and forming disciples. The Archdiocese of San Francisco will kick-off the local synodal process this month by asking every Catholic to participate in the Disciple Maker Index survey – a nationally recognized survey administered at parishes around the United States and Canada. Visit website www.sfarch.org/synod for more details.
3. You are invited to join the annual Walk for Life West Coast on Saturday, January 22, 2022 to support the unborn. The event will begin with the Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral at 10:30 am. The Walk for Life Info Faire will continue at 11 am at Civic Center Plaza. The Rally will start at the same location at 12:30 pm, with the Walk itself commencing at 1:30 pm. For full schedule and additional details, visit the [Walk for Life West Coast website](#).
4. Confirmation Class and Catechism Class for children will start soon this January. If you are interested in participating, or if you have your children to participate, please contact Margaret Farley at 515.492.8690 or Igleagles@gmail.com to register.

MASS INTENTIONS: from Sunday, January 02 to Saturday, January 08

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	SC	... for devotion to Our Blessed Mother
	11:15 a.m.	SM	... for All Souls in Purgatory
Monday	8 a.m.	SC	... Ralph John Treleven (repose/birthday)
Tuesday	No Mass		
Wednesday	8 a.m.	SC	... John Massocca (repose/anniversary 12/27)
Thursday	8 a.m.	SM	... Tina & Kelvin Zwiefelhofer (anniversary)
Friday	8 a.m.	SM	... Carol Bennetts (for health)
Saturday	8 a.m.	SM	... Pat White (for health)

Last Week Collections	
<u>St. Cecilia</u>	
Offertory	\$ 1,035.00
Christmas	\$ 3,157.00
Maintenance	\$ 1,090.00
Total	\$ 5,282.00
<u>St. Mary</u>	
Offertory	\$ 488.00
Christmas	\$ 2,003.00
Total	\$ 2,491.00