



st. cecilia church
lagunitas

January 09, 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
	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.

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD – 2022

Is 40:1...11; Ps 104; Ti 2:11-14, 3:4-7; Lk 3:15...22

As the Catholic Church believes, infants are baptized to welcome them into the Catholic faith and to free them from the original sin they were born with. The celebration of the Baptism of the Lord Jesus today, however, raises a challenging question: why does Jesus, the all-holy Son of God, seek John's baptism of repentance? Jesus is the all-holy Son of God – he has no sin – why does Jesus seek to be baptized? Even John the Baptist, in today's Gospel, has difficulty understanding why Jesus comes to him for baptism, as he says about Jesus: "I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals."

Generally, when talking about baptism, we would think right away that baptism takes away original sin. That's true. For us, baptism does not only take away original sin but also fills us with: 1/ the blessings of God's life to be God's children, 2/ the blessings of the Holy Spirit, 3/ the blessing of belonging to the family of God, and 4/ the blessing and hope of sharing in eternal happiness with God.

However, the baptism of Jesus by John is totally different from our sacrament of baptism. Indeed, the baptism of Jesus is a mystery, worthy of our contemplation. From all eternity, Jesus is God's beloved Son. He has all blessings. He is not to receive but to give, for he himself is the source of all grace. He is spotless lamb. Because Jesus has no sin, he has no need of baptism in any form. In this respect, Jesus' baptism by John made no change in him as the sacrament of baptism did for us.

However, Jesus' baptism by John provides an occasion for us to reflect on our own baptism and the grace that it brought us. Saint Maximus of Turin said: "Christ is baptized, not to be made holy by the water, but to make the water holy, and by his cleansing to purify the waters which he touched."

Now, let us look at the similarity between the baptism of Jesus by John and the sacrament of baptism we received. They are similar in that they are both a commitment. John's baptism is a public commitment people make to live holy lives and to prepare for the coming of God's kingdom. Jesus, in

being baptized, is publicly committing himself to do God's will and to preach and build the kingdom of God.

Baptism is that for us too. We are committed in a public event to belong to God, to be God's obedient child, God's lover, God's representative. It is something like declaring one's candidacy, not for public office, but for the office of Christian in the world. Most likely, someone – probably our parents – make that commitment for us. They make that commitment for us with the intention of directing us in God's ways. Eventually, we have to make that commitment our own if our baptism is going to mean anything at all. So, Christ's baptism reveals to us what our own baptism now accomplishes: the forgiveness of sin and a share in his divine sonship.

On this feast of the baptism of Jesus we have a good opportunity to recommit ourselves to Jesus. The effects and blessings of baptism remain with us as long as we do not turn our hearts away from the Father who long ago chose us to be his son or daughter in the sacrament. In this way Jesus' baptism by John is very much like our own, not a private, secret event but a public, open declaration of our commitment to love and serve God and others, as we hear the resounding voice of God coming down from heaven: "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Pope Francis invites the whole Church to participate in the preparatory process for the upcoming Synod of Bishops on Synodality. 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.
2. 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 9:30 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](#).

MASS INTENTIONS: from Sunday, January 09 to Saturday, January 15

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	SC	... Barney & Barbara Felling (for health)
	11:15 a.m.	SM	... Paricia Libra-Rieser (for health)
Monday	8 a.m.	SC	... Bob Bridwell (repose/5 th anniversary)
Tuesday	No Mass		
Wednesday	8 a.m.	SC	... Andrues Family (special intention)
Thursday	8 a.m.	SM	... Guido Mori-Prange (for health)
Friday	8 a.m.	SC	... for marriage & family life (special intention)
Saturday	8 a.m.	SM	... Ellis Family (special intention)

Last Week Collections	
<u>St. Cecilia</u>	
Offertory	\$ 439.00
Roof Repair	\$ 3,000.00
Maintenance	\$ 140.00
Total	\$ 3,579.00
<u>St. Mary</u>	
Offertory	\$ 1,486.00
Xmas Party	\$ 2,300.00
Xmas donat'n	\$ 1,500.00
Preservat'n	\$ 200.00
Total	\$ 5,486.00