



st. cecilia church
lagunitas

March 27, 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.
		** Children Liturgy, last Sunday of the month	
	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	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.
Confirmation Prep.	Wednesday	St. Cecilia	6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

SEE # 819 (or # 817 for St. Mary's Church) IN MUSIC BOOK FOR READINGS

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR C

Jos 5:9...12; Ps 34; 2 Cor 5:17-21; Lk 15:1...32

The Lord is kind and merciful: slow to anger, rich in kindness. God's kindness and mercy is main message for us today as we can see from the readings.

In the first reading, from the book of Joshua, because of his love and mercy, God has "removed the reproach of Egypt" from his people Israel; God freed them from the exile and slavery, to bring them back to the Promised Land.

As we learn from salvation history, the chosen people have broken their covenants with God. They abandoned their God. They worshiped alien gods and molten cows. But God sent his prophets, many times, many ways, to warn them, and to call them to come back to God. In the due time, God sent his only Son Jesus to reconcile his people to himself as St. Paul says in the second reading that: *God has reconciled us to himself through Christ.*

From the gospel, we can see the image of God as the merciful father. Even when we are still sinners, God loves us; God does not abandon us; God wants us to be saved; God waits for us to come home. This gospel story is well known as the parable of the Prodigal Son. However, we could also name it as the parable of the Merciful Father if we reflect on God's merciful love for us. Yet, we may call this story the parable of the Selfish Brother as we can see through the older son's behaviours.

According to the parable, both sons were guilty of something. While the younger son was guilty of greed and selfishness, the elder son was guilty of jealousy and un-forgiveness; in his self-righteousness, he thought he has the right to possess all his father's property. He closed the door of his heart, not to forgive his younger brother who has repented.

Now, we may ask ourselves: "who am I in this story?" Sometimes we may act like the younger son when we abuse God's gifts; when we waste the gifts and talents God has given to us; when are selfish

and greedy. Sometimes we behave like the elder son when we are resentful and jealous of others' gifts and talents; when we don't want to share our gifts; when we hardly forgive others' faults.

We might be the prodigal son. We might be the selfish brother. However, the significant lesson for us to learn today is from the loving mercy of the father. The father is so kind, so loving, and so merciful that he doesn't need a word of apology from the prodigal son. The coming home of the son is more than enough for him – the all-loving father.

The prodigal son, when realizing his miserable condition, decided to return home to his father. "Come home" is the first step to receive his father's kindness and forgiveness. If knowing when and how to make a U-turn can save our lost on the road when we drive, conversion is much more important to save our soul on the journey to eternal life.

Reflecting on the Word of God today, and during this season of Lent, if we have been lost in some aspects of our spiritual life, we need to have the courage to "rise and return home." God does not count our sins, but he is always waiting for us to come home through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and through the Eucharist we receive at Mass – to reconcile with God and live in his grace.

Let us not forget that God is our loving and merciful Father. He is slow to anger and rich in kindness. The Lord is kind and merciful.

AAA 2022	Goal	Received	Needed
St. Cecilia's	\$ 6,774	\$ 5,950	\$ 824
St. Mary's	\$ 3,906	\$ 1,248	\$ 2,658

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **A second collection today, Sunday 3/27/22** to help the victims of war in Ukraine.
2. **Living Lent:** Lent calls us to pray, fast, and give-alms. For almsgiving this Lent, each household is asked to take home a **Poor Box**. You are to give your change every day to the little piggy bank. We will collect them by the end of Lent, to be given to St. Vincent de Paul.
3. **Preparing lunch boxes for the needy:** Margaret Farley and the catechism classes will be at St. Cecilia's kitchen this afternoon to prepare lunch boxes to be given to SVdP.
4. **First Friday (4/1):** at St. Mary Church. Mass at 8 am, and Adoration until 12 noon.
5. **Friday Home Visit & Rosary:** Please join the prayer group to visit and pray the Rosary at parishioners' homes on Fridays at 5 pm. Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin boards, or please contact Daphne Massucco (415) 488-4833 to register and know more details. This Friday (4/1) will be at Ginny & George Kerbs' home: 8 Castlerock Ave, Woodacre, CA 94973

MASS INTENTIONS: from Sunday, March 27 to Saturday, April 3

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	SC	... Sharon Cuthbert (repose/anniversary)
	11:15 a.m.	SM	... Susan Pineda (birthday)
Monday	8 a.m.	SC	... Msgr. Romulo Vergara (ordination anniversary)
Tuesday	No Mass		
Wednesday	8 a.m.	SC	... Guido Mori-Prange (safe trip to Medjugorje)
Thursday	8 a.m.	SM	... Sandy Ginter (repose)
Friday	8 a.m.	SM	... George & Ginny Kerbs (special intention)
Saturday	8 a.m.	SM	... Earnie Legnitto (repose)

<u>Last Week Collections</u>	
<u>St. Cecilia</u>	
Offertory	\$ 456.00
Maintenance	\$ 40.00
AAA	\$ 200.00
Total	\$ 696.00
<u>St. Mary</u>	
Offertory	\$ 622.00
Preservat'n	\$ 50.00
Total	\$ 672.00