

July 24, 2022



st. cecilia church
lagunitas

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.

Please see #903 in your Music Book for the readings

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – C

From last Sunday's gospel, we find two models in our Christian life: Martha shows her love for the Lord through service; Mary shows her love for the Lord through prayer. Both service and prayer are important and necessary. However, Jesus reminds us that prayer must go first, then through prayer we are inspired to love, and strengthened to serve.

Today's readings, especially the Gospel, also emphasize the necessity of our prayer life. Saint Paul encourages us to pray so that we may endure the cross of our life and "become one with Christ." Through prayers, Abraham negotiates with God, asking for his mercy and compassion over two sinful cities: Sodom and Gomorrah; and God spared them. In the gospel, Jesus also urges us to pray. He said: "ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." This is the strongest reason telling us why we need to pray.

Jesus encourages us to pray constantly by giving us the example of a person who goes to his friend at midnight asking for bread. Knocking at neighbor's door at midnight to ask for food is really an annoying thing, but the man in today's gospel has to do it when he is in need and has no other choice; for he believes that if he patiently asks, he will be helped, as Jesus concludes: "I tell you, if the man in the house does not get up to give the visitor the loaves because of their friendship, he will get up to give him whatever he needs because of his persistence." So, Jesus reminds us to be persistent in prayer.

God is caring and loving. As a father cares for his children, God provides us what we need. God is almighty. He knows what we need even before we ask him. In saying so, we may question: then why do we have to pray? Because prayer is the way that we express our needs; it is one way to say that we acknowledge whatever the gift God gives us; we don't take God for granted. Through prayer we deepen

our relationship with God – the relationship between the children and God, the Father – just like young children have to cry out to the parents if they are hungry, and so they will be fed.

Normally, we are not persistent in prayers, not patient enough. We hear people complain that they have been praying but God doesn't seem to hear their prayers; God does not grant their requests. A young boy in a catechism class prays like this: "Lord, please help my parents; they are poor. Could you help them win lottery?" Another boy laughed at him, saying: "You are greedy. I think God never gives you that." And the two boys got into arguing.

Sometimes in prayer, we don't really know what we ask for: bread or stone? Fish or snake or scorpion? Many years ago in Los Angeles, a motorcycle accident happened to my friend's only son. It was when the son began his first year in Medical School, he asked the parents for a motorcycle as a reward for him. At first, the parents hesitated to give him this gift. But the son persistently asked them, and the parents finally granted the son's request. The very first day when the son got the motorcycle, he got into the accident on the freeway that left him paralyzed for the rest of his life.

My brothers and sisters, perhaps in prayer, we usually focus on material gifts, but rarely think about spiritual gifts. Jesus clearly reminds us: "If you then, who are wicked, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him?" In prayer, let us make sure to ask for what we need not what we want. Let us pray that we delight what God delights: Thy will be done, O God, not mine.

MASS INTENTIONS: from Sunday, July 24 to Saturday, July 30

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	SC	... Sharon Cuthbert (repose)
	11:15 a.m.	SM	... Peter Tien (repose)
Monday	8 a.m.	SC	... David Thomas (health)
Tuesday	No Mass		
Wednesday	8 a.m.	SC	... Peter Hieu (repose)
Thursday	8 a.m.	SM	... Colleen McGuinn (repose)
Friday	8 a.m.	SC	... Anna Vuong (repose)
Saturday	8 a.m.	SC	... Carol Bennetts (repose)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Padre Pio Mass and devotion at St. Cecilia's Church, this Saturday, July 30, at 8 A.M.
2. Annual BBQ at the Lafranchi Deer Camp in Nicasio: Sunday, August 7, right after St. Mary's 11:15 a.m. Mass, in memory of Martha McNeil, and as a fundraiser for St. Mary's. Due to the location, it is limited to 40 participants with a cost of \$50.00 per person. To know more details, please email Margaret at Igleagles@gmail.com.
3. Wednesday Home Visit & Rosary: Wednesdays at 5 p.m. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board, please sign up. This Wednesday, July 20 will be at the Dallara's home: 95 La Cuesta Ave, Lagunitas.
4. St. Cecilia's annual rummage sale is returning this Fall, on October 22nd, 2022. An initial planning meeting is scheduled for Sunday, August 7th right after 9:30 a.m. Mass, in the parish hall. Your help is needed, to volunteer your time, to donate items, to spread the word, and of course, to shop. Thank you!

2022 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal:

St. Cecilia
Goal \$ 6,774.00
Received \$ 6,774.00

THANK YOU!

St. Mary
Goal \$ 3,906.00
Received \$ 2,698.00
Need \$ 1,208.00

Last Week Collections:

St. Cecilia
Offertory \$ 553.00
Maintenance \$ 400.00
Total \$ 953.00

St. Mary
Offertory \$ 327.00
Preservat'n \$ 400.00
AAA \$ 00.00
Total \$ 727.00