



st. cecilia church lagunitas

January 1, 2023

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

Table with 4 columns: Activity, Day, Location, and Time. Rows include MASS (Sunday to Saturday), Reconciliation (Saturday), Religious Education (Monday), and Confirmation Prep (Wednesday).

See #802 in your Music Book for the readings

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

We have just celebrated Christmas, the birthday of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Indeed, we are still surrounded with the spirit of Christmas. We are in the midst of celebrating the greatest mystery: "the Word became flesh."

Today, we give thanks to God for all blessings we have received from God, with the celebration of New Year's Day; this day is also designated by the Church to celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. This feast honors Mary and reminds us again of the mystery of the Incarnation, that God took on our human flesh, without ceasing to be God.

When reflecting on the connection between the two big celebrations during this time – the birthday of Jesus and the solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God, it reminds me of a story of a young girl Karen who played very well her simple part in the Christmas pageant. Her role was to hold up high a large tinfoil star for everyone to see, and so she led the angels, the shepherds, and the three Wise Men to visit Joseph, Mary and the Baby Jesus at the manger.

When the little play ended, people gathered in the parish hall for refreshments. Karen proudly told her parents: "Mom and Dad, I played the main part." Her father happily asked: "What make you think you played the main part, honey?" Karen said confidently: "because I showed everybody how to find Jesus."

"I showed everybody how to find Jesus." That's true! That's only simple thing Keren did during the play. To show others how to find Jesus is what you and I are called to do. To be the light leading others on their paths is the finest role we can play in our life as Christians. This is the role that Mary played all her life; she has always pointed to Christ.

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, and we look to her life for wisdom for our lives. We look to her because she was human, but blessed in a special way. In Mary, God has realized first and perfectly his design for the whole church, and for each individual Christian. In other words, who Mary is, we are destined to be. So, when we talk about Mary, we are talking about ourselves. We are proclaiming the ideal for a Christian.

Mary is the perfect Christian. In all she did and said, she pointed to Christ. She is the perfect imitation of Jesus and gives us a way to be the light of the world, and a new way of being. She most exemplified this in her response to the angel's request by saying "let it be done onto me as you say." She then conceived Jesus within her womb.

Mary, the Mother of God and our spiritual mother, gives us perfect examples how to live our Christian life. Let us be more attentive in listening to God's call for us, and imitate Mary's examples and respond: "Yes, my Lord. Let it be done onto me as you say."

MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL WITH A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

MASS INTENTIONS: from Sunday, January 1 to Saturday, January 7

Table with 4 columns: Day, Time, Location, and Intention. Rows include Sunday (9:30 a.m. SC, 11:15 am SM), Monday (8 a.m. SC), Tuesday (No Mass), Wednesday (8 a.m. SC), Thursday (8 a.m. SM), Friday (8 a.m. SM), and Saturday (8 a.m. SM).

2022 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal:

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

St. Mary Goal \$ 3,906.00 Received \$ 4,298.00

THANK YOU!

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 1. Wednesday Home Visit & Rosary: only twice a month on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays. Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board, please sign up to host. This Wednesday, January 4, will be at Daphne & Ken Massucco's home: 51 Castle Rock Ave, Woodacre, CA 94973.
2. First Friday, January 6: at St. Mary Church, Nicasio. Mass at 8 am. Eucharistic Adoration after the Mass until 12 noon. All are welcome.
3. THANK-YOU to all parishioners and friends for your generous giving and support to the parish throughout the year in different ways: weekly contribution, Archdiocesan Annual Appeal, fundraising events, church maintenance, decoration for seasonal liturgies, and especially your generous Christmas giving.

Last Week Collections

St. Cecilia Offertory \$ 1,284.00 Xmas gifts \$ 2,300.00 Maintenance \$ 1,000.00 Total \$ 4,584.00

St. Mary Offertory \$ 452.00 Xmas gifts \$ 2,100.00 Preservat'n \$ 327.00 Total \$ 2,879.00