



st. cecilia church  
lagunitas

January 29, 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

<b>MASS</b>	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 <sup>st</sup> Fri.)	8 a.m. Holy Hour follows
		St. Cecilia (other Fri.)	8 a.m.
	Saturday	St. Cecilia (last Sat.)	8 a.m. Padre Pio & Rosary Devotion
<b>Reconciliation</b>	Saturday	St. Mary (other Sat.)	8 a.m.
		St. Cecilia	4 to 4:30 p.m.
<b>Religious Education Confirmation Prep.</b>	Monday	St. Mary (except last Sat.)	8:30 to 9:15 a.m.
		St. Cecilia	3:45 to 4:45 p.m. (1 <sup>st</sup> thru 6 <sup>th</sup> graders)
	Wednesday	St. Cecilia	6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

See #862 in your Music Book for the readings

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A**

*Zep 2:3, 3:12-13; Ps 146; 1 Cor 1:26-31; Mt 5:1-12a*

A couple has three sons. The first boy is smart and very talented. The father wants him to become an engineer; or he would become a successful businessman. The second boy is tall, handsome, healthy, and clever too. The mother wants him to become a lawyer, or a doctor, or a professor. The third boy is not good looking; he doesn't care much about shopping; he is not interested in money talks. The parents really concern about their youngest son's future; he seems not clever, not active; Probably, he would hardly be successful in life. So, the parents plan to send him to a seminary; hopefully he will become a priest...

Good fruits, we keep. The leftover, we give to God. That is our human nature.

The Sermon on the Mount from today's gospel, also called the Beatitudes, gives us some questions to reflect on. What does it mean to be successful? What is happiness in the world's point-of-view? What is happiness in the eye of God?

Jesus' standards for happiness in today's gospel seems totally different from our society's belief. He consoles the poor, the suffered, the persecuted, by saying: blessed are the poor in spirit; blessed are they who mourn; or blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness... But our consumer society would say: blessed are the rich; blessed are those who know how to have fun; if you want to be happy, enjoy your life, eat and drink and be merry; you are what you eat; you are what you buy; you are what kind of car you drive or how big and luxurious is the house you live in...

Where Jesus says, "Blessed are the merciful," society tells us, "Blessed are the powerful." Even when we face hardship or suffering, Jesus consoles us by saying: "Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness," but society would say: "Be sure you get a good lawyer." Don't forget to buy your insurance.

We call these sayings of Jesus the Beatitudes. But today's society considers them as counter-cultural; the Beatitudes contradict just about everything our culture tells us. People may not easily accept these teachings of Jesus, but they accept all other values of today's society.

What the gospel wants to tell us is if we are serious about being Jesus' disciples, we must try to live by standards that he commands us – to live a life centered on God. "Seek first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness and everything else will be given to you." Is this easy to follow? No, not easy. The Beatitudes challenge us to put God first in our lives. It is a fulfilled life, a life that brings true peace, because God is the only source of true happiness, of fulfillment, and genuine peace.

Living by the Beatitudes is not easy; it is beyond human powers. To live as Jesus teaches us, we need a power greater than our own. That is why we are here, at this Eucharistic table, to be empowered by the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, so that we may embrace the Beatitudes and live and practice in our everyday life, for the hope of heavenly happiness will be with us on the last day, and to all those who respond to Jesus' challenges, he promises: "Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven."

MASS INTENTIONS: Sunday January 29, 2023

9:30 a.m. SC ... Ryan Dallara & Andrew Osborn (repose)

11:15 am SM ... Tom Baker (repose)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Wednesday Home Visit & Rosary:** only twice a month on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays at 5 pm. Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board, please sign up to host. Next rosary visit will be on Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, at the Andruess' home: 12 Country Ln, Novato. Wednesday, February 12 will be at Carol Mori-Prange's home: 24 Elm Avenue, Woodacre.
- Fr Phan will be visiting his family in Vietnam for 3 weeks:** from January 30<sup>th</sup> to February 21<sup>st</sup>. There will be no weekday Mass during this time, but only Sunday Masses helped by guest priests:
  - Sunday, February 5, 2023 ... Fr. Te Nguyen
  - Sunday, February 12, 2023 ... Fr. Te Nguyen
  - Sunday, February 19, 2023 ... Fr. Luello Palacpac
  - Fr. Phan will be back right before Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2023.
- Archdiocesan Annual Appeal 2023 Message from Fr. Phan:** First of all, I sincerely thank you all for your generous supports to help our parish reaching the goal every year. Now, the AAA for 2023 is coming again, you will be receiving the AAA letter in your mail to know more information. However, since I will be away for three weeks, from tonight Sunday of January 29, I earnestly ask for your help again, by giving to the second collections every week for the AAA 2023 beginning from this Sunday. Thank you again for your help!

Last Week Collections

<u>St. Cecilia</u>	
Offertory	\$ 656.00
Maintenance	\$ 50.00
Xmas gift	\$ 25.00
Total	<u>\$ 731.00</u>

<u>St. Mary</u>	
Offertory	\$ 319.00
Preservat'n	\$ 90.00
Total	<u>\$ 409.00</u>