

April 16, 2023



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.

See #830 in your Music Book for the readings

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER – DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Acts 2:42-47; Ps 118; 1 Pt 1:3-9; Jn 20:19-31

Thomas believed because he saw the risen Jesus. Even though the resurrection still remains a mystery of our faith, but we are the people who “walk by faith, not by sight.” This witness of Thomas encourages us to have faith in Jesus. Although we have never seen him, we believe in him. We give thanks to God for this gift of faith, especially when we gather at Mass for prayers and for the breaking of the bread.

We don't know much about St. Thomas' life except the evidence in today's Gospel that makes him well known with the nickname: Doubting Thomas. He said: “Unless I see him, unless I touch his nail marks, I will not believe.” At first, he did not believe the resurrection of Jesus. However, when encountering the risen Lord, Thomas was changed from doubt to a profound belief as he uttered the most theological statement: “My Lord and my God.”

Probably, it is challenging for us, too, to believe what we have never seen. How can we accept the story that Jesus suddenly came and stood in the midst of his disciples while all the doors were locked? Resurrection still remains a mystery of our faith. However, no question, but believe, as Jesus said: “Blessed are those who have not seen me, but still believe.”

Faith is the fruit of the Holy Spirit. The victory that conquers the world is our faith. Thanks to the work of the Holy Spirit, we have come to believe in God, through Jesus Christ. We find it more meaningful since the resurrection of Christ is the centrality of our Christian faith. Faith should be understood in a more profound level than what we can touch and see.

One concrete example about belief vs. doubt is the Holy Communion we receive every time at Mass. How sure do you believe that what you are receiving is the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ? People still say that what we see is a piece of bread and a little wine. But indeed, it is true flesh and true blood of Jesus Christ.

Remember at the Last Supper, Jesus didn't say: “This is the symbol of my Body... or symbol of my Blood...” But he said: “This is my Body... this is my Blood...”

The song “I am the Bread of Life” by Sr. Suzanne Toolan is based on John's Gospel, chapter 6, where Jesus said: “Unless you eat of the flesh of the Son of Man, and drink of his blood... you shall not have life within you...”

The resurrection of Christ is centrality of our faith, reason for our hope, and dynamic of our charity. We learn from today's first reading from the Acts of the Apostles that the resurrection of Jesus gave the first Jerusalem Christians a new hope. They were so filled with the love of God and neighbors that everyone shared with his or her fellow Christians all that he or she had. The risen Lord inspired the Christians to give their possessions gladly for distribution to those in need.

Encountering the person of Jesus, and the events of the cross and resurrection, invites us to give gladly and voluntarily, too. How does the cross and resurrection of Jesus Christ affect our lives as Christians? Do we still doubt? Or do we really believe? How do we live our lives that can tell others what we believe?

Today we celebrate the Second Sunday of Easter, also called Divine Mercy Sunday, which reminds us to acknowledge God's mercy and love. “For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him shall not perish, but have everlasting life.” St. Faustina, through a vision, gives us a powerful message of the Divine Mercy. By his sorrowful passion, death, and resurrection, Jesus offered his Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity to the Eternal Father, in atonement for the sins of the world.

May God replace all doubt in us with the certainty of the Gospel! May our faith, hope, and love be firmly rooted in our Risen Lord Jesus Christ. Like Thomas, we profess: “Jesus, you are my Lord and my God,” and like St. Faustina we confidently pray: “Jesus, I trust in you!” Jesus, we believe in you, our Lord and our God forever and ever.

MASS INTENTIONS: from Sunday, April 16 to Saturday, April 22

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	SC	... Victor Frugoli (repose)
	11:15 am	SM	... Kathy Drady (healing)
Monday	8 a.m.	SC	... Dr. Remegio R. Pineda (repose)
Tuesday	No Mass
Wednesday	8 a.m.	SC	... Reece Mori-Prange (birthday)
Thursday	8 a.m.	SM	... George Kerbs (healing)
Friday	8 a.m.	SC	... Julia & Stephen Mori-Prange (anniversary)
Saturday	8 a.m.	SM	... John Kalayjian (repose/birthday)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Wednesday Home Visit and Rosary:** only twice a month on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 5 pm. Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board, please sign up to host. Next prayer gathering on Wednesday, April 19, will be at the rectory with Fr. Phan.
- First Communion:** There will be the First Communion for children at 11:15 a.m. Mass on Sunday, May 28, 2023 at St. Mary's Church, Nicasio. Please keep these children in our prayers.
- Holy Hours for Vocations:** Holy Hours from 3:00 – 4:00 pm on Good Shepherd Sunday, April 30 at different location throughout the Archdiocese. For Marin County location is in the Chapel at Marin Catholic High School: 675 Sir Francis Drake Blvd, Kentfield. Sunday, April 30 is World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Please join us in prayer

2023 Annual Appeal

St. Cecilia
Goal \$ 7,295.00
Received \$ 7,295.00
We've reached the goal!
THANK YOU!

St. Mary
Goal \$ 6,095.00
Received \$ 1,058.00
Need \$ 5,037.00

Last Week Collections

St. Cecilia
Offertory \$ 2,900.00
Good Friday \$ 187.00
Maintenance \$ 50.00
AAA \$ 500.00
Total \$ 3,637.00

St. Mary
Offertory \$ 1,295.00
Good Friday \$ 186.00
AAA \$ 40.00
Total \$ 1,521.00