

June 25, 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.
	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
		St. Cecilia (other Fri.)	8 a.m.
	Saturday	St. Cecilia (last Sat.)	10 a.m. Padre Pio & Rosary Devotion
Reconciliation		St. Mary (other Sat.)	8 a.m.
	Saturday	St. Cecilia	4 to 4:30 p.m.
Confirmation Prep.		St. Mary (except last Sat.)	8:30 to 9:15 a.m.
	Wednesday	St. Cecilia	6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

See #886 in your Music Book for the readings

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

Jesus says: "Fear no one." What do you have to fear now? God's Spirit doesn't make us slaves... Instead, we become God's children and call God our Father.

Once, I got a message in my phone from a lady requesting me to visit and anoint her husband who was dying. I called her back for the address and some information before going. She told me that she and her husband were Catholics but not church-goers. Then she asked me: "What is your nationality, Asian?" I told her: "Yes, I am. I was born and grew up in Vietnam." After a brief conversation, obviously she did not welcome the visit, as she said: "You have a lovely accent. I am afraid that my husband will have a hard time to understand you. Thank you anyway. Good-bye."

The lady fears of my Vietnamese identity. It hurts my feeling of being rejected. But I don't forget to say a prayer for her and her dying husband. Perhaps she has to look for an American born priest to visit her husband. Perhaps I have to wait until I am able to speak English with a perfect American accent then I can do my priestly ministries in the land of America. I just laugh at my Vietnamese accent. But I tell myself: "don't forget to learn from Jesus." He was, and is, rejected too. "No student is greater than his teacher; no slave is greater than his master." So, a student should be glad to become like his teacher, and a slave like his master.

"Fear no one." Jesus is talking to you and me as he encourages the apostles. Jesus has given the apostles a mission and entrusted them with the powers they need to carry it out: to seek out the lost sheep. Jesus feels obliged to warn us about the real dangers we have to face as we try to live the life of genuine Christians.

"Fear no one" if we want to spread the good news of God's kingdom. The values of God's kingdom are radically different from the values of the world. Before sending out the apostles to the mission, Jesus told them: "I am sending you out like sheep among wolves" (Mt. 10:16). The apostles had every reason for fear as they ventured forth into a hostile world. Jesus encouraged them to overcome their fear by following his teaching: "No slave is greater than his master."

Living in this world of materialism, consumerism, individualism, and secularism, there are many things to fear. People fear of their aging reality so they try to make up in order to fool the world around that I am looking young. People fear of the brokenness in married life, or being abandoned by their children, or losing jobs, or having no big house, or not having much money in the bank. People fear of having children that can take away their free time to travel, that can put a burden on their shoulders... There are many fears with no-good reason. There is too much confusion in our world today.

Jesus reminds us very clearly in the gospel today: "Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna." St. Francis de Sales says this about fear: "Do not fear what may happen tomorrow. The same loving Father, who cares for you today, will care for you tomorrow and every day. Either he will shield you from suffering, or he will give you unflinching strength to bear it. Be at peace, then, and put aside all anxious thoughts and imaginings."

We should not fear the darkness of this world. We should not fear the evil ones; rather, we should fear God; fear the truth, and live in the truth. God is the God of love and mercy, slow to anger, rich in kindness; but God is also the God of justice: rewards the good and punishes the evil. Jesus clearly gives us this warning: "Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father. But whoever denies me before others, I will deny before my heavenly Father."

Brothers and sisters in Christ, if we keep God's commandments, then we have no fear to the evil forces in this life. Rather, we fear God – not in the sense of being afraid or running away, but we come before God in awe, in love. As St. John once said: "There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love."

MASS INTENTIONS: from Sunday, June 25 to Saturday, July 1

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	SC	... Carol Bennetts (repose/anniversary June 23)
	11:15 am	SM	... Kathy Drady (repose)
Monday	8 am	SC	... Susan Pineda (healing)
Tuesday	No Mass
Wednesday	8 am	SC	... Perry Litchfield (repose)
Thursday	8 am	SM	... Sr. Maria Y (birthday)
			... Ceil Weck (birthday)
Friday	8 am	SC	... Dr. Antonio Reyes Pineda (repose/birthday)
Saturday	8 am	SM	... Kathy Sexton (repose/on her birthday June 30)

2023 Annual Appeal	
	<u>St. Cecilia</u>
Goal	\$ 7,295.00
Received	\$ 7,295.00
	<u>We've reached the goal!</u>
	THANK YOU!
	<u>St. Mary</u>
Goal	\$ 6,095.00
Received	\$ 3,617.00
Need	\$ 2,478.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Save the date:** July 30, 2023, St. Mary's will be holding a fundraiser at the Lafranchi Deer Camp in Nicasio. Join our parish communities for a Western Style Chicken BBQ with fine wines and unique brews. The cost is \$60.00 and limited to the first 60 persons who sign in. Expect to have some fun! Contact Margaret Farley lgleagles@gmail.com for more information.
- Thank you from Fr. Phan:** for the party on my 16th Anniversary of Priesthood. Especially thank you for your generous gifts that help adding \$1,260 to the AAA of St. Mary's as you see from the report.
- Wednesday Home Visit and Rosary:** twice a month on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 5 pm. Next rosary gathering is on Wednesday, July 5. Please sign up to host.

Last Week Collections

<u>St. Cecilia</u>	
Offertory	\$ 546.00
Maintenance	\$ 150.00
Total	<u>\$ 696.00</u>
<u>St. Mary</u>	
Offertory	\$ 367.00
AAA	\$ 30.00
Preservat'n	\$ 270.00
Total	<u>\$ 667.00</u>
	<u>Fr. Phan's Anniversary</u>
	<u>Gift to AAA \$ 1,260.00</u>