

**August 6, 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

<b>MASS</b>	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 <sup>st</sup> Fri.)	8 a.m. Holy Hour follows
<b>Reconciliation</b>	Saturday	St. Cecilia (other Fri.)	8 a.m.
		St. Cecilia (last Sat.)	10 a.m. Padre Pio & Rosary Devotion
		St. Mary (other Sat.)	8 a.m.
<b>Confirmation Prep.</b>	Wednesday	St. Cecilia	4 to 4:30 p.m.
		St. Mary (except last Sat.)	8:30 to 9:15 a.m.
		St. Cecilia	6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

See #963 in your Music Book for the readings

**FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD**

*Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Peter 1:16-19; Matthew 17:1-9*

In a catechism class when I was a little boy, I used to ask a nun: “Sister, how come all priests look very handsome, and all sisters look very beautiful to me?” The nun answered: “because they all are like flowers, planted in God’s garden and especially taken care by Jesus.” I was too young to understand the answer, but now I see what the sister meant.

I realize that not all priests are handsome, not all sisters are beautiful. But they are attractive to people because of their generous response to God’s call. And only if the priests and the nuns lived a life of holiness, then people would easily see their beauty naturally coming from their souls, that made them look beautiful, and they would be lovable.

The transfiguration celebration today reassures us that too. If we “listen to Jesus,” if we keep and practice his Commandments, he will transform our lives more beautifully. Let us recall the story of Moses with the Ten Commandments. After staying and conversing with the Lord for forty days and forty nights, Moses was sent by the Lord to bring the Ten Commandments to his people. Because of this special mission, the Lord has changed the appearance of Moses – his face became so radiant that his people were afraid to come near him.

From today’s Gospel, Jesus takes Peter, James, and John up the mountain and let them see the glory of God through his transfiguration. The highlight of the transfiguration is God’s revelation. The glory of God that was veiled in the law and prophets – from Moses to Elijah – is now unveiled before the Church, to the apostles, and eventually to us who receive their message. The voice of God comes from the cloud, identifying Jesus as “my beloved Son,” and then giving the disciples a mandate: “Listen to him.” The disciples eventually came to firmly believe in Jesus – the Son of God.

The transfiguration story reveals the true divine identity of Jesus. Not only he was a Galilean carpenter, but also, he was, he is, and he will be forever the Son of the living God. He is true God and true Man.

For us, what does transfiguration mean? Transfiguration is a transformation of our lives. It is a call to conversion. God calls us to obey his will; God urges the disciples to listen to his holy Son Jesus. God also calls us to listen to him, so he can change us, he can make our lives better.

Transfiguration story tells us about the true nature of life. And faith helps us to see this more deeply. Living our Christian faith enables us to see beyond the ordinary appearance of things, through faith, to the truth. For example, when receiving the Holy Communion, we receive the Body and Blood of Jesus, even though we see the appearance of bread and wine. It takes faith to see through to the deeper reality in front of us. As we receive the Eucharist, we move beyond appearance to a deeper truth and a more profound understanding of the mystery of Jesus the Son of God who is true God and true man.

Transfiguration is a promise of future glory of Jesus, and our future glory too. St. Paul the Apostle often tells us that we are only pilgrims in this world and it’s not our true home here. “Our citizenship is in heaven.” Our hope is that by the end, God “will change our lowly bodies to conform with his glorified body.” We will be transfigured also. And in the word of St. John: “when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is” (1 Jn 3:2)

As we celebrate the solemn feast of transfiguration, God invites us to open our ears to listen to the Son Jesus and open our arms to embrace the mystery of the cross, cast off everything unworthy of our personal relationship with God, to live accordingly with God’s commands, so eventually we will be able to share in Christ’s transfigured glory.

MASS INTENTIONS: from Sunday, August 6 to Saturday, August 12

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	SC ... Clair Straube (health)
	11:15 am	SM ... Joan Bridwell (90 <sup>th</sup> birthday)
Monday	8 am	SC ... Martha McNeil (repose)
Tuesday	.....	No Mass .....
Wednesday	8 am	SC ... Ginny & George Kerbs (wellness)
Thursday	8 am	SM ... Fr. Neil Healy (healing)
Friday	8 am	SC ... Joseph Dinh & Ana Ly (repose)
Saturday	8 am	SM ... Fr. Bill Brown (healing)

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 \$ 5,102.00  
Need \$ 993.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- THANK YOU:** to Margaret Farley and the Team for organizing the beautiful fundraising BBQ last Sunday for the parish. Especially, THANK YOU to the Lafranchi for your generous supports and contributions to the parish through this Annual Fundraiser.
- Wednesday Home Visit and Rosary:** twice a month on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 5 pm. Next rosary gathering is on Wednesday, August 16. Please sign up to host.

**HAPPY 90<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY TO MRS. JOAN BRIDWELL!**

Last Week Collections

St. Cecilia  
Offertory \$ 659.00  
Maintenance \$ 150.00  
Total \$ 809.00

St. Mary  
Offertory \$ 492.00  
Wedding \$ 300.00  
AAA \$ 30.00  
Total \$ 822.00