



st. cecilia church
lagunitas

August 13, 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

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
		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.
Confirmation Prep.	Wednesday	St. Cecilia	6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

See #907 in your Music Book for the readings

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

On an airplane flying from the U.S. to Rome, the pilot announced over the intercom: "Ladies and gentlemen! Please, pay attention, and stay calm. We have a little trouble. We have lost one of the four engines. But there is no need to worry, we will be arriving Rome only 1 hour later than scheduled."

Thirty minutes later the pilot alerted: "We have lost another engine; we will be arriving 2 hours late at our destination." Then another announcement: "We have lost our third engine, and now we have only one engine running, but please not to worry, we will be arriving only 4 hours late at our destination."

Everyone in the airplane became nervous. An old lady cried out loud, "Oh, no! I am going to die! We all are going to die!" The flight attendant came over to reassure her: "Ma'am, don't worry; our pilot has many years of experience. He will bring us safely to our destination. Besides, look! We have four Cardinals flying with us! So, God will protect us. We are OK." The old lady cried louder: "At this moment, I would rather have all 4 engines than 4 Cardinals."

We hear a similar situation in today's gospel. The disciples were on their journey by boat in the midst of a heavy storm. They cried out in fear: "Lord, save us! We are going to die!" By human nature, we all fear when facing death. However, with life experience, we may not need to fear death. Whatever happens, it happens. Here is an example to make. Whenever driving the car, particularly on freeway, you may think about going to a battlefield. We never know what happens in a few moments ahead. So, when starting the car, I usually pray: "Lord, I put my life in your hand." By that way, I don't fear. It doesn't mean that when I have that much confidence I would drive crazily, but it reassures me that: whatever happens, it happens. As in a popular song sung by Doris Day: "que sera sera... whatever will be will be..." When we put our trust in the Lord, we may not need to be afraid.

Perhaps, the moment when people face death is when they feel closer to God. I say that because I myself experienced a similar situation on my journey from Vietnam to Hong Kong by boat almost 35 years ago. We twenty-seven people – men, women and children – fled Vietnam in hurry and fear. We brought with us food and water for only a three-day journey as we thought... Unfortunately, we lost the direction on the ocean. Food and water ran out. The engine was broken. We all cried, waiting to die of hunger and thirst.

Then a storm came. Although in fear, we were satisfied with the rainwater. Rough waves and heavy wind finally brought our boat into China shore... We faced death many times, but finally we arrived in Hong Kong after the long journey of twenty-six days and nights.

Whenever looking back this critical time, I laugh at myself, because it was the very first time I prayed earnestly. I cried out to Jesus: "Lord, save us," just as Peter did. We feared death.

The event that the disciples face the storm symbolizes many troubles we face in our daily lives. Life doesn't always go smoothly for all of us. Suffering and troubles are part of life. Sometimes we bring troubles upon ourselves. Other times troubles just come our way. We feel troubled when someone we know and love dearly has died, or when a friend has been diagnosed with cancer, or when we lost a job. Particularly, we have been in trouble and affected in different ways by tragedies, such as the 9/11 almost 22 years ago, or natural disasters, flood, wildfires, or the recently covid-19 pandemic...

At such difficult times we don't need to struggle alone, for Jesus comes to us across the storms of life, with hand stretched out to save, and with his calm clear voice bidding us: "Take courage. It is I. Do not be afraid."

Let us examine ourselves: when things get stormy in life, do I focus on the storm or do I focus on Jesus? What Peter experienced in today's Gospel also reminds us how important our faith is for us to be saved. See when Peter trusted in Jesus, he was enabled to walk on the water, coming towards Jesus. Yet, when he feared and doubted, he lost his focus on Jesus, and he failed; he sank. But Jesus stretched out his hand to save Peter and all the disciples.

When we cry for help, the Lord is always with us, to protect and save us. So, let us take courage. Do not be afraid. Have faith in the Lord Jesus, our stronghold, our refuge, and our Savior.

MASS INTENTIONS: from Sunday, August 13 to Saturday, August 19

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	SC ... Fr. Joe Eagan (repose)
	11:15 am	SM ... Kathy Drady (repose)
Monday	8 am	SC ... Hildegard Buel (repose)
Tuesday	8 am	SC ... the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Wednesday	8 am	SC ... Michael O'Mahony (healing)
Thursday	8 am	SM ... Robyn Torres (birthday 8/15)
Friday	8 am	SC ... Ritt Hewitt (repose)
Saturday	8 am	SM ... Laura Thomas (repose – birthday 8/10)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary:** on August 15. It is a holy day of obligation. Please come for a special Mass at St. Cecilia Church, Lagunitas, on Tuesday, August 15. Mass starting at 8 am.
- Wednesday Home Visit and Rosary:** twice a month on 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 5 pm. Please sign up to host. Next rosary gathering is at the rectory with Fr. Phan, on Wednesday, August 16.
- Funeral Mass:** at St. Sebastian's Church in Kentfield for **Hildegard Buel** (who was Irene Legnitto's mother). At 11 am, Friday, August 18, 2023. May she rest in peace!
- Save the Date:** Our 2023 Parish Rummage & Plant Sale will take place on Sat. Oct. 21 and Sun. Oct. 22, at St. Cecilia Parish. More details to follow soon. There will be a second planning session on Sun. Aug. 20 in the Parish Hall, immediately after the 9:30 am Mass. Join us and help make this a fun and successful event! Questions? Contact Robyn Torres: wakerobyn425@gmail.com.

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

Last Week Collections

St. Cecilia
Offertory \$ 526.00
Maintenance \$ 1,150.00
Total \$ 1,676.00

St. Mary
Offertory \$ 547.00
Preservat'n \$ 170.00
AAA \$ 30.00
Total \$ 747.00