



st. cecilia church
lagunitas

February 11, 2024

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 Friday)	8 a.m. Holy Hour follows
		St. Cecilia (other Fridays)	8 a.m.
	Saturday	St. Cecilia (last Saturday only)	10 a.m. Padre Pio Mass & Devotion
Reconciliation	Saturday	St. Cecilia	4 to 4:30 p.m.
		or by appointment call:	(415) 488-9799
Confirmation Prep.	Wednesday	St. Cecilia	6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

See #869 in your Music Book for the readings

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

Lv 13:1-2, 44-46; Ps 32; 1 Cor 10:31-11:1; Mk 1:40-45

A friend of mine in Vietnam was diagnosed that he had tuberculosis. According to the doctor's advice, he had to keep distance from his wife and children for their safety. He could not share the meal at the same table with everybody in the family. People in the neighborhood, and even in the family, began to avoid him. Sometimes, people could see tears rolling down quietly on his face; the tears of loneliness – being abandoned.

To be shunned by someone you love is one of life's greatest hurts. It may happen between friends, lovers, or husband and wife due to sickness, or because of disagreement. People avoid each other's company or refuse to speak to each other. We know how much it hurts to be shunned.

In the ancient world, leprosy was a terrible disease. I could share with you my experience when I had a chance to visit a leper village in Vietnam. Leprosy eats away the flesh until the leper is left with a stump of a hand or a leg. The sufferer might be considered a living death. Lepers are isolated, banished from the community, exiled from home. As we hear from the first reading that by law, a leper is required to cry out loud: "unclean, unclean" for people on the road or in the village to hear and avoid him from afar.

We can feel the pain, both physically and emotionally, of the leper in the gospel story. He is shunned by everyone. His situation is hopeless. But he knows that only God will save his life, as we pray in the psalm today: "I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation." In despair the leper kneels at Jesus' feet and begs for healing: "If you wish, you can make me clean." The leper cries, prays, and implores Jesus with an absolute trust in healing power of the Son of God.

Jesus is "moved with pity." Though everyone else avoids the man or flees from him in horror, Jesus does not. Instead, he does the unthinkable. His hand reaches out to the man and he touches the leper's wounds without hesitation. He is not afraid that he might be infected. He heals the leper's wound and so changes his life just in a moment; he can lead a normal life again.

Jesus touches the untouchable. Jesus is the friend of the outcast. He rejects no one who comes to him. Jesus' touch gives hope to the hopeless. He restores people to fellowship with one another, and with God.

The leper's story tells us that when we are in time of frustration and fall, Christ's hands always stretch out to lift us up. This is good news for the leper, but a challenge for us today. Sometimes, people worry about being unclean. Clean or unclean is only from the mentality of our society. But Jesus said: "Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile." Touching the sick, or eating our daily food, does not make us unclean; what can make us unclean are our evil thoughts, words, and deeds.

Jesus Christ can change our lives. Like the leper, you and I only need to come to Jesus with humility and trust, and receive the gift of healing and forgiveness. And in turn, let us learn from Jesus, to be instruments of God's love, to reach out to help those in need: to give hope to the hopeless, to touch and heal the wound of the untouchable, to forgive the unforgivable, to welcome the outcast and to love the unlovable as Jesus has loved us.

MASS INTENTIONS: from Sunday, February 11 to Friday, February 16

Sunday	9:30 am	SC ...	Walter & Barbara Echo (for health & wellness)
	11:15 am	SM ...	Peter Tien & Ana Hinh (repose)
Monday	8 am	SC ...	All Souls of Benefactors
Tuesday	no Mass
Wednesday	8 am	SC ...	All Souls in Families & Relatives
Thursday	8 am	SM ...	Mary Sinclair (repose)
Friday	8 am	SC ...	Al Cuthbert (for health)
Saturday	no Mass

2024 Annual Appeal

<u>St. Cecilia</u>	
Goal	\$ 8,036.00
Received	\$ 702.00
Needed	\$ 7,334.00

<u>St. Mary</u>	
Goal	\$ 5,533.00
Received	\$ 629.00
Needed	\$ 4,094.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Archdiocesan Annual Appeal of 2024:** We continue taking 2nd collections for AAA 2024 every Sunday until the Sunday of March 24. Thank you for your support.
- Wednesday Home Visit & Rosary:** on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays only. Please continue to sign up to host a prayer gathering at your home.
- Ash Wednesday:** on February 14, when Lent begins. It is a time of preparation for the glory of the Resurrection at Easter. Join us at St. Cecilia Church, Lagunitas, for Mass at 8 am as usual time, and receive the ashes as a reminder for our Lenten observances: to fast, to pray, and to do the work of charity. During Lent, we will pray the Stations of the Cross every Friday right after Mass.
- Pray for little girl Paisley and family:** Paisley was diagnosed a form of Leukemia, continuing the Chemotherapy. Let us pray for healing miracle.

Last Week Collections

<u>St. Cecilia</u>	
Offertory	\$ 570.00
Maintenance	\$ 300.00
AAA	\$ 702.00
Total	\$ <u>1,572.00</u>

<u>St. Mary</u>	
Offertory	\$ 112.00
AAA	\$ 629.00
Preservat'n	\$.00
Total	\$ <u>741.00</u>