

June 16, 2024



st. cecilia church
lagunitas

Mision 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 #884 in Music Book for the readings

11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

Ez 17:22-24; Ps 92; 2 Cor 5:6-10; Mk 4:26-34

When talking about heaven, or the kingdom of God, people may have in their mind the holy images of angels and saints waiting and worshiping around the heavenly throne of the king. We may think about a luxurious party, eating, drinking, singing, dancing...

However, the kingdom of heaven according to Jesus' parables is something humble as a farmer sowing the seeds, simple as the yeast mixing in flour, and small as mustard seed. It is all about sacrifice, giving generously, and bearing fruits, multiplying the gifts...

A mustard seed is very tiny, a smallest of all the seeds on the earth, but once it is sown in good soil, it springs up and becomes the largest of plants, and bears much fruits for the harvest.

Some people, when talking about the future of the Church, such as the life of faith and activities in the parish, complain why there are many people missing Sunday Mass; they said: look at all the vacant seats, or look at the empty church. I have to comfort them not to look at the negative side, but we should look at the positive side. Don't look at the empty seats, but we should see the people who are present in the church now, and thank God for all "these small and humble mustard seeds" who put all the efforts to build the kingdom of God here on earth.

We can reflect on the fact of how the Church of Christ grows from a very humble beginning. When Jesus established the Church, there were only the Twelve Apostles. After many ups and downs throughout the ages, **at the end of 2021, the worldwide Catholic population exceeded 1.38 billion**, according to the Census of 2023 Anuario Pontificio (Pontifical Yearbook), **about 17.7% of the world's population...**

We may agree that since Jesus Christ is the Son of the almighty God, he could have come to the world without any need of human assistance. Nevertheless, he chose to be born into this world as a baby,

the son of a poor mother and a carpenter foster-father. Jesus, though he was God, chose to humble himself, to be born into the world and to die for the world, that we might be saved.

With miracles, Jesus could have changed the world in the way he wanted without the needs of preaching the Gospel. Instead, he walked from village to village to preach the good news of redemption. Jesus could have chosen great or powerful people to assist him. Instead, he chose fishermen, shepherds and tax-collectors, twelve of the most ordinary people of his day to begin the kingdom of God on earth.

These were surely humble beginnings for an eternal kingdom which God planned for all of us, for the Church, that it may grow stronger today.

The story of humble origins of Jesus and the Church helps us to reflect on our Christian life and work of charity, too. Sometimes, our helping hand in our parish, or anything we do for others, seems very humble, very small, but when we do this with charity, with love, then the grace of God will work through it, and our work will bear incredible fruits for the community.

The late Vietnamese Cardinal Nguyen Van Thuan reflects on the greatness of our Christian vocation that our humble works are little like drops of water but necessary for the forming of a vast ocean; they are tiny like grains of sand but how can an enormous desert exist without them... In conclusion he said: "Perhaps I am only a grain of sand, but every grain has its own place, its special role to carry out – the sole condition is my awareness of this reality and my unity with all others."

Jesus called his first disciples, and he calls all of us now, to follow his steps, to follow his way, to build the kingdom of God, beginning here in our family, our parish community, in our Church, and then we can spread the kingdom of God throughout the world.

May God's kingdom come! Amen.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

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

Sunday	9:30 am	SC ... Collin & Joseph Dallara (birthday)
	11:15 am	SM ... Ray Perkins (repose)
		... Deacon Bruce Hall (birthday)
Monday	8 am	SC ... Joseph Tien & Anna Nguyen (repose)
Tuesday	no Mass
Wednesday	8 am	SC ... Joachim Thuong & Teresa Tin (repose)
Thursday	8 am	SM ... George Kerbs (repose)
Friday	8 am	SC ... Ginny Kerbs (birthday)
Saturday	8 am	SC ... Malinda & Nathaniel (marriage)

2024 Annual Appeal

<u>St. Cecilia</u>	
Goal	\$ 8,036.00
Received	\$ 9,366.00
Exceeded	\$ 1,830.00

<u>St. Mary</u>	
Goal	\$ 5,533.00
Received	\$ 5,533.00

THANK YOU!

Last Week Collections

<u>St. Cecilia</u>	
Offertory	\$ 608.00
Maintenance	\$ 350.00
Total	<u>\$ 958.00</u>

<u>St. Mary</u>	
Offertory	\$ 237.00
Preservat'n	\$.00
Total	<u>\$ 237.00</u>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Second Collection:** for Peter's Pence next Sunday, June 23, to support the Pope for his ministries to the universal church and the world.
- Wednesday Home Visit and Rosary:** at the rectory with Fr. Phan this Wednesday, June 19 at 5 pm.
- First Communion:** at St. Mary Church, Nicasio, on Sunday, June 23, 2024, Sophia Silva will receive her First Communion at 11:15 am Mass. Let us keep Sophia in our prayers.