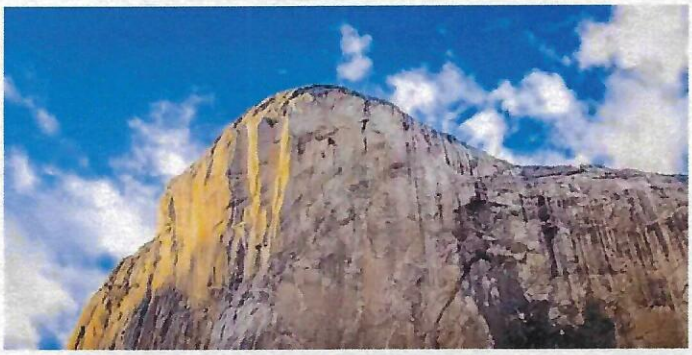


October 25, 2026

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

I love you, O Lord, my strength, O Lord, my rock,
my fortress, my deliverer.
My God, my rock of refuge, my shield, the horn of my
salvation, my stronghold!
Praised by the Lord, I exclaim, and I am safe from my enemies. Ps 18:2-4

SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC PARISH

1690 Janes Road, Arcata, CA 95521

SAINT JOSEPH'S MISSION CHURCH, BLUE LAKE

office@stmarysarcata.org **www.stmaryschurcharcata.org**

FR. FRANCIS GAYAM, PASTOR
FR. GNANA PRAKASH THUMMA, PAROCHIAL VICAR
DEACON JOHN GAI
DEACON JON PEDICINO

Parish Office/Rectory: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Monday through Friday (707) 822-7696

For Emergency Only: (707) 672-5859

Mission Statement: We, the parishioners of St. Mary's Church and St. Joseph's Mission Church, are a welcoming, Catholic community in the northern part of Humboldt County, who strive, through grace, to live the Gospel of Jesus Christ through Word, Sacrament, and service to others.

Vision Statement: Through prayer, fellowship and by sharing our God-given gifts of time, talent and treasure, we will become disciples of Christ, beacons of light and love, as we build the Kingdom of God.

Masses:

Saturday Vigil:	4:00 pm St. Mary's, Arcata
Sunday:	8:30 am and 11:00 a.m. St. Mary's Arcata
Weekdays:	8:30 am Tuesday through Friday
Blue Lake:	12:30 pm Third Sunday of Every Month

Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Mary's Church
2:00-2:30 pm Saturdays, or by appointment

SACRAMENTS:
Baptisms: By appointment. Please call the rectory.
Marriages: Please call the rectory six months in advance.
Pastoral Care of the Sick and Homebound: Please call the rectory for home or hospital visits.
Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA): For those inquiring about Initiation and Communion with the Catholic Church, please contact the rectory.
Parish Registration: We welcome new parishioners. Registration forms are available in the office or the church.

Week of October 25, 2026
Sun 9:45 am Religious Education (10/25)
Sat 10:00 am Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (10/31)

Week of November 1, 2026
Sat/Sun 2nd Collection: Annual Ministry Appeal (10/31-11/1)
Sun 9:45 am Religious Education (11/1)
Mon 8:30 am All Souls Day Mass (11/2)
6:00 pm Cemetery Blessing (11/2)
6:30 pm All Soul's Day Mass (11/2)
Fri 10:00 am Italian Catholic Federation Meeting (11/6)
Sat 10:00 am Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (11/7)

Mass Intentions– Please contact the office at 707-822-7696 if you would like to schedule a Mass Intention.

Saturday, October 24: Weekday; St. Anthony Mary Claret
4:00 pm – Tony & Joyce Sousa +
Rdgs: Eph 4:7-16 Ps 122:1-5 Lk 13:1-9

Sunday, October 25: Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:30 am – Ana & Avelino Homem +
Gabriela Murphy +
11:00 am –Deceased Family Members of Maria Freitas
Ezaltina & Jose Enes +
Rdgs: Ex 22:20-26 Ps 18:2-4, 47, 51 1 Thes 1:5c-10
Mt 22:34-40

Monday, October 26: Weekday
No Mass
Rdgs: Eph 4:32 – 5:8 Ps 1:1-4, 6 Lk 13:10-17

Tuesday, October 27: Weekday
8:30 am – Brad Masterson +
Rdgs: Eph 5:21-33 Ps 128:1-5 Lk 13:18-21

Wednesday, October 28: Sts. Simon & Jude
8:30 am – Robert Walter Nass +
Rdgs: Eph 2:19-22 Ps 19:2-5 Lk 6:12-16

Thursday, October 29: Weekday
8:30 am – Joe & Natalia Avelar +
Rdgs: Eph 6:10-20 Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10 Lk 13:31-35

Friday, October 30: Weekday
8:30 am – David Durbin +
Rdgs: Phil 1:1-11 Ps 111:1-6 Lk 14:1-6

Saturday, October 31: Weekday
4:00 pm – Ana & Avelino Homem +
Rdgs: Phil 1:18b-26 Ps 42:2-3, 5cdef Lk 14:1, 7-11

Sunday, November 1: All Saints
8:30 am – Natalia & Joe Avelar +
11:00 am – Eduardo & Maria dos Santos Rafael +
Ana & Avelino Homem +
Rdgs: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14 Ps 24:1b-4b, 5-6 1 Jn 3:1-3 Mt 5:1-12a

Monday November 2 – All Souls' Day

Mass Times

8:30 am St. Mary's
9:00 am Christ the King
6:30 pm St. Mary's

Prayer Service

6:00 St. Mary's Cemetery

God's love pushes us outside of ourselves

Today's Gospel is considered to be one of the most important teachings of Jesus. Indeed, the message is very clear: Love of God and love of neighbor are the two most important commandments in the eyes of the Lord.

Too often we think of love in terms of feelings. But love is not just sending good thoughts or feelings to others. It takes its form in concrete action, as the first reading points out. But what if we feel no capacity to love others? It is easy to get caught up in our own busyness and think we have nothing left to give. If this is the case, something is missing, and today's Gospel holds the answer.

To love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength means that we are orienting all those areas toward God. God's love has already been given to us. He brought us into existence because of his love for humanity. His love sustains us every day. When we open ourselves up to him, our hearts are flooded with his love. It is that experience which gives us the ability and the capacity to love others. Remember the words of the First Letter of John: *We love because [God] first loved us* (4:19).

We cannot give what we do not have. This is why it is essential to be committed to prayer and the sacraments. Every time we receive the Eucharist, we receive God, who is love, into our hearts. When we pray, his grace is poured out into our hearts.

This love, greater than the universe, cannot be kept to ourselves. God's love always pushes us outside ourselves, toward others. The experience of being loved so deeply by our Creator and Savior naturally pushes us to desire that others have that same experience. To love our neighbor as ourselves means acting in a way that demonstrates that we want the best for the other person, the same way we want what is good for ourselves.

There is nothing better than the love of God. By first receiving God's love, and letting it pour out into our actions, we fulfill Christ's commandments.

FAITH CATHOLIC

ALL SOULS DAY/ MONTH INTENTIONS

There are All Souls Day envelopes on the tables in the narthex. If you would like to have loved ones remembered at the Holy Mass, please fill out the All Souls Day envelopes with their names. If you wish, you may include a donation, and place the envelope in the collection basket or in the wooden donation box. They will be placed on the Altar during the month of November.

Also, the names of those parishioners and family members from St. Mary's who have passed in the last year will be published in the church bulletin the week of November 1.

More announcements on the back page of the bulletin!

Like Jesus, we should call on the Holy Spirit in prayer

When you have a decision to make, what do you do? Wednesday's readings remind us that, like Jesus, we should call on the Holy Spirit in prayer.

Many disciples accompanied Jesus in his ministry as he traveled around Galilee. Crowds gathered as they heard of the carpenter from Nazareth who healed and cast out demons, who contended with challenging questions and taught in the synagogue.

In Luke's Gospel, we see that Jesus chooses a special group from among these disciples: the Twelve, whom he also named Apostles. The two saints we commemorate today, Simon and Jude (or Judas), are among them.

The Twelve form the Church's apostolic foundation. They witnessed all of Jesus' ministry and were sent out by Jesus himself to carry forward his mission of redemption through baptism and the forgiveness of sins. Today, bishops – together with their brother priests and deacons – continue their ministry, and the laity participate in it.

The choice of the Twelve was therefore a pivotal one. These imperfect men would be entrusted with a mission they could not have understood when they first began to follow Jesus.

How did Jesus go about making this decision? Jesus went up to the mountain to pray, and he spent the night in prayer to God. Prayer came first, even for Jesus! He took time in silence, away from others, listening to his Father and seeking the Holy Spirit's help in choosing those who would later be sent in his name. This evening spent in prayer demonstrated trusting submission to the Father's will for his ministry and for the Church.

We can imitate Jesus' process of prayerful decision-making in our own discernment. Let us always begin with prayer, inviting the Holy Spirit into our decisions as we seek to do God's will.

FAITH CATHOLIC



Saints Simon and Jude

Priest Appreciation Week
November 1-7

Parishioners and students, please show your appreciation for Fr. Francis and Fr. Prakash with a letter, note, gesture, or other form of thanks. Our priests are available 24/7, and they are devoted to the parish and your spiritual and corporal needs.

The Santa Rosa Diocese is putting together a video of thanks to the diocese's priests. If you would like to contribute, send your video, 10 seconds or less, to media@srdiocese.org by October 28. Your video may be featured in the diocesan online newsletter, *The Vine*.

California Catholic Conference Voter Guide

A new resource explores the 14 statewide ballot measures through the lens of Catholic social teaching, offering information to help voters form their consciences and make thoughtful decisions. Go to cacatholic.org and click on the 2026 Ballot Propositions Guide button.

Pope Leo XIV's Prayer Intention for October 2026

For mental health ministry: Let us pray that mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

Prayer Requests

PRIEST'S VISIT: If you would like a priest to visit for Anointing of the Sick and/or to receive Holy Communion, please call the office at 707-822-7696.

PRAY FOR THE SICK: *Names are listed here by request & will remain for four weeks. Please call the office to extend the listed time or to add a name.*
Ruth and Steve Nunes, Nathan Lehmann, Kenny Richards, Kenneth Wright, Scott Cahill, Margie Pilot, Marjorie Dimmick, Lithia Burns.

PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED:
Durvalina Machado, Deborah Clancy, Joao Morais, Manuel Leal, Joan Sanborn, Joe Gonsalves, Lynette Cahill, Ana Homem, Pete Stagnoli, Ron Wachel, Hazir Kermani, Jose Homem, Gabriela Murphy, Michael Goodman, Diana Bridges, Avelino Homem.

WELCOME TO ST MARY'S! Whether you are a long-time parishioner, a returning Catholic, or a new member, we hope your time with us is a meaningful and spiritual experience. If you haven't registered, please complete this form and return it to the parish office or place it in the offertory basket.

Name:_____ New Parishioner yes / no Phone: _____

Address:_____ Email:_____

St. Mary's Needs Your Support

Please consider donating to St. Mary's Church, 1690 Janes Rd, Arcata, CA 95521, or online at www.stmarysarcata.org.
Thank you for your generosity!

Offertory Donations for October 17 &18, 2026. . . . . $1,772.20
2nd Collection: World Mission Sunday 1,002.00
Online Donations October 11-17, 2026 . . . . . 240.00

St. Mary's Annual Ministry Appeal (AMA) Update

St. Mary's 2026 AMA Goal . . . . . **.$19,300**
Amount received through September 30 . . .**$16,776**

Amount needed to reach our goal: $2,524

AMA funds are sent from each parish to the Diocese to support the many ministries throughout the Diocese. The Newman Center and St. Kateri Tekakwitha Mission are just some of the local ministries that receive these funds. Your efforts to reach this goal are greatly appreciated.

Catholic Detention Ministries

During the month of November, we will again be collecting unused **Christmas cards** and unopened individually **wrapped candy**. These small gifts will bring comfort to the Inmates of the Humboldt County Correctional Facility. Please place your donations in the designated box in the Narthex.

Questions? Contact the parish office, (707) 822-7696

$500 worth of non-perishable foods and other goods were recently donated to The Society of St. Vincent de Paul by St. Mary's parishioners.

Please continue to donate beans, rice, pasta, and canned goods to the barrel in St. Mary's narthex. St. Vincent de Paul also accepts monetary donations at their facility.

Additional Mass Opportunities



Newman Mass (St. Mary's)
Sunday – 5:30 pm

Christ the King (McKinleyville)

Weekdays:
Monday Mass – 9:00 am
Friday Adoration – 3:00 pm
Friday Mass – 4:00 pm
Weekends:
Saturday Mass – 5:30 pm
Sunday Mass – 9:00 am

Holy Trinity (Trinidad)
Saturday Mass – 6:30 pm
First Saturday of the month and every Saturday during the summer (June, July & August)

St. Kateri Tekakwitha (Hoopa)

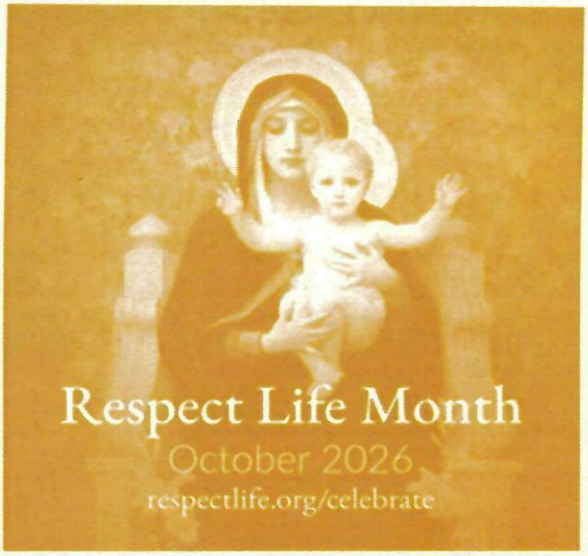
Sunday Mass – 11:30am

St. Joseph (Blue Lake)

Sunday Mass – 12:30pm
Third Sunday of the month

Timber Ridge (McKinleyville)

Wednesday 10:00am
First Wednesday of the month



"**The witness of our Blessed Mother** [in the Gospel account of her visit to her pregnant cousin, Elizabeth,] invites us to become more aware of the needs of pregnant and parenting moms in our own parishes and communities. ...Mary's witness is an invitation to step out in love and compassion. It is a summons to make haste to help vulnerable women who may be isolated and alone."
USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
Respect Life Reflection: Called to Serve Moms in
Needrespectlife.org/called-to-serve-reflection

College Students!

Humboldt Newman Club

Sunday, October 25
5:30 pm Newman Mass at St. Mary's
7 pm Dinner and Faith Discussion at Newman (700 Union Street, Arcata)

Wednesday, October 28
6 pm Disciples

Thursday, October 29
At the Newman Center (700 Union Street, Arcata)
5:30 pm Adoration, Confession, and Evening Prayer
6:30 pm Spooky Halloween Dinner
7:15 pm All Saints Game

Friday, October 30
At the Newman Center
5 pm Choir Practice
6 pm Friday Fun Night

Sunday, November 1
Feast of All Saints
5:30 pm Newman Mass at St. Mary's