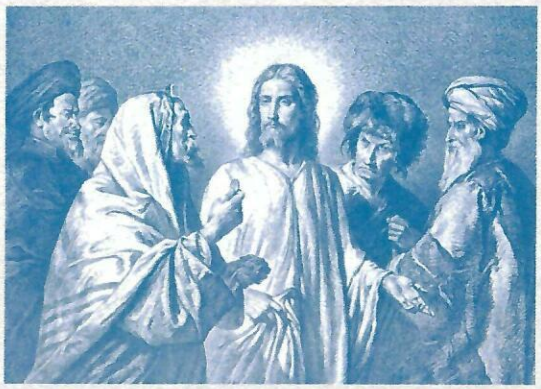


October 18, 2026

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

(World Mission Sunday)

(Jesus said,) "Show me the coin that pays the census tax." Then they handed him the Roman coin. He said to them, "Whose image is this and whose inscription?" They replied, "Caesar's." At that he said to them, "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God." -Matthew 22:19-22

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 18, 2026
Sat/Sun 2nd Collection- World Mission Sunday
Sun 9:45 am Religious Education (10/18)
Thu 10:30 am Women's Bible Study (10/22)
Sat 10:00 am Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (10/24)

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)

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

Saturday, October 17: St. Ignatius of Antioch
4:00 pm – Jose Gonsalves +
Rdgs: Eph 1:15-23 Ps 8:2-3b, 4-7 Lk 12:8-12

Sunday, October 18: 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:30 am – Pete Stagnoli +
Jose Homem +
11:00 am –Jose Homem +
Rdgs: Is 45:1, 4-6 Ps 96:1, 3-5, 7-10 1 Thes 1:1-5b Mt 22:15-21

Monday, October 19: Sts. John de Brebeuf and Issac Jogues
No Mass
Rdgs: Eph 2:1-10 Ps 100:1b-5 Lk 12:13-21

Tuesday, October 20: Weekday; St. John of the Cross
8:30 am – Susan Hartman
Rdgs: Eph 2:12-22 Ps 85:9ab, 10-14 Lk 12:35-38

Wednesday, October 21: Weekday
8:30 am – Robert Walter Nass +
James Talty
Rdgs: Eph 3:2-12 (Ps) Is 12:2-3, 4c-6 Lk 12:39-48

Thursday, October 22: Weekday; St. John Paul II
8:30 am – California Public Schools
Rdgs: Eph 3:14-21 Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 11-12, 18-19 Lk 12:49-53

Friday, October 23: Weekday; St. John of Capistrano
8:30 am – Evelyn McGavin Seymour +
Rdgs: Eph 4:1-6 Ps 24:1-4b, 5-6 Lk 12:54-59

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 – 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

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.

More announcements on the back page of the bulletin!

New Church Website

We have a new website now, and it has a different address.
Please type this domain in Google:
www.stmaryschurcharcata.org

Because we belong to God alone, we give him our faith, our hope, and our love

In today's jarring yet familiar Gospel scene, we see an attempt to trap Jesus and force him to violate either the law of Rome or the laws of God. As he evades this attempt to ensnare him, Jesus offers guidance on how Christians ought to live that has echoed throughout history: *Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God.*

In our first reading, the Lord tells King Cyrus that there is one Lord; there is no other God beside him. We know that God alone is the Lord of all peoples and all history, and that we belong to him.

In the Gospel, Jesus' lesson is about justice. True justice is to give to God what belongs to God. And what belongs to God? Everything. Most importantly, ourselves.

We know that we belong to God first; but this can be difficult to live out. How do we return our lives to him? By engaging in the *work of faith*, *labor of love*, and *endurance in hope* which Paul praises the Thessalonians for in today's second reading. We may recall that faith, hope, and love are what are known as the theological virtues. Living these virtues helps us to give our whole lives back to God.

Faith, the *Catechism* tells us, is "personal adherence to God and assent to his truth" (*CCC* 150). We can ask ourselves, is there any part of our lives that we have not surrendered to the Lord? Do we trust in all that he has revealed to his Church? Perhaps the Lord is inviting us to grow in faith. And when we know him more fully, we can surrender ourselves more deeply to him.

Next, hope: "Hope is the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness" (*CCC* 1817). In other words, to live with Christian hope is to live as though our ultimate happiness is in the Lord, and no other. It requires that we rely on the Lord to give us the strength so that one day, we will be with him forever. Do we rely on, and place our hope in, the Lord and his promises?

Finally, love – or charity – is the theological virtue "by which we love God above all things for his own sake, and our neighbor as ourselves for the love of God" (*CCC* 1822). Whether we realize it or not, each and every day, we can offer everything we do as an act of love for God.

In the end, Caesar cannot claim what God already has: our hearts, and our faith, hope, and love. As we gather around this Eucharistic table, may we once again offer our whole selves to the Lord and receive his grace to continue to choose him above all things.

FAITH CATHOLIC

(**St. Anthony Mary Claret**, continued from right)

that the very name Claret became a byword for humiliation and misfortune. The powers of evil do not easily give up their prey. No one needs to go looking for persecution. All we need to do is be sure we suffer because of our genuine faith in Christ, not for our own whims and lack of prudence. Sometimes preaching the Good News falls on deaf ears. But that should never diminish our efforts. Anthony Mary Claret, like all the saints, understood that guiding people to God could be dangerous, but it is never a fool's errand.

Saint Anthony Mary Claret is a Patron Saint of: The Claretians, the Catholic Press, Weavers

FRANCISCAN MEDIA

Saint Anthony Mary Claret



The "spiritual father of Cuba" was a missionary, religious founder, social reformer, queen's chaplain, writer and publisher, archbishop, and refugee. He was a Spaniard whose work took him to the Canary Islands, Cuba, Madrid, Paris, and to the First Vatican Council. In his spare time as weaver and designer in the textile mills of Barcelona, Anthony learned Latin and printing: The future priest and publisher was preparing. Ordained at 28, he was prevented by ill health from entering religious life as a Carthusian or as a Jesuit but went on to become one of Spain's most popular preachers. Anthony Mary Claret spent 10 years giving popular missions and retreats, always placing great emphasis on the Eucharist and devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. It was said that his rosary was never out of his hand. At age 42, he founded a religious institute of missionaries beginning with five young priests, known today as the Claretians.

Anthony Mary Claret was appointed to head the much-neglected archdiocese of Santiago in Cuba. He began its reform by almost ceaseless preaching and hearing of confessions and suffered bitter opposition mainly for opposing concubinage and giving instruction to black slaves. A hired assassin—whose release from prison Anthony had obtained—slashed open his face and wrist. Anthony succeeded in getting the would-be assassin's death sentence commuted to a prison term.

His solution for the misery of Cubans was family-owned farms producing a variety of foods for the family's own needs and for the market. This invited the enmity of the vested interests who wanted everyone to work on a single cash crop—sugar. Besides all his religious writings are two books he wrote in Cuba: *Reflections on Agriculture* and *Country Delights*.

He was recalled to Spain for a job he did not relish—being chaplain for the queen. Anthony went on three conditions: He would reside away from the palace; he would come only to hear the queen's confession and instruct the children; and he would be exempt from court functions. In the revolution of 1868, he fled to Paris with the queen's party, where he preached to the Spanish colony.

All his life Anthony Mary Claret was interested in the Catholic press. He founded the Religious Publishing House, a major Catholic publishing venture in Spain, and wrote or published 200 books and pamphlets. At Vatican I, where he was a staunch defender of the doctrine of infallibility, Anthony won the admiration of his fellow bishops. Cardinal Gibbons of Baltimore remarked of him, "There goes a true saint." At the age of 63, he died in exile near the border of Spain.

Reflection: Jesus foretold that those who are truly his representatives would suffer the same persecution as he did. Besides 14 attempts on his life, Anthony had to undergo such a barrage of the ugliest slander

(continued in column on left)

CCD/Youth Education

Youth Religious Education for the 2026-2027 school year has begun. Classes are on Sundays from 9:45 to 10:45 in the religious education office on the church campus, 1710 Janes Rd. If you have not yet registered your child(ren), please bring your registration to class on Sunday. Additional registration forms can be found in the church narthex, and forms will be on hand at class. **Scholarships are available.** If you have questions, please call Dr. Kenny Richards at 707-498-2791.

Blue Mass Celebrated at the Cathedral

This past weekend, Bishop Vasa celebrated the annual Blue Mass at the Cathedral of St. Eugene, honoring the men and women who serve and protect our communities. The Mass offered an opportunity to pray for law enforcement officers, firefighters, first responders, and their families, recognizing their dedication and service.

INVITATION TO MONASTIC EXPERIENCE WEEKEND

WHO: young Catholic men 18-36
WHAT: The monks of New Clairvaux invite you to an experience of their prayer, silence, and work. Come learn to pray, live, and desire deeply. Welcome!
Abbey of New Clairvaux, 26240 7th St. Vina, CA 96092
godseeking@newclairvaux.org.

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 Soares 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 10 & 11, 2026. . . . . $4,814.91
Online Donations October 4-10, 2026 . . . . 465.00

This Sunday, October 18, is World Mission Sunday

We will be having a second collection at all the masses this weekend. Please be generous.

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.

Lost and Found

Items: two rosaries with pouches, women's olive parka, Cal Poly water bottle, black and yellow umbrella, single black knit glove, Little Black Book (paperback.)

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)

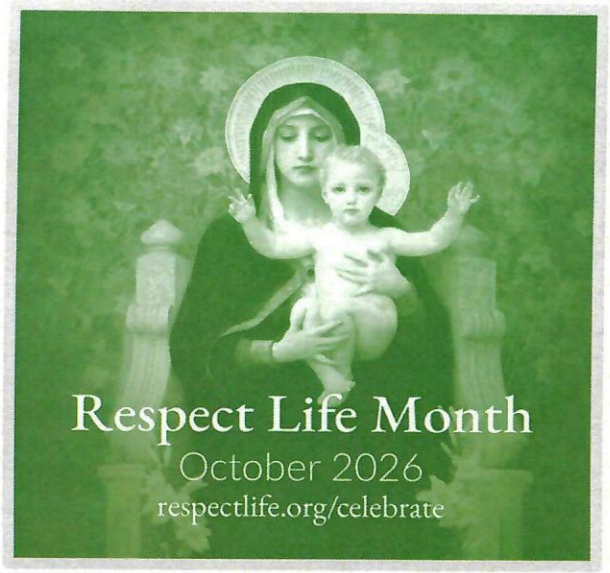
Sunday Mass – 11:30am

St. Joseph (Blue Lake)

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

Timber Ridge (McKinleyville)

Wednesday 10:00am
First Wednesday of the month



Join thousands of Catholics praying a
Respect Life Month Novena
Thursday, October 22 – Friday, October 30.

Get daily prayers, reflections, and more. Sign up at respectlife.org/celebrate

College Students!

Humboldt Newman Club

Sunday, October 18
5:30 pm Newman Mass at St. Mary's
7:00 pm Dinner and Faith Discussion at the Newman Center (700 Union Street, Arcata)

Wednesday, October 21
6:00 pm Austrian Dinner (Schnitzel, Pretzels, Potato Salad, and Apfel Strudel), and a presentation on Blessed Karl of Austria by Justice
7:00 pm Disciples

Thursday, October 22
5:30 pm Adoration, Confession, and Evening Prayer
6:30 pm Dinner by Luke
7:15 pm Fr. Prakash on the Ten Commandments

Friday, October 23
5:00 pm Choir
6:00 pm Newman Fun Night



Sunday, October 25
5:30 pm Newman Mass at St. Mary's

We are looking for volunteers to be on a **cemetery advisory committee**. Call the church office if you would like to participate.