

St. Leo Catholic Church

601 W. Agua Caliente Road, Sonoma, CA 95476

Office: (707) 996-8422

Rev. Jojo Puthussery, M.F., Pastor

Website: www.stleosonoma.org



August 1, 2021 ~ Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

2nd COLLECTION TODAY:

St. Leo's Development Fund - All donations to the **Development Fund** stay at St. Leo's and help support the maintenance of our buildings and grounds.

YOUTH MINISTRY / CONFIRMATION:

Registration forms are available in the parish office, Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Jr. High youth group will resume meetings twice a month starting Thursday October 7th from 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm.

High School youth group will resume weekly meetings starting Wednesday Oct. 6th from 7:00 pm – 8:30 p.m.

Classes are open to all youth in 8th – 12th grade whether they have been confirmed or plan to be. Please visit our webpage, stleosonoma.org for more information. Any questions, please email, stleosym@gmail.com or call Nancy Gibson, 707-291-1916.

LOOKING FOR AN EASY WAY TO MAKE

DONATIONS: Consider making your donation to St. Leo's with a monthly credit card draw or electronic transfer. It's the no-hassle, environmentally friendly way, and completely secure. You can change your donation level at any time. To learn more, contact Michelle in the office, 996-8422 ex 17.

DIOCESE OF SANTA ROSA OPPORTUNITIES

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT POSITION:

The Diocese of Santa Rosa chancery office is looking for a member of the community to join our finance team! For more information or to apply, send your resume to lnorcia@srdioocese.org.

HOUSING

We are looking for residential rental options in Sonoma County for some of our employees. If you know of any rooms, apartments, or houses for rent please call the Diocese of Santa Rosa, HR at 707-566-3322.

SANCTUARY LAMP

Dedication for July

In Memory of Bill & Pat Ramirez



Mass Times

Saturday Mass:

5:00 p.m.

Sunday Masses:

9:30 a.m.

11:30 a.m. Spanish

Sunday Masses are Live Streamed on Facebook, YouTube, or our website:

www.stleosonoma.org

Weekday Mass:

8:30 a.m. M, W – F (no Mass on Tuesday)

7:00 p.m. – Wed. – Spanish Mass and Adoration

✠ **Sacraments** ✠

Baptisms: Call the office, 996-8422

Weddings: Call the office, 996-8422

MASS INTENTIONS: July 24th - August 1st

Sat 31	5:00 p.m.	Catherine & Hugh Pendergast †
Sun 1	9:30 a.m.	Filomena Salada †
Mon 2	8:30 a.m.	Jimmy & Joanna Ancheta, Anniversary
Tues 3	8:30 a.m.	NO MASS
Wed 4	8:30 a.m.	Antonia De la Cruz †
Thurs 5	8:30 a.m.	All Blessings & Hardships
Friday 6	8:30 a.m.	James Sharp †
Sat 7	5:00 p.m.	Joe Wisner, Improved Health
Sun 8	9:30 a.m.	John D. Marticio †

FISCAL LOG July 24 / 25

Sunday Collection: \$ 3,001.

ANNUAL PARISH CAMPAIGN UNDATE:

146 Parishioners have pledged: \$126,606. ~ 87%

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Aug. 1	Second Collection, Development Fund
Aug. 14	Memorial Mass for Rich Caselli, 10AM
Aug. 14	Celebration of Life for Irene Bachelder, 3PM
Aug. 17	Men's Club Dinner, 6PM, LSW
Aug. 29	Second Collection, St. Vincent de Paul
Sept. 6	Labor Day Holiday, OFFICE CLOSED

CONFESSION OFFERED: Fr. Jojo is available to hear confessions by appointment only. Call the office, 996-8422 to set up an appointment.

OUR WEBSITE HAS WHAT YOU NEED:

Visit us at www.stleosonoma.org and go to the RESOURCE tab to find Geoff Wood's Sunday Essay's and Lectionary notes as well as Fr. Jim Frederick's homilies. For general info and church calendar go to the HOME tab.

For we are God's workmanship,
created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which
God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ephesians 2:10

OFFICE HOURS:

The office staff is available Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Staff

Office Manager

996-8422

Michelle Levesque

office@stleosonoma.org

Parish Bookkeeper / Office Asst.

Mayra Alvarez

bookkeeper@stleosonoma.org

Coordinator of Religious Education

996-7503

Rosa Chavez

Coordinator of Youth Ministry

291-1916

Nancy Gibson

stleosym@gmail.com

The Secret Drawer

In his delightful book *The Golden Years* the British writer Kenneth Grahame (1859-1932) speaks of adults as the *Olympians* – residing somewhere up in the clouds, remote from the world where children play. *On the whole, the existence of these Olympians seemed to be entirely void of interests . . . their habits stereotyped and senseless. To anything but appearances they were blind. For them the orchard (a place elf-haunted, wonderful!) simply produced so many apples and cherries: or it didn't . . .* The Olympians had reduced the world to “objects” or “things” – a robin to a *turdus migratorius* - scientifically speaking.

In one episode a boy-narrator tells of his being introduced to an old writing desk in an attic “*H’m! Sheraton!*” remarked his uncle, referring to its 18th century make. He then revealed the desk’s pigeon-holes and drawers. “*There’s a secret drawer in there somewhere.*” The uncle then left, but the boy remained stirred by those magic syllables – “*a secret drawer*”. It conjured up images of a sliding panel, bullion, ingots, Spanish dollars, hidden treasure. He approached the desk, probed every smooth surface in search of some knob or spring that might release the secret drawer. Unyielding, the old desk stood, *guarding its secret*. He grew discouraged but then *with a sort of small sigh . . . the secret drawer sprang open*. Excited he carried it to the window. But his excitement gave way to disappointment for the drawer contained no ingots or silver but only two tarnished gilt buttons, a crayoned picture, some foreign copper coins, a list of birds’ eggs and where they had been found, and one ferret’s muzzle. Nothing of any worth at all! And yet as the boy viewed the contents a warmth crept back into his heart, for he knew them to be the hoard of some long forgotten boy like himself - treasures he had stowed away one by one and had cherished secretly awhile: and then - what? Well . . . one would never know . . . *but across the void stretch of years I seemed to touch hands a moment with my little comrade of seasons long since dead*. He then replaced the secret drawer with its contents.

Obviously to that earlier boy every item in that drawer – despite their being mere objects of no significance to others – had heartfelt meaning. They were relics of experiences that thrilled him in some way. The ferret’s muzzle – retaining the memory of a once beloved pet; the crayoned picture worth saving as much as a Rembrandt portrait; the list of birds’ eggs so speckled and colorful, so oval, so fragile that he had to record where and when he found them -- just as the Bible records the Exodus from Egypt or the birth of Christ as momentous, meaningful events requiring dramatic preservation. Don’t we all have a secret drawer somewhere within our being – with events, tarnished gilt buttons or a bagfull of marbles or an old rosary . . . ?

Today’s second reading speaks of your *old* self and your *new* self. Instead of your *old* self may it not really mean your *current* self as an Olympian, your mind preoccupied by a world where even people are mere “objects” or “things”; landscapes unseen as you speed down Highway 12; so much forgetfulness of what really exists? And may not this *current* self need to be re-created – anew - to re-experience reality as inexhaustibly meaningful - as it began, before adult chatter erased your wonder? What was it Jesus said?

Unless you become as little children . . .

Geoff Wood