

## Mass Times

**Saturday Mass:** 5:00 p.m.  
**Sunday Masses:** 8:00 a.m. Spanish  
9:30 a.m. English  
11:30 a.m. Spanish

**Confession:** 4:30 p.m., Saturdays  
6:30 p.m., Wednesdays

Our website: [www.stleosonoma.org](http://www.stleosonoma.org)

**Weekday Mass:**  
8:30 a.m. M, W – F (no Mass on Tuesday)  
7:00 p.m. – Wed. – Spanish Mass

✠ Sacraments ✠  
**Baptisms and Weddings**  
Call the office, (707) 996-8422

## MASS INTENTIONS August 19<sup>th</sup> – August 27<sup>th</sup>

Sat 19	5:00 pm	Luigi & Concetta Casini †
Sun 20	9:30 am	Margaret Tompkins †
Mon 21	8:30 am	Evelyn Sowolla Zanin †
Tues 22		<b>NO MASS</b>
Wed 23	8:30 am	John Dwyer †
Thurs 24	8:30 am	Bill Maffei † & Kathleen Valim †
Friday 25	8:30 am	Colin Kramer †
Sat 26	5:00 pm	Efren Katimbang †
Sun 27	9:30 am	Albert Damien Balint, Special Intention

## FISCAL LOG August 12 / 13

**Sunday Collection:** \$ 3,412.  
**2023 APC– 111 have Pledged \$109,663.11 @ 76%**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Aug 19/20 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection – Black & Indian Missions  
Aug 23 SVDP Monthly Meeting, FINN, 9AM  
Aug 26/27 Mission Appeal Collection

## SANCTUARY LAMP

Dedication for August

In memory of Pat & Bill Ramirez



**SR DIOCESE NOTICE of DEADLINE FOR FILING CLAIMS:** Inserted in this weekend's bulletin is a communication regarding the deadline for filing of claims for Sexual Abuse or other claim against the Diocese of Santa Rosa. The final date for filing claims is October 20, 2023

**ST. VINCENT de PAUL MONTHLY MEETING** this Wednesday, August 23 at 9AM in the Finnegan Center.

**2<sup>nd</sup> COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND - Black and Indian Missions.** The funds are distributed as grants to dioceses throughout the United States, supporting and strengthening evangelization programs which otherwise would cease.

## SPECIAL COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND: A MISSION APPEAL FOR THE DIOCESE OF GUNTUR, INDIA:

Fr. Sudhakar Mannam, who is working at St. Bernard and Sacred Heart Parishes, Eureka, will share the inspiring Mission work done by the Diocese of Guntur. The Diocese of Guntur aims to uplift the marginalized communities, provide education to the less fortunate, pastoral care and Spiritual guidance to those in need. There will be a special collection taken for this beautiful labor of Christian love. Your support will help the Diocese of Guntur to continue its vital Mission work to bring hope for a **better future** and make a real difference in the lives of those in need.

## AN INVITATION FROM S.R. DIOCESE:

The Santa Rosa Diocese invites everyone to attend the annual SR Religious Education Congress on Saturday, Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>. This event is free. This year's theme is "Liturgy, Devotion, and the Most Holy Eucharist". Workshops are in English and Spanish. For more information check out the diocesan website @ [www.srdiocese.org](http://www.srdiocese.org).

**FREE PARK PASS PROGRAM AT JACK LONDON STATE HISTORIC PARK:** Explore the wonders of the park, home and ranch of the legend, Jack London for free. Passes are available in the office or at the back of church. Grab yours today!

**CARE FOR CARE GIVERS:** Are you caring for a loved one suffering from dementia? Do you need help, support, understanding, encouragement? There is **HELP** for you. **HELP** for family members and friends caring for a loved one with memory loss. **CarePartners Initiative** offers Caregiver Support Groups, Day Programs, Social Activities and more. Contact CarePartners at (707) 732-9436 or visit their website: [carepartnersinitiative.org](http://carepartnersinitiative.org).

**ST. LEO'S MEN'S CLUB 2<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL ALL OPEN BOCCE TOURNAMENT:** Friday & Saturday, October 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>, hosted by SLBC. The financial goal is to furnish a campus wide AED unit. For information, please contact Steve Rogers, (707)771-9290 or Rick, (707) 217-9710.

## Faith ultimately means swallowing the whole enchilada

It must have been disconcerting to an early Christian – in the immediate years after Pentecost – to find some Egyptian or Syrian shoving him deeper into his pew to gain space for this alien's odd looking family to have a seat. (I'm not saying that churches back then looked like ours – but just for the sake of an example.)

For you see the earliest Christians were Jews. They didn't cease to be ethnically proud of their patriarchs and prophets and history and Temple. But within a few years of early Church preaching by the apostles and deacons like Philip and especially that "fanatic" Saint Paul, non-Jews were increasing in number, sharing in the sacraments . . . whereas in the old days (to bring the experience up to date) all the news broadcasts were delivered by white males, now people of different physiognomy and color and gender and even speech were taking over.

Indeed a division developed within the early Church between those Christians who wanted the Church to remain Jewish (well within the familiar traditions of the Old Testament) and Gentile Christians (Greek, Roman, African, Lebanese) growing in number, who valued the freedom, the grace, the wider horizons offered to them by the Gospel. By 80 AD, the date of Matthew's Gospel, such diversity was leading to a schism, the clear separation of Synagogue and Church which lasts to this day.

Given that crisis people began to read today's Gospel passage in the light of "what to do" about this now unstoppable influx of Gentiles into a tradition so rooted in the history and images of Israel. And so we have a scene in which Jesus himself is portrayed as staying in Gentile territory amid Canaanites – just as Christians by that date were living among Gentiles throughout the Mediterranean region. And these Gentiles want to sit at table with these Christians, experience the power of Christ. But some early (Jewish) Christians say, "No. They are unclean." and the now Gentile majority says, "Yes, the Gospel is universal in its range." What would Jesus do?

Well he does what he did. He behaves with profound respect for his Jewish heritage of which his Gospel is the blossoming. You don't benefit from the Gospel if you don't embrace the whole drama of the Old Testament that gave birth to it. Nobody can just walk in and have the cookies and walk out. Jesus wants a commitment to the whole story, which is not something you can take or leave, toss away the wrappings and walk off with the taco. But in effect Jesus says, "This woman may not recognize the whole rich tradition out of which the Gospel comes; but she knows enough to want to know." And ultimately she had a faith, a trust capable of educating Jesus to that wider world about which he himself was preaching. To which he could only say: "O woman! Great is your faith!"

Which reminds me of old Father Aloysius Craven at Graymoor long ago. Pilgrims came up the Hudson on weekends to spend a day among our chapels and statues and – gift shop. There arrived a time when more and more of the pilgrims were Baptists from Harlem, who inevitably gathered in great numbers for the outdoor Mass. Aloysius panicked every Sunday! In his Irish brogue he would say, "I repeat! Only Catholics are allowed to come to communion." The Baptist participants nodded they understood. But every time, as communion was distributed, up they came smiling, while Aloysius felt another year of his life slide prematurely away.

(Reprint 6/2017)

**Geoff Wood**