

Gathering Song:

Come Emmanuel



BB#62

Come, O__ come, E - man - u - el, O - pen our hearts, re - new__ us.

Come, O__ come, E - man - u - el, come in love and make us whole once more.

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Responsorial Psalm:

My soul re - joi - ces in my God. In his light I shall be

saved. My soul re - joi - ces in my God. In His love I'll find peace.

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Gospel Acclamation: *Watson Alleluia*

Preparation of Gifts: *Waiting in Silence*

Mass: *May We Be One*
Copies in the pew pocket

Prepare
the way
of the
Lord



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Communion Song: *A Voice Cries Out*

BB#51

A voice cries out in the wild - er - ness: pre - pare a way for the Lord!__

— A voice cries out in the wil - der - ness: Make straight a high-way for God!

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BB#46

Closing Song: *Ready the Way*

BB#53

Refrain: *Ready the way, ready the way, ready the way of the Lord!*
Ready the way, ready the way, ready the way of the Lord!

Second Sunday of Advent

December 4, 2022

A shoot shall sprout from the root of Jesse and a bud shall blossom. The spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, a spirit of wisdom and understanding, of counsel and strength.

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St. Leo Catholic Church

Website: www.stleosonoma.org



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

Sunday Masses are Live Streamed
on Facebook, YouTube, or
our website: www.stleesonoma.org

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

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

MASS INTENTIONS Dec. 3rd – 11th

Sat 3	5:00 pm	Rich Luzzi †
Sun 4	9:30 am	Dennis Ciocca †
Mon 5	8:30 am	Kevin Cunniff †
Tues 6		NO MASS
Wed 7	8:30 am	Eduardo & Josefa Noroña †
Thurs 8	8:30 am	Felix Mapa †
Friday 9	8:30 am	Dr. Gonzalo Ramos †
Sat 10	5:00 pm	James Sullivan †
Sun 11	9:30 am	Tony Bertolini †

FISCAL LOG November 26 / 27

Sunday Collection: \$ 3,450.
Communications & Cath. Univ. of America \$1,041.
2022 ANNUAL PARISH CAMPAIGN
123 Parishioners pledged: \$123,422. 85%

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:


Dec 4 2nd Collection, St Leo Development Fund
Dec 7 SVDP Meeting, 9AM
Dec 8 Holy Day of Obligation
Dec 11 Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration
Dec 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration
Dec 20 Parish Christmas Dinner



SANCTUARY LAMP
Dedication for December
In memory of
Bob & Emme Field

2ND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND: St. Leo's Development Fund. Donations to the **Development Fund** help support the maintenance of our buildings and grounds.

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGEN MARY, A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION: Mass will be offered on Thursday, December 8th at 8:30 a.m.

POINSETTIAS IN MEMORIAM: 
The St. Leo's Ladies Guild invites you to join in their fundraiser that helps to decorate our church for the Christmas season by purchasing a poinsettia in memory of a loved one. Please PRINT the name of a person or persons you wish to be remembered and send your request and donation of \$10 to Leo's Church, Attn. Michelle Levesque, PO Box 666, Boyes Hot Springs, CA 95416. Questions, call the parish office, (707) 996-8422.

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS: Our hearts go out to Sherrill Peterson, our choir director, who lost her mother, Doris Peterson. Please keep Sherrill and family in your prayers.

GIFTS FOR RELIGIOUS ED. STUDENTS: Please help in providing our R.E. children with a toy this Christmas by donating one or more toys for children between 6 – 12 years old. There is a box at the entrance of Church where you may place the gift(s). Thank you and God Bless.

ST. LEO'S CONFERENCE OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL wishes to extend a heartfelt thanks to parishioners and volunteers that helped distribute 350 Thanksgiving dinner boxes. SVDP is deeply grateful for your prayers and donations of time, food, and funding. So many came together to make a very special Thanksgiving for many in our community.

PARISH CHRISTMAS DINNER: Tues. Dec. 20th starting at 6PM. Cocktails and dinner at 7PM. Tickets will be on sale **THIS** weekend. **Cost is \$40 per person.** Tickets can also be purchased in the parish office, M – F, 9a.m. to 12:30p.m.

ADULT ED. - LECTIONARY TALK BY GEOFF WOOD: Geoff has added to his recorded Lectionary Talks which can be found on our website. Go to the Resources tab for the dropdown list. Hover over Geoff Wood's name and click the Year and either Essay or Lectionary title you want to see.

Go tell John what you see and hear . . .

If today's Gospel reading were staged as in a theater, John the Baptist would be coming out from behind the curtain looking gaunt and wild – and clothed just as wildly in a garb of camel's hair and a leather belt - shouting at the religious leaders in the audience (the Sadducees and Pharisees) – calling them toxic and asking: *Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?* In other words he would be angry.

And just for the record, while Matthew's version of this moment zeroes in on the clergy of the times, *Luke's* version of the same rant includes all the *laity* in John's audience as well! John is emotionally concerned about the routine maintenance of religious practices instead of their practitioners' serious understanding of them.

Now perhaps to soften the violent tone of John's language some interpreters suggest he was using anger as a rhetorical device to wake people up – that it was after all a staged performance. I remember as a teenager attending with my father one of those parish week-long missions or revivals – a long time ago. The church was full to capacity of male parishioners. It was conducted by two visiting priests. On the opening night the frowning, heavy set one strode out of the sacristy, mounted the pulpit and delivered a blast of accusation and imminent doom that left us all squirming with anxiety.

When he had finished and stomped into the sacristy, the second priest came out – smiling – climbed into the pulpit and began: *My dear friends, I hope you will forgive my colleague for his outburst. He gets like that now and again; bad temper, always apologetic once he's done. So show him some understanding even as God always shows mercy to souls in need.* Now that was staged. Shake 'em up but let 'em down easy.

But our Gospels don't play games. John the Baptist was indeed angry. Generation after generation his people had slackened off, not from their allegiance *to* but from their understanding *of* their unique tradition, its stories, its wisdom, its poetic prophets and psalms. Long time rivalries, "us-versus-them" based on mutual disdain, a leaning toward the idols of good luck (investments), everyday preoccupations, the sameness of behaviors from one generation to the next. No time to think, to revive the basic questions: why am I here, what is my relation to the whole of nature, where are we headed in the deeper sense of things. What is my heritage talking about?

John had had it up to here! with no one *even* asking questions! Reminds me of Howard Beale in the film *Network* who as news anchor one day "loses it" and shouts out: *I'm as mad as - - and I'm not going to take it any more.* And with that, apartment windows all over the city open with everybody delivering that same shout, probably over different issues. The point is that, judging by the journalism of today, an underlying anger may erupt because of our superficial sense of what and why we are. We can't repress our longing for some depth of meaning without there happening some kind of spontaneous combustion. John later in Matthew 11: 1-6 wonders whether Jesus shared his anger over the laxity of his people - to which Jesus replied *Blessed be those who are not scandalized by the grace whereby I would heal the human race.*

Geoff Wood