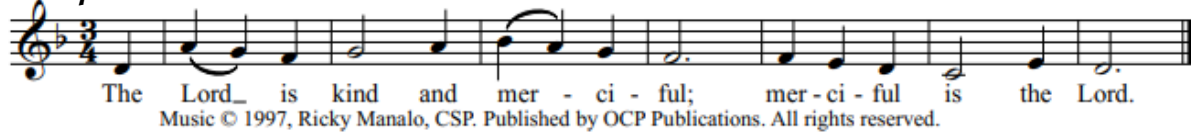


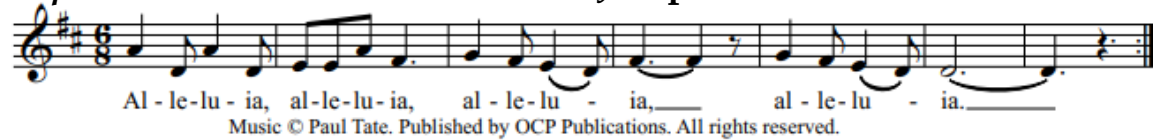
**Gathering Song:** Christ in Me Arise BB#525

**Refrain:** Christ in in me arise and dispel all the darkness.  
Christ in me arise with your power and your strength.  
Christ in me pour out your blessing and healing.  
Christ in me arise, and I shall rise with you.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalm 103: The Lord is Kind and Merciful



**Gospel Acclamation:** Mass of Joseph



**Preparation of Gifts:** O How Blessed BB#740

**Refrain:** Rejoice and be glad, beloved of the Lord.  
The kingdom of heaven is yours.  
The first shall be last, the last shall be first,  
For such is the wisdom of God.

**Communion Song:** With the Lord There is Mercy BB#816

**Refrain:** With the Lord there is mercy, and fullness of redemption.  
With the Lord there is mercy, and fullness of redemption.

**Closing Song:** City of God BB#388

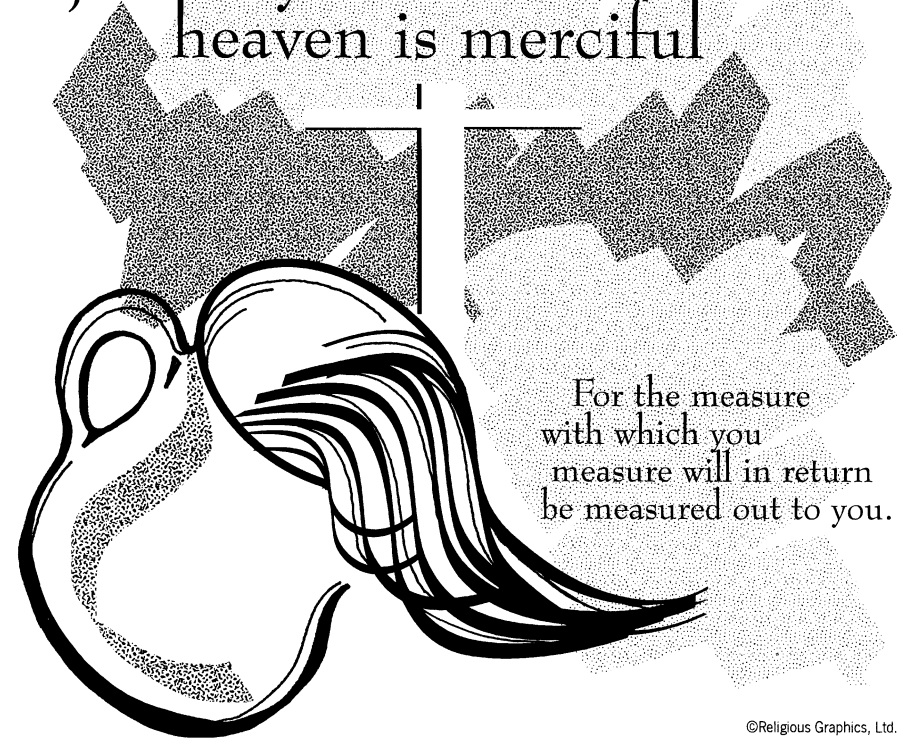
**Refrain:** Let us build the city of God.  
May our tears turn into dancing!  
For the Lord, our light and our love,  
Has turned the night into day!

To love your enemies, to do good  
to those who hate you  
This is what it means to be a  
follower of CHRIST

# Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 20, 2022

BE MERCIFUL  
just as your FATHER in  
heaven is merciful



Rev. Jojo Puthussery, MF  
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**St. Leo Catholic Church**  
Website: [www.stleosonoma.org](http://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

**Sunday Masses are Live Streamed on Facebook, YouTube, or our website: [www.stleasonoma.org](http://www.stleasonoma.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 February 19<sup>th</sup> – February 27<sup>th</sup>

Sat 19 5:00 pm Christy Maynard, Successful surgery & recovery  
& Claire Stirling, improved health  
Sun 20 9:30 am Henry Pretzman †  
Mon 21 8:30 am Ernest Daligcon †  
Tues 22 8:30 am **NO MASS**  
Wed 23 8:30 am James Gater †  
Thurs 24 8:30 am Bill Maffei †  
Friday 25 8:30 am Philip Donohue †  
Sat 26 5:00 pm Emme Field †  
Sun 27 9:30 am Ernest Daligcon †

### FISCAL LOG February 12 / 13

**Sunday Collection: \$ 3,283.**

**ANNUAL PARISH CAMPAIGN '21 UNDATE:**  
**158 Parishioners have pledged: \$146,416.**

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Feb 21 OFFICE CLOSED, Presidents' Day  
Mar 2 Ash Wednesday Schedule  
8:30AM, 12noon, 5:00PM & 7:00PM  
Collection for Central & Eastern Europe  
Mar 5/6 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection – St Leo's Dev. Fund  
Mar 13 Daylight Saving begins,  
set your clocks ahead 1 hour  
Mar 19/20 CA. Relief Service & CA. Camp. For  
Human Development  
March 20 Spring Begins  
April 2/3 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection – St Leo's Dev. Fund  
April 17 EASTER SUNDAY

### TO MASK OR NOT TO MASK?

As you may have heard, masks are no longer mandatory when gathering indoors, but are suggested. So, here at St. Leo's masks are NOT required but are available upon entering church as is hand sanitizer.

### MEN'S CLUB BOCCE BALL COURT UPDATE:

The Men's Club Bocce Ball Courts and Horseshoe Pits are nearing completion. They will be hosting an open house following the Saturday, 5PM Mass and Sunday, 9:30AM Mass this weekend to share their progress and answer any questions. Please stop by to show your support.

The Men's Club is currently seeking donors to sponsor Dedication / Memorial Benches and Picnic Tables to place near the court area. Benches are \$1,500. and picnic tables, \$2,000. On each donated bench or table, a bronze plaque with up to 3 lines will be mounted. There are photos of the tables and benches over near the courts to look at. If interested talk to Rick Schuhriemen, (707) 217-9710.

We are also seeking persons willing to be part of a formation committee of a new Bocce Ball league of some sorts to begin play in May. We are wide open for ideas of how to make best use of this new facility and welcome the full community's participation. Those willing to help in forming a league should contact Rick Schuhriemen at (707) 217-9710 or [rick.sch@comcast.net](mailto:rick.sch@comcast.net). A meeting of those interested will be scheduled soon to discuss our future plans. If you cannot be involved in a committee but want to play in a new league, please send a note with your contact info and experience and we will reach out to you as plans come together. No previous playing experience needed.

### PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Long time parishioner Patrick (Pat) O'Grady passed away peacefully at home last Monday. A funeral Mass will be held here on Friday, Feb 25<sup>th</sup> at 11AM. Please keep Pat and his family in your prayers.

### SANCTUARY LAMP

Dedication for February

Deceased Members of the Mapa Family



### SPARE CHANGE FUNDRAISER FOR LENT:

Once again during Lent we will have our Spare Change Fundraiser. The money collected will go toward the completion of the children's residence at an orphanage in India that Fr. Jojo visits. The foundation and first floor of the building was completed with the money collected from last year's Spare Change fundraiser. Jars will be available in the Ushers Room for pickup after Ash Wednesday.



First floor of Children's Residence

To hear those three little words, that's all I'd live for the rest of my days . . .  
(as sung by the Rhythm Boys)

Are you the same person you were twenty or forty years ago? Yes and no! Frankly the person I was in 1970 was not the person I was in 1955 nor was the person I was in 1995 the person I am today. Changes happen that make one conclude you won't be exactly who you presently are this time next year. I mean will we ever again be the persons we were before this pandemic took over – will Sonoma as a town be the same? Things change.

Saint Paul says as much in today's second reading. Using the biblical character Adam as his example – Adam starts out as a "living being" but ends up "a life-giving spirit" – transitions from earthly to heavenly. Time after time things happen which can transform us into ever more knowledgeable, even expansive human beings.

Sometimes it takes a shock for such a change to happen. After I had finished my long training – from age fifteen to twenty-seven – to become ordained, I was sent on to graduate school; three more years of study! Naturally I dragged my feet. I handed in at the start of my first semester a shoddy term paper on a biblical topic.

Next day I received a phone call from my professor, Ed Siegman, a very strict fellow to whom I will forever be indebted. His message was brief: "If this is the effort you intend to make in my class, then why don't you just drop out and stop wasting my time and yours!" To be brief: I changed on the spot. It's not that I changed in any radical way but I was embarrassed enough to become a serious student. See what I mean?

My guess is that today's first reading may have been selected from the Hebrew Testament to set up the David of old as merciful in sparing the life of his pursuer King Saul. Actually that would be quite a change in David considering that he had no hesitancy to kill while fighting the Philistines or his rivals. I mean, people used to sing: "Saul has killed his thousands, but David his tens of thousands." Also, was it mercy that motivated David or his hope that Saul would return the favor and allow David to return – no longer outlawed – but a favored son-in-law? Self interest?

In Luke's reading today Christ would have us love in terms of the Greek term *agape* – not so much *eros* (sheer passion) or *philia* (mere friendship) but, as one scholar defines *agape*: a gracious, determined, and active interest in the true welfare of others, which is not deterred even when it gets responses like hatred, cursing and abuse. Nor is it limited by any calculation on the lover's part of any deserts or results he or she may expect in return but radiates out of the very nature of God as lover of all creation – with no exceptions. Nor does even that do the term justice. And it seems hard to find nowadays – at least in the media – where public life is a perpetual tennis match of potentially lethal consequences between the yeas and nays.

**Geoff Wood**