

Gathering Song:

Fish With Me

Refrain:

Oh, come and fol-low me. Oh,
 leave be - hind your nets. I call you. Oh,
 come and fish with me, and your life will nev-er be the same a - gain.

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Gloria:

Gloria to God (in pew pocket)

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 25: Teach Me Your Ways

Teach me your ways, O Lord. Teach me your ways, O Lord.

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Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia

BB#877

Preparation of Gifts:

Your Words are Spirit and Life

BB#606

Refrain: *Your words are spirit and life, O Lord: richer than gold, stronger than death.
 Your words are spirit and life, O Lord: life everlasting.*

Mass:

Mass of Renewal

Holy: BB#879

Mem Acc: BB#880

Amen: BB#883

Lamb of God: BB#884

Communion Song:

Servant Song

BB#393

Refrain:

Je - sus, Je - sus, you are the Lord.
 Je - sus, Je - sus, you are the way.

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Closing Song:

Word of Our God

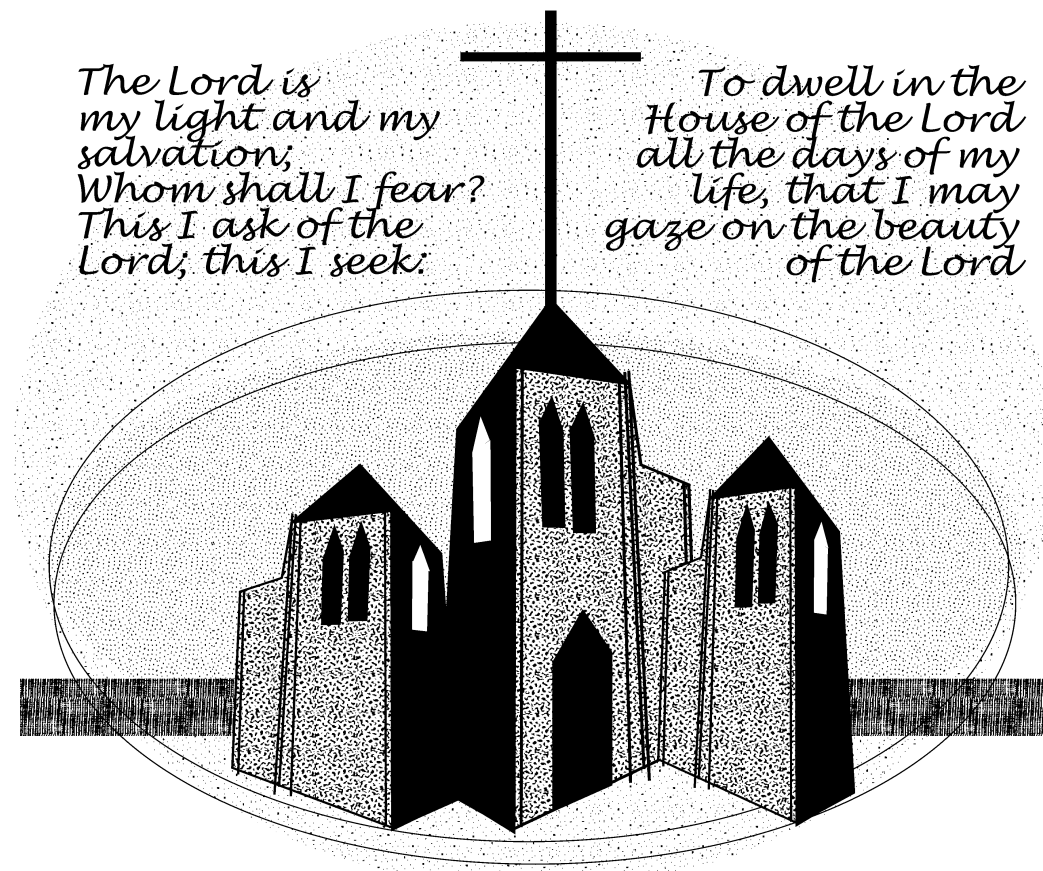
BB#607

Refrain:

Word of our God, sav - ored in time, send us forth as salt for the earth.
 Burn in our hearts as a lamp for our feet. Lead us forth to shine as light for the world.

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3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 21, 2024



*The Lord is
 my light and my
 salvation,
 Whom shall I fear?
 This I ask of the
 Lord; this I seek:*

*To dwell in the
 House of the Lord
 all the days of my
 life, that I may
 gaze on the beauty
 of the Lord*

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St. Leo Catholic Church

Website: www.stleesonoma.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

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 and Weddings
Call the office, (707) 996-8422

MASS INTENTIONS: January 20th - Jan. 28th

Sat 20	5:00 pm	Richard Facciola †
Su ^h 21	9:30 am	Renan Dominguez †
Mon 22	8:30 am	Antionette Kuhry & Thomas Haeuser, Prayers
Tues 23		NO MASS
Wed 24	8:30 am	Bill Maffei †
Thurs 25	8:30 am	Gloria Reynolds †
Friday 26	8:30 am	Diane Marino †
Sat 27	5:00 pm	Bill & Maryjane Barber †
Su ^h 28	9:30 am	Diane Marino †

FISCAL LOG January 13 / 14

Sunday Collection: \$ 3,037.
2023 APC– 124 have Pledged \$124,413.11 @ 86%

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Jan 24	SVDP Meeting, 9AM, FINN
Feb 3/4	2 nd Collection - St Leo Development Fund
Feb 8	Italian Chicken & Polenta Dinner, 5:30PM
Feb 14	Ash Wednesday
Feb 14	2 nd Collection - Central & Eastern Europe
Feb 17	Memorial Mass for Val Matthews, 11AM
Feb 19	Presidents' Day, Office Closed

SANCTUARY LAMP
Dedication for January
In memory of the
Correa & Wilson Families



2nd COLLECTION: Church in Latin America – This collection supports pastoral programs throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. Funding is limited to programmatic expenses and excludes building construction except in cases of emergency.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL MEETING: The group will meet on Wednesday, Jan. 24th at 9:00 a.m. in the Finnegan Center.

YOUTH MINISTRY: Please pray for those students preparing to receive the Holy Sacrament of Confirmation. Their next meeting will be Thursday, February 1st from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.



ST. LEO'S ITALIAN DINNER IS **SOLD OUT!**

Thursday, February 8th - Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and Dinner will be at 6:00 p.m.

2023 APC: If you have not made your pledge or completed your pledged amount for the 2023 Annual Paish Campaign, now is the time to do so. We will be ramping up for the 2024 APC in early February.

COFFEE AND DONUTS THIS WEEKEND: Grab a donut, cup of coffee, and catch up with friends.

ARE YOU A REGISTERED MEMBER OF ST. LEO'S? We invite you to register and become an official active member(s) of our St. Leo's community. Registration enables the parish pastor and staff to get to know you better and helps us be able to communicate with you by sending you mailings. It also allows us to record contributions for end of year statement mailings. Once you are registered, please notify the parish office of any changes in address or phone number. Forms are at the church entrance.

LOOKING FOR AN EASY WAY TO MAKE DONATIONS: The beginning of the new year is a good time to consider making your donation to St. Leo's with a monthly credit card draw. It's the no-hassle, environmentally friendly way, and completely secure. You can change your donation level at any time. To learn more please contact Michelle or Mayra in the office, 996-8422.

SATURDAY CONFESSION OFFERED: Fr. Jojo is available to hear confessions in the church on Saturdays from 4:00 – 4:45 p.m.

PLEASE KEEP FAMILY IN YOUR PRAYERS: Long-time parishioner, Val Matthews, peacefully passed away at the age of 104 on Sunday, January 14th. A memorial service will be held here at St. Leo's on Friday, February 17th at 11:00 a.m. with a reception to follow. Val holds a special place in our hearts as she was a part of our community since the founding of St. Leo's in 1967.

A Case of Cetacean Indigestion or Even Whales Can Only Stomach So Much!

I always thought whales needed more room to maneuver and kept to the big oceans of the world – and so there couldn't be any in the somewhat landlocked Mediterranean Sea. But the Internet tells me whales do swim amid the coasts of North Africa and Greece, Italy and Spain. But then again, the original Hebrew of the biblical Jonah story simply calls the sea creature that swallowed Jonah “a big fish”. So why argue about it?

Except it's Jonah's encounter with this “big fish” that absorbs all our attention – so that we miss out on the real point of the story, namely that God, contrary to Jonah's wishes, is a God of universal mercy, not of morbid retribution. I mean, all the preliminaries to the final chapter have to do with the stern God of embittered and battered Judea choosing Jonah to warn the persecutors of the Jews (the citizens of Nineveh) of impending doom if they do not repent. And Jonah, harboring prejudices against Nineveh, backs off; he'd rather leave the Ninevites to their fate. So he books passage on a ship headed to the opposite end of the Mediterranean Sea, to Spain. Then comes the storm! Jonah senses his disobedience is the cause of it, the sailors toss him overboard, a great fish swallows him up – and so there he now sits somewhere within the rib cage of the fish amid the refuse of the big fish's usual diet.

All of this graphic display holds our attention and certainly that of children. Catechists use all sorts of visual aids, coloring books, craft exercises with glue and paper . . . even enactments of the drama, so preoccupying are the upfront details of the story. Some catechists may even bring in excerpts for Herman Melville's *Moby Dick* or Carlo Collodi's *Adventures of Pinocchio* to widen the scope of the tale. And then there is Louis Armstrong's gloss upon the text in which Jonah's release by the whale is due to his giving the whale indigestion: *Now Jonah must've been a bad man; he must of been a sinner / . . . 'Cause when the whale got him down, he didn't like his dinner / . . . he swum around the ocean, sick as he could be / . . . And after three days, whoops, he had to set him free / Lord, Lord, wasn't that a fish, mmm?*

Yet how does the final chapter go? Jonah does go to Nineveh – an enormous city – and summons it to repentance for its past sins. But his preaching is more effective than he wished; he hoped they would resist God's summons and be blown away. Nineveh undergoes the unlikeliest of changes, a total change of heart. Yet rather than rejoice, Jonah sulks. He wants the kind of God that rewards Jonah's friends and punishes people he doesn't like – sinners. He whines: *I knew it! I knew that you were a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, abounding in kindness, repenting of punishment! So take my life. I'd rather be dead than live to see my own vindictiveness stifled. To which God says in so many words: Jonah, you are so small-minded, obsessed with your petty prejudices – and should I not be concerned over the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who cannot know their right hand from their left, not to mention all the innocent animals?*

Already, before even the event of Bethlehem, the Spirit of the compassionate Christ (whom disgruntled Pharisees will never understand) begins to emerge out of the Hebrew Bible.

(Reprint from 01/25/2015)

Geoff Wood