

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



July 11, 2021 ~ Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

APRICOT JAM FOR SALE:

If you missed the previous jam sale last month, no worries. The Jam Committee has left jars of apricot jam in the parish office for sale at \$5 each. Get yours while you can.

“THE HOLY EUCHARIST & THE CULTURE OF LIFE” Archbishop Joseph Naumann of Kansas City, Chairman of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Committee on Pro-Life Activities, will address these matters on Wednesday, July 21st @ Kolbe-Trinity Catholic School, 2055 Redwood Rd. in Napa @ 7:30 P.M. at an outdoor setting. No charge.

RETURN OF MEN’S CLUB DINNER MEETING

With restrictions being lifted things around here are happening again. The 3rd Tuesday of the month Men’s Club dinner meeting was the first to resume and it was attended by many of the men of the parish. You can see some of the festivities from the evening on our Facebook page. The group will continue to meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, in the Lillian Wing, 6:00 p.m. for cocktails & dinner at 7:00 p.m. Contact Steve Rogers with any questions, (707) 771-9290.

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

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Long time former parishioner and friend to many, Irene Bachelder died peacefully at home on March 21st. You are invited to join the family for a memorial celebration for her on Saturday, August 14th in Kenwood (more details to come). In lieu of other gifts, we invite you to contribute towards Irene’s memorial bench, to be placed at Sonoma Botanical Garden (formerly Quarry Hill Botanical Garden). It was her absolute favorite place to visit. Photos, videos, and the bench memorial fundraiser information have been added to the website: TheBachelderFamily.com.

SANCTUARY LAMP

Dedication for July

In Memory of James Gater



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 our website, Facebook and YouTube:

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

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

1st Friday of the month, 9 -10 a.m.

✠ **Sacraments** ✠

Baptisms: Call the office, 996-8422

Weddings: Call the office, 996-8422

MASS INTENTIONS: July 10th - July 18th

Sat 10	5:00 p.m.	the People of St. Leo’s
Sun 11	9:30 a.m.	James Gater †
Mon 12	8:30 a.m.	Patricia Ramirez †
Tues 13	8:30 a.m.	NO MASS
Wed 14	8:30 a.m.	Agnes Lucey †
Thurs 15	8:30 a.m.	the People of St. Leo’s
Friday 16	8:30 a.m.	Special Intention
Sat 17	5:00 p.m.	Pauly Balanga †
Sun 18	9:30 a.m.	Frank Lynch † and James & Ellen Lynch †

FISCAL LOG June 26 / 27

Sunday Collection: \$ 2,585.

ANNUAL PARISH CAMPAIGN UNDATE:

140 Parishioners have pledged: \$123,226. ~ 85%

This year’s goal is \$145,000.

Thank You St. Leo Parishioners. We are so close.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

July 20 Men’s Club Monthly Meeting, 6PM

DAILY MORNING MASS UPDATE:

8:30 a.m. weekday Mass has moved inside the church with masks as an option. Saturday, 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, 9:30 & 11:30 a.m. Masses will continue outdoors for now with masks as an option if fully vaccinated.

Our office staff has been fully vaccinated, and masks are also optional when visiting the office.

YOU WHO ONCE WERE FAR AWAY
HAVE BEEN BROUGHT NEAR
THROUGH THE BLOOD OF CHRIST

Ephesians 2:13

OFFICE HOURS:

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

Staff

Office Manager

996-8422

Michelle Levesque

office@stleasonoma.org

Parish Bookkeeper / Office Asst.

Mayra Alvarez

bookkeeper@stleasonoma.org

Coordinator of Religious Education

996-7503

Rosa Chavez

Coordinator of Youth Ministry

291-1916

Nancy Gibson

yall2926@aol.com

My Life as a Pinball

At the close of my eighth grade in parochial school I was surprised to learn that I had been selected among some other boys to test for a scholarship at the two private Catholic high schools of the diocese, one run by the Christian Brothers and the other by the Jesuits. I was surprised because I never took school too seriously as other than a place that had a playground for recess antics. Nevertheless I crossed town twice to take the scholarship exam at LaSalle High in a then somewhat suburban location and at St. Joseph's Prep (originating out of St. Joseph's parish founded in 1733). Being that old and also *Jesuit* made it an honor even to cross Saint Joseph's threshold.

I first took the LaSalle test – impressed by its gothic architecture and pleasant neighborhood and later took the St. Joe's test – situated in the noisy inner city. The environment put me off right away but it was the half-eaten hamburger I found in my desk while taking the exam that made me skip the test and catch the trolley. The result? I won a half scholarship to LaSalle – and guess what was the half tuition my parents had to pay back in 1941? Twelve dollars a month!

What would have happened had I gone to St. Joseph's to undergo the influence of the elite Jesuits? I can't even imagine. But it would have taken me far afield from the direction my life took after attending LaSalle. Indeed it wasn't a matter of *what* I would become but *who*. I mean of course we have genetic characteristics that chart our path in many ways but it's the incidents, the turns, the detours, the confrontations, the people we meet once we are launched that bring us to where we *are*. As I look back I am surprised at the meandering, the unexpected, the disappointments, the treasurable people I have encountered – surprised even in retrospect. The same can be said of you.

As people of faith we accept that something more than our reason and choices pulsate our growth – every life is a novel co-authored in some way by a dynamo somewhere beneath our soles (souls). The Hebrew and Christian traditions demonstrate this by the directionless ways its characters chose to advance only to wind up always focused on “a promised land” – each a metaphor of every human experience. What would *you* be and *who* would you be today, if . . .

In today's first reading Amos serves as an example. After all he had settled into being an anonymous, forgettable fellow defined as a shepherd and a dresser of sycamores – when something diverted him to confront the priests of Bethel and wind up - his oracles, his poetry, his insights echoing down the corridors of time forevermore. So that we now know *who* and not just *what* Amos was!

Today's Gospel spells it all out. Hang loose. Travel light. Go with the flow. Food, baggage, money, wardrobe – don't make them a weight that burdens your mental mobility. Don't trivialize your life. If you find hospitality along the way, enjoy it. If you experience rejection, let it go. Just stay open to the oncoming summons that may arrive from where you least expect it. Stay open-minded, openhearted. As the Gospel parables put it: stay awake to the Spirit's lure; don't bury your gift of life simply to keep it intact, unwrapped.

Geoff Wood