



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

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: July 27th – August 4th

Sat. 27 5:00 p.m. Maria De Martini †
Sun. 28 9:30 a.m. Mike Brocco †
Mon. 29 8:30 a.m. Ron Lennon Successful surgery
Tues.30 **NO MASS**
Wed. 31 8:30 a.m. John Anthony Cattalini †
August
Thurs. 1 8:30 a.m. Amanda Flaim †
Friday 2 8:30 a.m. Craig Goldman †
Sat. 3 5:00 p.m. Val Matthews †
Sun. 4 9:30 a.m. Mattia Beltrame †

FISCAL LOG July 20 / 21

Sunday Collection: \$ 3,680.
Black & Indian Missions \$ 1,143.

NEW 2024 ANNUAL PARISH CAMPAIGN UPDATE
111 Parishioners pledged: \$102,359.38 71%

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

July 27 R.E. Enrollment, 9AM – 1PM, FINN
July 29 Confirmation Registration, 9AM – 1PM
Aug 2 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

SANCTUARY LAMP
Dedication for July
In memory of
James Gater



**FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH
ADORATION OF THE BLESSED
SACRAMENT:** Friday, August 2nd, in the
church following morning Mass.

2nd COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND:

St. Leo's Development Fund. Your donations to the Development Fund help to support the maintenance of our buildings and grounds.

SVDP NEEDS PAPER AND PLASTIC BAGS:

SVDP needs your unwanted paper and plastic shopping bags for their Tuesday, "Groceries to Go" program. Please bring your bags to the parish office.

NO SVDP MONTHLY MEETING IN JULY. Next meeting is August 28th at 9:00 a.m. C U then.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION:

Requirements: Must be registered in this parish, child must be 7 years old, must bring copy of baptismal certificate, cost is \$60 for first year and \$80 for second year. For more information or to check availability of space, please call Rosa Chavez in the office of Religious Education at 707-996-7503.

CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION: Monday,

July 29th, 9am to 1PM in the Parish Office. Your student must be 8th grade and up. Registration forms can be found on our website: stleosonoma.org or picked up from the parish office.

MARRIAGE: THE MULTIPLICATION OF LOVE

In today's Gospel, Jesus takes the meager gifts of a teenaged boy and multiplies them to satisfy the hunger of a multitude. In the Sacrament of Marriage, he does the same: whenever we feel like we are not up to the challenges, Jesus takes our gifts, blesses them like the loaves and fish, and multiplies the love of our marriage. Learn more and share the Good News about marriage and family life at: www.radiatelove.info.

EUCARISTIC MINISTER TO THE SICK & HOME

BOUND: If anyone is interested in this very fulfilling ministry, please call the parish office, (707) 996-8422. Ministers needed for Sunday visits.

ENGLISH PRE-BAPTISMAL CLASS OFFERED:

This class is mandatory for parents & godparents who are wishing to baptize their child. Call the office, 707 996-8422 for more info.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR SINGLE

CATHOLICS IN LAS VEGAS, NEVADA, August 16th-18th, 2024. Visit NationalCatholicSingles.com for more information or Call (704)-665-0455.

Seeing beyond appearances*

The sibling children of Kenneth Grahame's *The Golden Age*, ranging in age from six to eleven, had lived among the adults of their household long enough to acquire a critical attitude toward them all. As the narrator says: *These elders, . . . having absolute license to indulge in the pleasures of life, . . . could get no good of it. . . . They might dabble in the pond all day, hunt the chickens, climb trees . . . ; yet they never did any one of these things. . . the existence of these Olympians seemed to be entirely void of interests, even as their movements were confined and slow, and their habits stereotyped and senseless. To anything but appearances they were blind. For them the orchard (a place elf-haunted, wonderful!) simply produced so many apples and cherries or it didn't. . . They were unaware of Indians, nor reeked they anything of bisons or of pirates (with pistols!), though the whole place swarmed with such portents.*

Needless to say then, when told that an uncle just returned from India was about to visit their home, they jumped to critical conclusions. They had met other uncles as inadequate as the adults they lived with. For example, "There was Uncle Thomas - a failure from the first. . . his rooted conviction seemed to be that the reason for a child's existence was to serve as a butt for senseless adult jokes . . ." Then there was the younger Uncle George, who at first showed some promise, allowing the children to introduce him to their pets, until he met their governess Miss Smedley, from which moment on "Uncle George's manner at once underwent a complete and contemptible change".

Their expectations of this new Uncle William were therefore low. Throughout the course of his stay they couldn't quite make up their minds about him, but in the end (after he had departed for the train station accompanied under orders by their younger sibling Harold) the rest of the children were about to rate him negatively, when Harold returned and stood speechless before them. Then "slowly drawing his hand from the pocket of his knickerbockers, he displayed on a dirty palm one-two-three-four half-crowns!" "Buy what you like (Uncle William had said) - make little beasts of yourselves - only don't tell the old people, mind!" Small Charlotte said dreamily, "I didn't know that there were such good men anywhere in the world. I hope he'll die to-night, for then he'll go straight to heaven!"

All of which seems to show it's not wise to fall into a persistently critical or unexpectant attitude toward everything and everyone. People and reality may surprise us if we can get over this habit we acquire so early in life of never giving them the benefit of the doubt. One scholar says that when Jesus (as he did last Sunday) looked with compassion upon the crowds around him, it doesn't mean he looked upon them with piteous condescension but that he saw in them so many possibilities for good and longed to see them realized. He longed to see them become the prolific miracle each could be. In other words, he saw more than meets the usually critical or passive eye we all possess - even as Elisha and Jesus in today's readings saw more than a few loaves and fishes but ample resources to feed a hundred, even five thousand souls.

One of the most difficult things confronting me in this extremely negative, scapegoating age in which we live is to pass from a critical or unexpectant to a Christic (merciful, hopeful, affirmative) perception of people. How important it is that I do so - if only to avoid the fate of our story's repentant Selina, who "bewailed herself with tears and sobs," because in her haste she had prematurely called Uncle William a beast.

Geoff Wood

**Living the Lectionary* by G. Wood; Lit. Training Publications 2005 with permission.