

## 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.stleosonoma.org](http://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 29<sup>th</sup> – August 6<sup>th</sup>

Sat 29	5:00 pm	Hugh & Catherine Pendergast †
Sun 30	9:30 am	Albert Damien Balint, Happy Birthday
Mon 31	8:30 am	Gratien Guerra †
<b>August</b>		
Tues 1		<b>NO MASS</b>
Wed 2	8:30 am	Joe Guinasso †
Thurs 3	8:30 am	Monica Moore †
Friday 4	8:30 am	Geoff Wood †
Sat 5	5:00 pm	Antonio & Esther Vagnozzi †
Sun 6	9:30 am	Ashley Renee Lynn Pound †, Albert Damien Balint, Happy Birthday

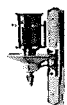
## FISCAL LOG July 22 / 23

Sunday Collection: \$ 3,604.  
2023 APC– 107 have Pledged \$107,513.11 @ 74%

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Aug 5 RE Registration, 9AM -1PM

**SANCTUARY LAMP**  
Dedication for July  
In memory of James Gater



**ST. LEO'S BOCCE CLUB INFORMATION:**  
Interested in playing on a team, volunteering or just need info? Email [stleobocceclub@gmail.com](mailto:stleobocceclub@gmail.com) or call Rick Schuhriemen, (707) 217-9710.

**5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF THE MONTH 2<sup>nd</sup> COLLECTION:**  
Today's 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection will be for our SVDP Society. Funds collected from this collection go toward keeping the pantry stocked with the essentials needed for their clients.

## FOOD DISTRIBUTION INFORMATION:

Anyone In need of food can call the office Wednesday thru Friday to place an order from the pantry. Clients must call the parish office, (707) 996-8422 to place an order by 11a.m. Pick up time is 11:30a.m. Every Tuesday, our SVDP and the Redwood Empire Food Bank distribute "Groceries to Go" in the parking lot from 8:30 – 9:30a.m. The food distribution is first come, first served.

## MANY THANKS FROM NUEVA ESPERANZA:

The members of the Nueva Esperanza wish to thank all those who purchased tamales at their sale. The money will help defer the cost of food and activities enjoyed at their Thursday night gatherings.

## SPECIAL EVENT FOR GRIEVING MOTHERS:

Mothers and grandmothers are invited to a comforting afternoon of Reflection & Remembrance at the Chapel Building at Queen of Heaven Cemetery in Lafayette on Sunday, July 30, 1<sup>st</sup>30 - 4:30 p.m. For information visit [www.sacredsorrow.org](http://www.sacredsorrow.org).

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION:

There will be a one-day registration for First Year kids wanting to have their First Communion and returning or Second Year First Communion kids, on **Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** Please bring a copy of your child's baptism certificate when registering. First Year cost is \$60 per child and \$80 for those students that will receive their First Communion.

## ST. LEO'S ANNUAL PARISH CAMPAIGN:

June 30<sup>th</sup> brought the end of our fiscal year. If you haven't made your pledge yet, please consider doing so. The income from the APC helps pay for our salaries, monthly bills and so much more.

## FREE PARK PASS PROGRAM AT JACK

**LONDON STATE HISTORIC PARK:** Explore the wonders of the park, home and ranch of the legend, Jack London for free. Passes are available in the office or at the back of church. Grab yours today!

**ST. LEO'S MEN'S CLUB 2<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL ALL OPEN BOCCE TOURNAMENT:** Friday & Saturday, October 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>, hosted by SLBC. The financial goal is to furnish a campus wide AED unit. For information, please contact Steve Rogers, (707)771-9290 or Rick, (707) 217-9710.

## "Why do you speak to them in parables"

The early church ran into much opposition from the defenders of orthodoxy, namely the Pharisees who held to a strict, legalist conformity to the Law of Moses. Jesus and his closest disciples were much too loose for them. Jesus often spoke to the people *not* in the standard idiom of Pharisaical language, warnings, cautions, retribution, *but in parables*. He told stories, described episodes and said: "That's what God's kind of world is like, and the story also tells you a lot about yourself."

Of course, people, used to catechisms, may have had a hard time with Jesus' story approach – because it left an element of mystery for them to figure out – or discover. And that meant changing the way one thinks - which is what the Gospel word for conversion (*metanoia*) means.

So when he says the realm or world of God is like a treasure buried in a field he is not simply describing the realm or world of God but describing how a person will feel if he or she, while spading the ground, finds a chest containing countless "pieces of eight". One will experience an awakening, astonishment, suddenly rich in understanding what life is about, what our world is about. And he will also be surprised to realize that the treasure is himself, buried for so long under fear of God, constant defensiveness, amounting to nobody or nothing – as when a teacher told him he was stupid for chewing gum in line. "No! Jesus tells me I'm a treasure that has been buried for too long. Time now for me to step into the world as the benefit I can be to all."

As if that were not enough to rejuvenate someone, Jesus tells a similar story about a pearl (it had to be a rare natural pearl if it was "of great price."). Again, as with the discovered treasure, discovering what God's world is like in terms of finding such a pearl, should knock one head over heels. So again, Jesus is not describing the world of God (although he is the walking presence of it), but describing *the effect* its discovery can have on the way you live and think and love. This parable also presses closer to home in so far as it describes *you* – not as a face in the crowd, ordinary, your life a throwaway but as a pearl worth a fortune. But do you ever feel that way? And why not, since that's what you are?

And then there is his story describing the realm of God, God's kind of world, like the casting of a net into the sea – and up it comes full of fish, containing a catch that is both worthwhile and unmarketable.

Too often we read such a parable as if we are the worthwhile fish and *other people* are the unmarketable and unremarkable. (And we secretly relish their fate.) Bad habit. For we are *everything in the net*; we are so very worthwhile but there is much about you and me that we'd like to throw back: bad habits, crankiness, moodiness, arrogance, intolerance, cheap. Things we may want to sort out over time until we are as whole as Christ would have us BE.

Don't let the Pharisees mess up your minds. Listen to stories designed to surprise you and clarify what our world and we ourselves should be like. And how excited we should be.

**Geoff Wood**

(Reprint from 7/30/2017)