



Preparation of Gifts: Unless a Grain of Wheat

Refrain: Unless a grain of wheat shall fall upon the ground and die,

It remains but a single grain with no life.

Mass: May We Be One Mass (Mass card in the pew pocket)



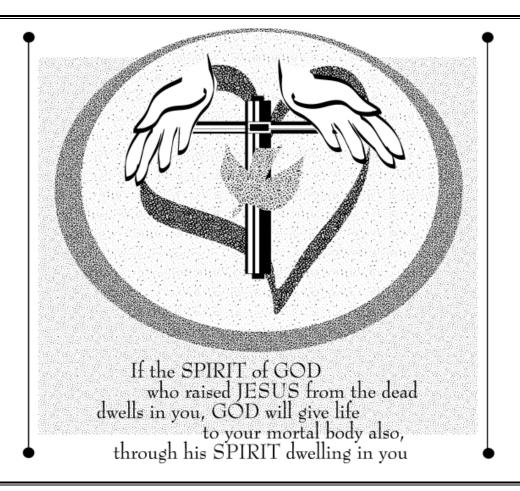
Closing Song: Stand By Me

Refrain: Stand by me, stand by me. Lift me up from the restless sea.

BB#399

When I am lost, when love can't be found, when no one cares, Lord, stand by me.

5th Sunday of Lent March 17, 2024



Rev. Jojo Puthussery, MF Pastor, (707) 996-8422 ext. 13

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St. Leo Catholic Church

Website: 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

<u>Confession</u>: 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 S Baptisms and Weddings Call the office, (707) 996-8422

MASS INTENTIONS: March 16th - March 24th

Sat. 16	5:00 pm	Richard Facciola †
	and	Michael Manning +
Sun. 17	9:30 am	Deceased members of the
		Byrne, Lynch & Boyle Families
Mon. 18	8:30 am	Josefa Noróna †
	and	Celestina Correa +
Tues. 19		NO MASS
Wed. 20	8:30 am	Celestina Correa +
Thurs. 21	8:30 am	Celestina Correa +
Friday 22	8:30 am	Celestina Correa +
	and	Jojo Ancheta, Special Intention
Sat. 23	5:00 pm	Margarita Ramos +,
and Albert Celio +, Celestina Correa +		
Sun. 24	9:30 am	Bill Maffei +,
	and	Renan Dominguez +

FISCAL LOG March 9 / 10

Sunday Collection: \$ 3,450.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Mar 17 St. Patrick's Day

Mar 19 Men's Club Monthly Meeting, 6PM, LSW

Mar 22 Parish Lenten Reconciliation Service, 6:30PM

Mar 22 "Pasión de Cristo" Movie, 7PM, LSW

Mar 29 Good Friday, Office Closed

Mar 31 Easter Sunday

Mar 31 2nd Collection, 5th Sunday ~ St. Vincent de Paul

SANCTUARY LAMP Dedication for March In memory of Mario Alioto, Jr.



A SPECIAL IRISH TREAT THIS SUNDAY:

In Honor of St Paddy's Day, Mary Pat tells us that instead of donuts today there will be free Irish Soda Bread and coffee offered. Open to all, Irish or not.

2nd COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND: Catholic Relief Services & Catholic Campaign for Human Development. 25% of your contributions to the CCHD stays in our diocese to create opportunities to help end poverty.

MEN'S CLUB DINNER MEETING: Tuesday, March 19th in the Lillian Sanders Wing. Cocktails at 6p.m. and dinner at 6:30p.m. All men of the parish are welcome to attend. Questions? Contact Steve Rogers, (707) 771-9290.

LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE: Friday, March 22nd at 6:30 p.m.

LENTEN MOVIE NIGHT: On Friday, March 22nd at 7:00p.m., the Hispanic community will be showing the Lenten movie, "La Pasion de Cristo" ("The Pasion of the Christ"). Open to all, free admission. Goodies to enjoy while you watch will be on sale.

HISPANIC COMMUNITY FOOD TO-GO SALE: Next Sunday, March 24th the Hispanic community will be selling "Food to Go" after Sunday Masses until gone. Grab yours while they last.

LENTEN SPARE CHANGE FUNDRAISER: The label on each jar explains what this year's fundraiser is for. Thank you in advance.

LENTEN STONES: On Good Friday, when you come to venerate the Cross, bring the stone with you. Put it in the basket at the foot of the Cross, giving the stone and all it holds in care of Jesus on the Cross.

LILIES IN MEMORIAM: As Easter draws near, it is an appropriate time to remember our loved ones who have gone before us. If you would like a lily in memory of a special person, please send your check of \$10 payable to St. Leo's Ladies Guild along with the loved one's name. Please send to Michelle Levesque, St Leo's Parish, PO Box 666, Boyes Hot Springs, CA 95416. The list with names of those remembered in this thoughtful way will be published in our bulletin after Easter.

MAD HATTERS NEED YOUR EXTRA YARN. If you have extra, happy colored yarn, please drop off in Ushers Room or bring by the parish office.

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want, . . . he leads me beside still waters.

Wallace Stevens, a Hartford, Connecticut insurance lawyer who died in 1955, will likely be remembered as one of the great poets of the twentieth century. For Stevens, a true poet must be committed to "finding what will suffice".

Now we live in a world that tempts us to think that money should suffice to make us happy; or that fame and political power should suffice. But what is it King Henry V says on the eve of the Battle of Agincourt? I am a king . . .; and I know / Tis not the balm, the scepter, and the ball, / The sword, the mace, the crown imperial/ No, . . / Not all these, laid in bed majestical, / Can sleep so soundly as the wretched slave, / Who, with a body fill'd, and vacant mind, / Gets him to rest . . .

But if crown imperial and pomp do not suffice, what will? Here's my take on it. When I was about nine years old, I was sitting one evening on our front porch swing on Corlies St. in Philadelphia. It was summer. Kids were playing hopscotch up and down the block of some sixty attached houses. Radios could be heard through screened windows playing dance tunes. My grandmother sat on a rocker opposite me, while my sister chatted with Peggy Dean on the front steps. The sun must have been about to set for there was a violet, twilight tone to everything. And then, suddenly, I burst into tears.

I mean really - tears! I couldn't control myself. The sobs came from deep down. My grandmother, sister, Peggy Dean and other neighbors gathered around me curious, solicitous. "What's wrong?" they asked. "Are you sick?" The crying did not subside. I found myself taking deep breaths between the sobs, only to explode again with unfathomable grief. The episode must have lasted a very long three to four minutes. When it was over, I was asked again, "Why were you crying?" I was as bewildered as they; I said, "I don't know."

I've never forgotten that experience. I suppose some psychologist would trace the episode to a trauma of my infancy. But, as I look back, I don't think there's any great mystery to solve. I think that boy fell apart (much the way Gregory Peck fell apart in the movie *Twelve O'clock High*) because the boy somehow sensed his world was full of violence and loneliness. There was parental friction; a grandmother bitter over the failure of two marriages and the need to house the family of her unemployed son. There was schoolyard thuggery and the tension of classroom and marketplace performance and competition. War clouds overshadowed Europe and Asia. There was the economic violence manifest in the Great Depression. There was the prospect of a literal hell hereafter. There was everything but the one and only thing that would suffice: some irrefutable assurance that he was welcome, that he belonged, he was not expendable but of immortal value, that what he might do or say really mattered.

And that craving for what would suffice finally erupted into sobs, tears that testified to his radical need, his unconscious dream which caused the Psalmist (also in exile from the one thing that would suffice) to lament: "By the waters of Babylon, there we sat down and wept, when we remembered Zion. How shall we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land? If I forget you, O Jerusalem, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth, if I do not remember you, if I do not set Jerusalem (that universal city of absolute mercy and mutual love) above my highest joy."

(Reprint from 03/26/2017)

Geoff Wood