

MARCH 27, 2022 – 4th Sunday of LENT

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

Sunday Masses are Live Streamed on Facebook, YouTube, or 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: Call the office, (707) 996-8422
Weddings: Call the office, (707) 996-8422

MASS INTENTIONS March 26th – April 3rd

Table with 3 columns: Day, Time, Intention. Includes dates from Sat 26 to Sun 3, with intentions for Marianne Paul, Dick Finaly, Kerry Amormino, NO MASS, the People of Ukraine, Rev. Patrick Stephenson, the People of St. Leo's, Judy Paolini, and Special Intentions for Bill & Marge Thomas.

FISCAL LOG March 19 / 20

Sunday Collection: \$ 2,969.
CCHD & CRS collection: \$ 948.
Thank you!

2022 ANNUAL PARISH CAMPAIGN:
62 Parishioners have pledged: \$54,305. 37%

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Table with 2 columns: Date, Event. Includes April 2/3 2nd Collection, April 10 Palm Sunday, April 15 Good Friday, April 17 EASTER SUNDAY.

SANCTUARY LAMP

Dedication for March
Deceased Members of the Mapa Family



LILLIES 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 and send to: Michelle Levesque, St. Leo's Parish, P.O. Box 666, Boyes Hot Springs, CA 95416. The names of those remembered in this thoughtful way will be published in our bulletin after Easter.



COFFEE & DONUTS ARE BACK... following the 9:30a.m. Mass in the Lillian Wing. Due to current prices, coffee is \$1. (free refills) and donuts are \$1.50 each. Grab a donut and coffee and celebrate being together again!



LENTEN STONES

As you enter the church, you will notice a basket of stones: please take one as you leave. The stone represents the problems, sinfulness, and challenges that you may carry. During Lent, place them in the stone. Think of the stone as if it were a sponge soaking up all the things that worry you. 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 of Christ, and leave it there, giving the stone and all it holds in the care of Jesus on the Cross. Know that with his suffering, Jesus has redeemed you and given you the love and strength you need to face each day.

LENTEN TREE OF PETITIONS: Cards on which to write your petitions are on the table at the entrance of the church. You may hang your petitions on the tree where they will remain until Holy Saturday.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS – Every Friday during lent following the 8:30 a.m. Mass

CONFESSIONS DURING LENT

On Saturdays after the 5:00 p.m. Mass or by appointment.

YARN NEEDED: Mad Hatters requests HAPPY COLORS of yarn. Yarn can be dropped by the office.

GRAB YOUR JAR TODAY!

SPARE CHANGE FUNDRAISER FOR LENT: The funds collected will go toward the completion of the children's residence at the orphanage in India that Fr. Jojo visits. Thank you all.

MEN'S CLUB BOCCE COURTS: There is still room for plaques on the Bocce court benches. Forms are at the back of church. Questions, please call the parish office at 707-996-8422.

POPE PRAYS FOR PEACE:

On March 25, Pope Francis carried out the solemn Act of Consecration of humanity, for Russia and Ukraine in particular, to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Copies of the Pope's letter and the Act of Consecration are located at the back of the church for you to take and recite.

What makes us inquisitive?

As a boy back around 1940 I used to listen regularly to a radio program called I Love A Mystery. It was about three fellows who ran a detective agency but unlike your usual detective series or film noir these adventures carried you to many exotic places and sometimes dealt with supernatural themes. But do we really "love mysteries"? Every such story tries to solve, erase, track down the cause of a mystery and thus end it logically. Isn't that also what modern science and technology and our rational powers try to do – like track down that virus that has had us closed down for so long? We often do our best to get rid of "mystery" – purge even outer space of its riddles. We do it partly out of fascination, a yen for discovery, but also to be secure. Correct knowledge leaves us "in control". Mystery makes us uneasy.

The Pharisees in today's Gospel who were the experts in law and health matters are unsettled by a claim that a beggar, born blind, can now see. That's very odd, mysterious. So caution, a cross-examination takes place. "Tell us how that happened?" The young man says someone put clay on his eyes and told him to wash it off. "Well first of all, he shouldn't have done that. It's the Sabbath, not to be profaned by any such labor." So they pressed on: "What do you know of this man who opened your eyes?" The fellow says, "I think he's wonderful, considering that he helped me see!" Next phase. These professionals interrogate his parents. "Was your son born blind?" The parents reply: " Yes he was, nor do we understand this change in him. Ask him about it." (They knew the Pharisees were already convinced that such a cure was impossible or sinister, so why drag out this inquiry?)

By this time the young man senses the insecurity of his inquisitors and talks back. "Isn't it obvious: the man who healed me must have operated out of some mysterious dimension – something, somehow divine? If so, do you Pharisees want to regulate God?" And the fact is, they do – they want God to operate the way they have decided he should operate – according to their rubrics and rules and the limits of ordinary experience. Otherwise things get shaky.

I mean, aside from the fascination with mystery that motivates science and technology and human reason to reach beyond current objectivity and come up with surprises, such investigations also reveal our worry about things unknown – not proven. Though we may be lured by mystery, we also live concerned about it – we also want to control it, secure our status quo. Which is the intent of these Pharisees. The Gospel of Jesus envisions a world of grace that exists beyond the Pharisical harnesses designed to keep us safe or else sorry. It's the manifold, creative, surprising – well nigh miraculous - nature of gracious events that's the real threat they fear.

And so it is interesting that only after the young man with all his new clairvoyance is expelled from the Pharisees' jurisdiction that his healer returns to the story. "Do you believe in the truly Human Being?" "Who is he?" "You have seen him, he's speaking to you right now within this clearing which encircles the very nearness of God."

Geoff Wood

(Cycle A Option)