

St. Leo the Great Catholic Church

"Where all are Welcome"

601 W. Agua Caliente Road, Sonoma, CA 95476

P.O. Box 666, Boyes Hot Springs, CA 95416

Office: (707) 996-8422

Rev. Jojo Puthussery, M.F., Pastor

Website: www.stleosonoma.org



November 28, 2021 ~ First Sunday of Advent

2nd COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND:

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

THE TIME HAS COME...

All services will now take place in the church. For those who wish to remain outdoors – chairs will be available at the entrance of the church.

LECTOR WORKBOOKS ARE HERE:

With the First Sunday of Advent upon us it is time to use the new Lector workbook for readings. The workbooks are located in the sacristy. Pick yours up today.

THANKFUL FOR OUR COMMUNITY:

This past weekend our St. Vincent de Paul Society members and volunteers distributed over 300 Thanksgiving baskets. We are so thankful to all those who contributed to make it all happen, whether it was physically, financially, or in prayer.

SYNOD ON SYNODALITY:

The Catholic Church around the world is preparing for a Synod on Synodality. The Vatican has asked for feedback as part of this process. Those who are already engaged with their parishes are urged to participate in this consultation process. Below you will find 3 listening sessions around the Diocese:

SYNOD SESSIONS - PLACES, DATES AND TIMES:

Santa Rosa, Cathedral Monday, Nov. 29th - 6:30 PM

Lakeport, Saint Mary Immaculate Wed., Dec. 1st - 6:30 PM

Napa, Saint Apollinaris Thursday, December 2nd - 6:30 PM

Thank you for all that you do during these challenging times for the Church and for giving the People of God hope and comfort.

Respectfully,

Deacon Dennis Purificacion

Diocese of Santa Rosa, Director of Faith Formation

SANCTUARY LAMP

Dedication for November

The People of St. Leo's



Mass Times

Saturday Mass:

5:00 p.m.

Sunday Masses:

8:00 a.m. Spanish

9:30 a.m.

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 and Adoration

✠ Sacraments ✠

Baptisms: Call the office, (707) 996-8422

Weddings: Call the office, (707) 996-8422

MASS INTENTIONS: November 27th – November 5th

Sat 27	5:00 p.m.	Richard Hines †
Sun 28	9:30 a.m.	Anthony Roussere †
Mon 29	8:30 a.m.	Juanito & Honorata Aguil †
Tues 30	8:30 a.m.	NO MASS

DECEMBER

Wed 1	8:30 a.m.	Clinton Bell, Speedy recovery
Thurs 2	8:30 a.m.	Sacred Heart for favors granted
Friday 3	8:30 a.m.	Joan Flade †, Georgia Lovett †
Sat 4	5:00 p.m.	Bud Weitzel †
Sun 5	9:30 a.m.	Rosito Correa †

FISCAL LOG November 20 / 21

Sunday Collection: \$ 3,026.

ANNUAL PARISH CAMPAIGN UNDATE:

152 Parishioners have pledged: \$131,066. ~ 90%

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Nov. 28	1 st Sunday of Advent
Dec. 5	2 nd Collection, Development Fund
Dec. 12	2 nd Collection, Retirement Fund for Religious (D)

DIOCESAN JOB OPPORTUNITY:

Cardinal Newman Catholic High School is looking for a Campus Ministry Coordinator. For more information please contact bogel@cardinalnewman.org.

CONFESSION OFFERED:

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

OUR WEBSITE HAS WHAT YOU NEED: You will find Geoff Wood's notes from his Lectionary talks as well as the weekly Sunday bulletin essays. Visit us at www.stleosonoma.org for general info.

Staff

Office Manager ~ 996-8422

Michelle Levesque
office@stleosonoma.org

Parish Bookkeeper / Office Asst.

Mayra Alvarez
bookkeeper@stleosonoma.org

Coordinator of Religious Education ~ 996-7503

Rosa Chavez

Coordinator of Youth Ministry ~ 291-1916

Nancy Gibson
stleosym@gmail.com

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.

LUKE 2 : 14

Treasure Hunt

In my day every boy scout, even a tenderfoot like myself, had to learn how to use a compass. To insure our capacity to use this instrument effectively our scout leaders used to send us off individually on what was called a treasure hunt. In my case, I was taken to a fairly level stretch of Pennypacker Woods and given a compass and set of instructions directing me first to advance 150 paces north northeast where I would find a small envelope pinned to a tree. Finding it, I found instructions enclosed directing me to walk 100 paces southeast where I found a small box with further instructions – namely to walk 70 paces due west - and so on through many twists and turns until I came out of the woods precisely where I had entered. And there my scoutmaster awaited to award me my prize: a splendid compass of my very own. I must add, however, that as evening fell the woods around us echoed with the fading cries of other boys who had not read their compasses correctly and were never heard from again – ours being a very strict troop that had little patience for incompetent tenderfoots. Or tenderfeet?

Which makes me think: is not every Mass we attend a kind of treasure hunt? As our Liturgy begins, are we not all thrust back into Old Testament times as our starting point to experience (by way of the first lectionary reading) one or another of those signals given by God or an angel to ancient Israel – orienting us (as it did them) toward a Promised Land not far off? And having assimilated those Old Testament signals do we not then advance to find (by way of the second lectionary reading) bits and pieces of letters from St. Paul or some other apostle offering us further spiritual orientation – in the light of which do we not then advance to find a Gospel reading upon our path offering us an even more proximate sense of something wonderful ahead?

Consider, for example, this first week of Advent's liturgical treasure hunt where (thanks to its first reading) we stumble upon a note telling us "the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill a promise" – to make things sprout – like Springtime . . . like a rebirth, a resurrection, a blossoming of the human race! Thence we will advance but a few paces – guided by the compass of our liturgy – and come upon (perhaps stuck in the lower branch of a tree) a message left by St. Paul: reinforcing the promise of that first note, giving you instructions on how to handle what lies ahead: to "rev up" your capacity for love which the promise will expect of you.

Placing that note in your mental knapsack you will advance again but perhaps a score of feet when a third note will catch you eye (and ear) – a not entirely comforting note because, while it confirms the promise of the notes you have collected, it would warn you to brace yourself – because when that promise is fulfilled it will shake up your world in ways that may dismay you – saying things like: *it will shake the heavens and the earth, snap you out of your spiritual drowsiness, surprise you like a trap* – in other words; love will become your *modus operandi* – demanding - until you begin to love love. And so it will go throughout Advent and indeed the whole liturgical year – a perpetual treasure hunt with the liturgical readings as your compass - its orientations popping up from Sunday to Sunday. Leading where? To the promise you seek - the placing of that bread in your hand every Sunday whose nutrition, unlike the stuff you usually feed on, is inexhaustible and incremental.

Geoff Wood