

St. Leo the Great Catholic Church

"Where all are Welcome"



601 W. Agua Caliente Road, Sonoma, CA 95476

Office: (707) 996-8422

Rev. Jojo Puthussery, M.F., Pastor

Website: www.stleosonoma.org

September 12, 2021 ~ Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

EMERGENCY DISASTER FUND FOR HAITI:

A letter was sent to all bishops asking for a special collection to support the Church and humanitarian needs arising from the massive earthquake and tropical storm that hit Haiti. **We will have a second collection on Sept. 18/19 for Haiti**, the poorest nation in the Western Hemisphere.

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

MEN'S CLUB MONTHLY DINNER MEETING:

Tuesday, September 21st, in the LSW. Cocktails at 6p.m. and dinner at 7p.m. Questions? Contact Steve Rogers, (707) 771-9290.

CONFIRMATION MEETING INFORMATION:

We are planning on having face to face in person meetings this year with the exception of our first meeting.

HS 9th - 12th grade: Our Wednesday, Oct. 6th meeting will be virtual to ensure that students are familiar with our site and google classroom. Wednesday, Oct. 13th from 7 – 8:00 p.m. will be the first in person meeting in Hunt Hall.

Jr. HS 7th & 8th grade: Our Thursday, Oct. 7th meeting will be virtual to ensure that students are familiar with our site and google classroom. Thursday, October 21st will be the first in person meeting in Hunt Hall.

Questions? Call Nancy Gibson, (707) 291-1916.

ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY of St. Leo's:

Anyone In need of food can call the office Wednesday thru Friday to order from the pantry. Clients must call the parish office to place an order by 11a.m. Pick up time is 11:30a.m. to 12noon. Clients may call to order food once a week, 996-8422. Every Tuesday, our SVDP and the Redwood Empire Food Bank distribute "Groceries to Go" in the parking lot from 8:45 – 10a.m. The food distribution is first come, first served. No need to call ahead, just show up.

SANCTUARY LAMP

Dedication for September

In Memory of Judy Paolini



Mass Times

Saturday Mass:

5:00 p.m.

Sunday Masses:

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, 996-8422

Weddings: Call the office, 996-8422

MASS INTENTIONS: September 11th – September 19th

Sat 11	5:00 p.m.	Rosito Correa †
Sun 12	9:30 a.m.	Bill Shrum †
Mon 13	8:30 a.m.	Patricia Ramirez †
Tues 14	8:30 a.m.	NO MASS
Wed 15	8:30 a.m.	Nancy Nielson †
Thurs 16	8:30 a.m.	Ron D. Foster †
Friday 17	8:30 a.m.	Margaret & Thomas Kelly † and Paul Pattarelli †
Sat 18	5:00 p.m.	Walter & Olive Consineau †
Sun 19	9:30 a.m.	Frank Lynch † and Afonso Valim †

FISCAL LOG September 4 / 5

Sunday Collection: \$ 3,245.

Development Fund: \$ 2,505.

ANNUAL PARISH CAMPAIGN UNDATE:

149 Parishioners have pledged: \$127,866. ~ 88%

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Sept. 18	Creek clean up
Sept. 18/19	Special 2 nd Collection for Haiti (D)
Sept. 19	RE classes resume
Sept. 21	Men's Club Monthly Meeting, 6PM, LSW

PLEASE PRAY FOR PARISHIONERS:

Joseph Byrne † and his family
Patricia Ryan † and her family

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

EUCCHARIST TO THE SICK:

If you know of someone that is ill or is not able to attend Mass who would like to receive the Eucharist, please let us know by calling the rectory, 996-8422.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

The office staff is available Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Parish office phone number, 996-8422.

CREEK CLEAN UP SCHEDULED:

The Sonoma Ecology Center together with Good Riddance Hauling and Sonoma Rotary volunteers will be doing a clean-up on Saturday, Sept. 18th, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. For more information check out the following website, sonomaecologysonoma.org.

The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son.

MATTHEW 22:2

Candied Apples

We celebrated the Jewish New Year last week – known as Rosh Hashanah – and in reading up on its customs I learned that one pleasant practice is to bite into a honey coated apple – possibly to anticipate a sweeter new year. At once I was reminded of the block parties of my childhood.

Before the sprawling suburbs of later years many of us lived in row house neighborhoods. Each block of row houses was like a village. You knew almost everybody on the block, would converse from porch to porch. The narrow streets not crowded by parked cars became the children's playground. And a few times a year there would be a block party – streets closed to drivers, tables set up for adult games of chance, food displays, a dance space cordoned off and a quartet of instruments supplying the music. And then there were treats for the kids – the whole event financed by the block residents. And among the treats were candied apples, all red and glistening and tempting to bite.

I never gave much thought to the symbolism of apples – or bitten apples – but they figure in a lot of stories as in the case of Snow White. Her adventures begin with her wicked stepmother offering her a poisoned – and beautiful – apple to bite; and off falls Snow White into a deep sleep. And of course there is the forbidden fruit of the Garden of Eden. Later generations and most paintings of the Eden event interpret the fruit to be an apple of mixed potential – good and bad. As such it becomes even more tempting to bite – which Adam and Eve do – and wind up wise but also of poisoned inclinations; drawn to things while also suspicious of things – at odds with their very selves. And the Garden disappears.

At Rosh Hashanah Jewish tradition ponders that Eden episode – our tendency to fall – which may be why next week the tradition schedules its Yom Kippur – its Day of Atonement - for sins committed to date. But again there's that introduction to sweetened apples to lighten the bitterness of past sin and conjure up a sweeter future.

And while thinking these thoughts what do I behold? Here I am sitting in front of a computer whose logo is a gigantic apple minus a bite – the logo of Apple Inc.! I doubt whether the designer of that logo was aware of the centuries of lore in which an apple plays a crucial role – but the logo plays right into the role of Eden's *Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil*. For what is a computer? It's an electronic device that can be the source of an infinite amount of useful information and profound knowledge at your fingertips like apples hanging from a tree. But it can also be a source of insidious stuff, lies, cybernetic violence, theft, disinformation that can disturb the minds and even lives of millions of people worldwide.

Technologically, if we persist in thinking that the computer and computation in general can tell us the *whole* truth about this world we live in, we may one day have to face up to the same words that conclude the Eden story: *Cursed be the ground because of you.*

Geoff Wood