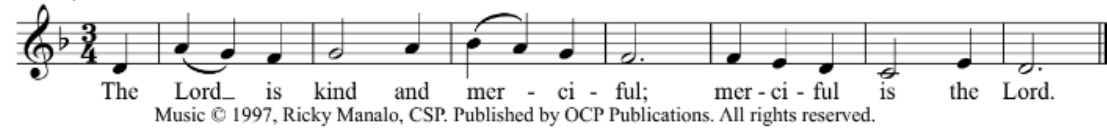


**Gathering Song:** *All Are Welcome* BB#317

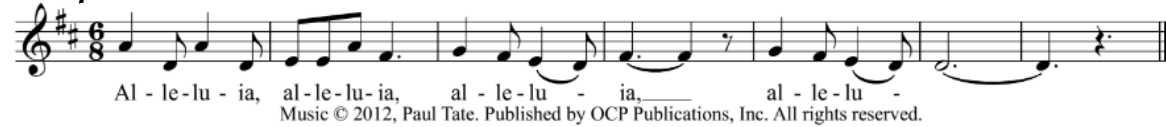
**Refrain:** *All are welcome in this place. Behold Love's amazing grace!  
All are welcome, all are welcome!  
Bring your hopes, bring your dreams. Mercy flows and love redeems,  
All are welcome! All belong.*

**Gloria:** *Glory to God (In the pew pocket)*

**Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 103: The Lord is Kind and Merciful**



**Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia**

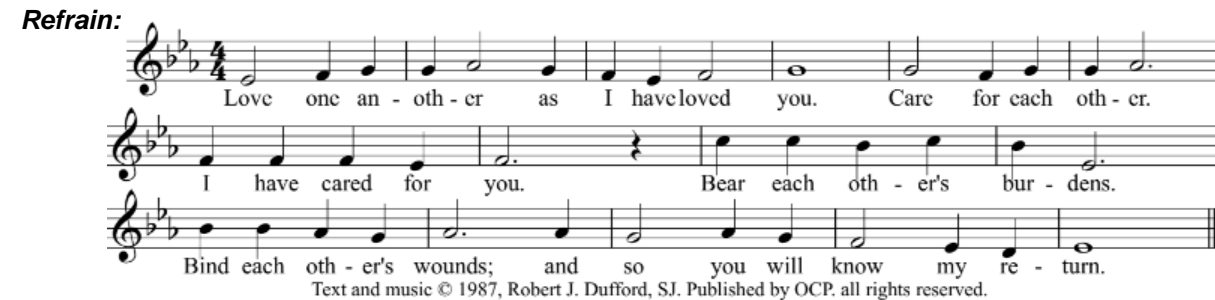


**Preparation of Gifts: You Alone** BB#663

**Refrain:** *You alone are holy, you alone are Lord.  
You alone are worthy to be honored and adored.  
Mercy you have given, kindness you have shown. Love is you alone.*

**Mass: Mass of St. Joseph (Music is in the pew pocket)**

**Communion Song: Love One Another** BB#479



**Closing Song: City of God** BB#390

1 Awake from your slumber! Arise from your sleep! A new day is dawning for all those who weep.  
The people in darkness have seen a great light. The Lord of our longing has conquered the night.

**Refrain:** *Let us build the city of God. May our tears be turned into dancing!  
For the Lord, our light and our love, has turned the night into day!*

24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
September 17, 2023



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**St. Leo Catholic Church**  
Website: [www.stleosonoma.org](http://www.stleosonoma.org)



## Mass Times

**Saturday Mass:** 8:00 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

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 Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> – Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>

Sat 16 5:00 pm Louis Casini †  
Sun 17 9:30 am Margaret & Tom Kelly †  
Mon 18 8:30 am Kai Rego †  
Tues 19 **NO MASS**  
Wed 20 8:30 am Dolores Stone †  
Thurs 21 8:30 am Al Marty †  
Friday 22 8:30 am Nora Daligcon †  
Sat 23 5:00 pm Hugh Pendergast † &  
Hillary La Rosa  
Sun 24 9:30 am Bill Maffei † &  
Ray & Andre Levesque †

## FISCAL LOG September 9 / 10

**Sunday Collection:** \$ 3,263.  
**Maui, HI Relief:** \$ 4,171.  
**2023 APC– 114 have Pledged \$113,494.11 @ 77%**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Sept 24 End of Summer Fiesta, 12:30PM  
Sept 27 SVDP Meeting, 9AM, FINN  
Oct 4 HS Youth Ministry starts, 7PM  
Oct 5 Jr High Confirmation classes, 6:30PM  
Oct 6/7 Bocce Tournament  
Oct 7 Adult Ed Presentation, 10:30AM, BR  
Oct 12 Pre-Marital Classes Begin, Spanish, 7PM, BR

## SANCTUARY LAMP

*Dedication for September  
In memory of Bill Maffei &  
The Levesque family*



**END OF SUMMER FIESTA** All are invited to the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual “End of Summer Fiesta” on Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup> from 12:30 – 5:30 p.m. There will be Mexican food and drinks for sale, music and entertainment for children and adults.

**2<sup>nd</sup> COLLECTION THIS WEEK - DIOCESAN SEMINARIANS** This collection provides financial support to help defray the cost of educating young men in the seminary who are discerning a call to the priesthood in our Diocese.

**MAUI RELIEF SPECIAL COLLECTION** Thank you all for the amazing collaboration to the “Maui Relief” 2<sup>nd</sup> collection last week. Together we raised \$4,171.

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING PRESENTATION** Would it surprise you to learn that California has the highest rate of human trafficking in the nation? **On Tues., Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> from 3 – 5:00 p.m. at the Monsignor Fahey Parish center, 495 White Oak Dr. in Oakmont/Santa Rosa, the Star of the Valley Women’s Circle presents Elizabeth Quiroz and Lisa Diaz-McQuaid, two amazingly brave, former victims of abuse and human trafficking who, together, co-founded the Redemption House Of The Bay Area. All are invited to this free presentation.**

**SANTA ROSA DIOCESE NOTICE of DEADLINE FOR FILING CLAIMS** On March 13, 2023, The Roman Catholic Bishop of Santa Rosa aka Diocese of Santa Rosa (Debtor) filed for protection under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. If you were sexually abused by any person connected with the Debtor, **you must file a claim so as to be received by October 20, 2023, or otherwise you will be forever barred, from asserting claim against the Debtor.** If you have questions about the bankruptcy case filed by the Diocese of Santa Rosa, please also visit the website at <https://srdiocese.org> and follow the links for Chapter 11 Reorganization.

## UPCOMING ADULT ED PRESENTATION

Fr. Jim Fredericks will share insights about the upcoming Church Synod at a meeting here on Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:30a.m. in the Benziger Rm. This could be the most important synod since the Second Vatican Council. All are welcome to attend.

**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.

## *Would you like to swing on a star . . . Or would you rather be a mule.*

That’s from the opening lines of a Van Heusen and Burke creation that received the Academy Award for Best Original Song in 1944 – sung by Bing Crosby in *Going My Way*, a film that won seven Academy Awards (including Best Picture) that same year. You may have seen a rerun on the Turner Classic Movies channel. I saw it at least once when it first came out.

It’s about Father O’Malley, a priest in New York, sent to administer a parish in place of its old Irish-born pastor Barry Fitzgerald – while also maintaining a pastoral role with the youth of the parish’s tenement residents. It’s an extremely sentimental film by today’s standards, especially its closing moments when the old pastor is surprised by a visit of his ancient mother from Ireland. Tear ducts overflowed. Fr. O’Malley was of course an exemplar of kindness and dedication to his calling – an image (in my own imagination at the time) of the Church’s clergy in general.

In working with the parish youth (including some young kleptomaniacs) he not only organizes them into a choir but, being Bing Crosby, serenades them toward a better moral life – as in the lyrics of that song:

*Would you like to swing on a star / Carry moonbeams home in a jar / And be better off than you are / Or would you rather be a mule?*

*A mule is an animal with long funny ears / He kicks up at anything he hears / His back is brawny but his brain is weak / He’s just plain stupid with a stubborn streak / And by the way, if you hate to go to school / You may grow up to be a mule.*

Those lyrics are hardly classical yet they echo in a Tin Pan Alley way today’s reading from St. Luke’s Gospel about knowing what you are getting into when you become a follower of Christ. It means getting off your duff! No half-baked efforts – like that of - let’s say - Great Britain in the 1930’s which, despite the warnings of Winston Churchill, refused to face up adequately to the threat of Fascism at that time – and later had to endure the calamity of Dunkirk (if anyone remembers).

In today’s Gospel Jesus makes himself clear about the demand his Gospel makes upon us – if we are serious. We must make behaving like Christ our top priority, go all out when it comes to love, faith, hope. Luke illustrates this demand even more so in the parables of the lost sheep and lost coin that follow today’s reading.

In the one you leave all your worries and distractions behind to concentrate on rescuing one lost sheep and experience the joy of finding it – that lost sheep being your very self as you have never known yourself to be. And the same goes for your finding that one lost coin – however large your actual bank account may be – insofar as that lost coin is the authentic you, worth so much more than the devalued *you* you think you are. Nor is that the end. For in finding your lost self – what more do you find? Everyone else – whose divine worth you failed to recognize insofar as you failed to recognize your own! Or would you rather be a mule?

(09/08/2019 Reprint)

**Geoff Wood**