

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

Confession: 4:30 p.m., Saturdays
6:30 p.m., Wednesdays

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 Sept. 17th – Sept. 25th

Sat 17	5:00 pm	Margaret & Thomas Kelly †
Sun 18	9:30 am	Frank Lynch † and Joe Byrne †
Mon 19	8:30 am	Kai Rego †
Tues 20	8:30 am	NO MASS
Wed 21	8:30 am	Frances U. Bugno † and Afonso Valim †
Thurs 22	8:30 am	Joan Polan † and Bob Dossee, Improved health
Friday 23	8:30 am	Stefania Stypulkowski † and Kathleen Valim †
Sat 24	5:00 pm	Bill Maffei † and Raymond & André Levesque †
Sun 25	9:30 am	Anita Hines † & Jerry Maioli † and Tomasine Amaral †

FISCAL LOG September 10 / 11

Sunday Collection: \$ 3,404.

2022 ANNUAL PARISH CAMPAIGN:
118 Parishioners pledged: \$118,462. 82%

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Sept 17/18	2 nd Collection – Diocesan Seminarians
Sept 20	Ladies Dinner tickets on sale in the office
Sept 20	Men's Club Dinner meeting, 6PM, LSW
Sept 24	Eucharistic Ministers Meet, 10AM
Sept 24/25	Bethlehem Handcrafts on sale
Oct 13	Ladies Dinner, 5:30PM, LSW

WOMEN OF THE PARISH DINNERS TO RESUME:

Fr. Jojo has offered to prepare the first Ladies Dinner on Thursday, October 13th. Doors open at 5:30p.m. with dinner at 6:00p.m. Menu is still in the planning stage, but you can count on good food and an enjoyable evening. The sale of tickets will begin next week. You may stop by the office **after** Monday, Sept. 19th to purchase your ticket or call (707) 996-8422 to reserve them. Tickets will be available after Masses on October 1st/2nd and 9th/10th. The cost is \$15., which includes dinner, salad, and refreshments.

MEETING FOR EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

All Eucharistic Ministers are invited to an information meeting on **Saturday, Sept. 24, 10a.m., in the church.** We'll discuss protocols and preferences for ministers distributing the Host during liturgies. **Call the office, (707) 996-8422 to sign up.**

2nd COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND is for Diocesan Seminarians.

MEN'S CLUB BOCCE TOURNAMENT:

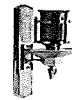
The St. Leo's Men's Club will be hosting their 1st Annual Bocce Ball Tournament on **Sat., October 15th.** Cost for a foursome team is \$300 and \$75 for additional player. Flyers are located at the back of the church. Price includes a Cocktail Party Reception and Dinner following the day's events. For information contact Club president, Steve Rogers at 707-771-9290 or email him at steverogers10@sbcglobal.net.

BOCCE CLUB NEWS:

The St. Leo's Bocce Club End of Summer Food Truck party will be on Friday, September 30th, from 4:00 – 8:30 p.m. Pick up a flyer in the back of the church for details.

MINISTRY of BETHLEHEM HANDCRAFTS:

A representative from this ministry will be here the weekend of **September 24th & 25th** selling their beautiful hand wood carvings.



SANCTUARY LAMP
Dedication for September
In memory of Bill Maffei,
Raymond & André Levesque

MEN'S CLUB MONTHLY DINNER: Tuesday, September 20th, 6p.m. in the LSW. All men of the parish are welcome. For information contact Club president, Steve Rogers at 707-771-9290 or email him at steverogers10@sbcglobal.net.

What shall I do . . . ? I am not strong enough to dig and I am ashamed to beg . . . I know what I shall do . . .

One day way back in the 700's BC, i.e. twenty seven hundred years ago, a somewhat shaggy-looking man named Amos climbed the steps of the Temple of Bethel in Israel to confront its high priest. Amos claimed not to be a prophet, someone ordained to uphold the traditional creed of Moses; he was rather a *concerned* shepherd. His concern was that the royalty and clergy of that Mosaic tradition were living in contradiction of it – materialists like every other nation, compromising their sense of creation's worth, disguising nature as an assembly of manipulable gods and thereby becoming themselves a manipulable people.

That the leaders of Israel were becoming materialists should not be surprising, considering that their ancestors settled long ago in what we still call the Fertile Crescent. It was that stretch of coastal land facing west which, by contrast with the vast Arabian desert to the east, was moistened and thus made fertile by Mediterranean breezes and linked to great rivers to its south and north. In other words it was a crossroads of commerce from every direction, configured around productive urban centers and as such they evolved into upper and lower classes, with slaves to handle the labor.

In other words (again) - unlike their ancestors who long ago lived as slaves in Egypt, many a new aristocrat and merchant of Amos's time could "flaunt it" – as Zero Mostel might say. Indeed they were restive, not wanting to let a day pass when they could increase their wealth. They found "days of rest" – holidays – intrusive: *when will the Sabbath end so we can display our wares.* [How many ads pop up all over the Internet every minute, every second of everyday?] Or they were savvy enough to lower the weight of something but maintain the full price or sell leftovers at the original price of fresh items or buy a foreclosed home at the lowest possible bid. Petty examples but writ large! [Have times really changed? Or simply magnified out of all proportion?]

Read the Book of Amos in the Bible to savor his warnings. About thirty years after Amos confronted Bethel's high priest the Kingdom of Israel was wiped out by a bigger and militaristic economic power, its inhabitants transported far and wide – to be referred to as the ten lost tribes of Israel.

The Amos of today's first reading is not just a distant voice addressing a past situation. His words have current application – it is to us that he can say in the name of all creation: *Take away from me your noisy songs; / the melodies of your harps, / I will not listen to them. / Rather let justice surge like waters, / and righteousness like an unfailing stream.*

Regarding today's Gospel parable, cheating (though condemned by Amos) gets a reluctant *honorable mention* from the employer whose steward ripped him off. Ultimately, he commends the dismissed cheater for *using his imagination* to survive. The parable seconds that commendation, wishing that all true believers may become more creatively imaginative themselves when it comes to reverencing and saving our world.

Geoff Wood