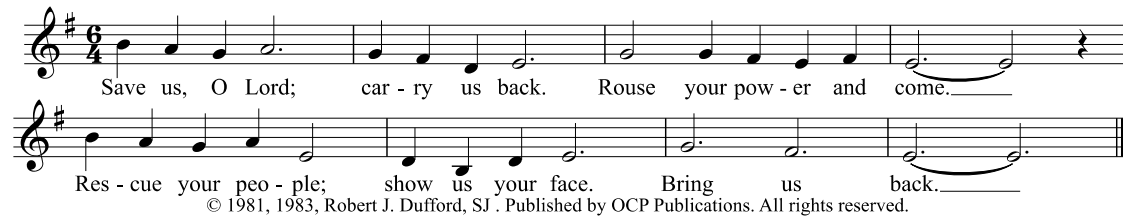


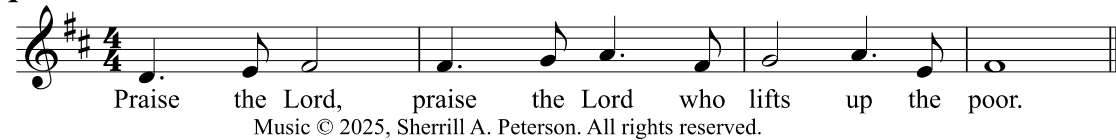
Gathering Song: *Save Us, O Lord* BB#648

Refrain:

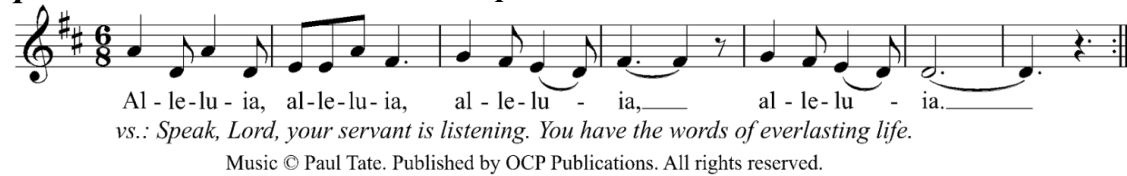


Gloria: *Glory to God*
(Music card is in the pew pocket)

Responsorial Psalm: *Psalm 113: Praise the Lord*



Gospel Acclamation: *Gospel Acclamation*



Preparation of Gifts: *Your Words are Spirit and Life* BB#559

Refrain:

*Your words are spirit and life, O Lord; richer than gold, stronger than death.
Your words are spirit and life, O Lord; life everlasting!*

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

Communion Song: *The Body of Christ* BB#325

Refrain: *Amen, amen! We are healed by the Bread of Life.*

Amen, amen! We are one in the Body of Christ. We are one in the Body of Christ.

Closing Song: *Lift Up Our Hearts* BB#548

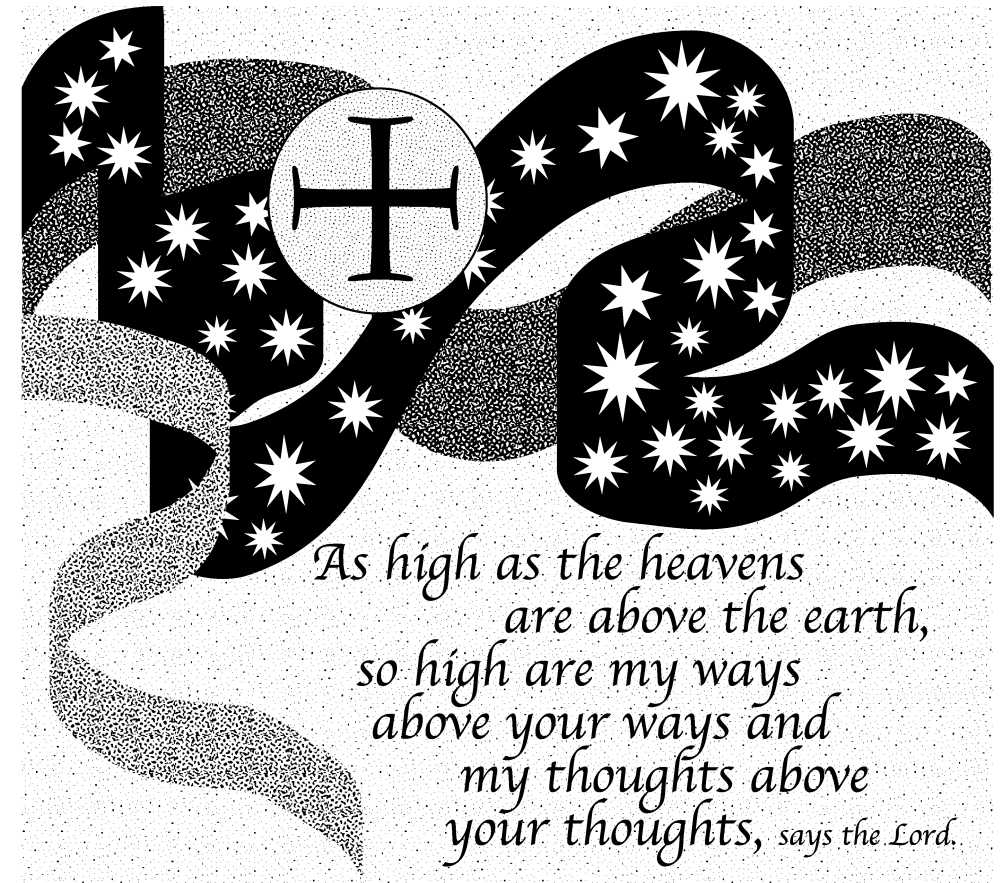
Refrain: *Lift up your hearts to the Lord, praise God's gracious mercy!*

Sing out your joy to the Lord, whose love is enduring.

Vs. 1: *Shout with joy to the Lord, all the earth! Praise the name above all names!
Say to God, "How wondrous your works, how glorious your name!"*

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 21, 2025



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St. Leo's Catholic Church

Website: www.stleosonoma.org



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

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 and Weddings

Call the office, (707) 996-8422

MASS INTENTIONS: September 13th – 21st

Sat. 20

5:00 p.m.

Louis Casini ✠ and Edna O'Hara ✠

Sun. 21

9:30 a.m.

Deceased Members of the Byrne, Lynch, & Boyle Families

Mon. 22

8:30 a.m.

Pappu & Theresa Puthussery, Happy Anniversary

Tues. 23

NO MASS

Wed. 24

8:30 a.m.

Bill Maffei ✠ and Alejandro & Filomena Salada ✠

Thurs. 25

8:30 a.m.

Noreen Brennan ✠ and Josephine Merris ✠

Friday 26

8:30 a.m.

Amanda Conti Haver ✠ and Glen & Olga Pursell ✠

Sat. 27

5:00 p.m.

Cosme Ramirez ✠

Sun. 28

9:30 a.m.

Catherine & Hugh Pendergast ✠

FISCAL LOG: September 13th / 14th

Sunday Collection:

\$ 6,491.

Spare Change Fundraiser:

\$27,048.95

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Sept20/21

2nd Collection – Arch. for Military Services

Sept 24

SVDP Monthly Meeting, 9AM, FINN

Oct 3/4

SLBC Tournament & Banquet

Oct 4/5

2nd Collection – St. Leo's Dev. Fund

Oct 12


Autumn Festival, 12:30PM, LSW

SANCTUARY LAMP

Dedication for September

In Memory of

Bill Maffei, Ray & Andre Levesque



2ND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND:

The Archdiocese for Military Services, taken every 3 years, provides pastoral care to Catholic men and women serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, enrolled at a U.S. Military Academy, being treated as a patient at any of the 153 U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Centers, or who work for the federal government beyond U.S. borders - including those from our own parish and diocese.

COFFEE & DONUTS:

In the Lillian Wing after the 9:30a.m. Mass.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL:

Guys and gals, are you looking for a fun and rewarding way to serve your community? On Tues. mornings we distribute food to 160 families. Our pantry is open on Wed., Thurs. and Fri. mornings. Additionally, the pantry is open on Wed. evenings. Planning for our annual Thanksgiving box distribution is already in progress. Would you consider joining us at our next meeting on Wed., Sept. 24th at 9:00am in the Finnegan Center? If you have any questions, please contact Mary Swisher, 707-935-9725 or Patti England, 707-938-9126.

SAVE THE DATE:

Our parish community is invited to our **Autumn Festival on Sun., Oct. 12th** starting at 12:30pm at the East wing parking lot. A feast like this is a chance for us to gather as a family. See you there.

RELIGIOUS ED.:

2nd Year, First Communion students, start Sun., Sept. 21st, 9:30a.m. to 11:00a.m.

CONFIRMATION:

8th Grade classes start on Thurs., Oct. 2nd, from 6:30 – 7:30pm. High School classes start on Wed., Oct. 1st, from 7 – 8:00pm. All meetings are in Hunt Hall.

GRANDE FESTA DELLE BOCCE:

St. Leo's Bocce Club 4th Annual Tournament and Banquet, **Oct. 3rd & 4th**. For information, please visit: www.stleobocceclub.org/events.

TAMALE SALE:

Our Nueva Esperanza group will be having a tamale sale after all Masses, until sold out, on the weekend of Sept. 27th and 28th. Proceeds will benefit this amazing group dedicated for anyone 60 years of age and older and meets every Thursday here at St. Leo's.

SENIOR RESOURCE & WELLNESS FAIRE:

Sat., Oct. 11th, 10-2pm at the Sonoma Community Center, 276 E. Napa St., Sonoma, Ca.

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

Reprint 09/18/2022