

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 26, 2021 ~ Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

HEALTH CENTER – COVID-19 VACCINE

CLINIC TODAY: Health workers from the Sonoma Valley Community Health Center will be on hand to administer COVID-19 vaccines to any person 12 and older today from 12:30 – 2:30p.m. outside the Lillian Sanders wing. Walk-ins are welcome.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND:

St. Leo's Development Fund goes to the maintenance of the grounds and buildings on site.

THANK YOU TO THE SONOMA ECOLOGY

CENTER: Last Saturday a team of volunteers from the Ecology Center, Good Riddance Hauling, and Sonoma Rotary cleaned up the creek banks under the bridge and up the creek where there was substantial garbage thrown about. This was a huge undertaking so thanks again to all involved.

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.

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 the parish calendar, coming events, First Communion, Confirmation, and general parish information.

LECTIONARY TALK BY GEOFF WOOD:

This week Geoff recorded his Lectionary Talk which can be found on our website. Go to the Resources tab for the dropdown list. Hover over Geoff Wood's name and click the Year and either Essay or Lectionary title you want to see. The most recent talk is titled "Sacrament September 2021 Talk" under the **2021 Lectionary Talks**. You can even click the link to watch Geoff deliver his talk.

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 25th - October 3rd

Sat 25	5:00 p.m.	Hugh Pendergast †
Sun 26	9:30 a.m.	Anita Hines †
Mon 27	8:30 a.m.	Cosmé Ramirez †
Tues 28	8:30 a.m.	NO MASS
Wed 29	8:30 a.m.	Mr. & Mrs. Herman Daligcon †
Thurs 30	8:30 a.m.	Nora Daligcon †

October

Friday 1	8:30 a.m.	Rosito Correa †
Sat 2	5:00 p.m.	Byron Alvarez, Sr. †
Sun 3	9:30 a.m.	Sarah Lynch †

FISCAL LOG September 18 / 19

Sunday Collection: \$ 2,664.

ANNUAL PARISH CAMPAIGN UNDATE:

150 Parishioners have pledged: \$130,166. ~ 90%

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Sept. 26 COVID-19 VACCINE CLINIC, 12:30-2PM
Oct. 2/3 2nd Collection, St. Leo's Development Fund

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY:

Last weekend's Haiti disaster relief collection raised \$1,533. Thank you!

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

8:00AM SUNDAY SPANISH MASS TRIAL:

Fr. Jojo realized that in the valley there is no Spanish Mass offered before 11:30 a.m. so he has added an 8:00 a.m. Mass in Spanish on a trial basis. There is still the 11:30 a.m. Spanish Mass on Sunday though.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

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

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

*This cup THIS IS the new covenant MY BODY in my blood GIVEN
which is poured out FOR YOU*

How to read Scripture

I used to meet on Saturday mornings in the back room of a local restaurant with about 20 retired men – mostly of a professional background – to read and discuss the books of the Bible – old and new Testaments. This was about 40 years ago and it continued over the subsequent years – the group growing smaller as time took its toll on the members.

They were all laymen – ordained ministers were banned. They wanted to take their own bearings on the writings – and so they began with Genesis and trudged their way through week after week until the closing book of the New Testament – at which point they reverted back to Genesis and started the quest over again – and again. And it being a lot of reading and discussion to do, each cycle took a few years – while the group dwindled to maybe ten? The “group” continues to meet every Saturday, after an interval taken to respond to the Covid pandemic, and the group now consists of two, me and a local once Lutheran and now Presbyterian elder.

We had reached last Saturday the Genesis episode in which the patriarch Jacob, en route to find a wife in his ancestral country, stops for the night to sleep and has a dream. It’s of a stairway reaching from earth into the heavens upon which angels of God descend and ascend – as if on an escalator. And the Lord appears in this dream promising Jacob and his descendants a future (as Israelites) that will become a blessing for all the families of the earth. Upon this, Jacob awakens frightened and says: *How awesome this place is! This is nothing else but the house of God, the gateway to heaven.*

How might one read and understand that episode? For centuries probably people took it literally – as a description of what actually happened. Jacob was travelling, became tired, went to sleep and had a dream that promised a future – and the dream was real – the ladder and the angels were real – and the words spoken by the Lord were remembered and recorded by Jacob – for who else was there?

Reading the passage that way – literally – leaves the event at a vast distance of time and space from us today. We read it and maybe wonder why such episodes don’t seem to happen to us – as to the saints of old. But Church tradition has always allowed that such a story can be your story – in its deeper sense. Read yourself into it – take the place of Jacob; experience his dream everyday of your life and get to know yourself better. Everyday – as you sleepily go through your routine existence – angels link you to the very source of your Being – taking up your concerns and drawing down hope, expectations, nudging your imagination to sense that your life has meaning – a destiny, making you realize that this world, after all, is the domain of its Maker and everyday a gateway to something new, unanticipated – and so it’s time to wake up and get moving.

Such a reading of Scripture reels the episode in from thousands of years ago and makes it a present event – *your* event to interpret as only *you* can.

Geoff Wood