

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: October 25th – Nov 2nd

Sat. 25 5:00 p.m. Mary Rose & Bob Donohue †
Sun. 26 9:30 a.m. Amanda Conti Haver †
& Michael Mullaney †
Mon. 27 8:30 a.m. Joanne & Al Meillon †
Tues. 28 NO MASS
Wed. 29 8:30 a.m. Jerry Shafer †
& Joe Celio, Successful Surgery
Thurs. 30 8:30 a.m. Mary Ellen Serafini †
Friday 31 8:30 a.m. Jean Tompkins †
November

Sat. 1 All Saints Day
9:30 a.m. in English
11:30 a.m. in Spanish
5:00 p.m. Louise Canevari Celio †
Sun. 2 All Souls Day
8:00 a.m. in Spanish
9:30 a.m. Carol Hanna †
11:30 a.m. in Spanish

FISCAL LOG: October 18 / 19

Sunday Collection: \$ 2,955.
World Mission Sunday \$ 1,403. Thank you!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Oct 26 Adult Ed, 10:30AM, Benziger Rm.
Oct 29 SVdP Monthly Meeting, 9AM, FINN
Nov 1/2 2nd Collection: St Leo Development Fund
Nov 2 All Souls' Day – a Holy Day of Obligation

SANCTUARY LAMP
Dedication for October
In Memory of the
Tellez & Ferreyra Families



ADULT EDUCATION: All God's People - the parish group that discusses LGBTQ+ issues will be meeting on TODAY at 10:30AM in the Benziger Room. All are welcome.

SCONES & COFFEE this weekend in the LSW following the 9:30a.m. Mass.

2nd COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND: St. Leo's Development Fund. The first weekend of the month is dedicated to the St. Leo's Development Fund. Donations to this very important collection support the maintenance of our buildings and grounds.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY: October's meeting has changed to the 5th Wednesday, October 29th, 9:00a.m., in the FINN Center. Contact Mary Swisher, 707-935-9725 or Patti England, 707-938-9126 for additional information.

THANK YOU: After expenses, the Autumn Festival netted a total of \$10,941. Proceeds will go toward our Guadalupe Celebration in December. Thank you again for supporting our parish, it takes a village!

"I ASKED FOR STRENGTH..."
I asked for strength and God gave me difficulties to make me strong.
I asked for wisdom and God gave me problems to solve.
I asked for prosperity and God gave me brawn and brains to work.
I asked for courage and God gave me dangers to overcome.
I asked for love and God gave me troubled people to help.
I asked for favors and God gave me opportunities.
I asked for everything so I could enjoy life.
Instead, He gave me life so I could enjoy everything.
I received nothing I wanted; I received everything I needed.

ST. FRANCIS SOLANO CHURCH cordially invites you to attend a "Beyond Measure" concert featuring the acclaimed Filipino singing group 4th Impact, scheduled for Saturday, October 25th at 7 PM, to be held at Cardinal Newman High School. Call St. Francis parish office for more information, (707) 996-6759.

"SMALL IS BEAUTIFUL", is an award-winning and most important film and message for our entire community. Please join Kenwood Community Church and St. Patrick's Episcopal Church in this ecumenical initiative to preserve the safety and welfare of the residents, workers and guests of the greater Sonoma Valley. Sunday, November 2nd at 4:00 p.m. at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 9000 Sonoma Hwy., Kenwood.

PILGRIMAGE ON THE CAMINO DE SONOMA: Nov 16th - Annual St. Philip Orthodox Feast Day Pilgrimage on the Camino de Sonoma. Starts with 8a.m. Mass at St. Philip's in Occidental then walk to the Russian River (eta 3:30pm). Stephen Morris dsryouth@srdiocese.org (310-849-2342) for info.

Guising: disguising oneself in fancy dress, often with a mask.

It seems safe to say that our Hallowe'en tradition goes back to pre-Christian times when, as the longer nights of November approached, people sensed that all the ghosts and spooks that populated the darker regions of the world emerged to haunt the daylights out of us. That being the case, why not anticipate their scary arrival by dressing ourselves up as spooks and demons and even profit by it by demanding handouts from the residents of the neighborhood? We did as kids, the streets teeming with masked vampires and the like - other less scary costumes might be seen. My very first, when I was but five years old, was a Krazy Kat outfit. On a higher theological level you could say, disguising ourselves as we did, we were performing a collective exorcism, forcing the spooks out of their hiding and thereby setting us up for the arrival of All Saints Day – as a positive event despite the growing darkness.

And so it is that time of year for scary stories as well – and I must say I greatly admired our high school drama team's production one November long ago of Edgar Allan Poe's thriller: "The Tell-Tale Heart". If I may borrow from something I wrote long ago: The main character couldn't stand the presence of an old man who shared his house. *"One of his eyes," he complains, "resembled that of a vulture . . . Whenever it fell on me, my blood ran cold; and so by degrees I made up my mind to rid myself of the eye forever." So he did away with the old fellow, took up the floorboards, deposited the corpse and "replaced the boards so cleverly, so cunningly, that no human eye - not even his - could have detected anything wrong."*

No sooner had he finished the task than three policemen knocked at his door responding to a neighbor's report of a scream during the night. "I bade them search - search well," . . . Except that, while he conversed with the police, a low, dull, quick sound began to pulsate throughout the room. This is where our special effects crew riveted the audience's attention. From a low, barely perceptible thump, thump, thump, thump to an ever-louder THUMP, THUMP, THUMP, THUMP the buried heart crescendoed throughout the theatre - while the main character became increasingly mad! "O God! what could I do? I foamed - I raved - I swore! I swung the chair upon which I had been sitting, and grated it upon the boards, but the noise continually increased. I felt that I must scream!"

It makes me wonder whether Poe had a deeper intent than just entertaining people. He wrote several such stories. There was "The Cask of Amontillado" in which Montresor invites Fortunato into his cellar to taste a rare wine. Before the visit is over, Fortunato finds himself chained within an alcove which Montresor closes up with stone and plaster, saying: In pace requiescat. Then there is "The Fall of the House of Usher" where Roderick entombs his twin sister in a basement vault, only to hear the vault door clang open, to hear footsteps on the stairs . . .

Stories that work for Hallowe'en . . . scary . . . the encroachment of darkness upon our once sunny world . . . but all as prelude to All Saints Day – telling us that far from our world becoming populated only by ghosts, it will be populated by saints – people sacramentally risen from the dead here and hereafter. And therefore an occasion for us ultimately to break into a chorus of:

Oh, when the saints go marching in / Oh, when the saints go marching in / Oh Lord I want to be in that number / When the saints go marching in.

(Reprint from 10/28/2018)

Geoff Wood