

Gathering Song:

You Are the Light

BB#468

- 1 You are the light that stands alone in depth of night and eye of storm. Where shadows fall, you enter in; ignite with hope what dark has dimmed. And though our eyes may fail to see, it is the heart that's given sight through night and storm, to trust in you. Upon our path, you are the light.
- 2 You are the word that's written deep within the hearts of all who long for endless days beyond the skies, for peace on earth, a kingdom come. We sing the name that heals our souls, and share the way, the truth, the life. For hearts that long, both lost and found, we speak the word; you are the light.

Gloria:

Glory to God
(Music card in pew pocket)

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 112: The Just One is a Light

The just one is a light in dark - ness to the up - right.

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Gospel Acclamation:

Gospel Alleluia

BB#856

Preparation of Gifts:

All That is Hidden

BB#495

Refrain: All that is hidden will be made clear. All that is dark now will be revealed.
 What you have heard in the dark, proclaim in the light;
 What you hear in whispers, proclaim from the housetops.

Mass:

Mass of Renewal

Holy: BB#858 Memorial Acclamation: BB#859 Amen: BB#862 Lamb of God: BB#863
 Curtis Stephan

Communion Song:

O How Blessed

BB#638

Re-joice and be glad, be-loved of the Lord, the king-dom of heav-en is yours. The first shall be last, the last shall be first, for such is the wis-dom of God.

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Closing Song:

We Are the Light of the World

BB#466

Refrain: We are the light of the world, may our light shine before all;
 That they may see the good that we do, and give glory to God.

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 8, 2026

*Praise the Lord
 for he is good;
 he heals the
 brokenhearted
 and binds up
 their wounds.*

*He sustains
 the lowly;
 the wicked
 he casts to
 the ground.*



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Rev. Jojo Puthussery, MF
 Pastor, (707) 996-8422 ext. 13
 Email: office@stleosonoma.org

601 W. Agua Caliente Rd., Sonoma, CA 95476
 P.O. Box 666, Boyes Hot Springs, CA 95416
 Parish Office, (707) 996-8422 Fax, (707) 996-3984

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: February 7th – Feb. 15th

Sat 7 5:00 p.m. Camilla Torres †
Sun 8 9:30 a.m. Carmen Velez, Happy Birthday
Mon 9 8:30 a.m. Bobbie Scanlon †
Tues 10 **NO MASS**
Wed 11 8:30 a.m. Carmen Fernandez †
Thurs 12 8:30 a.m. Sam Romagnoli †
Friday 13 8:30 a.m. Pat O'Grady †
& Richard Consigli †
Sat 14 5:00 p.m. Mary Ellen Serafini †
& Joseph Vagnozzi †
Sun 15 9:30 a.m. the People of St. Leo's



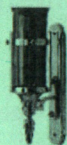
FISCAL LOG: January 31 / February 1

Sunday Collection: \$ 4,021.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Feb 7/8 2nd Collection – St Leo's Development Fund
Feb 14 St Leo's Valentine Dinner, 6PM, LSW
Feb 17 Men's Club Monthly Meeting, 6PM, LSW
Feb 18 Ash Wednesday
Feb 18 2nd Collection - Central & Eastern Europe
March 5 6th Annual Polenta Dinner, 5:00PM, LSW
March 15 St. Patrick's Day Dinner
April 5 Easter Sunday

SANCTUARY LAMP
Dedication for February
In Loving Memory of
Mary Ellen Serafini



A BIG THANK YOU to all who helped make the Ministry Appreciation dinner a huge success.

MINISTRY SIGN-UP THIS WEEKEND:

Want to be a Lector, Eucharistic Ministry, Altar Server, or Usher/Greeter? Clipboards on which to sign up are available this weekend outside the entrance of church. Even if you are already a ministry member, please sign up again.

2nd COLLECTION TODAY– St. Leo's Development Fund. The first full 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 OF ST. LEO'S: Anyone in need of food can call the office, (707) 996-8422, Wednesday thru Friday by 11a.m. to order from the pantry. Pick up time is 11:30a.m.

MAD HATTERS NEED YOUR EXTRA YARN
Happy colored yarn is needed for our Mad Hatters. If you have extra, please drop off at the Ushers Room or bring by the parish office.

VALENTINES DINNER TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE for Saturday, February 14th. The tickets are \$40 each.

CHICKEN & POLENTA DINNER TICKETS ON SALE NOW: On March 5th the 6th Annual Chicken & Polenta Dinner will take place. Cost of a ticket is \$30 each. This is usually a sell out so please buy your tickets early.

FEELING IRISH? On Sunday, March 15th we will have our St Patrick's Day Dinner. As we did last year, we'll be offering free delivery for our homebound parishioners as well as take-out. Ticket price is \$45 each and will go on sale February 28th / March 1st.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

Wednesday, February 18th
8:30AM ~ Mass /Ashes in English
12noon ~ Liturgy /Ashes
5:00PM ~ Liturgy / Ashes
7:00PM ~ Mass /Ashes en Español

LENTEEN REGULATIONS are posted on the bulletin boards near the entrance of church.

YEAR END STATEMENTS went out last week. If you have any questions about your total, please contact the office, (707) 996-8422.

"I give you the end of a golden string . . ."

I never knew that when we say, "somebody doesn't have a clue" it basically means "somebody doesn't have a ball of thread". Look up clue (or clew) on your computer's Merriam-Webster dictionary and you'll find that's what it once meant: a ball of thread.

They say it all goes back to a Greek myth in which the hero Theseus (when he and other youth were confined deep within a twisting cave to serve as a monster's dessert) attached the end of a ball of thread (a clue) to the portal of the cave. Thus, having unwound the ball on his descent into the monster's den and having then slain the monster, he was able to rewind the thread (the clue) and lead his companions back into the light of day.

Tom Sawyer used the same device when he and Becky became lost in a cave. Their candles had gone out, so what to do? Tom had a spool of kite line in his pocket. So, tying the end of it to a projection of rock near Becky, he unwound the spool to its full length down a couple of corridors in search of some outlet. Eventually he "glimpsed a far-off speck that looked like daylight". Tom groped toward the speck and eventually "pushed his head and shoulders through a small opening and saw the broad Mississippi rolling by!"

So, a clue becomes the thread of a spool that, if wound up (or unwound), can lead one out of darkness. In detective stories it leads us to the motive of the crime or to the perpetrator. It could be the handwriting on a cancelled check or a fingerprint on a weapon. At any rate, it points to more than the check or fingerprint. It clears up a mystery. The Gospels are full of clues – images that are but a thread, which if you roll it up will lead you to your true self, beyond the clueless self you are and have been.

Today Jesus uses salt. Tells you to pick it up, taste it – and begin to discover how you can pass from something, someone tasteless, bland, hardly good for anything but to be trampled underfoot (even in your own self estimate) to acquiring a saltiness, an ability to flavor the world, the lives of people around you. (I once knew an elderly woman whose name was Salty Allen! I assumed then that there was something pert, mischievous, engaging, flavorful about her – and there was!)

Then today's Gospel speaks of a lamp. That's another clue as to who you are or could be, if you but reel in the metaphor. It reveals that you are or could be the light of the world, someone able to illuminate rather than darken the lives of people around you. There is so much darkness in our world today, invectives, braggadocio, people cowed into wearing lampshades for hats. When all the while we should be singing that old time hymn: *This little light of mine / I'm gonna let it shine . . . All around the neighborhood / I'm gonna let it shine . . . Hide it under a bushel? No! / I'm gonna let it shine . . .*

So, try to acquire this knack of sensing the Gospels to be full of clues – be it only a mustard seed or five loaves and two fishes or bread and wine or the whole story of the healing of a paralytic. Indeed, the world we live in is full of clues, tips of thread that can lead you out of whatever cave you may inhabit. So thought that great English mystic William Blake who says of the very poems he writes *I give you the end of a golden string; / Only wind it into a ball: / It will lead you in at Heaven's gate, / Built in Jerusalem's wall.*

(Reprint from 2/5/2017)

Geoff Wood