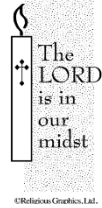


Gathering Song: *Alleluia! He is Risen* **BB#186**

Al-le - lu - ia! He is ris - en! Sign of God's un - fail - ing love. Al-le - lu - ia!

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



Responsorial Psalm: *Psalm 118: Give Thanks to the Lord*

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love is ev - er - last - ing.

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Gospel Acclamation: *Gospel Acclamation*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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Preparation of Gifts: *Though Not Seeing You* **BB#174**
Refrain: *Though not seeing you, still we love you. Though not seeing you, we believe.*
By your rising, Lord Jesus, you have given us new birth; you have given us new birth.

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



Communion Song: *Your Mercy Like Rain*

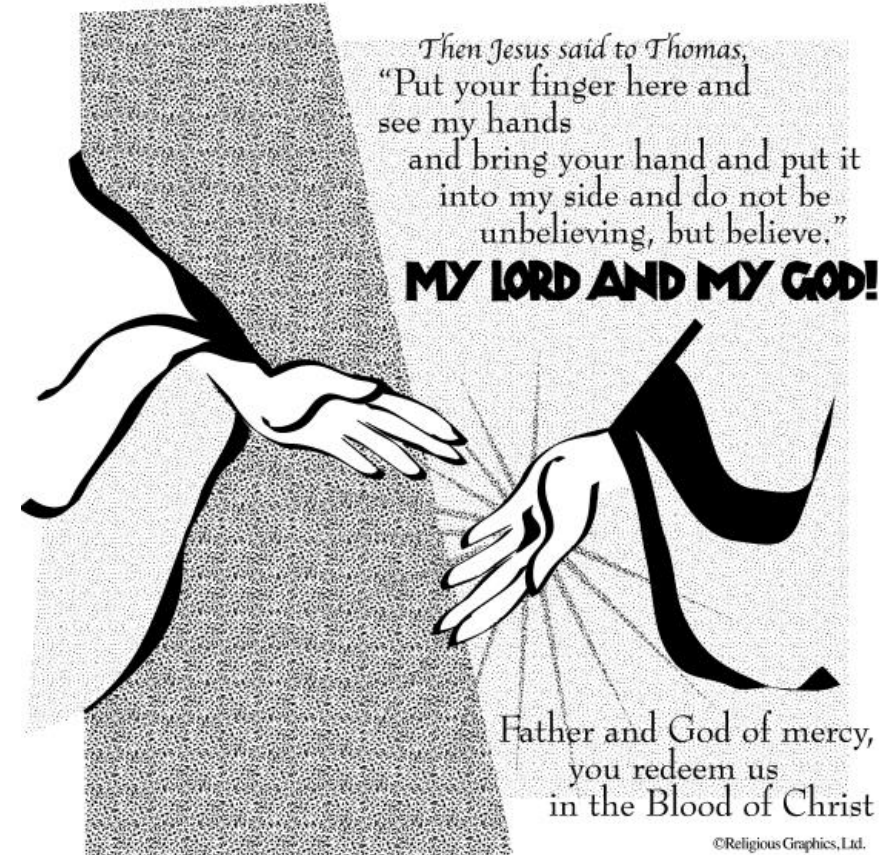
Let me taste your mer-cy like rain on my face; here in my life, show me your peace. Let us see with our own eyes your day break-ing bright. Come, O Morn- ing, come O Light.

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Closing Song: *Alleluia! Love is Alive* **BB#189**
Refrain: *Alleluia! Love is alive; conquered the grave and defeated the night.*
Alleluia! Love is alive! The Son has arisen for all. Your people sing alleluia!

Divine Mercy Sunday

April 27, 2025



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 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.stleesonoma.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: April 26th – May 4th

Sat. 26 5:00 p.m. Amanda Conti Haver †
& Ralph & Anna Celio †
Sun. 27 9:30 a.m. Jim Haver †
Mon. 28 8:30 a.m. Mary Ciocca †
Tues. 29 NO MASS
Wed. 30 8:30 a.m. Marion Williams †
May
Thurs. 1 8:30 a.m. Sherry Hodai †
Fri. 2 8:30 a.m. Dr. Felix C. Mapa †
Sat. 3 5:00 p.m. Rich Facciola †
Sun. 4 9:30 a.m. Maria Ofelia Mapa †

FISCAL LOG: April 19 / 20

Easter Sunday Collection: \$12,519.00
Holy Thursday Collection: \$ 873.00
Holy Land Collection: \$ 867.00

2025 APC UPDATE COMING SOON

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

April 26 Bocce Season Opens
April 26/27 2nd Collection – Catholic Home Mission
April 27 Adult Ed meet, 10:30am in Benziger Rm.
May 3 First Communion Mass, 10AM
May 3/4 2nd Collection-St Leo's Development Fund
May 4 Presentation on the Pope, 10:30am, FINN
May 7 Confirmation Mass, 6:30PM
May 7 NOTE: NO 7PM Spanish Mass this day

SANCTUARY LAMP
Dedication for April
Familia Herrera Luna



2nd COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND: CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS. Your support funds religious education, seminary formation, lay ministry training, and other programs that build faith communities here in the U.S. Please be generous.

UPCOMING ADULT-ED MEETINGS:

- The group will meet today after the 9:30a.m. Mass in the Benziger room to discuss LGBTQ+ issues.
- Sunday, May 4th at 10:30AM. in the Benziger rm. *The Passing of Pope Francis and What Follows:* Fr. Jim Fredericks will share insights about Francis, his legacy, the process used to select a successor, and possible candidates.

SPARE CHANGE LENTEN FUNDRAISER: This year the funds will support the construction of a chapel at the orphanage served by the Missionaries of Faith. Please return your coin donations when you can Thank you!

LILIES IN MEMORIAM: We would like to thank all those who participated in our "Lilies in Memoriam" program. Because of your support the altar was beautifully decorated.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP – CONTINUES:

The Grief Support Group meets Tuesdays from 10:30a.m. – 11:30a.m. in the Finnegan Center. If you would like more info. or to talk to Marie, please call her cell (925)759-0725.

LAKE COUNTY ANNUAL OUTDOOR PASSION PLAY: 3rd weekend in May! Saturday and Sunday May 17th and 18th, 2025, 4- 6pm in Beautiful Lake County! Visit us at: www.lakecountypassionplay.org or call 707-263-0349. Admission is Free!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: We are sincerely grateful for your generous donation of Easter eggs. Thanks to your support, our Religious Education department received all we needed to make this Easter a joyful and memorable experience for our youth.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS: Saturday, May 3rd we will have 54 students celebrating their First Holy Communion here at St. Leo's. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

2nd COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND: St. Leo's Development Fund.

This is how we set our hearts at rest . . . God is greater than our hearts.

In the 1977 film *High Anxiety* Mel Brooks, in the role of eminent psychiatrist Richard Harpo Thorndyke, suffers from high anxiety – in other words he is afraid of heights. He fears flying; we witness his horror through a jet plane window as he lands in San Francisco to take over a mental hospital. Other instances of this fear occur as when he attends a convention of psychiatrists at the San Francisco Hyatt Regency and must go up one of those glass-enclosed elevators that rise high above the lobby and then must negotiate the balcony overlooking the depths below while trying to find his room. All of this is a Brooks' parody of Hitchcock's film *Vertigo*. Ultimately Brooks (Thorndyke) discovers – in a Freudian way – that his fear of heights goes all the way back to his infancy when he fell out of his highchair during a violent argument of his parents! Knowing the cause of his fear, he now can set it aside and get on with his life.

Knowing the whole story, getting the whole picture can indeed relieve us of things that otherwise distress us, that weigh upon us unconsciously. And today's second reading from the 1st Letter of John can do that for us. I mean, from our earliest years we carry the burden of our mistakes (let's call them sins) upon our shoulders much as the Greek god Atlas was condemned to carry the heavens or the whole globe upon his shoulders for deeds of rebellion. There is that huge bronze statue of him bending under the weight of the heavens in front of the Rockefeller Center in New York.

We feel guilty – even guiltier as we grow older, blame ourselves almost as a reflex for major and even minor failures (such as allowing the soup to boil over). We wind up adopting the remark of Groucho Marx – who resigned from a country club stating: "I refuse to belong to any club that would accept me as a member." We doubt our worth and often a certain kind of puritanical religious education aggravates that doubt until a person says, "To hell with it – so I'm a sinner, even the greatest sinner that ever lived. Case settled. No need to exhaust myself hoping any more."

First of all it takes a big ego to claim being the greatest sinner in the world. You seem to forget that you have a lot of competition, real "pro's" (like Heinrich Himmler) to whom you are just one more face in the concentration camp. But even St. Paul had a severe case of low self-esteem as he writes in 1st Corinthians: *I am the least of the apostles . . . because I persecuted the Church of God.* And in 1st Timothy we read: . . . *Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the chief.*

Which brings us to today's second reading. There is a line in this reading that dates from 2000 years prior to the modern discovery of what Freud called the Unconscious (the things we don't know about ourselves). "*Dear children,*" writes John, "*. . . this is how we set our hearts (consciences) at rest . . . If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts (consciences), and he knows everything.*" In other words, he knows the whole story, the influences, fears, the toxic elements of the culture we have grown up in, the distortions that were presented to us as "truth". He knows not only our failings but why we fail, the full scope and origin of it, even the highchair episodes, the ancestral ripple effects.

In other words he understands even as a father or mother knows so much more about their child than the world that would condemn him or her. He also recalls all our other deeds motivated by love. It's this fact [that God is greater than our hearts/consciences] that "makes Christians (as one scholar put it) hurl themselves into the ocean of the infinite understanding and mercy of God."

(Reprint from 5/3/2015)

Geoff Wood