

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

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

✠ Sacraments ✠
Baptisms and Weddings
Call the office, (707) 996-8422

MASS INTENTIONS July 1st – July 9th


Sat 1	5:00 pm	Tom Daley † and Richard Facciola †
Sun 2	9:30 am	Carol Torresan † and Anne & Seamus Mc Glade †
Mon 3	8:30 am	Ray & Rosalie Levesque †
Tues 4		NO MASS
Wed 5	8:30 am	Cal Vanderwoude †
Thurs 6	8:30 am	Geoff Wood †
Friday 7	8:30 am	Craig Glaesner, Special intention
Sat 8	5:00 pm	Louise Canevari †
Sun 9	9:30 am	Albert Damien Balint, Happy Birthday

FISCAL LOG June 24 / 25

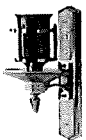
Sunday Collection: \$ 4,143.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

July 1/2	2 nd Collection: St. Leo's Dev. Fund
July 1/2	Tamale Sale after Masses
July 4	OFFICE CLOSED, Happy 4 th
July 6	Funeral for Marcelo Hernandez, 10:30AM
July 14	Funeral for Richard Facciola, 11AM



SANCTUARY LAMP
Dedication for July
James Gater



TAMALE SALE THIS WEEKEND: July 1st & 2nd

The tamale sale will be after all weekend Masses until sold out. This is a benefit for the "Nueva Esperanza" group that meets here on Thursday's. The cost is \$30. a dozen.

2nd COLLECTION THIS 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 pay for the upkeep of the parish compound.

NEWS ABOUT GEOFF WOOD:

The parish has lost one of its greatest treasures. Geoff Wood passed away on June 26th from complications of an infection. At this time a service for Geoff has not been scheduled. Please keep Geoff, Jane, his son Adam, and the rest of his family in your prayers. Geoff has touched so many lives with his gentle and spiritual outlook. Remember, Geoff's Sunday Essays and Liturgical Reading presentations from previous years can be found on our website under the Resources Tab, then Geoff Wood.

YOUTH GROUP/CONFIRMATION:

Registration for Youth Group is now open until filled. You may pick up a registration form from the parish office, Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Space is limited.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION:

There will be a one-day registration for First Year kids wanting to have their First Communion and returning or Second Year First Communion kids, on Saturday, August 5th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Please bring a copy of your child's baptism certificate when registering. First Year cost is \$60 per child and \$80 for those students that will receive their First Communion.

ST. LEO'S ANNUAL PARISH CAMPAIGN 2023-

24: Pledge envelopes are located at the back of church or stop by the parish office and pick one up, M-F, 9a.m. to 12:30p.m. June 30th brings the end of our fiscal year. Our head of finance has been working tirelessly on next year's budget which includes funds from the APC. If you haven't made your pledge yet, please consider doing so. The income from the Annual Parish Campaign is what pay for our salaries, monthly bills and so many other needs of the parish.

ARE YOU A REGISTERED MEMBER OF ST. LEO'S? We invite all to register and become active members of our community. Benefits include parish communication letters and more! Forms are at the church entrance.

ST. LEO'S BOCCE CLUB INFORMATION: Interested in playing on a team, volunteering or just need info? Email stleobocceclub@gmail.com or call Rick Schuhriemen, (707) 217-9710.

Nature: harsh or gentle?

What today's first reading about the prophet Elisha doesn't mention is that the child he promised the Shunemite woman would later die and leave her overcome with grief – until he restored the boy to life again.

In her story "A Curtain of Green" Eudora Welty tells us of another grief stricken southern woman named Mrs. Larkin. She had had a somewhat romantic attitude toward life. She was happily married, enjoyed cultivating her garden, she enjoyed and trusted Nature with all its beauty.

And then one day a tree fell upon her husband's car as he was pulling up to their house. He was killed. Until then she had been living within her "curtain of green", a world of trees and flowers. Now the "curtain" had been violently pulled back, introducing her to the heartlessness of Nature. The world was no longer a friendly, happy place – it was ominous, indifferent to the way she expected things to be. Nor was there any way of getting even with raw Nature; you couldn't hurt it the way it hurt you.

Mrs. Larkin dealt with her grief, her extreme frustration, by no longer cultivating her garden but attacking it. There was violence in the way she struck the ground. *She would plant quickly, carelessly, without regard to arrangement*, until neighbors, watching from their upstairs windows, thought it now looked like a jungle – the way raw nature was before we tried to tame it.

She gave up on her own appearance. Hair tangled, she worked well after dark and then dragged herself indoors. She harbored hostility toward Jamey, the black boy who helped her in the garden. She felt a fluttering in her breast. Death? And then:

In that moment, the rain came. The first drop touched her upraised arm. Small, close sounds and coolness touched her. Sighing, Mrs. Larkin lowered the hoe. She stood still where she was, close to Jamey, and listened to the rain falling. It was so gentle. It was so full - the sound of the end of waiting. In the light from the rain everything appeared to gleam unreflecting from within itself. The pear tree gave a soft rushing noise, like the wings of a bird alighting. A wind of deep wet fragrance beat against her. Then as if it had swelled and broken over a levee, tenderness tore and spun through her sagging body. It has come, she thought senselessly. Against that which was inexhaustible, there was no defence.

When Eudora Welty says of the rain *It was so gentle*, Michael Hollister suggests she may have had Portia's words in *The Merchant of Venice* in mind: *The quality of mercy is not strained; it droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven.* He suggests "Mercy, her human superiority to Nature, has resisted the force of determinism, purging her of vindictive anger . . ."

As Mrs. Larkin faints into the flowers, Jamey runs to her side. The fluttering in her heart? May it not have been the Holy Spirit instead of Death?

Geoff Wood

(Reprint from 7/2/2017)