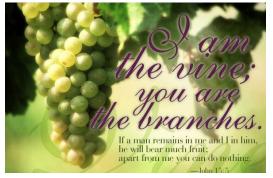


From the Desk of Fr. Leo

Stephen Curry is the life of the Golden State Warriors basketball team. From him the entire team derives ever new energy, courage and fighting spirit. When he is absent, things begin to fall apart. When he is present, everything clicks. There is team work, precision, and a real show of sportsmanship. And they score high. It is the will of the Father that all who are one in Christ bear abundant fruit, that is, enjoy a truly successful Christian life in this world and in the next, both for themselves and all for whom they abhor. But this will require an ever-on-going close union with Christ. His saints must be our arms, his thoughts our thoughts. Abiding in him will constitute a daily and constant battle with the forces that draw away from Christ, the evil influences that try to sever from them source of all holiness.

That is why the Father "prunes" the branches, as Jesus mentions. He prunes them by cutting off useless attachments or harmful connections that we have thoughtlessly made. Such "pruning" is painful to human nature, and when such are one's lot, people often ask what they have done to deserve such treatment from God whom they thought they were serving faithfully. How many can see behind the trials, the hand of the Father not punishing them but purifying them, cleansing, detaching them from whatever hinders growth and fruitful union with Christ? Otherwise, the results of one's striving are very mediocre, and they will not bear the abundance of fruit which the Father has in mind.

Patient suffering is the real test of faith. It is easy to raise the Lord when all things are running smoothly, when one's health is in good condition, and when one is accepted on all sides with respect and in friendship. But let there come into one's life some troublesome sickness, a long-drawn-out misunderstanding in



which one's reputation has been marred; then patient long suffering will show up the quality of the branch that is destined to bear much fruit. Here one needs prayer, one's own and those of others, to see the sun behind the dark clouds. St. Therese of the Child Jesus spent the last years of her young life confined in bed on account of a serious case of tuberculosis, but it was those years of patient suffering that gleaned her the harvest of so many souls for heaven. Can we learn from the examples of the saints how to bear abundant fruit?

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	April 30	11:00AM
Marcella de Leon		Imelda
Wed.	May 1	11:00AM
Maria Victoria Velasco †		John Camaso
(death annivers	ary)	
Thur.	May 2	11:00AM
Karen Mary †		Family
& Ruth Colleen (Cartwright †	
Fri.	May 3	11:00AM
Arthur Balagot		Gloria
(healing)		
Sat.	May 4	4:30PM
Mother's Day Nove	ena	
~		
Sun.	May 5	9:00AM
Mother's Day Nove	ena	

Port Costa	11:00AM
People of the Parish/ Mother's Day Novena	l

Prayers for the Deceased



In your prayers, please remember in a special way John Collins. His service will be held at Christ the King on Monday, May 6th at 10:00AM.

Sunday Collection - April 28th

St. Rose, Crockett	\$1661
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St. Patrick Mission \$227

Thank you again to all who support our Parish! We know how generous you have been in the changing times!

***In able to meet our 2024 budgets, we would like to remind parishioners that we will need a minimum of \$2,100 for Sunday plate collections at St. Rose every weekend, and \$250 every Sunday at St. Patrick Mission. ***

A Carl

<u>Mother's Day Novena</u>

Mother's Day envelopes are available in the vestibule if you would like to enroll your mother or mother figure (\$10/ name), living or deceased in the Mother's Day Novena, starting May 4th You may drop it in the collection basket.

Second Collection Next Weekend

Next weekend's second collection is for our monthly collection. This month we are supporting our maintenance fund to help keep our buildings and grounds in good shape. Thank you!





<u>Saínts</u>

In recognition of the saint names that our Confirmations candidates will be taking this weekend, we thought we would get to know some fun facts about their selected saints.

This weekend's saint is St. George, whose feast day was April 23rd.



Pope Gelasius claimed George was one of the saints "whose names are justly reverenced among men, but whose actions are known only to God."

As with many

of the saints from the early church, there are legends about Saint George. Most people know the story of George and the dragon.

There was a city that had a dragon living in its lake. Each time they came to the lake to get water, they needed to make a sacrifice of a young girl so that the dragon wouldn't eat them. Each day, they would draw lots to see which girl would be fed to the dragon. One day, the king's daughter's name was drawn. As the princess was led away, St. George rode by the lake and saw what was happening. George made the sign of the cross and slew the dragon, saving the princess's life. The citizens were so grateful to George that they all converted to Christianity.

In the 1300s King Edward III of England made George the patron of the Order of the Garter, an order of knighthood. George was recognized as England's patron saint after that. He is the Patron Saint of farmers, soldiers, archers and even... Scouts!

(https://kids.britannica.com/kids/article/Saint-George/601890, https://www.teachingcatholickids.com/saint-george-playingwith-the-saints/)