

## The Precious Body and Blood of Christ

June 14, 2020

## From the Desk of Fr. Leo

Legend has it that the pelican, when it finds no food to feed its young, rips open its own breast and feeds them with its own blood. Rather than let the young brood die and perish from hunger, the pelican prefers to die in their stead. Truly a remarkable symbol of the Eucharist, and that is why St. Thomas in a eucharistic hymn "Adoro Te" (Adore to devote) calls Jesus "a loving pelican". He also calls the Eucharist a sacred banquet in which Christ Himself is partaken of.

The Eucharist is indeed a sacred banquet, a holy meal. Now a meal is where the members of the family gather together not only to partake of food and drink, but also to manifest their unity in familiar conversation and enjoyment. Jesus instituted the Eucharist as a sacred meal, indeed as a sacrificial meal. While the disciples were celebrating the Passover meal and partaking of the unleavened bread with various cups of wine, Jesus transformed the bread into His Body and the special cup of wine into His Precious Blood. This is the cup and only sacrifice of the New Covenant. The Eucharist is truly a sacred banquet, the banquet of God's family celebrating their oneness with one another and with their Elder Brother who with one another prepared it for them. In earlier times, the faithful partook of the Eucharist at the altar itself, which represents Christ, but as numbers increased, the communion rail was added, which was intended as a prolongation of the altar, so that all would be partaking from one and the same Table of the Lord, at one and the same banquet. Later development, had churches removing their communion rails and now members of the congregation receive communion by forming a line.

It is not bread and wine that we partake at the table of the Lord but the Lord Jesus Himself. Christ is totally present under the appearance of bread, and also totally present under the appearance of wine. Yet, the separation well signifies the Blood poured out in sacrifice. The Lord did not give us merely a banquet. The banquet is none other than He Himself. Is it any wonder then that Christians who have learned to love and appreciate the Eucharist would walk long distances to be present at this banquet The saints hungered after the Eucharist, and it is the strength of all who partake of it.

To neglect the Eucharist is to neglect a hidden treasure, a spiritual gold mine which can enrich us for eternity, and replenish us with the delights of the Godhead. To love and appreciate the Eucharist is to walk in the golden footsteps of Mary and the saints.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Though we are not able to meet together during this week, please keep these intentions in your personal prayers, as Father will continue to include them in his private masses.

#### Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	June 16	N/A
Thanksgiving		
Wed.	June 17	N/A
Living Memorial		
Thur.	June 18	N/A
Julia P. Magno †		Bernardina †
& Vivencio H. Mag	no†	'
Fri.	June 19	N/A
Ashley M. Mariano		Mariano
(birthday/thanksgiv	ring)	Family
Sat.	June 20	N/A
Sid Jensen Sr. †		Jensen Family
Sun.	June 21	N/A
Father's Day Novena		
(Thanksgiving)		
Port Costa		N/A
Father's Day Novena		
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## Sunday Collection - June 7

St. Rose, Crockett	\$1920
St. Patrick Mission, Port Costa	\$195



A BIG THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE FOUND A WAY TO CONTINUE SUPPORTING OUR PARISH!



# Coronavirus (COVID-19) Precautions

With the constant change that is occurring around us, the Diocese is still adhering to the following protocols:

- All social gatherings that can be rescheduled, postponed or cancelled, should be.
- All public Masses are suspended, or must be conducted outdoors with no more than 100 participants.

Due to the current conditions in Contra Costa County, until further notice the church will open for distribution of communion on Saturday at 4:30PM and Sunday at 9:00AM at St. Rose. St. Patrick will also open on Sunday at 11:00 AM! Please respect state and county policies by keeping a social distance of 6ft, especially when entering and exiting the church, and wearing a mask. No more than 10 people may be in the church at a time (including Father and an usher).

St. Rose and St. Patrick Mission will continue this schedule until it is considered safer to return to full Masses.

## Father's Day Novena

We are not sure where we will be near the end of June, but in spite of this, and even more so, we would still like to recognize those who have done so much for us. Whether together or apart, Father will still be remembering all those fathers and father figures during the Father's Day Novena (6/21-6/28) masses. If you have someone special that you would like remembered at these masses just send a request in the mail, drop it in our mailbox, send an email (strosecrockett@comcast.net) or even give us a call, 510-787-2052. Please try to have names in by June 18<sup>th</sup>.

Father Leo will continue distribution of communion using the following protocol:

- 1. Wearing a mask is strictly enforced!
- 2. Eight (8) people allowed per session.
- 3. Each group will line up in the aisle usually used to process in, 6 feet apart. After receiving communion, they will exit using the aisle usually used to process out
- 4. A ciborium is placed on a small table in front of the altar table. Before the reception, Father will lead the recitation of the Our Father, then "Behold the Lamb of God.
- 5. Individuals come up to the table one at a time, pick up a host themselves, consume it facing the altar, then put mask back and exit.
- 6. When the first batch has all exited, the next group could come in following the same procedure until everyone has received communion.
- 7. Note: upon entering drop your envelopes in the basket, since the collection bag will not be passed this time yet.
- 8. Observe distancing in entering and exiting the door. Don't crowd or come too close to others even members of your family.
- 9. Doors will open 5 minutes before Communion service. No one allowed prior for private prayers. Please cooperation is expected of everyone.

