July 26, 2020



From the Desk of Fr. Leo

An old lady in El Salvador was so poor that the community had to support her, even though her son had come to America and had become very wealthy, "Why doesn't Juan help his mother?" The neighbors often whispered.

One day a neighbor dropped in and suggested that her son would surely help her if he knew of her need. As mothers always do, she defended her son: "Oh, Juan is so thoughtful, but he needs all his money. I heard life is very different in America. He is a good boy, a thoughtful son. See, he writes to me every week, the nicest letters. And in every letter he sends a picture. I don't recognize them but they are strange pictures." "Did you save them?" asked the neighbor. "Oh, sure," replied the mother, as she reached for her Bible. The one thing she considers her most valuable treasure. "I save all his letters and put the pictures in the Good Book."

Between the pages of the Bible the visitor found hundreds of United States bank notes, more than enough to keep the old mother have a comfortable life. She had a treasure but she did not know it.

Jesus told us that the kingdom of heaven is like a hidden treasure which a man found in a field. The treasure Jesus is talking about is our faith, which makes us members of the kingdom of heaven. The treasure is our faith in Christ, our belief that He is both God and Man, that He saved us on a cross, that He will take us into heaven if we are faithful to Him. Like the unknowing mother in our story, too many of us do not realize what a treasure we have in the truths of Christ.

All of us should be like the man in the parable, ready to "sell" all we have to get the faith and to keep the faith. Thank God, practically all of us have this faith. It was given to us with little or no effort on our part. But, to keep that faith, to nourish and strengthen it, demands some sacrifice.

For example, some of you would have preferred to sleep a little longer on Sunday than come to mass, or to go fishing or play golf. But you "sold" that extra sleep, that fun of fishing or golfing, for the treasure of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and Holy Communion. Many of you have contributed to several charitable institutions which provide services to the poor and the needy. You exchanged a few dollars or many dollars for the treasure of helping people as Christ commanded.

In every celebration of the Mass we offer to God the bread and wine which is brought up from your midst to show that it comes from all of us. God turns that bread and wine into the Body and Blood of His Son, and presents it to us in Holy Communion. What a small price for such a great treasure. May Christ help all of us renew our faith, renew our determination to live our faith in Him, at any cost.

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.	July 28	N/A	
Special Intentions			
Wed.	July 29	N/A	
Special Intentions			
Thur.	July 30	N/A	
Special Intentions			
Fri.	July 31	N/A	
Special Intentions			
Sat.	August 1	N/A	
Dale Arriola			
(Thanksgiving) Sun.	August 2	N/A	
People of the Parish			
Port Costa		N/A	
Walter Ligon †		Mary & Moira	
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Sunday Collection - July 19

St. Rose, Crockett	\$1200
St. Patrick Mission, Port Costa	\$190

St. Patrick Mission

Mass will be held in the parking/street area just in front of the church. Please bring your own seat if possible because very few chairs will be available. Space is very limited. Mass will be a little shorter than normal, and everyone will stay in their spot until the end of mass. At that time Father will invite participants up to receive communion starting with the back row and **keeping 6 ft apart at all times!** After communion, in an orderly manner, the parishioners will pick up their chairs and return directly to their cars.

St. Rose of Líma

Please bring your own seat and stay on the marked spots in front of the church. We will only be able to accommodate 25% of the space in the courtyard. Mass will be a little shorter than normal, and everyone will stay in their spot until the end of mass. At that time Father will invite participants up to receive communion starting with the back row and **keeping 6 ft apart on the markings!** After communion, in an orderly manner, the parishioners will pick up their chairs and return directly to their cars.

As we prepare for Masses inside in the future, and to keep our outdoor Masses going, we just want to check in with all our ministers! To keep contact at a minimum Lectors, Ushers and the Welcome Committee are the members we need at this time. If you are part of any of these groups, please contact the office (510-787-2052) or talk to Father Leo when you see him to let us know how comfortable you are resuming these important duties!

For us to move inside eventually, we will also need some help in wiping down the pews and a few other items after Saturday and Sunday Masses. If anyone is willing to help, please call the office and let us know! We will not be able to have Mass indoors until we can train some volunteers to help with this.



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



<u>Coronavirus (COVID-19)</u> 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.

With this information, and the Contra Costa County announcement that in church services are currently not allowed. It has been verified that our outdoor Masses may continue, BUT ONLY AS LONG AS EVERYONE PLEASE FOLLOW THE DIRECTION! SOCIAL DISTANCING AND MASKS ARE REQUIRED! Please follow these directions or we will discontinue Mass.

<u>Contra Costa Accessíble Transportation</u> Plan

We want to hear from every community in Contra Costa on ways to make getting to church, medical appointments, the store, adult classes, the senior center, work, etc. more convenient for people who often need to travel from Rodeo to Richmond or Crockett to Walnut Creek (for example). Right now, the single public transit service out that way is WestCAT with limited out of area service.

We are looking for ways to improve upon this, so that no matter what part of the County a senior, disabled, or veteran is in, they can access all the services they need. We are greatly asking for participants to fill out a quick online survey at https://www.atspcontracosta.com/participate



PLEASE TAKE A MINUTE TO READ AND TAKE THE ONLINE SURVERY! It may not

pertain to you, but you may be helping someone else in the community by giving your input!