## From the Desk of Fr. Leo

The Gospel story this Sunday is one of the best examples of Jesus the Teacher. St. Matthew depicts Jesus as the Moses-like figure who went up the mountain. He sat down, as if in the chair of Moses, and the blessed ones, the disciples, came to his feet. He opened his mouth and wisdom came forth. He taught them. Both Jewish- Christians and Gentile-Christians, both living in an age of conflict and choice, could learn how to follow Christ wisely.

What is it that Jesus the Rabbi offers? The Beatitudes are not easy, clear answers. The learning is not neatly packaged like a television commercial. He offers a new set of attitudes, a style and stance of paradox. The disciple is given no other wordly reward system which will make the practical living-out bearable. The Jesus of St. Matthew's Beatitudes offers criteria that place the Christian in the midst of the world and at the heart of its conflicts in an age where various religious allegiances vie with one another.

Poverty in spirit will bring the dominion of heaven. Mourning will issue in comfort. Meekness will overturn the isolation of greed. Righteousness will be satisfied. Merciful action will result in mercy given as a gift. Purity of heart, seeking God single-mindedly will allow one to see God. Peacemakers will be children of God. The persecuted will be victors. The rub is there; we rejoice in the midst of persecution. These criteria put us into the midst of worldly. The wise, teaching Rabbi is the this-Emmanuel. He is always with us as we are baptized, immersed in the concerns of this world. Doing justice and peacemaking and giving the cup of refreshing water will be a costly discipleship. We count not the cost because we have no right. Discipleship, paradoxical as it is, brings a heroism in the here and now. How surprisingly God works. God uses us in our weakness to shame the strong; God chooses our limited

> To know what you know and what you do not know, that is true knowledge.

knowledge and giftedness so that all humans might boast in the presence of God. The source of our boasting is not our achievement, is not our knowledge, is not our taming of the universe. It is our knowledge of God learned in discipleship and service. God is the source of our life in Christ Jesus, whom God makes our wisdom.

We come to the table at the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, a table that is the foretaste of the heavenly banquet. But we come to the table to eat the scroll of wisdom. This wisdom is from Christ the Teacher, Christ the Rabbi. Its eating brings learning for Christian life and wise action in our world. Such wisdom can enable us to help fashion God's reign in the human city where Emmanuel dwells.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

### Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	January 31	11:00AM
Special Intentions		
Wed. Special Intentions	February 1	11:00AM
Thur.	February 2	11:00AM
Jessica Ouk		Ma & Pa
Fri.	February 3	11:00AM
Thomas Wolthuis †		Roxene
<u>Sat.</u>	February 4	4:30PM
Bill Valli †		Bruce & Gina
Sun.	February 5	9:00AM
Matt Airoldi †		Bill & Diane
Port Costa		11:00AM

People of the Parish

### <u>Sunday Collection - January 22nd</u>

St. Rose, Crockett	\$2812
St. Patrick Mission	\$420

#### Thank you again to all who support our Parish!

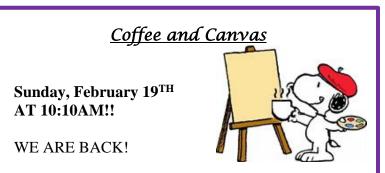
### <u>Tax Time</u>

If you need a copy of your contributions for 2022, please call the office (510-787-2052). Leave your name, phone number and



address (if it has changed) and we will be happy to help out.





Join us for a fun relaxing morning of carefree painting and coffee! Enjoy a light breakfast and lunch while you get the chance to paint a simple canvas, guided by a wonderful instructor from our parish. And of course, there will be coffee!! All of this for \$30, plus your painting to take home as a memento. Set some time aside for yourself; all are welcome!

Sign-ups in the vestibule.



# Second Collection Next Week

Next week we will restart our monthly second collections for specific funds for both our parishes (CCD or maintenance). We will begin with the green CCD envelopes to help support our 17 Confirmation candidates (four will be receiving this sacrament in April) and our RCIA candidate.

