

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 30, 2023

From the Desk of Fr. Leo

There are some interesting ideas about treasure in our culture. We live in a recyclable era, and we have names for what we throw and recycle in a different way. On one level, we call it junk and garbage, on another level we call it second-hand furniture, and on the highest level we call it antiques. At different phases in the life of the same thing, as it is recycled, it may be perceived as garbage, as second-hand or as a priceless antique.

One person's junk is another person's treasure! Often treasures come to us, garbed in some other vestments that allows us to see them for what they really are.

All things have a value when they are prized; the game that is played in a lot of fields. One week's hero in the art world is next year's wash-up. Lord knows you can get to feel that way about yourself. You can begin to think that you have no value because you are not popular or not as successful as the next person. Value seems to be so relative that you end up judging yourself in relation to others, and of course you always come up lacking.

If we compare ourselves to others, some of us will need to be recycled. The rest of us will wind up either as junk, or as second-hand, or as antiques. But the determination of value will have been our own, and we will go on to market ourselves or to manipulate others into seeing our value or to write advertisements for ourselves. This is the path of delusion.

The gospel bids us to seek for that pearl of great price which is called the dominion of God, a mysterious reality which sounds alive and true and full of hope. We are bothered deep within by the prospect of a life in which we must always be on our toes, comparing ourselves to others in order to discover our value. Yet our only hope is to relinquish this comparison. The dominion of God exists, we know, wherever Christ has created the space for each of us to be most truly ourselves, where our value is underwritten by the love and the creative energy of God, and where we can find our sabbath rest.

In the dominion of God, we are all of value. We are all blessed by God to be citizens of this dominion; but since the dominion of God cannot be seen, we have to hear of it in ways that will make us see it even when we cannot see it. We must be invited into the deepest

reality which cannot be seen. And so, Jesus uses parables to invite us; the dominion of God comes garbed in a vestment that hides it from us so that we can see.

When we look to the bread and wine consecrated during the Eucharist, remember, here Christ and the dominion of God come to us garbed in a vestment which hides them so that you can see them. And finally, if the truth were to be known, we come to the meal garbed in a vestment, the white robe of baptism, which hides us from ourselves in order that we might know who we truly are. And that may be the deepest mystery of them all.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	August 1	11:00AM	
Jorgelia B. Quiapo †		Ed & Mae	
Wed.	August 2	11:00AM	
Magdelende Mc Bride	,	Jacob Family	
Thur.	August 3	11:00AM	
Elaine Villanueva		Lily Militar	
Fri.	August 4	11:00AM	
Gloria Merana Romans		Marcella de Leon	
Sat.	August 5	4:30PM	
Robert Banaga Sr. †		Lacsina Family	
Sun.	August 6	9:00AM	
Jorge, Tomasa, Jose †			
& Manuel			
Port Costa		11:00AM	
People of the Parish			
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Sunday Collection - July 23 rd			
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St. Rose, Crockett	\$1618
Bishops Appeal	\$418
St. Patrick Mission	\$225
Bishops Appeal	\$36
ank you again to all who support	our Parish!

St. Patrick Mission Celebration

As one of the oldest parishes in our Diocese we are proud to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of St. Patrick Mission **Sunday, August 20th at 10:00AM!** All are



invited, but please **RSVP to the office by August 12**th (510-787-2052) if you plan to stay for the luncheon following! (Graciously supported by Phillips 66 and the Port Cost Conservation Society.)

We are still looking for any memorabilia to help give



a whole picture of our beloved little church, especially pictures! Please spread the word. All items would stay with their owners, we would just like to

scan copies of images and even jot down old stories of activities, priests and anything from the past.



Don't Take a Vacation from God

be a priority. If traveling to places one is unfamiliar with, information on church addresses and time of Masses can be found on the internet at www.masstimes.org or 1-800-MASS-TIMES.

Eucharistic Revival

"Revive & rekindle the fire of the eucharist in our hearts!"



In line with the Diocese of Oakland's Eucharistic Revival celebration, St. Rose of Lima will be hosting a mass on Tuesday, August 22nd at 7:00PM.



A BIG thank you to Dennis and Damon Hoffman and Jesse Peralta for getting our PA system in the hall back up and running again, and updating us with some wireless microphones!