

Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 17, 2021

From the Desk of Fr. Leo

When Apollo 13 was shot toward the moon, something went wrong. It was on an erroneous course and unless a corrective could be computed in time, it would never return, and the lives of the three men were doomed. For three days and nights dozens of people at the Space Control Center at Houston in Texas worked frantically while time was fast running out. Tensions mounted as relatives at home failed to understand the long absence of husband or father, wife or sister and relations strained. But these people put aside all personal preferences. They were people for others. Totally unmindful of their own inconvenience and distress, they succeeded in bringing the three astronauts back safely and alive. Though the names of the ground crew are hardly known, they had slaved those three days and nights to save the precious lives of others.

Three times Jesus announced to his chosen band that his was a life of sacrifice, a life of total service for humankind, climaxing in his death for them. Each time they failed to enter into his thoughts. After the first announcement of his passion, Peter even remonstrated vigorously with Jesus, only to be sharply reprimanded by him. After the second announcement, the disciples seem to ignore what he told them, and begin to argue among themselves who was the greatest. Jesus chided them by saying: "If anyone wants to rank first, he must remain the last of all, and the servant of all" (Mark 9:15). But the lesson was lost on deaf ears. Now after the third announcement of the passion comes the gross misunderstanding from the side of two favorite disciples, James and John, who strike out for highest honor and glory, while Jesus himself had told them he was giving himself to ignominy and death. He had come not to be served but to serve his fellowmen. His favorite disciples crave to be served in the highest places of the kingdom. Their ambition is for worldly honors, his one ambition is for the glory of the Cross.

There is no need to go beyond our scope of activity to exemplify this principle of service. Everyone is inclined, or at least tempted at times to be selfish, to shut oneself up in an ivory castle and live only for one's little ego. But real nobility and greatness of everlasting value throws open the doors and seeks to do all in its power to come to the aid of others in loving and humble service.

For years Dr. Tom Dooley gave his life's service to healing the sick and comforting the helpless in Vietnam and Laos. As a doctor, and unmarried, he had tremendous stamina which enabled him to bring hope and joy to the hearts of thousands of distressed people of all ages. He literally spent himself and his energies for the countless children who greatly needed not only medical attention but love. But his life of service for thousands of his fellowmen and women who were perfect strangers to him was the best witness to Christianity's fundamental principle of living like Christ, not for oneself but for others.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	October 19	11:00AM
Thanksgiving		Ed & Mae
Wed.	October 20	11:00AM
Living Memorial		
Thur.	October 21	11:00AM
Esparanza Valdivia		Lily Militar
Fri.	October 22	11:00AM
Dr. Florentino Ibabac	†	Lily Militar
Sat.	October 23	4:30PM
Special intentions		
Sun.	October 24	9:00AM
People of the Parish		
Port Costa		11:00AM
Alice Marshall †		ICF #14



Sunday Collection - October 10

St. Rose, Crockett	\$1781
Catholic Voice	\$282
St. Patrick Mission, Port Costa	\$180
Catholic Voice	\$24.00

Thank you again to all who support our Parish!

Current Mass Protocol

Our Churches no longer have government-restrictions on capacity, but many of the practices we have come to see as normal are changing again due to the increase in COVID cases. With this in mind we must remember that we still need to do our part to keep everyone safe.

- All persons need to wear masks indoors; currently no one is required to wear masks outdoors.
- Social distancing is not required, though we do ask to keep others in mind as we work our way back to "normal."
- Although the Diocese has okayed the use of worship aids, such as the missalettes, it is still recommended to stick to single use items. As there is no good way to clean the missalettes and prayer cards without wearing them down St. Rose/St. Patrick will not be setting these back out just yet.
- The Sign of Peace will still be without physical contact.

Contra Costa County and the Oakland Diocese now require masking indoors for everyone as a precaution against increased circulation of COVID-19.

<u>All Souls Mass</u>

We are happy to announce that we will be able to hold our traditional All Souls Mass. This will be held Saturday, November 6th. More details to come!



Special Second Collection

NEXT WEEKEND we will celebrate World Mission Sunday. Pope Francis invites the entire Church to support mission dioceses in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands, and parts of Latin America and Europe, where priests, religious and lay leaders serve the world's most vulnerable communities. Please keep the Pope's missions in your prayers and be generous in next week's collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

Mission Alignment Process

It's official! The Disciple Maker Index Survey opens this week and we need your help!

Please help us participate by completing a 10–15-minute survey as soon as possible.

- Go to https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/k4xck2
 The link is also posted on our website and
 Facebook page for easier access.
- There are also opportunities to complete the survey after daily and Sunday Mass and you can obtain a paper copy in the vestibule or by contacting Christina Littleton in the office at 510-787-2052.

The survey will only be available from October 14 – November 22 and will ask you to reflect on your own spiritual growth and enable you to provide feedback on our parish's efforts to help you grow. All responses will be confidential and the parish will only receive information about the community as whole.

We are trying to get the highest response rate possible. This information will be invaluable to Father Leo, our various ministries and you, our parishioners, as we plan for the future and strive to be the best disciples we can be. We will receive the results this spring/summer at which time we will share what we have learned with the entire parish.

Thank you for helping with this important project!

While I know that some of you are skeptical of this process, the results and who really benefits, I urge you to please participate. Let's show the Diocese how strong our little parishes are! Who knows what we will be able to do with the information, but if we don't participate, we will never know!