

# From the Desk of Fr. Leo

During the course of the year, we celebrate many feast days: Christmas, Easter, Christ the King, different saints. But this Sunday is our feast day, the Feast of the Holy family. As parent or child of whatever age, this our feast.

In the Church we make use of the special term, "Vocation". Usually when we hear this word, "vocation," we think of the priesthood or the religious life. But that is a narrow use of the word. Parents and children, have a vocation too, the vocation to family life. Vocation means God's plan for you, and his plan for the vast majority of people is family life.

Fathers must have a job. It is their duty to support their families. Their job takes a lot of their time, their talent and their thought. But whatever job they have, no matter how important that job may be the welfare of others or even of society as a whole, their principal vocation is to be husband and father.

Mothers these days are often engaged in a lot of activities that take them out of the home. They may even have an outside job or career. But for them too, their principal vocation is to be a wife and mother.

Children and young adults look forward now, or soon will be looking forward, to becoming independent, going out on their own, getting a job, and eventually starting their own families, but right now their principal vocation is within their present families.

Today, there is a special need for this feast of family vocations. We all know that the family is under attack because of divorce, anti-child propaganda, and the pan sexualism of our age which tends to separate sex from marriage and true love. Some scientists even predicted that the day will come when husbands and wives will not be allowed by law to have children. Instead, sperm and ova banks



d, sperm and ova banks will be set up. Children will be conceived artificially according to what some scientists think is the best possible combination of genes. The baby will then be a "test tube baby". After birth, he or she will not be brought up within a family, but by professional social workers. Then there will be no need for marriage or the family. So, the prediction goes, and what a sorry, tragic day it will be if they come to pass.

Family life is a full-time job, and a difficult one. That is why the Vatican Council stated that the family will fulfill its mission., not only "through mutual affection of its members," but also through "the common prayer they offer to God". Prayer is necessary and absolutely indispensable, both in the home and together in the church for Mass. Only from prayer and the Mass can a family derive the strength and help needed to fulfill its important vocation in our society. All of us must pray for the success of family life, even if we are living alone. Upon the success of family life depends the welfare of our whole society and the Church as well. And so, all of us must join together in praying for God's blessing upon family life.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

#### Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	December 28	11:00AM							
Antonio Licad†		Lilibeth Licad							
(birthday/death anr	niv)								
Wed.	December 29	11:00AM							
Exaltacion Combong	Ť	Ed & Mae							
Thur.	December 30	11:00AM							
Arcadio & Corazon		Lilibeth Licad							
Nicolas									
Fri.	December 31	<b>4:30PM</b>							
Simeon Rojo†		Imelda & Dolly							
<u>Sat.</u>	January 1	9:00AM							
People of the Parish									
		<b>4:30PM</b>							
Teresa Del Rosario†		Bob & Lydia							
& Alfredo Ilagan (healing)									
Sun.	January 2	9:00AM							
People of the Parish									

Port Costa 11:00AM Special Intentions

### Sunday Collection - December 19th

St. Rose, Crockett	\$2476
<b>Religious Retirement</b>	\$932
St. Patrick Mission, Port Costa	\$355
<b>Religious Retirement</b>	\$64

Thank you again to all who support our Parish!

# Holiday Hours

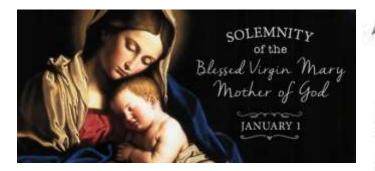
The office will be closed Thursday, December  $23^{rd}$  and Tuesday, December  $28^{th}$  – until January 4th.



#### <u>New Year Day</u>

Saturday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, the Mass for Solemnity of Mary Mother of God is at 9:00AM.

The mass schedule will then return to the regular weekend schedule, with Saturday Vigil at 4:30PM, and Sunday masses at 9:00AM (St. Rose) and 11:00AM (St. Patrick Mission).



## Breaking Bread Mass Book

We still have a few books available. If you would like to follow along during Mass, the new Breaking Bread music and reading books (Advent 2021-Thanksgiving 2022) are still available. If you are interested in a personal copy for a \$10 donation, please come by the office or let Father Leo know!



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AULD LANG SYNE	FATHER TIME	MUSIC
BABY	FIRECRACKER	NOISE MAKER
BALL	FIRST	PARTY
BALLOONS	FLUTE	RESOLUTION
CALENDAR	GAMES	SPARKLER
CELEBRATION	GOWN	STREAMER
CHAMPAGNE	HAPPY	TIMES SQUARE
CLOCK	HAT	TOAST
CONFETTI	HOURGLASS	TRADITION
COUNTDOWN	INVITATION	TUXEDO
DANCING	JANUARY	VOW
DECEMBER	KISS	YEAR
EVE	MIDNIGHT	