

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 18, 2021

From the Desk of Fr. Leo

Indoctrination and brain-washing are common words today. They refer to methods used by persons who wish to gain their own ends over those they want to control. Knowledge always plays a great part in determining people's actions. He or she reads the newspapers and periodicals, subscribes to latest things in the media to form his or her social and political views. He or she attends college and university to be better equipped for a life career. Humankind must learn much more before he or she can act properly and to his or her advantage.

When Jesus saw the crowds gathered before him, the first thing mentioned of him was that he had compassion on them because they were like scattered sheep with no one to tend to their needs. But the first action he took was not to heal their ailments or still their hunger, but "that he began to teach them many things". He realized that people were hungry for God, and what they needed above all was knowledge of God's love, knowledge of his plan or love for them, and the means offered by the Lord to be made use in order to gain happiness forever. Therefore, he unfolded before them the Good News, teaching them many valuable things.

Only by instruction and knowledge of God's ways would they deepen their faith as well as their hope in the good things God had prepared for them. He whetted their appetite for the things of God. Thus, they would learn how to respond with love towards their Father in heaven as well as toward their fellow men and women as their Father willed it. Love follows on knowledge. If we do not know a person, how can we love that person? If we do not know God, how can we love God properly? If we are not mindful that our fellowmen or women are objects of God's love just as we are, how can we love them as Christ told us?

Knowledge of God and of our holy faith is so necessary today when we are bombarded by all kinds of entertainment in the movies and the TV; as well as all kinds of thrillers in books and magazines. But how much time does God's chosen People give to knowing better God himself, and the beautiful realities of their Catholic religion? How much do our people understand God's plan for them, his ways of treating humankind in this exile on earth? Yet often when people are given the opportunity to learn more of God and things divine, they respond avidly. Why?

Because all along without knowing it, they were hungry for God.

It is regrettable that many religious instructions today in our high schools and colleges are mostly or even merely on psychology. Psychology is good in itself, but it only educates the natural being. Religion gives a person supernatural insight and the outlook he or she needs for his or her life as regenerated in Christ, and a follower of the Crucified.

If we have tasted the goodness of God, we become hungry for more. For it is surprising how our hunger for God increases for Him, who alone can still it.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	July 20	11:00AM
Special Intentions		
Wed.	July 21	11:00AM
Living Memorial		
Thur.	July 22	11:00AM
Special Intentions		
Fri.	July 23	11:00AM
Special Intentions		
Sat.	July 24	4:30PM
People of the Parish		
Sun.	July 25	9:00AM
Josefina Dizon †	1	Marcelina Lorenzo
Port Costa		11:00AM
Sister Margeta Krchnak C.D.P. †		Theresa
		Jurik
† ************************************		



Sunday Collection - July 11

St. Rose, Crockett \$2464 St. Patrick Mission, Port Costa \$295

Thank you again to all who support our Parish!

Mass Changes!!! PLEASE READ

We are all excited as the State of California has lifted the color tier system!

Our Churches no longer have government-restrictions on capacity, and many of the practices we have come to see as normal are ending. With this in mind though we must remember that we still need to do our part to keep everyone safe.

- Fully vaccinated persons no longer need to wear masks; and 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.

The Oakland Dioceses is still following the recommendations of the CDC and Contra Costa Health Services. For a letter from the Bishop, and a full list of the updated guidelines regarding the Oakland Diocese, please visit:

https://www.oakdiocese.org/news/message-frombishop-barber-concerning-june-15-2021-covid-19updates-eng-esp

Liturgical Ministers

Calling all Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Greeters!!!

Now that Masses are mostly back to our old normal, we would like to invite all those listed above to participate in Mass again. Let us know when we can add you back to the schedule. Please call the office, 510-787-2052, and let us know either way.

We greatly thank those who have stepped up during the pandemic and made sure these roles were always covered. It is time to mix some new voices back in!

Second Collection

HELP US MEET OUR GOAL!

To successfully achieve both our parish goals:

St. Rose- 53.42%, with \$2,795 left to go. **St. Patrick Mission- 105.56%!!**

Remember 100% of the funds collected after we have reached the goal is returned directly to our parish!

Thank you for all your help!

<u>New Project!!!</u>

Many may not realize it, but behind our church buildings there are several nice sized areas for gardening. Over the last few months Father Leo has taken the time to amend the soil in these areas and began planting various bulbs, tubers and seeds. His hope is that he will be able to create a sustainable

source of flowers for our altar so that we do not need to purchase as many as we decorate throughout the seasons. Just this week many of the plants are beginning to poke their heads up above the soil!

We would like to involve our parishioners in this process, so any words of advice, including what cut flowers may do well, are greatly appreciated. Any donations of excess

bulbs, plants, dirt, etc. would also be very kind. This is a great project that could bring us together and help us become a little more self-sufficient!