The Epiphany of the Lord

January 8, 2023

From the Desk of Fr. Leo

As children we identified with the Magi. We joined their caravan to adventure and despised the people of Jerusalem who hid in the darkness. Today we are wiser women and men. If the star is still our hope for the future, it also reveals us as we are. We have done nicely; we have made a living for ourselves in the world as it is; we have shared in King Herod's presumption of rank.

Perhaps we do not want the light. Assuredly we do not want to be governed. We do not want to see ourselves as we really are, dependent on one another in our maturity as we were in our youth. We are never quite certain if revelation will be a blessing or a curse; we suspect that it may be both.

What has gone wrong that we are suddenly the ones threatened by darkness? We are good people surely? Indeed; and God has not only make known to us the mystery of Christ but has also made us stewards of his mystery for the world's good. The sign of the star is eternal; it says that God's light is stronger than a lifetime of exile and estrangement. Revelation comes to those who have been in a great darkness. And prophecy is a vision hat we hope our grandmothers and grandfathers will inherit before they die, when in the return of their sons and daughters the abundance of the sea shall come to them. The prophet Isaiah's message is not an empty promise; it is a light from the end of life, a vision of how things will be when we stop depending on ourselves and others, then will God be in our midst to save us. Until then, the glory of God's light shining through our exile, the star of Bethlehem, upholds us in our struggle against the darkness.

For today, the patient, expectant waiting that we began in Advent is fulfilled. The plan that God had prepared for the world's salvation, the revelation foreshadowed in so many ways in the long course of Israel's history, moves forward again. Rejoicing, therefore, we come again to the ancient sources of our story to drink deeply of God's love and to seek the light of revelation.

That God's vision should be for all of us without distinction, that none of us can shape it according to a private tradition – this is the Revelation, the blessing and the curse. It is so hard because it is so simple. The unsearchable richness of God's plan is a great mystery,

not as something secret, but as usurpassable glory. We have caught its splendor enshrined even in such ancient systems as the code of Hammurabi and in the wise sayings of Confucius in China. In this way at Epiphany our humanity is married to the divine. The great exchange had been made. From now on, to be truly God like, we need only be ourselves - truly human.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	January 10	11:00AM	
Jessica Ouk		Ma & Pa	
(health)			
Wed.	January 11	11:00AM	
Thanksgiving		Ed & Mae	
Thur.	January 12	11:00AM	
Elma Nursement †	D	onna & Pauline†	
Fri.	January 13	11:00AM	
Thanksgiving	buildur y 10	Alma & Jong	
		C	
Sat.	January 14	4:30PM	
Thomas Wolthuis †		Roxene	
Sun.	January 15	9:00AM	
Arturo Balagot †		Arturo Balagot	
Port Costa		11:00AM	
People of the Parish			
† ************************************			

<u>Sunday Collection - January 1st</u>

St. Rose, Crockett	\$1213
St. Patrick Mission	\$185

Thank you again to all who support our Parish!

Prayers for the Deceased

In your prayers, please remember is a special way Pope Benedict XVI and Pauline Cardoza.

A prayer for the soul of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

Father, eternal shepherd, hear the prayers of your people for your servant Benedict, who governed your Church with love.

In your mercy, bring him with the flock once entrusted to his care to the reward you have promised your faithful servants.

May he who faithfully administered the mysteries of your forgiveness and love on earth, rejoice with you forever in heaven.

In your wise and loving care, you made your servant teacher of all your Church. He did the work of Christ on earth.

May your Son welcome him into eternal glory.

May your servant whom you appointed high priest of your flock be counted now among the priests in the life of your kingdom.

Give your servant the reward of eternal happiness and let your mercy win for us the gift of your life and love.

We entrust your servant to your mercy with faith and confidence.

In the human family he was an instrument of your peace and love.

May he rejoice in those gifts for ever with your saints. Amen

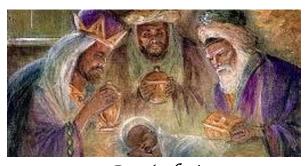
2023 Fish Fry March 31st

It may seem a little early to some, but now is the time to figure out whether our parishes can hold our annual fish fry. You will find a tentative sign-up sheet in the vestibule asking about volunteers for all the different areas of the fish fry. We ask everyone to take a minute and see if there is any area that you could donate a little time to. With all the changes in our environment and prices we are still on the edge about whether or not this event can take place; the biggest issue is the number of helping hands. If we find that we cannot get enough volunteers to sign up on these sheets we will have to cancel this tradition. Please remember, that although all of the fundraising done during this last year has brought it quite a bit of donations, it is not without a lot of hard work on the shoulders of a few individuals, and we cannot except them to carry this alone. The Fish

Fry is still our biggest source of fundraising income, and it would be a shame if we cannot come together to continue it. So, please take a moment to check out the list and sign



up if you can. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to come by the office (M-Th, 8:30-2), send an email (<u>strosecrockett@comcast.net</u>) or call (510-787-2052).



Reminder!

A small reminder that Father Leo has the opportunity to visit his family in the Philippines right now, so he will be away for a month. If you have anything that you need taken care of before he leaves on January 16th, please make sure you reach out in the next week. We will be praying for his safe flight back on Valentine's Day!