From the Desk of Fr. Leo

Sometimes in trying to understand the Bible, we settle for too little. Often, for example this weekend's gospel reading, is taken to mean only that when the troubles of life assail us, we can prevail over these storms simply by having faith. After all, does not Jesus say as Simon Peter sinks in the sea, "Oh you of little faith."

There is a grain of truth in such an understanding; yet to leave it there is to settle for too little. The point of this weekend's gospel reading, as also of the Old Testament selection, is that God is ruler of creation and therefore is to be adored and served. The maker of heaven and earth still governs all that has been made, this is the basis for our worship and the foundation of our hope.

Often, we do suffer from little faith. But the matter is not remedied by sitting ourselves down and resolving to have more faith. Usually that is a futile enterprise designed only to make matters worse. We focus more and more upon ourselves and less and less upon God, as did St. Peter when he approached Jesus on the sea.

Attentiveness to divine strength and goodness is the remedy for lack of faith. The gospel calls us to look forward, not inward, and thus to behold the glory of God, who is our help.

To know the closeness of God in Jesus is a central insight of the Christian faith. But if we overemphasize that affinity of Jesus to us as human beings, we are in danger of losing something important: the crucial confidence that this one who is near to us is nevertheless vastly different from us. The One we address as the Christ is not merely a human companion with us on our journey of faith, but is the source and sustenance of our faith.

Is our understanding of the One we call Christ so rich, so important to us in our daily lives, that we are in agony because other people think too little of Jesus? Or are we like the disciples during the storm who need our faith in Christ expanded and intensified?

Perhaps there is an important question for each of us to ponder; with whom do we more closely identify in this weekend's New Testament readings? Are we disciples who cry out in fear for our own life because our understanding of Jesus is too small? Or are we apostles who cry out in agony at the impoverished faith of others? Like the apostles, would we give up our own fellowship with God if only that could enable others to have the joy of that fellowship in their lives?

These are hard questions; and if we are not satisfied with our answers, that is good. For it is evidence that we see our need to grow in faith. But again, let it be emphasized that growth comes not by looking inward and lamenting our lack of faith. Growth comes by concentrating on the goodness, mercy and power of God.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	August 15	11:00AM
Jorge, Tomasa, Jose		
& Manue	1†	
Wed.	August 16	11:00AM
Living Memorial		
0		
Thur.	August 17	11:00AM
Jorgelia B. Quiapo†		Ed & Mae
Fri.	August 18	11:00AM
Filemon D. Lacsina Sr.	+	Lacsina Family
		2
Sat.	August 19	4:30PM
C. Essex & Janice		Mom & Dad
(anniversary)		
Sun.	August 20	9:00AM
NO MASS		

Port Costa	11:00AM
Miguel & Rita Gomez†	Your Children

Sunday Collection - August 6th

St. Rose, Crockett	\$1462	
CCD Collection	\$210	
St. Patrick Mission	\$110	
CCD Collection	\$30	
Thank 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.

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.





Faith Formation

Our Faith Formation program will be starting on September 17th! Registration forms are available in the office.

CCD: and preparation for First Holy Communion every other Sunday at 10:15 AM (must be in 1st grade).

CONFIRMATION: This is a two-year formation program. Classes will be every other Sunday at 10:15AM and one weekday a month with Father Leo.

R.C.I.A. for those wanting to become Catholics. It is a two- year formation program for adults. Weekly meeting (TBA).

REMINDER, THERE IS NO MASS ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 20TH AT ST. ROSE. ALL ARE WELCOME AT ST. PATRICK MISSION AT 10:00am!