



From the Desk of Fr. Leo

The Christopher Movement started by Fr. James Keller, M.M., has alerted many people to helping their fellowmen and women. We are again entering into the season of Advent. Advent is the time to be alert. One is alerted that Christmas is soon at hand, the birthday of the Savior. He became one of us to bring peace, joy and fellowship, to make us one family of God. All the preparations during the weeks of Advent, all the shopping, the decorating, the music and songs are directed to that happy event, even though many are no longer aware that Christ is the focal point of Christmas. One has to be alerted that Christmas has a deeper meaning, and that these preparations are meant to renew us in the true spirit of Christmas, which Christ set before the world in the proclamation of the Good News.

Yet even this is not the ultimate purpose of our Advent. Renewal in Christ, as each succeeding Advent season rolls around, has a further purpose, namely to keep us alert that this is a passing world, so it is futile to attach ourselves too strongly to it, because the world and everything in it is passing away to be transformed into a new world by the glorious Coming of the Savior when he inaugurates the end-kingdom. Then all our preparation of the present time will be amply rewarded and everyone will receive from God the praise he or she deserves. Then the just will share in the glory of the Risen Christ, when he comes to reward everyone according to his or her work.

Advent thus is a time to be alert to our purpose in life and what God expects of us in our respective calling. It is a time for sincere compunction for having neglected many times to do the will of the Father, and to take to heart the saving messages of His Son. For parents to be alert not only to the temporal and physical needs of their children but even more of their spiritual needs. It is a time for professional men and women to examine whether their dealings with their clients are honest, non- discriminatory, upright and just. A time for all workers to "give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."

Advent is also a time to give greater attention to those around us who are in need: the lonely, the sick and the feeble, the bedridden, the homeless and the elderly. It is a time to practice genuine Christian charity to all those in whom Christ is begging for food or shelter, provided they really are in need. How often there is a crying need among minority groups for social justice, equality, against discrimination, but their cries go unheeded as did the plea of Joseph and Mary that first Christmas as they sought shelter for the babe to be born.

Advent is a time to be alert to the missionary needs of the church. Can you make yourself a part of this activity?

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Though we are not able to meet together during this week, please keep these intentions in your personal prayers, as Father will continue to include them in his private masses.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	December 1	N/A
Thanksgiving		Ed & Mae
Wed.	December 2	<u>N/A</u>
Special Intentions		
Thur.	December 3	9:00AM
Special Intentions		
Fri.	December 4	N/A
Medoro Pagni †		John Collins
Sat.	December 5	4:30PM
People of the Parish		
Sun.	December 6	9:00AM
Jim Dooley †		ICF #14
Port Costa		11:00AM
Walter Ligon †		Mary & Moira



Sunday Collection - November 22

St. Rose, Crockett \$1259

St. Patrick Mission, Port Costa \$440



A BIG THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE FOUND A WAY TO CONTINUE SUPPORTING OUR PARISH!



No Indoor Mass!!!

At this time, Contra Costa County has called for outdoor Mass at both St. Rose and St. Patrick Mission! Since the weather has begun the change, we are coming up with a plan, but would like your input. Father Leo is considering returning back to distributing Communion as we were doing earlier in the Summer months if people are not comfortable with outdoor Mass due to the cold weather. PLEASE LET US KNOW HOW YOU FEEL; IT IS VERY IMPORTANT!!!

Stay tuned, and check in with our website, Facebook page and bulletin for an update. You are also welcome to call the office, 510-787-2052, for an update.

Please know that until you feel safe, you are not obligated to attend Sunday Mass, and if you would like to talk to Fr. Leo give us a call at 510-787-2052.

Breaking Bread Mass Book

Due to the pandemic and safety, we have had to remove all Mass aides, including the missalettes, because we cannot safely clean them, and we anticipate this to follow through next year. We do understand that many would like to follow during Mass, and we do have access to the new Breaking Bread music and reading books (Advent 2020-Thanksgiving 2021). If you are interested in a personal copy for \$10 donation please come by the office or let Father Leo know!

Why do we light an Advent Wreath?

Advent wreaths are popular, but many of us don't



know their meaning! The advent wreath is circular, with no beginning or end, to symbolize God's unending love for us and eternal life through Jesus Christ. There are four candles, each representing 1,000 year and lit one a week. The first two candles,

for Hope and Faith, are violet, the color of prayer, penance and sacrifice. The third week, Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday, a rose candle, symbolic of joy, is lit as the waiting for the birth of Jesus is almost over. The fourth violet candle, "The Angel's Candle," stands for Peace, and is lit marking the final week of prayer and penance. It's message, "Peace on Earth, Good Will Towards Men," as we dispel the darkness, closer to the light of Christ



Crockett Christmas Committee

As with most things this year, the Crockett Christmas Committee will work a little differently. In order to help keep everyone safe and maintain social distancing, they will not be able to put together the donated food baskets. Instead of the traditional baskets, the Committee is encouraging donations of money or gift cards that they will put together for families. If you would like to participate, and we would greatly appreciate it, donations can be dropped off at the St. Rose Office. Checks need to be made to the Crockett Christmas Committee, and some gift card ideas: Target, Walmart, Safeway, etc. Remember, unlike many groups, these donations always stay in our Crockett and Rodeo communities.

