

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 31, 2021

From the Desk of Fr. Leo

Men of all stations in life have recognized the value of prayer and need of prayer. Mahatma Gandhi for one. President Chiangkai-Shek in his day, spent an entire night in prayer and begged priests and people to do so also, in order that a devastating typhoon would veer away from his country. Our first president George Washington always turned to God for much-needed strength in guiding our nation. Martin Luther King spent the whole night on his knees before the Montgomery March. What emphasis does Jesus put on prayer?

Christ was the Son of God, yet as true man he expressed a positive need of communing with the Father often. This weekend's Gospel shows us how after working far into the night encouraging, praying over people and curing them of their afflictions, he rose early next morning to pray. The late hours spent in giving himself brought with it the need of rest and sleep. Yet he did not neglect to pray. Though he often prayed with others in the Temple services, at times he preferred seclusion in order to commune more effectively with the Father. From prayer he derived the strength he needed for his gigantic task of effectively opposing the forces of evil and establishing the reign of God in human hearts, so often shallow and fickle. Prayer for him was like multivitamins.

The work given to each one to do is important, but it must be reinforced by prayer like concrete is reinforced, to uphold us in our daily undertakings. From prayer and communion with God we derive strength, courage, and new insights that impel us to go on. In quiet prayer, one becomes more aware of God's presence and the power of his Spirit. Taking out some time daily for silent prayer is by no means time lost. Many professional and business people do this regularly, not to mention the myriads of daylaborers who experience the great benefit of regular prayer.



Why have many lost the art of praying, even those whose call-in life demands that they spend time in prayer? Is it perhaps the great amount of time spent in shallow- reading matter, TV shows, computers, cell phones, movies etc.? Without the practice of communing with God, the habit will never be formed, and life remains very mediocre. Even the pagan monks are well known for their stress on prayer. Should the disciples of Christ not follow the example of their Master? The prayer Jesus taught us is the best guideline for any and all prayer. Take time to pray. It is the way to God's heart.

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.	February 2	N/A
Special Intentions		
Wed.	February 3	N/A
Special Intentions		
Thur.	February 4	N/A
Special Intentions		
Fri.	February 5	N/A
Special Intentions		
Sat.	February 6	4:30PM
Ray & Mary Lou		Olivia
Austria†		
Sun.	February 7	9:00A
Jim Choquette †	Mike & Elena	
		Gomez
Port Costa		11:00AM
People of the Parish		
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Sunday Collection - January 24

St. Rose, Crockett \$1595.70

St. Patrick Mission, Port Costa \$105

Thank you again to all who support our Parish!



FOUND A WAY TO CONTINUE SUPPORTING **OUR PARISH!**

No Indoor Mass!!!

Although the stay-at-home order has been lifted, Contra Costa County has still called for outdoor Mass at both St. Rose and St. Patrick Mission! We are all anxiously awaiting the second we will be allowed back inside the Church, but for now we will continue as we have for the last few weeks. So for now Father will continue to do Mass from the balcony of the church, just inside the vestibule, facing the parking lot. Please tune to 88.7FM to hear Father say Mass. After Mass is completed, we ask that those who would like to receive communion please DRIVE to the drive way in front of the church and continue to drive in as though you are going to drive down the drive way past the hall. Father Leo will be outside waiting to give communion. As your car approaches where he is, please turn your car off, make sure your mask is on and approach Father Leo for communion. After communion, please return to your car and proceed down the drive way. **PLEASE** LET US KNOW HOW YOU FEEL; IT IS VERY **IMPORTANT!!!**



Scarves

Runette has been kind enough to donate her time in making some scarves like the ones offered at the Christmas Boutique last year. If anyone is interested in purchasing some (\$15 each) to keep you or your family warm they are available

in the rectory Mon- Fri from 8:30AM-2:00PM.

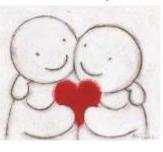
Ash Wednesday

Wed, February 17, 2021 Mass will be held at 9:00 AM

Míssals

We just wanted to say thank you to everyone who made the donation toward your own missal. With the money that was donated, we raised enough to cover our \$330 bill for those books. The \$10 donation may have

seemed silly, but that amount is a huge blessing, considering our average annual bill for the *Breaking* Bread and other seasonal missalettes is \$600. Again, thank you from the bottom of our hearts for rising to the occasion once again!



Tax Time

If you need a copy of your contributions for taxes, please call the office (510)787-2052. Leave your name, phone number and address (if it has changed), and we will be happy to help you!