# From the Desk of Fr. Leo

When Palestinian guerillas hijacked a French plane and interned over one hundred Israeli in Entebbe, Uganda, a special group of trained Israeli executed a marvelous surprise attack in the Uganda airport where they were interned. The rescue was completely unexpected; it happened with blitz suddenness, and it was carried out with perfect precision. The plans for rescue were top secret. The Parousia's final breakthrough is also top secret, known only to the Father, and it will come totally unexpected.

The Lord is coming! That was the watchword of the early Christians. Full of expectation, they eagerly awaited the grand event which would be the crowning victory of the Savior. At times there were false prophets among them stirring up the faithful to fear and dread of impending disaster (like some self-styled prophets even today), but the genuine Christian sentiment was geared to a different dimension. They were not filled with foreboding at the thought of Christ's coming, but with joy and longing. Had they not put on Christ in baptism, and carried his cross in their daily lives? They had endeavored to follow him and live his gospel message. Was there any room for fear then at the thought of his coming in glory? The final stage of Christ's salvific work would bring total redemption.

God did not reveal the time of Christ's glorious triumph. No matter how often the self-made prophets determine a definite year for the so-called end of the world, an all-wise God deemed it far better for humankind to be left in the dark about the time of the Parousia. Meanwhile, each succeeding generation could prepare itself by vigilance. One thing both the Lord and the Apostles made clear: it shall come suddenly and unexpected. Jesus said: Be on guard therefore. The Son of Man will come when you least expect him" (Luke 12:40).

This weekend the liturgy has re-inserted the thought of the Coming of Christ several times in the Eucharistic sacrifice, especially after the elevation, when the faithful proclaim: "Christ will come again", and the priest repeats this after the Our Father. We are thus strongly reminded of the grand event to come, in order to prepare properly by holiness of life. We can and ought to make the prayer of the early Christians our own: "Maranatha, the Lord is coming!" Or that of the Book of Revelation: "Come, Lord Jesus (Revelation 22:20).

We ought not be too gullible in believing all manner of supposed private revelations especially those with dire forebodings. Jesus told us to be vigilant, and St. Paul urges us to prepare by becoming more holy each day. The Scripture warns the sinner that if he (or she) continues in his (or her) sinful ways, the Day of the Lord will overtake him (or her) unprepared when he (or she) least expects it. But it does not frighten the faithful followers of Christ with horrors and threats. The Day of the Lord will come for each one individually in God's own time.

#### Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

#### Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	November 16	11:00AM
Edith Nemis		Lily Militar
(healing) Wed.	November 17	11:00AM
Living Memorial		
Thur.	November 18	11:00AM
Lily Militar		
(recovery)	N 1 10	11 00 1 7 4
Fri.	November 19	<u>11:00AM</u>
Special Intentions		
Sat.	November 20	4:30PM
Olivia Austria Edwa	rdes	Marvin
(birthday)		Edwardes
Sun.	November 21	9:00AM
People of the Parish		
Port Costa		11:00AM
Marcelina Morales †		Your children

#### Sunday Collection - November 7

St. Rose, Crockett	\$2092
St. Patrick Mission, Port Costa	\$160

Thank you again to all who support our Parish!

#### Breaking Bread Mass Book

With the pandemic still surrounding us, our Mass aides are still unavailable because we cannot clean them properly without damaging them. We know that many would like to follow during Mass, and we have the new Breaking Bread music and reading books (Advent 2021-Thanksgiving 2022) available. If you are interested in a personal copy for a \$10 donation, please come by the office or let Father Leo know!

#### Our Mother of Perpetual Help

This Wednesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, will be our monthly devotional service after 11:00AM Mass. We invite you to join us and ask our Blessed Virgin, Mother of Perpetual Help to intercede for us, especially for healing in the world.



### Christmas Boutique

We are excited to invite you to the St. Rose Christmas Boutique, the weekend of November 20-21. Our boutique will look a little different this year due to the pandemic, but there will be plenty of



wonderful items available! Join us in the vestibule after Mass on Saturday and Sunday and start your Christmas shopping. If any one else would like to donate some items, please let Father Leo know!

#### Special Second Collection

Next week our special collection will support the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. More than thirty-eight million people in the United States live in poverty. This collection supports programs that empower people to identify and address the obstacles they face as they work to bring permanent and positive change to their communities. Learn more about the Catholic Campaign for Human Development at <u>www.CCHDEastBay.org</u>.

# Mission Alignment Process

#### ONE WEEK LEFT!!!

Have you taken a moment to do your survey?? 35% of our parishioners have filled out the online survey, and only five paper surveys have been turned into the office.

# Please help us participate by completing a 10–15-minute survey as soon as possible.

- Go to https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/k4xck2 The link is also posted on our website and Facebook page for easier access.
- There are also opportunities to complete the survey after daily and Sunday Mass and you can obtain a paper copy in the vestibule or by contacting Christina Littleton in the office at 510-787-2052.

# PAPER COPIES NEED TO BE TURNED INTO THE OFFICE BY THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>!!!

All responses will be confidential and the parish will only receive information about the community as whole.

Thank you for helping with this important project!

### Current Mass Protocol

- All persons need to wear masks indoors; currently 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.

#### \* <u>NEW BREAKING BREAD MISSALS</u> <u>WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR \$10</u> <u>DONATION. \*</u>

• The Sign of Peace will still be without physical contact.