

From the Desk of Fr. Leo

All peoples celebrate certain occasions with a meal or festive banquet, be it a wedding feast, a birthday party or any similar occasion. A banquet is a symbol of mutual rejoicing and sharing, a sign of communion of love between those who give it and those who partake of it. Most religions also have a sacred banquet or meal in which the sacrifices offered to the Godhead are consumed in order to partake of the divine blessing accompanying the meal.

In the Gospel this weekend, Jesus has the crowds sit down on the grass like at mealtime., for he intends it as such. Then he distributes the bread he has broken for them and the fish. He himself fed them and they were all satisfied, though it was through the apostles that he fed them. The whole scene is depicted in such a manner that it makes us think at once of the Eucharistic meal where he would be surrounded by the same apostles and would feed them with the Living Bread which is himself. Christ himself feeds each individual with his own Body and Blood, that is, he gives himself totally to each one who comes to him hungering for the Food of the strong. There he is no longer satisfied to give us mere bread as he did with the multitudes in the wilderness, but he gives us himself., and indeed to each one in particular. It is through his ministers that he gives himself to each one, and this is well brought out when the minister of the Eucharist holds for a brief moment the sacred host before each communicant and says "The Body of Christ." The minister represents Christ who gives himself individually to each communicant. Thus, it is not the communicant that feeds himself by taking the Sacred Host, but the minister who gives it to him or her. How great is the love of Christ! He not only lived for us. He not only died for us. But he so loves us that he continues to give himself totally to each one who comes to him. What greater gift, and what greater love can he bestow on his brothers and sisters in the flesh.

Yet even the Eucharistic meal, though it is Christ in reality, is still a further sign of the banquet of heaven, the messianic banquet of the end kingdom. There God will give himself through his divine Son to each of the elect, and fill him or her with the fullness of divine joy and blessings. Such is the immense love of God for each of Christ's chosen ones, that he wishes to pour himself out in love into every heart that celebrates the heavenly banquet in the Scriptures.

Each time the banquet-symbol of the sacred meal occurs in the scriptures, let us reflect on the joys that await the chosen ones of Christ, and prepare ourselves with the proper wedding garment to attend the heavenly banquet.

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.	August 4	N/A
Special Intentions		_
Wed.	August 5	N/A
Margaret Schellenberger	†	Alice Marshall
Thur.	August 6	N/A
Special Intentions		_
Fri.	August 7	N/A
Special Intentions		
Sat.	August 8	N/A
David Botta †	Mı	r. & Mrs. Larry
		DeTomasi
Sun.	August 9	N/A
People of the Parish		_
Port Costa		N/A
Sister Margeta Krchnak	†	Theresa
†	++++++++++++	**************************************

Sunday Collection - July 26

St. Rose, Crockett	\$2091
St. Patrick Mission, Port Costa	\$225

St. Patrick Mission

Mass will be held in the parking/street area just in front of the church. Please bring your own seat if possible because very few chairs will be available. Space is very limited. Mass will be a little shorter than normal, and everyone will stay in their spot until the end of mass. At that time Father will invite participants up to receive communion starting with the back row and **keeping 6 ft apart at all times!** After communion, in an orderly manner, the parishioners will pick up their chairs and return directly to their cars.

St. Rose of Lima

Please bring your own seat and stay on the marked spots in front of the church. We will only be able to accommodate 25% of the space in the courtyard. Mass will be a little shorter than normal, and everyone will stay in their spot until the end of mass. At that time Father will invite participants up to receive communion starting with the back row and **keeping 6 ft apart on the markings!** After communion, in an orderly manner, the parishioners will pick up their chairs and return directly to their cars.

As we prepare for Masses inside in the future, and to keep our outdoor Masses going, we just want to check in with all our ministers! To keep contact at a minimum Lectors, Ushers and the Welcome Committee are the members we need at this time. If you are part of any of these groups, please contact the office (510-787-2052) or talk to Father Leo when you see him to let us know how comfortable you are resuming these important duties!

For us to move inside eventually, we will also need some help in wiping down the pews and a few other items after Saturday and Sunday Masses. If anyone is willing to help, please call the office and let us know! We will not be able to have Mass indoors until we can train some volunteers to help with this.



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

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Precautions

With the constant change that is occurring around us, the Diocese is still adhering to the following protocols:

- All social gatherings that can be rescheduled, postponed or cancelled, should be.
- All public Masses are suspended, or must be conducted outdoors with no more than 100 participants.

With this information, and the Contra Costa County announcement that in church services are currently not allowed. It has been verified that our outdoor Masses may continue, BUT ONLY AS LONG AS EVERYONE PLEASE FOLLOW THE DIRECTION! SOCIAL DISTANCING AND MASKS ARE REQUIRED! Please follow these directions or we will discontinue Mass.

<u>Contra Costa Accessíble Transportation</u> Plan

We want to hear from every community in Contra Costa on ways to make getting to church, medical appointments, the store, adult classes, the senior center, work, etc. more convenient for people who often need to travel from Rodeo to Richmond or Crockett to Walnut Creek (for example). Right now, the single public transit service out that way is WestCAT with limited out of area service.

We are looking for ways to improve upon this, so that no matter what part of the County a senior, disabled, or veteran is in, they can access all the services they need. We are greatly asking for participants to fill out a quick online survey at https://www.atspcontracosta.com/participate



PLEASE TAKE A MINUTE TO READ AND TAKE THE ONLINE SURVERY! It may not

pertain to you, but you may be helping someone else in the community by giving your input!