

July 17, 2022

# From the Desk of Fr. Leo

When Angelo Roncalli became Pope John XXII, (now St. Pope John XXIII) an amazing thing took place. His delightful humor, his obvious affection for people of all ages and cultures, his dignified yet earthy humanity won not only the respect but the love of Catholics and non-Catholics alike. Stories that indicated his humor and humanity circulated rapidly. One time he was asked, "How many people are working in the Vatican?" and he answered with a twinkle in his eye, "About half of them."

Pope John XXIII showed the whole word that being Pope had not divorced him from every day-type living. It may surprise you to hear that in being so very human, the Pope was only imitating his master, Jesus Christ. Maybe our image of Jesus is of an awesome man, somewhat aloof, and with perhaps a distant, idealistic look in his eyes. We must remember that the Son of God became a true human being, like us in everything but sin. As a true human being, he entered into all the aspects of daily living and made them holy. Jesus showed us that holiness has to do with everything in life.

The gospel this Sunday highlights a Jesus who is friendly, charming and witty, a Jesus with a human heart. Jesus had become a very close friend of Lazarus and his two sisters, Martha and Mary. Their home in Bethany was a place where Jesus went with apparent frequency to relax from the ardors of his ministry and the vile attacks of the scribes and the Pharisees. Jesus had dropped by one evening. Martha got a little excited because she wanted to fix a nice dinner for Jesus. Mary, the younger sister, was so happy to see Jesus that all she wanted to do was sit and talk. Martha probably shot some mean looks to Mary to make her realize that she should be helping in the kitchen. When Mary refused to take the hint Martha spoke up, "Lord, are you not concerned that my sister has left me all alone to do the household task? Tell her to help me." Martha's words indicate that she was on a very friendly terms with Jesus. Suppose you had some mere acquaintance to your home for dinner. Could you imagine yourself talking to him or her the way Martha spoke to Jesus? You would speak that way only to a close friend.

The response of Jesus shows that he knew Martha very well. Actually, he chided her for being something

of a fuss-budget, but he did so with perfect good humor. The way he repeated her name tells us that he was smiling at a friend whose excesses and little failings were known to him. Jesus told her that he was more interested in their company than in having a fine dinner, and that even one dish would be sufficient.

We know that during the Mass, we are to offer ourselves with Jesus in sacrifice to the Father. It is easy to remember to offer the big things, the difficult things. Today we are reminded that we must also offer the simple, even pleasant things to God. We must not put religion into one little isolated compartment, having to do merely with duties and obligations and formal prayer. If we try to live every moment of our lives in imitation of Jesus and in union with him, then, "Life and death will be made holy and will take on a new meaning."

#### Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

## Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	July 19	11:00AM
Living Memorial		
Wed.	July 20	11:00AM
Special Intentions		
Thur.	July 21	11:00PM
Special Intentions		_
Fri.	July 22	11:00AM
Special Intentions		
Sat.	July 23	4:30PM
Jong		
(Thanksgiving/birthda <b>Sun.</b>	July 24	9:00AM
Fernando Urbano		Lisa Urbano
Port Costa		11:00AM
People of the Parish		
† ************************************		

#### Sunday Collection - July 10

St. Rose, Crockett \$1698

St. Patrick Mission \$200

Thank you again to all who support our Parish

## Mission Coop 2022

#### **Educating the Poor Children in India**

Father Ben Chinnappan is making a mission appeal this weekend at St. Rose of Lima to promote education among the poor children in India. Christianity is India's third-largest religion with approximately 30 million followers, constituting 3% of India's population. Around 70% of Christians are Dalits, a marginalized group without any rights or power. Dalits are formerly known as 'Outcaste or Untouchables' under the caste system of India. For centuries, they have been deprived of education, social justice and equal opportunity. Due to poverty, the children are unable to continue their schooling and end up working in restaurants, tea shops, brick kilns, hazardous firework factories and weaving factories. They are robbed of their beautiful childhoods and bright futures. More than 15 million children are listed as child laborers in India. The only way these children can break this vicious cycle of poverty, abuse and oppression is to return to school. In this painful context, our Bishop, A. Neethinathan, Diocese of Chinglepet, makes this appeal in seeking your help and prayers. Your generosity through this mission appeal can help our children return to school and enjoy their childhood. You can surely prevent many children from child labor, child trafficking and child migration. Your contribution will be used to pay school fees, books and uniforms. You can also support a child through educational sponsorship at www.dalitsolidarity.org Thank you and may God richly bless you for answering God's greatest commandment -- to love.





<u>Synod</u>

Dear Friends,

Thank you all again for your prayers, involvement, and support of the Diocese of Oakland Synod Process. The reports were submitted to the United States Conference of Bishops on June 29, 2022. We have also posted the reports on the Diocesan website at <a href="www.oakdiocese.org/synod.">www.oakdiocese.org/synod.</a>

We all learned so much from this process, in particular, your interest in participating in more activities that help enrich your faith. Encouraged by our recent Synod results calling for more opportunities for our families to gather, the Diocese of Oakland is inviting parishes, ministries, and schools to "Celebrate Catholic Family Life" from September 24-October 2. Visit the website for ways to participate: <a href="www.oakdiocese.org/ccfl">www.oakdiocese.org/ccfl</a>.

Please visit our diocesan website to learn more and let's continue our synodal journey together.

With Blessings Fr. Jimmy Macalinao and Cristina Hernández Co-Chairs, Diocese of Oakland Synod Core Team

"Laughter is the shortest distance between two people."

- Victor Borge