July 24, 2022

From the Desk of Fr. Leo

During our Lord's life, one of his favorite spots for prayer was the Mount of Olives. On that site a Church has been erected called "Pater Noster Church" or simply "The Church of the Our Father." In the arcade of the Church are thirty-two stone tablets upon which the words of the Our Father have been inscribed in thirty-two languages. It was possibly on the Mount of Olives that Jesus had been praying when his apostles



came and asked him to teach them how to pray.

The apostles were perhaps looking for a precise formula

to use in prayer, but it was not Jesus' intention to give them such. Rather, he wished to indicate to them the manner, the spirit, and the feeling they should have in prayer. The early Christians understood that it was the idea of the prayer that was important, and not the precise words.

The apostles were both surprised and amazed at Jesus' answer. They were surprised at the brevity of the prayer. They had observed how Jesus himself spent very long periods in private prayer. Naturally, they expected that he would possibly recite for them that he had said in those extended periods of prayer. Also, at that time daily Jewish prayers were long and involved, comprising as many as eighteen benedictions. The apostles were amazed at the familiar term "Father" with which they were told to address God. It is true that the Jews thought of God as their Father, but in the entire Old Testament, God is referred to as a Father on only fourteen occasions, and the Jews never dared to address him as such in prayer. In the First Reading, we saw how careful even Abraham was in pleading with God to spare Sodom and Gomorrah. Though he was bold

in his approach to God, he was cautious not to appear brazen or impudent. Abraham did not use the term" Father" but only "Lord". You



can imagine how the apostles must have felt when they were told that they were to be more familiar with God than even the great Abraham was.

The word, however, has more than a psychological implication. It expresses a great truth that God as our Father is the source of all our life, spiritual as well as physical. St. Paul, in the Second Reading today, speaking of baptism wrote, "God gave you new life in company with Christ." In baptism, God truly became our Father. He gave us a share in the same life that his divine Son possesses in fullness from all eternity. And so, when we pray, God sees in us the person of Jesus, and he can say of us, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased.

Whenever we pray especially at Mass, we should realize that we are not praying alone – that Jesus is living and praying within us and that it is he who makes our prayers so pleasing and so effective.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

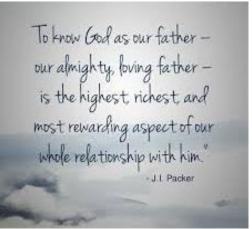
Tues.	July 26	11:00AM
Special Intentions		
Wed.	July 27	11:00AM
Special Intentions		
Thur.	July 28	11:00PM
Special Intentions		
Fri.	July 29	11:00AM
Special Intentions		
<u>Sat.</u>	July 30	4:30PM
Rocky Ty		
(Thanksgiving/birthd	lay) July 31	9:00AM
Special Intentions		
Port Costa		11:00AM

People of the Parish

Sunday Collection - July 17

St. Rose, Crockett	\$1302
Mission Co-op	\$829
St. Patrick Mission	\$135
Mission Co-op	\$101

Thank you again to all who support our Parish

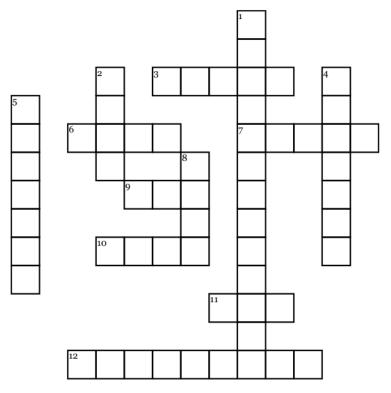




order spread throughout Europe with monasteries from Scandinavia to Italy. Brigitta was also a wife and mother of eight children.



Sodom and Gommorah



<u>Across</u>

3. In what city did GOD tell Abraham He was going to destroy Sodom & Gomorrah ?
6. Lot's wife became a pillar of ?
7. The wicked men who tried to get into Lot's house became?

9. How many daughters did Lot have?

<u>Down</u>

1. What rained on Sodom and Gomorrah ? and

2. What was the name of Lot's oldest daughter's son?
4. What was the name of Lot's youngest daughter's son ?
5. Who asked God

whether he would destroy Sodom & Gomorrah if ten good men were found?

8. What city did Lot and his daughters flee to after Sodom & Gomorrah ?

10. How many righteous people were found in the city?

11. What was the name of Abraham's nephew?

12. Who did Lot offer to the wicked men that came to his house?