

## From the Desk of Fr. Leo

Our Lord related several parables with the theme of Vigilance. He wanted his followers to fight laziness, torpor, and carelessness in reaching their goal. These defects are farthest from the splendid example given by the Savior of all people, who purposely let himself be born in a working man's family and preferred hard labor to idleness and ease; he could spend whole nights in watchfulness and prayer and would rise early in the morning to be able to pray. Christ was a man who knew no sluggishness.

Why should we, Christians watch? We must be on our guard to receive the Lord, for we do not know the hour of his coming. Watchfulness is the characteristic attitude of the faithful disciple who longs for Christ's glorious return and waits for it in lively hope. The alertness will include a certain restraint in the use of the goods of this world.

But is not the Second coming or Parousia a remote possibility at the present time? That is just what we do not know. God has not chosen to reveal it. But the clear Gospel message is that it will come suddenly like a blitz-krieg and entirely unexpected. Many are not aware of this dire warning of Christ. That is why the new liturgy has put the theme of the Second coming in the forefront, mentioning it after the consecration, as well as in the eschatological petitions of the Our Father, and in the embolism after the Our Father. She wants us to listen to the guiding warning of the Savior.

Alertness on the part of the Christian will ward off the enemy, as St. Peter tells us: "Stay sober and alert. Your opponent the devil is prowling like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, solid in the faith, realizing that the brotherhood of believers is undergoing the same sufferings throughout the world." (1 Peter 5:8-9) A Christian who is vigilant will not come under the spell of the devil's allurements, and will be ready at all times for the Coming of his Lord and Master, even though it be an individual encounter at the end of one's life, when for that individual, the Parousia begins to be realized.

Advent is the time to listen to the words of the Lord in the Book of Revelation: "Wake up! Strengthen what remains.... If you do not rouse yourself, I will come upon you like a thief at a time you cannot know. (Revelation 3:2-3). "Maranatha" is the watchword of the early Christians meaning: "The Lord is Coming!" What hope that ought to instill in us, what new vigor.! As St. Paul tells the Romans. "It is now the hour for you to wake from sleep, for our salvation is closer than when we first accepted the faith. The night is spent. The day draws near. Let us cast off the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light......Put on the Lord Jesus Christ." (Romans 13:11-14)

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

#### Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	December 5	11:00AM
Jojo Bernardo†		Lacsina Family
Wed.	December 6	11:00AM
Virginia Alday		Lacsina Family
Thur.	December 7	11:00AM
Herminia Alday		Lacsina Family
Fri.	December 8	11:00AM
Czarina Clara Lacsina	L	Lacsina Family
<u>Sat.</u>	December 9	4:30PM
Clare & Dave Alvarac	lo†	Trudi
Sun.	December 10	9:00AM
Jorge, Tomasa, Jose		
& Manuel † <b>Port Costa</b>		11:00AM
People of the Parish		

#### Sunday Collection – November 19th

St. Rose, Crockett	\$1906
Guadalupe Celebration	\$236
St. Patrick Mission	\$ 406
Guadalupe Celebration	\$141

Thank you again to all who support our Parish!

### <u> Vírtus Training</u>

Virtus will help you learn how to see signs of abuse, how to help those who have been abused in the past and how to avoid creating an environment where abuse can happen. Taking these classes can help **ALL THE VULNERABLE PEOPLE IN YOUR LIFE AND SOCIETY!** It goes far beyond just our little parish and children.

The website is <u>https://www.virtusonline.org/virtus</u>. If you are unsure of doing this at home, or don't have access to the internet, we are happy to have you come to the office and take the class on the computer here with help. **Remember the online class does not have to be taken all at once; you may do it at your own pace. NO MATTER WHAT POSTION YOU SERVE IN OUR PARISH, YOU NEED TO DO THIS TRAINING!** 



### <u>Guadalupe Celebration</u> <u>NEXT SUNDAY!</u>

St. Rose will be celebrating La Virgin de Guadalupe (Our Lady of Guadalupe) on December 10<sup>th</sup>, a few days before the feast day. All are invited to meet in the parking lot across from the hall at 8:15AM, and begin our procession at 8:30AM, which will lead into the church. The procession will be welcomed by a mariachi band, and then we will have hot chocolate and some sweets after the 9:00AM Mass. Please reach out to donate some baked goods or flowers for the event; let the office know (510-787-2052). This is a

wonderful celebration that was started many years ago by a late parishioner from St. Patrick Mission, and we would love to see it continue and grow.

# Holy Day of Obligation

December 8th is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. This is a Holy Day of Obligation. We celebrate that Mary was conceived completely free of original sin. One way to honor the day is to sing Marian songs like "Ave Maria." MASS AT ST. ROSE WILL BE AT ITS NORMAL 11:00AM.



An immense thank you to all who made the Christmas Boutique and Pancake Breakfast a success! We were able to raise \$2535!

We would also like to take a moment to recognize Runette, Jesse and their crew, the hidden force behind this success. Thank you for doing everything! You are angels to this parish! A big thank you to our Confirmation candidates and the parishioners who showed up to cook, serve and cover our St. Rose tables as well!

For those parishioners who were unable to attend this year, hopefully you will be able to make it next year. It was truly a wonderfully put together event.





This week, in honor of St. Nicholas and St. Ambrose, whose feast days are this week, consider ways that you can share your time, treasure, and talent to assist those who are in need, and pray for all clergy and others charged with forming others in the faith of the Church.