

November 26, 2023

From the Desk of Fr. Leo

This Sunday's feast proclaims Christ as our King. But we must ask, how can he be king for us in a land that knows no king, no queen, in a nation founded in a revolutionary war against a distant and unjust monarch? How can Christ be king for us when our only experience of royalty is the folklore of Camelot and the weddings of Westminster?

Certainly, in ages past, when monarchs ruled the West and claimed the right to do so by divine will, the notion of Christ as king could strike a responsive chord in the hearts of men and women. But who among us today would entrust our lives, our love, our trust, our very hope against death to a god clothed in the heavy mantle of an ancient monarch?

How can he reign for us, be king for us? Indeed, how is it that Christ truly reigns in the midst of a vast world in which so many do not know nor even care to speak his name.

Some would suggest that we simply translate the meaning of monarchy into the language of the modern world, and there we will find the way to worship him as our king. But if we do so, Christ only becomes the absolute power who demands our begrudging obedience, the judge before whom there is no appeal, the political leader whose term of office limits the good to be accomplished, the schemes to be hidden. It seems that nether Camelot nor Congress will do.

The biblical word, however, offers us another vision of majesty and power, a word and a vision so out of character with modern notion of "leadership" and "charisma" that it begs a hearing. "The lost I will seek out," says God our Shepherd, "the strayed I will bring back, the injured I will bind up, the sick I will heal." Against all our images of stern authority and capricious power, we hear the Lord's voice, the voice of the shepherd who tends the scattered sheep of the flock. We hear the voice of the one who judges us, not by our strength nor our cleverness nor our ability to keep the laws of the land, but by the depth of our need. And so the words of the psalm roll off our lips, "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want."

If we look for him today, if we seek to worship this shepherd, we shall not discover him clothed in the garments of unbridled power which demand our attention and our respect. We shall discover him within and without where he robes himself in our

frailty, in our flesh, in the rhythms of conflict and peace, of pain and pleasure which move through human life.

And yet, at last, he reigns among us in our meal of thanksgiving. The judge of the universe, coming in glory escorted by all the angels of heaven, sitting on his royal throne, has become for us the derelict of the cross, the lamb of sacrifice, the wounded king.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion



Mass Intentions for the Week

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Tues.	November 28	11:00AM
Thanksgiving		Ed & Mae
Wed.	November 29	11:00AM
Mark Anthony Castai	ňas †	Marcella de
		Leon
Thur.	November 30	11:00AM
Federico A. Marco, J.	r. †	Peña Family
<u>Fri.</u>	December 1	11:00AM
Jorgelia B. Quiapo †		Ed & Mae
Sat.	December 2	4:30PM
Steve & Teddy †		Family
Sun.	December 3	9:00AM
Cristina Alday		Lacsina Family
Port Costa		11:00AM
People of the Parish		

Sunday Collection - November 19th

St. Rose, Crockett \$5141 Camp. for Human Development \$192

St. Patrick Mission \$ No Mass

Thank you again to all who support our Parish!

Virtus Training

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 https://www.virtusonline.org/virtus. 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!

"A Christmas Gift in Song" (A Musical Celebration)

St. Rose will be kicking of the celebration of the season with a Christmas concert! Sunday, December 3rd at 4:00PM. You don't need to purchase a ticket, but tickets will be issued to those who would like to attend; they will be available after mass and in the office. This year we will be doing a free concert, but donations are encouraged and will be collected during the intermission (the value of a ticket is about \$20). Any donations collected will go towards the upkeep and repair of our facilities.

Come enjoy a lovely afternoon with the sweet sounds of the Saturday Choir, Father Leo and guest performers.



Guadalupe Celebration

St. Rose will be celebrating La Virgin de Guadalupe (Our Lady of Guadalupe) on December 10th, 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. If you would like to donate some baked goods or flowers for the event, please 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.

Our second collection this weekend is to help support this celebration. A small donation to help offset the cost of the treats and mariachi is greatly appreciated. We thank you in advance for what you are able to contribute.



Parish Council



The next Parish Council meeting is this coming Tuesday, November 28th at 7:00_{PM} in the hall. All are welcome to attend.

Congratulations to the winners of our Christmas Boutique raffles: Erin



Brosnan, Audrey Crívello, Oberon Marících and Kathleen Thomas!