

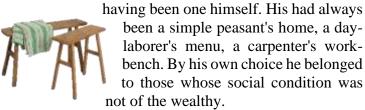
Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 5, 2021

From the Desk of Fr. Leo

How often it happens that a person of limited means reaches heights of eminence and success because of hard work and determination, almost in spite of the poverty that hinders his or her steps at every turn. One could mention St. John of the Cross and St. Pius the Tenth, both of whom came from families that felt very much the pinch of poverty. Yet both reached the summits, as did many another poor boy or girl upon whom God's favor fell. A little orphan boy in China many years ago was taken in by missionaries, converted to the faith, became a seminarian and was ordained a priest, and finally was chosen as the first Cardinal of China, the late His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Tien. God can bring about such marvels.

Jesus loved all. There was no partiality in his dealing with people. No single instance in the gospels can be found where Jesus caters to the rich because they are rich. He enjoyed at times the friendship of persons of means, such as Lazarus, Martha, Mary, Joseph of Arimathea. He accepted their invitations, but their wealth never blurred his judgment, as can be seen by his unmasking their hypocrisy on just such an occasion. He even gently chided Martha for an elaborate preparation of a meal when it was not at all necessary. To the young man who stated he would follow Christ wherever he went, Jesus explained that he had nowhere to lay his head, indicating what awaited those who were his close disciples. In his first sermon, he quoted the prophet saying that he was sent to bring glad tidings to the poor. When choosing the Twelve who would be with him always, he picked the ordinary working men, such as fishermen, tax collector and the like. He was at home with the common laborer,



He never made any attempt to excuse or disguise this fact. He told his followers to eat what was put before them, and undoubtedly, he practiced what he preached. Coarse barley bread and dried fish he shared with the rest, and there is never any mention of any complaint concerning food, clothing or shelter. Nor do you find him exacting a renumeration for the many healings and other miracles he performed, or asking a salary for his continued instructions. He called the poor in spirit Blessed, for their aims were in the higher blessings of God's reign.

Wealth may afford comfort and ease, but the Lord's words and example ought to make everyone wary of putting one's trust in earthly possessions. The real treasures for everyone are within. If, on the contrary, the pinch of poverty is felt because of the constantly increasing food prices, high cost of living, and similar demands, we can feel more at home with Christ "who made himself poor though he was rich, so that we might become rich by his poverty". (2 Corinthians 8:9).

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

\$1396

\$597

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	September 7	11:00AM	
Lily Militar		Lily Militar	
Wed. Special Intentions	September 8	11:00AM	
Thur. Special Intentions	September 9	11:00AM	
Fri.	September 10	11:00AM	
Michael Burke †		Olivia Austria	
Sat.	September 11	4:30PM	
Fernando Urbano †	•	Lisa	
Sun.	September 12	9:00AM	
Special Intentions			
Port Costa		11:00AM	
People of the Parish			
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Sunday Collection - August 29			

Thank you again to all who support our Parish!

St. Patrick Mission, Port Costa

St. Rose, Crockett

Current Mass Protocol

Our Churches no longer have government-restrictions on capacity, but many of the practices we have come to see as normal are changing again due to the increase in COVID cases. With this in mind we must remember that we still need to do our part to keep everyone safe.

- All persons need to wear masks indoors; currently no one is required to wear masks outdoors.
- Social distancing is not required, though we do ask to keep others in mind as we work our way back to "normal."
- Although the Diocese has okayed the use of worship aids, such as the missalettes, it is still recommended to stick to single use items. As there is no good way to clean the missalettes and prayer cards without wearing them down St. Rose/St. Patrick will not be setting these back out just yet.
- The Sign of Peace will still be without physical contact.

Contra Costa County and the Oakland Diocese now require masking indoors for everyone as a precaution against increased circulation of COVID-19.

Faith Formation

Our Faith Formation program will begin the first Sunday in October; REGISTRATION FORMS ARE DUE TO THE OFFICE BY SEPTEMBER 30TH!

CCD: and preparation for First Holy Communion every Sunday after 9:00AM Mass.

CONFIRMATION: Registration is now open. Classes will be every Sunday after 9:00AM, taught by Ms. Jensen.

R.C.I.A. for adults wanting to become Catholics, or complete their sacraments. Please contact Father Leo.

For more information, please contact the office, 510-787-2052.

Office Closed Monday, September 6th for Labor Day!



Priest Salary	<u> August Financial Outlook</u>		
Expense: Priest Salary \$2556.36 Annual Mass Stipend \$1738.78 Secretary Wages \$1637.69 Priest Food Reimbursement \$515.27 PG&E Classrooms \$350.07 PG&E Church/Rectory \$839.11 Comcast \$248.72 Garbage \$279.96 Health Insurance \$1105.48 EDD \$156.82 IRS \$1103.57 Liability \$1919.70 KBA Document Sol (Copier) \$36.87 Rescue Rooter \$404.00 Stamps \$165.00 Total \$13,057.40 Income: Sunday's Plate \$8329.00 Holy Days (Assumption) \$431.00 Donations \$265.00 Maintenance \$331.00 CCD Envelope \$288.00 Facility Use (Little Roses) \$660.00 Sacramental Services \$500.00 CCD Tuition \$60.00 Amazon Smile \$15.83 Total: \$70.36	St. Rose		
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EDD	Garbage	\$279.96	
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120114110118	Donations	\$30.00	
Total \$1674.00			

Special Second Collection this Weekend

The Bishop has called for a special second collection this weekend the help with relief in Haiti. Please see our website for more information.