

Apríl 19, 2020

From the Desk of Fr. Leo

Gibbon, the famous historian who wrote "The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire" in several volumes, never finished the volume which told of the origin and spread of Christianity. When asked why he never wrote that part of the monumental work, he said: "I cannot explain how twelve uneducated men could change the face of the pagan Roman Empire with their religion. Gibbon was an unbeliever. He did not realize that the Christian Church is the work of God.

There is no doubt about it. Christ has conferred on His ambassadors, tremendous powers. The self-same mission that He received from His heavenly Father, God of heaven and earth, He has given to them. The Father sent His Son to lift up humankind, to heal his wounds, to sacrifice Himself for His fellowmen and women, to feed him with His Body and Blood. He had the power to forgive sins, as he so clearly showed the Scribes and the Pharisees when He said to them: "Which is less trouble to say: your sins are forgiven, or stand up and walk? To help you realize that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins, He then said to the paralyzed man: Stand up! Roll up your mat and go home." (Matthew 8:5ff.)

These same powers Christ conferred on those who represent Him after His ascension into heaven. There is no other explanation of the rapid spread of Christianity in early centuries than the fact that it is the work of God Himself, and that Christ His Son lives on in the Church, establishing by His Spirit the reign of God everywhere. Before He ascended into heaven. He told them to go out into the whole world and proclaim the Good News to all creation.

Look how often people have endeavored to destroy the Church in this land or that: Pagan Rome with its persecutions by the emperors, North Africa and Europe with heresy, merry England under Henry and Elisabeth, Germany under Bismarck, China and Russia in their communistic ideology But let us not forget that they are knocking against the cornerstone, and Jesus warned all of humankind that "the man who falls on that stone will be smashed to pieces; it will make dust of anyone on whom it falls." Meantime the chosen ones of Christ continue their sacred mission. By the words of consecration, they actualize the sacrificial presence of Christ on the altar, thus proclaiming His death until He comes. They raise their hands to forgive sins, many and manifold, from one end of the earth to

the other, from one end of the human stratum to the other. They preach the Word of God in season and out of season, thus continuing to implant the reign of God where it is not yet implanted and strengthen it where it needs bolstering.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Though we are not able to meet together during this week, please keep these intentions in your personal prayers, as Father will continue to include them in his private masses.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	April 21	N/A	
Frances Aquino †		Bob & Lydia	
(death anniversary 1	yr)	·	
Wed.	April 22	N/A	
Nicodemes Cava †		Imelda	
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Thur.	April 23	N/A	
Nemesino S Mariano †		Mariano Family	
·		·	
Fri.	April 24	N/A	
Thanksgiving	-	Ed & Mae	
8 8			
Sat.	April 25	N/A	
David Botta †		Alice Mahoney	
		<i>j</i>	
Sun.	April 26	N/A	
Romeo Ritto †	•	Imelda Ritto	
Port Costa		N/A	
Mahoney Family		Alice Marshall	
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Sunday Collection - April 5 & 12

St. Rose, Crockett	\$2015
Easter	\$1810
St. Patrick Mission, Port Costa	\$330
Easter	\$30

A BIG THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE FOUND A WAY TO CONTINUE SUPPORTING OUR PARISH!

Online Donations

The Diocese of Oakland is trying to help those parishes and parishioner where online giving is not in place. To do this, they have set up a way for people to donate online through the Diocese to their own parish.

ALL DONATIONS THROUGH THIS LINK GO DIRECTLY TO THE PARISH THAT IS SELECTED.

There are a couple of ways this can be accessed.

1) Put this link directly into your internet browser:

https://www.oakdiocese.org/parish-support

2) Go to the Diocese of Oakland home page

Click on the Giving tab

Select the Parish Support option

This link will take you directly to the giving page. Once there, you will enter your gift information, parish affiliation, name, address, and payment preference. Once you submit, you will get a short reply confirming that the transaction was successful. A few minutes later, a message will land in your email account with a summary of the gift, including the parish it will be directed towards, and a simple thank you. The Diocese will process the gifts, which entails charging the credit or debit cards and running the bank account debits.

NOTE: Your accounts may not be charged immediately, but when the gift is processed by OMA staff.



Things are certainly very different this year, but in spite of this, and even more so, we would still like to recognize those who have done so much for us. Although we may not be able to celebrate Mother's Day and our Novena together, Father will still be remembering all those mothers and mother figures during these masses, whether private or public. If you have someone special that you would like remembered at these masses just send a request in the mail, drop it in our mailbox, send an email (strosecrockett@comcast.net) or even give us a call, 510-787-2052.



Coronavirus (COVID-19) Precautions

With the constant change that is occurring around us, the Diocese is still adhering to the following protocols:

- All social gatherings that can be rescheduled, postponed or cancelled, should be.
- All public Masses are suspended.
- ALL CHURCHES WILL REMAIN CLOSED!

We all have many questions in regard to what is going on around us, and we will keep you as up to date as possible. This is a very fluid situation, and no one has all the answers. Please just remember to take a breath, and don't make decisions in panic or haste! Due to the current stricter conditions in Contra Costa County, as of April 1st the Diocese has asked that all churches remain closed, even for individual prayer. Due to this we will **NOT BE OPENNING THE CHURCH** until further notice.

We know that is seems as though the parish is constantly asking for money, and this is very frustrating. Our parish family has risen to challenge every time, and we are forever in debt to that. Unfortunately, this Coronavirus epidemic is hitting us in an already bad time. If your family is able to continue to send their Sunday tithe to the parish office it may help us keep our heads above water for the next few weeks. Thank you in advance for whatever you are able to offer.