

#### From the Desk of Fr. Leo

Children and grown-ups enjoy swimming at the beach especially during hot summer months, quite unmindful of any dangers that my lie in the waters. There is an ever-present awareness of the life -guard stationed at his or her place, in whom they put trust. They know he or she is ready to help them in any need, and it is this presence of the life-guard that lends a sense of security to even the youngest among them.

In the Gospel this weekend, Jesus commanded the disciples to get into the boat and row back to the other side of Lake Gennesaret. He had gone up the mountain to pray by Himself, leaving them alone. They had obeyed, although they were reluctant to go without His presence among them. Yet they only thought He was leaving them alone. In reality, He was very much with them, His chosen ones, since He had great plans for them. It was for their best that He withdrew His visible presence for a while. They had to learn to trust Him even when He seemed to go away and leave them by themselves. They had to experience the need of him, and of His all-assuring presence.

We do not always sense the presence of the Lord in our lives, especially when He seems to leave us to our own resources. But He is always with us, for that is what He promised. When God seems far away, He is right in our midst, right in the depth of our hearts, right there in the Tabernacle, waiting for us to call upon Him in our need. Then indeed we prove to Him that we have faith in Him, for faith is something spiritual and is not felt necessarily by the senses and the feelings.

The disciples obeyed the Lord and now it was already late in the night and darkness had enveloped them. There was not even any moonlight, for the sky was over cast and a strong wind was blowing. The sea showed signs of getting rough and it was against their better judgment to have risked this crossing under such circumstances. But Jesus had bidden them to do so and so they kept on. For a long time they rowed, all efforts being put forth to reach the goal of the other shore. But the rowing became increasingly difficult, and with strong head-winds they hardly made any progress. They were strong fishermen, used to rowing, but in these conditions they could do next to nothing, that is by themselves alone. If ever they felt the need of Jesus it was now.

It is the same when the trials of life engulf us and we seem to make no headway at all in solving our many problems, that we need to turn with all the more trust and confidence to our Savior. Now is the time for earnest prayer that the all-powerful Lord come to our aid. Now is the time to prove our faith with which we are blessed as Christians. Life is often full of dark days, and stormy nights. Faith is the bulwark that has kept the saints serene even in the greatest trials of life, for they professed continually their faith in His name: "I am He! Take courage."

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.	August 4	N/A
Special Intentions		_
Wed.	August 5	N/A
Special Intentions		
Thur.	August 6	N/A
Special Intentions		
Fri.	August 7	N/A
Special Intentions		
Sat.	August 8	N/A
People of the Parish		
Sun.	August 9	N/A
Clarissa O. Mariano		Mariano Family
(birthday/thanksgi	ving)	NI/A
Port Costa Mahoney Family		Alice Marshall
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## Sunday Collection - August 2

St. Rose, Crockett	\$1624
St. Patrick Mission, Port Costa	\$75

### St. Patrick Mission

Mass will be held in the parking/street area just in front of the church. Please bring your own seat if possible because very few chairs will be available. Space is very limited. Mass will be a little shorter than normal, and everyone will stay in their spot until the end of mass. At that time Father will invite participants up to receive communion starting with the back row and **keeping 6 ft apart at all times!** After communion, in an orderly manner, the parishioners will pick up their chairs and return directly to their cars.

## St. Rose of Lima

Please bring your own seat and stay on the marked spots in front of the church. We will only be able to accommodate 25% of the space in the courtyard. Mass will be a little shorter than normal, and everyone will stay in their spot until the end of mass. At that time Father will invite participants up to receive communion starting with the back row and **keeping 6 ft apart on the markings!** After communion, in an orderly manner, the parishioners will pick up their chairs and return directly to their cars.

As we prepare for Masses inside in the future, and to keep our outdoor Masses going, we just want to check in with all our ministers! To keep contact at a minimum Lectors, Ushers and the Welcome Committee are the members we need at this time. If you are part of any of these groups, please contact the office (510-787-2052) or talk to Father Leo when you see him to let us know how comfortable you are resuming these important duties!

For us to move inside eventually, we will also need some help in wiping down the pews and a few other items after Saturday and Sunday Masses. If anyone is willing to help, please call the office and let us know! We will not be able to have Mass indoors until we can train some volunteers to help with this.



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

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## <u>Coronavirus (COVID-19)</u> 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, or must be conducted outdoors with no more than 100 participants.

With this information, and the Contra Costa County announcement that in church services are currently not allowed. It has been verified that our outdoor Masses may continue, BUT ONLY AS LONG AS EVERYONE PLEASE FOLLOW THE DIRECTION! SOCIAL DISTANCING AND MASKS ARE REQUIRED! Please follow these directions or we will discontinue Mass.

# <u>Contra Costa Accessíble Transportation</u> Plan

We want to hear from every community in Contra Costa on ways to make getting to church, medical appointments, the store, adult classes, the senior center, work, etc. more convenient for people who often need to travel from Rodeo to Richmond or Crockett to Walnut Creek (for example). Right now, the single public transit service out that way is WestCAT with limited out of area service.

We are looking for ways to improve upon this, so that no matter what part of the County a senior, disabled, or veteran is in, they can access all the services they need. We are greatly asking for participants to fill out a quick online survey at <a href="https://www.atspcontracosta.com/participate">https://www.atspcontracosta.com/participate</a>



PLEASE TAKE A MINUTE TO READ AND TAKE THE ONLINE SURVERY! It may not

pertain to you, but you may be helping someone else in the community by giving your input!