Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 3, 2023

From the Desk of Fr. Leo

Most Christians in the United States have the impression that we live in a society that is reasonably favorable toward religion. In many senses they are right, of course. We experience no great persecution for holding our faith. We have an amazing range of freedom to express our religion and to commend it to others.

So it would be easy to conclude that our spiritual situation has very little danger, but this would be a mistake. For one thing, the very openness of our society toward any and all religion can give the impression that it doesn't make much difference what we believe or if we get around to considering the claim of God upon our lives.

But the more serious danger that confronts Christians in the United States is related to the great prosperity and affluence that most of us enjoy. Research has shown that very few Americans think of themselves as well off. There is too much sense of struggle and precariousness in most of our lives for that. But judged by how most of the people on this planet live, the vast majority of Americans, even those who do not have too much, are very well off indeed.

The Holy Bible warns us again and again that while God created the world full of good things and good opportunities, nevertheless all of this can become a temptation to spiritual blindness and indifference. We can be so busy with our things, or with our responsibilities, or with our families, that life rushes by and we give little thought to what is deepest or most important. Dare I suggest that such things can happen even to those who faithfully attend church and receive the sacraments? We mean well, but we have so much on our minds that we never quite settle down to thinking about our personal faith in God.

So you see, it is not just the crazy street preacher who warns people against the world and all the dangers that it contains. All Christians ought to understand the world's dangers and have a strategy for coping with the difficulty. The lessons for this weekend's readings remind us of this very basic point.

Our Lord in explaining to those who follow him in every generation that the way of discipleship is the way of the cross, has to warn us. Whoever holds on to life will surely lose it. What will it profit us to gain the whole world and lose our souls? Here is the danger: such a path to destruction begins not with setting out to defy God and to identity with the world in its wickedness and sin. The path to conformity, to worldliness, to spiritual destruction begins with small, seemingly harmless steps. We are busy, we are tired, we are not ready for anything serious, we are just doing our duty. But eventually such small steps and such rationalizations can close our hearts and our minds to being able to hear the word of God at all.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	September 5	11:00AM
Regina Villanueva		Lily Militar
Wed.	September 6	11:00AM
MariLou Padilla		Gina
(healing)		
Thur.	September 7	11:00AM
Jorgelia Quiapo †		Dolly
(birthday)		
Fri.	September 8	11:00AM
Maura Bernardino†		Bob† & Lydia
<u>Sat.</u>	September 9	4:30PM
Lena McCrossen †		The Hoffmans
Sun.	September 10	9:00AM
Camilo & Jayne Sevi	dal	Pena Family
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Port Costa		11:00AM
People of the Parish		

<u>Sunday Collectíon – August 27th</u>		
St. Rose, Crockett	\$3115	
St. Patrick Mission	\$335	

Thank you again to all who support our Parish!



• Office closed Monday for Labor Day!



Saturday, November 4th, our annual All Souls Memorial Mass.



Sunday, November 19th, St. Rose of Lima will be having its Christmas Boutique!





Sunday, December 10th, the 2023 Christmas Concert!

More details to come!

Virtus Training

It may seem as though we just switched to the Virtus training, but it has actually been 4 years! With that, all our volunteers will need to log on to the program and do a review session to keep us up to date. If you have done your training in the last two years you are good. Please log onto virtusonline.org to sign in. If you have done this in the past you will be getting a reminder email soon. If you are a new user, please start a new account.

I know in the past many have expressed their feelings that this training does not pertain to them because they do not come into contact with any youth, but the program is not just for that. 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.

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.

NO MATTER WHAT POSTION YOU SERVE IN OUR PARISH, YOU NEED TO DO THIS TRAINING!

<u> Faith Formation</u>

Our Faith Formation program will be starting on September 17th! Registration forms are available in the office.

CCD: and preparation for First Holy Communion every other Sunday at 10:15 AM (must be in 1st grade).

CONFIRMATION: This is a two-year formation program. Classes will be every other Sunday at 10:15AM and one weekday a month with Father Leo.

R.C.I.A. for those wanting to become Catholics. It is a two- year formation program for adults. Weekly meeting (TBA).

St. Patrick Mission



If anyone has pictures or videos they would like to share, please email them to <u>strosecrockett@comcast.net</u> or just scan this QR code and upload your photos!

As Bishop Barber said: "May St. Patrick's exist for another 125 years as the "domus Dei et porta coeli." The House of God, and the Gate of Heaven.



Second Collection

Second collection this Sunday is our beginning of the month collection for the parish. This month the collection goes towards maintenance.