



From the Desk of Fr. Leo

Flames from his burning house prevented a father from entering. Then he saw his son in the bedroom window. He cupped his hands to his mouth and yelled, "Jump, son, jump!" The boy in terror shouted back, "Daddy, I can't see you, I can't see you!" The father called again in desperation, "Jump, son! Daddy will catch you!" Trembling with fear, the boy stood poised at the window. Then he jumped. That little boy, unable to see and thoroughly frightened, made the leap into his father's arms. He did so because of the great trust he naturally put in his father. With his father there, he knew nothing could harm him.

Faith for us is a blind leap into the arms of God. It is a firm conviction, a gift from God himself, which is our only answer to the terrible, dark mystery of where we came from and where we are going. It is a child's trust in the hand that will lead us through the terrors that reach out to us in the dark. There is no faith needed

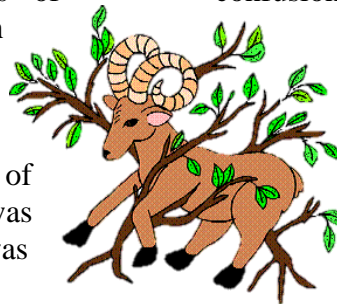
to walk into a brightly lighted room in which we clearly see that there are no dangers, no uncertainties. "Faith is confident assurance concerning what we hope for, and conviction

about things we do not see.

In the First Reading, after Isaac had become a young boy, just when Abraham was content to feel that all of God's promises would be fulfilled in Isaac, God commanded him to give up his son's life in sacrifice. Abraham was in tremendous mental turmoil. It was terrible enough to be asked to sacrifice his son. The thing that disturbed him the more was that the death of his son would seem to make God's promises about descendants impossible of fulfillment. When Abraham led Isaac to the place of sacrifice on the mountain top, he could not see the bright sunshine of hope about to be fulfilled, but only the dark clouds of confusion which faith alone could penetrate.

Abraham's faith was being put to its supreme test. He saw in Isaac all his hopes and dreams. He saw in Isaac the person through whom God would fulfill his promises. As the old man stood with the knife clutched in his trembling hand, he was in mental anguish over how this sacrifice could make sense. Yet

he was willing to reach out his free hand to God, to be led through the darkness of confusion and fear. That was enough for God. Abraham's faith was firm and unwavering, and so God sent his angel to stay the hand of sacrifice. Isaac's life was spared, and a ram was substituted in his place.



It is no surprise, then, that in this Sunday's Eucharistic Prayer, Abraham is referred to as "our father in faith." Abraham was a man approved by God because of his faith. That kind of faith must be ours too. It is a faith that is more than an intellectual assent to truths revealed by God. It is a faith that involves the commitment of our entire selves to God. It is trust, reliance, a confident assurance, a firm conviction that God is good, that he is a true father to us in every circumstance of our lives.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Sunday Collection - August

- St. Rose, Crockett \$ TBA
St. Patrick Mission \$ TBA

Thank you again to all who support our Parish



Mass Intentions for the Week

Table with 3 columns: Day, Date, Time. Rows include Tues. August 9 11:00AM, Wed. August 10 11:00AM, Thur. August 11 11:00PM, Fri. August 12 11:00AM, Sat. August 13 4:30PM, Sun. August 14 9:00AM.

Port Costa 11:00AM
People of the Parish



World Wide Marriage Encounter

Thus will it be for all who store up treasure for themselves but are not rich in what matters to God. Your marriage matters to God! Participate in a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience on November 18-20, 2022 or March 3-5, 2023. Go to www.wwme.org to find the Experience that is just right for you!

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Advertisement for Meals on Wheels Diablo Region. Text includes: 'We Are HIRING!', 'POSITION Delivery Associate', 'Required: Valid CA Driver's license, Proof of auto-insurance, Reliable transportation', 'Apply today! www.mowdiableregion.org/careers', 'MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT AVAILABLE FOR DRIVERS', 'MEALS ON WHEELS DIABLO REGION'.

Are you looking for a rewarding part-time job that will really make a difference in someone's life? Meals on Wheels Diablo Region is URGENTLY seeking Delivery Associates to deliver meals to our senior clients in Contra Costa County. We have paid and volunteer positions available.

Meals on Wheels Diablo Region is the only Meals on Wheels that delivers meals and supportive services to seniors throughout the County. Seniors are the hidden hungry, and the meal we deliver is often the only meal they will eat all day. Often, the brief interaction with the Delivery Associate may be the only person a senior will see all day.

Join an organization with exceptional, caring people and a wonderful mission to help older adults remain nourished, safe, healthy, and independent at home with dignity.

If you have any friends or family looking for volunteer opportunities or a chance to earn some extra cash while making a difference in their community, please share this information with them!