



From the Desk of Fr. Leo

You are invited to a banquet on a special occasion. There are many well-known guests. There is a large amount of food on the table and a variety of drinks. You eat well and thoroughly enjoy the company of others with whom you are soon bound in jovial friendship. Yet, after some time the party is over. You return home, separated from the other guests. The next day you are hungry and thirsty again. But the banquet of the Lord joins in everlasting friendship both with God and with humanity. And Jesus says explicitly: The one who feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him and; no one who comes to me shall never be hungry; no one who believes in me shall never thirst.

Who would have ever thought that Christ our Lord would devise such a wonderful meal as the Eucharist? It is a banquet that is a bond of union between God and his People and between each member of Christ. It is truly the Eucharist that makes community. Jesus wanted to be so closely united with each of us that he himself became our sacred banquet. On special occasions a host or hostess might deign to cook the meal himself or herself if he or she is an expert, and even serve the guests if he or she desires. But Jesus goes much further. He himself is the Food offered to the guests! If the Jews were angry at his words, it is only because they understood him in a materialistic way, after the manner of cannibals. But Jesus had in mind the mystery of the Eucharist. Humankind would eat his Flesh and drink his Blood but it would be in a sacramental manner, under the appearance of bread and wine (sacred host and cup of wine in the celebration of the mass.)

When we partake of food and drink, they are transformed into our blood-cells and become part of us, so that we continue to live and be healthy and strong, warding off all poisonous and harmful germs. But when we partake of the Body and Blood of Christ it works in reverse. Christ transforms us more and more

into himself. We become more like unto him each time we receive him in communion, and more united with the great community of Christ members, the family of God. That is why he states so emphatically that unless we eat his Flesh and drink his Blood, we will not have life in us at all, much less continue to live of his life. Every human heart longs to live fully, and that is exactly what he offers us. The more we partake of him in the Eucharist, the stronger becomes our Christian life, the easier we find it to ward off temptations and sin, for these are the germs that brings on death. In his First Letter to the Corinthians, St. Paul says: "The loaf of bread is one, so we, though many we are, are one Body, for we all partake of the one loaf" (1 Corinthians 10:17).

The Mass takes the first place in all manifestations of our Catholic religion. It always held that place but at times private devotions tended to eclipse it. It must hold the first place in the heart of every sincere Catholic. It is the Body and Blood of the Lord offered in sacrifice, and given to God's People as their sacrificial meal.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues. August 17 11:00AM
Special Intentions

Wed. August 18 11:00AM
Living Memorial

Thur. August 19 11:00AM
Janice & Essex Mom & Dad (Anniversary)

Fri. August 20 11:00AM
Christina Quiapo Mom & Dad (Thanksgiving)

Sat. August 21 4:30PM
Karen Bonovich Hart † ICF #14

Sun. August 22 9:00AM
People of the Parish

Port Costa 11:00AM
Manuel Morales † Your Children



Sunday Collection - August 8

Table with 2 columns: Parish Name and Amount. Rows include St. Rose, Crockett (\$1539), August 1 (\$1967), Mission Co-op (\$1219), St. Patrick Mission, Port Costa (\$172), August 1 (\$95), and Mission Co-op (\$180).

Thank you again to all who support our Parish!

Current Mass Protocol

We are all excited as the State of California has lifted the color tier system!

Our Churches no longer have government-restrictions on capacity, and many of the practices we have come to see as normal are ending. With this in mind though 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.

The Oakland Dioceses is still following the recommendations of the CDC and Contra Costa Health Services. For a letter from the Bishop, and a full list of the updated guidelines regarding the Oakland Diocese, please visit:

https://www.oakdiocese.org/news/message-from-bishop-barber-concerning-june-15-2021-covid-19-updates-eng-esp

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

Second Collection next week

HELP US MEET OUR GOAL!

To successfully achieve both our parish goals:

St. Rose- 87.56% , with \$746 left to go.
St. Patrick Mission- 109.78%!!

Remember 100% of the funds collected after we have reached the goal is returned directly to our parish!

Thank you for all your help!

Faith Formation

Our Faith Formation program will be at the end of September!

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.

Garden Project!!!

The planters and areas that Father Leo has developed over the last few months are sprouting and blooming (despite the havoc of the racoons)! His hope is that he will be able to create a sustainable source of flowers for our altar so that we do not need to purchase as many as we decorate throughout the seasons.

We would like to involve our parishioners in this process, so any words of advice, including what cut flowers may do well, are greatly appreciated. Any donations of excess bulbs, plants, dirt, etc. would also be very kind. This is a great project that could bring us together and help us become a little more self-sufficient!

