

March 19, 2023

From the Desk of Fr. Leo

The healing of blindness has been preached during Lent for almost as long as the church lived. As the days are Lenten ones, that is, as they lengthen towards more and more sunlight in our days, so we are urged to let more and more light into our lives. The Easter Baptisms were once called "photismos" enlightenment, letting the light in. We keep this symbol before us still – the blessing of new fire, the paschal candle, the candles handed to the newly baptized and to all the faithful at the Easter Vigil. In the light of Jesus Christ we have a new and different look at things.

We begin to look not at mere images and outward appearances, but at realities, at the heart of things. This radically different vision is the one the Lord urged. God does not see in this human way; it is human to look at appearances, but God looks at the heart.

Even the disciples don't see things right at first: "Rabbi, who sinned," they ask, "this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?" Blindness was much associated with sinfulness then. Jesus asks us not to look at blame, but at opportunity, at occasions for epiphanies of light and vision, at human beings needing the pool of Siloam, the bath of forgiveness and healing and acceptance that is "sent" from the ocean of God's love. Neither inherited blame or individual blame is the issue, but that the work of God might be seen in new vision, new life, Jesus moistens clay with his own saliva – an old fashioned remedy – applies it to the eyes of the man born blind and sends him off to a sacred pool to wash. He comes back, seeing. Somewhat. It's not complete. For although he knows he's able to see, he doesn't know where to look, or where Jesus is in all this.

"Where is he?" the neighbors ask him. "I don't know," he answers. The act of baptism doesn't complete our own illumination, either. Nor does confirmation, nor indeed does ordination! The Pauline writer reminds us that children of light must walk in the light, for the fruit of light is in the walking. It's not enough to blink at the brightness. We are to walk what is good and right and true, and to continue to learn. A personal commitment needs to be made; the gifts need to be appropriated and tested. The testing is all around us, as it was all around the man who came back seeing.

It is in the midst of this night time of blindness that the man born blind -he is all of us -has his healing made complete. Though he did not know where Jesus was, and in their blindness, those around him cannot help, it is Jesus who finds him and confronts him with the need to make a personal commitment of faith in the one who gives him vision.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	March 21	11:00AM	
NO MASS			
Wed.	March 22	11:00AM	
Cecilia Bernas †		Bob† & Lydia	
Thur.	March 23	11:00AM	
Tony Jacob †		Lily Militar	
Fri.	March 24	11:00AM	
Nicolas & Jovita Pena	†	Pena Family	
Sat.	March 25	4:30PM	
Pauline Cardoza †		ICF #14	
Sun.	March 26	9:00AM	
David & Albert Ponti		Stella Noe	
Port Costa		11:00AM	
People of the Parish			
* ****************	+++++++++++++	*******	

Sunday Collection - March 12th

St. Rose, Crockett \$1526 St. Patrick Mission \$184

Thank you again to all who support our Parish!





<u>Garage Sale</u>

This year, as part of our fundraising efforts, the Confirmation candidates are going to help us participate in Crockett's Townwide Yard Sale in May. Beginning this month, we will be accepting donations

of gently used items every other Sunday, 3/19, 4/2, 4/16, 4/30, from 10:15-11:45_{AM} at the CCD building. If you cannot make those hours, please call the office 510-787-2052.



St. Patrick Mission Celebration

As one of the oldest parishes in our Diocese we are proud to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of St. Patrick Mission this August! With that being said, we need your help. The parish is starting to put together a committee to help plan the festivities, so if you would like to be involved, or know someone that would be, please let us know. Also, we are starting to look for any pictures, memorabilia, etc. to help give a whole picture of our beloved little church, so please spread the word. All items would stay with their owners, we would just like to scan copies of images and even jot down old stories of activities, priests and anything from the past!

February Financial Overview

St. Rose

Expense:

Priest Salary	\$2841.14
Secretary Wages	\$1843.73
Priest Food Reimbursement	\$500.34
Health Insurance	\$1107.48
PG&E Classrooms	\$61.62
PG&E Church/Rectory	\$2629.19
Comcast	\$273.44
Garbage	\$290.21
EDD	\$117.05
IRS	\$1260.33
KBA Document (Copier agreement)	\$53.43
Priest Coverage	\$1466.98
Missals	\$70.34
Church cleaning	\$340.00
Total	\$12,855.28

Income:

ntal	\$11 877 02
Interest from Diocese	\$830.02
Facitlity Use – Parking Lot Lease	\$300.00
Facility Use – Lions	\$250.00
Fundraisers	\$1125.00
CCD Tuition	\$60.00
CCD Envelope	\$498.00
Maintenance	\$217.00
Breaking Bread (Missals)	\$10.00
Holy Days	\$520.00
Sunday's Plate	\$8067.00

St. Patrick Mission

Expense:

CCWD	\$58.94
PG&E	\$137.85
Total:	\$196.79
Income:	
Sundays Plate	\$3005.00
Holy Days	\$5.00
Maintenance	\$115.00
CCD Envelope	\$43.00
Donations	\$40.00
<u>Total</u>	\$3208.00