

Second Sunday of Advent

December 10, 2023

From the Desk of Fr. Leo

Our Lord related several parables with the theme of Vigilance. He wanted his followers to fight laziness, torpor, and carelessness in reaching their goal. These defects are farthest from the splendid example given by the Savior of all people, who purposely let himself be born in a working man's family and preferred hard labor to idleness and ease; he could spend whole nights in watchfulness and prayer and would rise early in the morning to be able to pray. Christ was a man who knew no sluggishness.

Why should we, Christians watch? We must be on our guard to receive the Lord, for we do not know the hour of his coming. Watchfulness is the characteristic attitude of the faithful disciple who longs for Christ's glorious return and waits for it in lively hope. The alertness will include a certain restraint in the use of the goods of this world.

But is not the Second coming or Parousia a remote possibility at the present time? That is just what we do not know. God has not chosen to reveal it. But the clear Gospel message is that it will come suddenly like a blitz-krieg and entirely unexpected. Many are not aware of this dire warning of Christ. That is why the new liturgy has put the theme of the Second coming in the forefront, mentioning it after the consecration, as well as in the eschatological petitions of the Our Father, and in the embolism after the Our Father. She wants us to listen to the guiding warning of the Savior.

Alertness on the part of the Christian will ward off the enemy, as St. Peter tells us: "Stay sober and alert. Your opponent the devil is prowling like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, solid in the faith, realizing that the brotherhood of believers is undergoing the same sufferings throughout the world." (1 Peter 5:8-9) A Christian who is vigilant will not come under the spell of the devil's allurements, and will be ready at all times for the Coming of his Lord and Master, even though it be an individual encounter at the end of one's life, when for that individual, the Parousia begins to be realized.

Advent is the time to listen to the words of the Lord in the Book of Revelation: "Wake up! Strengthen what remains.... If you do not rouse yourself, I will come upon you like a thief at a time you cannot know. (Revelation 3:2-3). "Maranatha" is the

watchword of the early Christians meaning: "The Lord is Coming!" What hope that ought to instill in us, what new vigor.! As St. Paul tells the Romans. "It is now the hour for you to wake from sleep, for our salvation is closer than when we first accepted the faith. The night is spent. The day draws near. Let us cast off the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light......Put on the Lord Jesus Christ." (Romans 13:11-14)

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	December 12	11:00AM
Thanksgiving		Ed & Mae
Wed.	December 13	11:00AM
Edgar Allan		Mom & Dad
(birthday)		
Thur.	December 14	11:00AM
Angelina E. Francisc	o†	Lydia & Bob†
Fri.	December 15	11:00AM
Jorgelia Quiapo †		Lydia
Sat.	December 16	4:30PM
Suci	D CCCIIINCI IO	
Thanksgiving Thanksgiving		Banaga Family
		Banaga Family 9:00AM
Thanksgiving		
Thanksgiving Sun.		9:00AM
Thanksgiving Sun. Marie D. Smith †		9:00AM Peña Family
Thanksgiving Sun. Marie D. Smith † Port Costa	December 17	9:00AM Peña Family 11:00AM

St. Rose, Crockett	\$3185
Bishop's Appeal	\$168
St. Patrick Mission	\$105
Bishop's Appeal	\$30

Thank you again to all who support our Parish!

Reminder! Next weekend is anointing of the sick at all masses!

Poinsettias & Christmas Decorations



The poinsettias that decorate our Church during the Christmas season are in honor of our departed loved ones. Envelopes to add the memory of your loved one to the altar are in the vestibule. The donation for

each name is \$10.

Next weekend, Dec 17th and 18th, we will also be having a special second collection to help support all the beautiful Christmas decorations that add to our Advent and Christmas liturgies. Environment truly enriches our experience.

Toys

Father Leo wants to try something different this year, and was hoping parishioners might be willing to donate a few small toys for the children who attend the Children's Mass to receive. Please let the office know if you would like to participate, 510-787-2052



This week, in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe, whose feast days is Tuesday, pray for all pregnant women and mothers and look for ways that you can walk with moms in need.



Congratulations to all who performed at the Christmas concert last Sunday. The production was a beautiful success! A special thanks to Edgardo Huab and the tech crew. The event was able to raise \$2,288 for security cameras!

November Financial Overview

St. Rose

Expense:

Priest Salary	\$2648.75
Secretary Wages	\$2035.74
Priest Food Reimbursement	\$379.35
Health Insurance	\$1150.48
PG&E Classrooms	\$55.66
PG&E Church/Rectory	\$763.73
Comcast	\$263.76
Garbage	\$327.99
IRS	\$1292.43
EDD	\$120.46
Liability	\$2025.40
Church cleaning	\$340.00
Rectory Cleaning	\$260.00
KBA Soln. (copier)	\$59.49
Envelopes	\$135.04
Mass calendars	\$57.52
Pancake Breakfast supplies	\$206.69
Office supplies	\$69.72
EBMUD	\$374.08
Parishioner gifts	\$123.86
Bookkeeping	\$100.00
<u>Total</u>	\$12,790.15
Income:	
Sunday's Plate	\$11,277.00
Holy Days	\$3010.00
Maintenance	\$415.00
CCD Envelope	\$270.00
CCD Tuition	\$120.00
Christmas Boutique	\$2742.00
Guadalupe Collection	\$236.00

St. Patrick Mission

Evnonco.

Total

Expense:	
PG&E	\$12.41
Total:	\$12.41
Income:	
Sundays Plate	\$846.00
Holy Days	\$125.00
Maintenance	\$75.00
CCD Envelope	\$25.00
Total	\$1071.00

\$18,070.00