

May 10, 2020

## From the Desk of Fr. Leo

St. Teresa of Avila, the Foundress of the reformed Carmelite Order is well known for the sublime heights she reached in mystical contemplation in union with God. The Church has even conferred on her the title of Doctor of Mystical Theology. Yet, she always insisted that the way to union with God and perfection was through Christ the God-Man, our Brother and Savior. This advice is especially meaningful in our day.

Who can speak with such absolute certitude as Jesus did when He said: "no one can come to the Father except through me? Who can claim for himself or (herself) such universal rights to be the sole Way to God? Who can presume such a unique privilege so as to exclude every other passageway to the final goal of humankind's happiness, which is the possession of God Himself? Only the Only Begotten Son of God can speak thus, He who is God's Ambassador, sent into the world as its sole Savior.

Today, many are trying to reach new ways to reach the Transcendent God, new paths to become one with the Universal Absolute. But if they endeavor to do this apart from Christ, deliberately neglecting or rejecting the saving message of Christ, they are doomed to frustration and failure. Because, as Peter himself told the Jewish leaders in his day, "There is no salvation in anyone else, for there is no other name in the whole world given to men by which we are saved." (Acts 4:12). If God has so loved the world that He sent His own Son to give it eternal life (John 3:15), who is little man to neglect this abundant salvation? What creature is so presumptuous as to strike out any other path to reach the eternal Goal than that which God Himself has laid out?

I am the WAY, said the Savior. I have become one of you to show you that I love you and know well your human nature. I have put up with all the things that you go through in this mortal life in order to teach you the royal road to happiness. I am the TRUTH, the fulfillment of all the prophecies, the final revelation of the mind of God. I am the full expression of the Father's Being. Whoever sees me, sees the Father, for I and the Father are one in Being. All that the Father has told me I have made known to you. I am the LIFE. You seek to enjoy what life can offer and yet you do not recognize that I am the very

source of all life and I have come that man may have life and have it to the full. Thus, speaks the Lord Jesus.

If we are the happy heirs to the true faith revealed to us by Jesus the Son of God and brought to us by His ambassadors long ago, let us hold on to that faith with deepest gratitude and total commitment. Our boast is Christ. He is the Way, the Truth and the Life that enables us to possess forever the Most Blessed Trinity.

#### Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Though we are not able to meet together during this week, please keep these intentions in your personal prayers, as Father will continue to include them in his private masses.

### Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	May 12	N/A
Mother's Day Novena		
Wed.	May 13	N/A
Mother's Day Novena		
Thur.	May 14	N/A
Mother's Day Novena		
Fri.	May 15	N/A
Mother's Day Novena		
Sat.	May 16	N/A
Mother's Day Novena		
Sun.	<b>May 17</b>	N/A
Mother's Day Novena		
Port Costa		N/A
Mother's Day Novena		_
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### Sunday Collection - May 3

St. Rose, Crockett \$1680 St. Patrick Mission, Port Costa \$200

#### A BIG THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE FOUND A WAY TO CONTINUE SUPPORTING OUR PARISH!

#### Online Donations

The Diocese of Oakland is trying to help those parishes and parishioner where online giving is not in place. To do this, they have set up a way for people to donate online through the Diocese to their own parish.

# ALL DONATIONS THROUGH THIS LINK GO DIRECTLY TO THE PARISH THAT IS SELECTED.

There are a couple of ways this can be accessed.

Put this link directly into your internet browser:

https://www.oakdiocese.org/parish-support

2) Go to the Diocese of Oakland home page

Click on the Giving tab

Select the Parish Support option

This link will take you directly to the giving page. Once there, you will enter your gift information, parish affiliation, name, address, and payment preference. Once you submit, you will get a short reply confirming that the transaction was successful. A few minutes later, a message will land in your email account with a summary of the gift, including the parish it will be directed towards, and a simple thank you. The Diocese will process the gifts, which entails charging the credit or debit cards and running the bank account debits.

NOTE: Your accounts may not be charged immediately, but when the gift is processed by OMA staff.

#### Coronavirus (COVID-19) Precautions

With the constant change that is occurring around us, the Diocese is still adhering to the following protocols:

- All social gatherings that can be rescheduled, postponed or cancelled, should be.
- All public Masses are suspended.
- ALL CHURCHES WILL REMAIN CLOSED!

We all have many questions in regard to what is going on around us, and we will keep you as up to date as possible. This is a very fluid situation, and no one has all the answers. Please just remember to take a breath, and don't make decisions in panic or haste! Due to the current stricter conditions in Contra Costa County, until MAY 31<sup>st</sup>, the Diocese has asked that all churches remain closed, even for individual prayer. Due to this we will **NOT BE OPENNING THE CHURCH** until further notice.

