From the Desk of Fr. Leo

With the economy the way it is today, there is the temptation to be like the man in this weekend's gospel and bury whatever we might have left of our assets in some place. Our story however, is not about how we should invest our money but how to invest our lives. The only safe investment is to invest our lives in God and to live our faith as best we can.

When we hear the word talent, we automatically think of some special gift, like writing poetry or singing or drawing or playing sports. In this weekend's parable, the talents the master gave his servants were indeed special gifts, but in the vocabulary of the ancients it referred to a specific weight – 60 to 80 pounds of gold or silver. Jesus doesn't tell us what the metal was, but it would indeed have been a special gift.

The third man, the man with the one talent, said he was too afraid of his boss to risk investing it. The thought struck me, that maybe the other two had just as much fear of their master and that's what motivated them to do something with the talents they have been given. Fear is not always bad. Sometimes it motivates us to action rather than immobilizing us.

We all know that if we work hard, we will be more likely to succeed in life than if we don't. Outside circumstances (which we call luck: good luck or bad) can affect our efforts, but for the most part we get out of life what we put into it. That's a no- brainer.

Jesus is telling us that our eternal happiness works the same way. We will get out of our spiritual life what we put into it. Too many people today hear only what they want to hear in the gospels. They enjoy hearing all about God's mercy and love, but they tend to ignore the places where Jesus tells us about our responsibilities. This weekend's parable tells us heaven is not a freebie and it's not automatic. If it were, why did Jesus need to come to us in the first place? Why did He teach us how to live and stress the importance of prayer and doing good works? Grace is indeed a gift, but if we don't use the graces and gifts and love God offers us, we will lose them. It's just like any talent we can think of – if we don't use it, it does no good to have it. God can't save us without our cooperation. If this parable does not tell us that, then it doesn't tell us anything.

Faith in our Lord will not disappoint, but it will not bring payoffs every time we pray or do something good. If that were to happen, faith would be unnecessary. The reason we need faith is because we are not always immediately blessed for some good thing we do. When we are, that's great. When we are not, we just have to trust that God will not let us down in the end.

Fr. Leo A. Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	**November 17**	**11:00AM**
Thanksgiving		Ed & Mae
Wed.	**November 18**	**11:00AM**
Marcelina Morales†		Your Children
Thur.	**November 19**	**11:00AM**
Chloe & Aubrey Bañaga (birthday)		Lola
Fri.	**November 20**	**11:00AM**
Sr. Deanna Maria (birthday)		Ed & Mae
Sat.	**November 21**	**4:30PM**
Maria Re † & Stella Noe †		Stella † & family
Sun.	**November 22**	**9:00AM**
Lacsina Family (thanksgiving)		
Port Costa		**11:00AM**
People of the Parish		

†††

Scan to Support Our Church!

Your generous gift to St. Rose of Lima enables us to provide beneficial programs that lift up our congregation and serve our community. We are deeply grateful for your support and invite you to contribute online by scanning the QR code.

St Rose Of Lima
s***t@comcast.net

Zelle

Sunday Collection -November 8th

St. Rose, Crockett	$1464
CCD	$361
St. Patrick Mission	$297

Thank you again to all who support our Parish! We know how generous you have been in the changing times!

***In able to meet our 2026 budgets, we would like to remind parishioners that we will need a minimum of $2,100 for Sunday plate collections at St. Rose every weekend, and $250 every Sunday at St. Patrick Mission. ***



REMINDER, NEXT WEEKEND!!
Spread the word. . . .





This year St. Rose would like to support Consider the Homeless (CTH), a grass-roots organization in Berkeley that reaches out to men and women living out on the streets by providing them with food and clothing. One item that is always in need are thick warm socks. If you are able to help support CTH in their effort to those in need, there is a box located in the vestibule of the church where you can drop off your donation of warm men's and women's socks.