Fifth Sunday of Easter — May 15, 2022

From the Desk of Fr. Leo

Our enthusiastic participation at mass depends in some degree on a realization of who we are. When we say we are the people of God, we mean just that. It might sound odd to some, but we must be a people who are in love, truly in love with one another as Christians, whether or not we happen to be members of the same blood family.

It is our mutual job to create the environment and the atmosphere in the church in which God can communicate to us and we can respond to him. This is the chief duty of the celebrant of the mass, the leader of the assembly. Like St. Paul and Barnabas, the celebrant calls the congregation together to tell of the wonderful works of God, especially that he has brought the people together in love. The celebrant like, St. John, must see a new heaven and a new earth, a new Jerusalem, which each parish ought to be: "A holy city, coming down out of heaven from God, beautiful as a bride prepared to meet her husband." It is the privilege of the celebrant that at the lectern and at the altar to tell his people in the words of St. John's Book of Revelation: "This is God's dwelling among men. He shall dwell with them and he shall be his people, and he shall be their God who is always with them."

But the creation of the parish environment and the atmosphere at Mass on which God and the people can communicate, can result only from effort on the parts of everyone. The new liturgy is a good vehicle, not a perfect one, for creating such an atmosphere. But we must work at it. The celebrant helps the people understand God's revelation in the liturgy of the word. We must listen attentively and try to assimilate what we learn. The lesson this weekend is an easy one to absorb that is, the early Christians loved one another, at least in the sense that they were enthusiastic about the progress of this new way of life. Obviously, Christians, early and now, have to work at this business of loving one another.

This is not the time or place for a blueprint on how to create this environment and atmosphere in which communication with God occurs. Here we establish attitudes, which can help us rid ourselves of hatred and ill-will, ill-feelings and grievances. Here we celebrate the fact that God loves us enough to bring us together so that we can give his revelation to us. How we act toward one another in our homes, schools, rectories, offices, at work, in our recreations, all week, will determine in large measure what kind of true-love atmosphere we have created for our weekend Sunday worship. We are at a certain level at this time. During this week we will grow, so that next Sunday we will be able to create just a little higher level of environment for our communication with God. For all that we are at this environment, let us enter as enthusiastically as possible during Mass, celebrating the wonderful fact that God has first loved us, so that we can love him and our fellow human beings in return.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	**May 17**	**11:00AM**
Shirley Antonio†		Lily Militar
Wed.	**May 18**	**11:00AM**
Living Memorial		
Thur.	**May 19**	**11:00PM**
Mary Pagni †		Rita Detomasi
Fri.	**May 20**	**11:00AM**
Christina Quiapo (Thanksgiving)		Mom & Dad
Sat.	**May 21**	**4:30PM**
Potenciano Joson †		Rose
Sun.	**May 22**	**9:00AM**
Tia Airoldi †		Rita Detomasi
Port Costa		**11:00AM**
People of the Parish		

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