Thirtith Sunday in Ordinary Time — October 25, 2020

From the Desk of Fr. Leo

In our nation's archives there is an account of two women from Tennessee who came before President Abraham Lincoln at the conclusion of the Civil War, they were asking for the release of their husbands held as prisoners of war at Johnson's Island. Lincoln put them off until Friday, when they came again. Again, the President put them off until Saturday. At each of the interviews one of the ladies stressed to Lincoln that her husband was a religious man.

After the Saturday interview the President ordered the release of the prisoners. Then he turned to this lady and said, "You say your husband is a religious man. Tell him when you meet him, that I am not much of a judge of religion. In my opinion, however, the religion that sets men to rebel and fight against their governments... (so that they can) eat their bread on the sweat of other men's faces, is not sort of religion upon which people can get to heaven."

Jesus places side by side the commandments of love of God and that of neighbor. And for him, neighbor is anyone in need. The two commandments are not to be separated. They form but two aspects of the one commandment of love and have but one sole motivation: the love of God manifested in love for humankind. For man is the image of God, and God lives in man, and Christ died for him. One cannot love God whom he has not seen, if he does not love his brother whom he has seen. (1 John 4:20).

Do we really love God with all our heart as the commandment directs? That can only be proven by our love towards our fellow men or women. This is the reason why men and women of all ages devote themselves to the sick and the aged, to the mentally disabled. What other reason would they have in caring for drug addicts, alcoholics and others who suffer from similar irregularities? If God himself has so loved humankind as to become His brother or sister, his Sacrifice and his very Food in the Eucharist, will little man not respond to love God with the whole heart by manifesting love to God's image on earth? Many professional persons are also activated by the same selfless love in their dealings with their fellowmen and women, such as doctors, nurses, lawyers, caregivers, educators, public officials etc. How well St. James shows us the necessity of action when it comes to living the Christian faith:

"What good is it for someone to say: "I have faith, if his (or her) action s do not prove it? Can that faith save him (or her)? Suppose there are brothers or sisters who need clothes and don't have enough to eat. What good is there in your saying to them: God bless you! Keep warm and eat well', if you don't give them the necessity of life? So, it is with faith: if it is alone and has no actions, it is dead." (St. James 3:14-17).

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.	**October 27**	**N/A**
Corzaon B. Imbong †		Imbong Family
Wed.	**October 28**	**N/A**
Matthew Banaga †		Grandparents
Thur.	**October 29**	**N/A**
Special Intentions		
Fri.	**October 30**	**N/A**
Ray & Mary Lou Austria †		Olivia
Sat.	**October 31**	**4:30PM**
Joselito Asuncion †		Mary Asuncion
Sun.	**November 1**	**9:00AM**
People of the Parish		
Port Costa		**11:00AM**
Walter Ligon † (birthday)		Mary & Moira

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