Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time November 7, 2021

From the Desk of Fr. Leo

In all our Churches and chapels, the candle continues to symbolize Jesus who gave himself up for our sake. Like the virginal beeswax, Christ is virginal. He is on fire with love from the heavenly Spirit, as the candle is lit from above. As the candle gives light and warmth by burning itself out more and more, so Christ by burning himself out in self-immolation gives life and warmth of love to all who come to the Light. The candle shows the Way and saves from dangers of darkness, so Christ himself is the Way and the savior from all powers of evil.

For several Sundays in the Second Reading, the author of the Letter to the Hebrews has sketched in a particularly appealing manner the image of Christ our High Priest. Priest means mediator, and as such Jesus is truly a man, one of ourselves; he offers no other sacrifice but himself for his fellow men and women; and his sacrificial oblation is everlasting.

In order to become our High Priest, Jesus took on our flesh and blood from the Virgin Mother, for only as man could he be mediator between God and humankind. He chose to be like his brothers and sisters in every way, living the life they lived. By putting up with all the demands of this daily existence for several decades, he would understand the needs and problems of his brothers and sisters. In that way, he could plead for them with the Father and be "a merciful and faithful High Priest before God in their behalf, to expiate their sins". (2:17).

Jesus is the Perfect Man. All holiness abides in him. He always did that which pleased the Father. Never for a moment was any thought or word or act of his displeasing to God. Innocent and undefiled Lamb that he is, he offered himself for his fellowmen and women. Countless animals offered in sacrifice could not blot out a single sin, but the Precious Blood of Christ, offering himself unblemished to God, completely takes away all sin, and enables humankind with purified conscience to worship the Father in a manner worthy of him. Once he had consummated his sacrifice, he became the source of holiness for all who approach him with confidence. Christ now lives forever to make intercession for his brothers and sisters. It was this loving and willing sacrifice of his Son that pleased the Father.

Since we have a great high priest, who is over the house of God, let us draw near in utter sincerity and absolute confidence, our hearts sprinkled clean from the evil which lay on our conscience...let us hold unswervingly to our profession which gives us hope, for he who made the promise deserves our trust. We must consider how to rouse each other to love and good deeds. Ever before the Father's throne, Jesus's sacrifice is present, a constant plea for those who approach him with faith and confidence.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	**November 9**	**11:00AM**
Elias Valdivia Jr. (healing)		Lily Militar
Wed.	**November 10**	**11:00AM**
Ray Austria †		Olivia
Thur.	**November 11**	**11:00AM**
Dolores Koehne †		Your brother Mike
Fri.	**November 12**	**11:00AM**
Lilli Ann Funchauser (birthday)		Lily Militar
Sat.	**November 13**	**4:30PM**
Gen Heuser †		Trudi
Sun.	**November 14**	**9:00AM**
People of the Parish		
Port Costa		**11:00AM**
Alice Marshall †		Bill & Diane Thomas

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