From the Desk of Fr. Leo

We are drawing very close to the end of this liturgical year. After this Sunday, there are only two Sundays left for the current year. As we think about the Scripture readings we have heard since the First Sunday of Advent, it is obvious that there has been great emphasis on the problem of death and its solution in the resurrection of Jesus. The resurrection of Jesus from the dead is a sign and a guarantee of our own resurrection from the dead.

It is very appropriate, as we draw near to the end of the liturgical year, that this whole topic of death and resurrection come before us again. The Sadducees, who questioned Jesus in the Gospel, did not believe in the resurrection from the dead. When they asked Jesus whose wife the woman who had had seven husbands would be after the resurrection, they were not looking for an answer at all. They were trying to reduce the idea of the resurrection to the absurd, to show that it was ridiculous. As far as the Sadducees were concerned, the whole idea of a resurrection from the dead is childish. As a matter of fact, they never thought of the resurrection except in childish terms, as though it meant bringing to life corpses which would take up once again all the present processes of eating and drinking, loving and hating, giving in marriage and taking wives.

Some people today are like the Sadducees. They ask how God can put together a body that has disintegrated in the grave, or worse still for example, a body that has been blown to pieces in an atomic explosion at Hiroshima or Nagasaki. The question is often asked with a sophisticated sneer, which implies that the idea of resurrection is ludicrous. Such people do not realize that our resurrected bodies, though real and physical, will exist in a newer and better manner far beyond our powers to imagine. As Jesus stated in this Sunday's Gospel, "They become like angels and are no longer liable to death. Sons of the resurrection, they are sons of God."

Our resurrected bodies will be as different from our present body as a full-blown plant is different from the seed. Our risen body will be in a state of perfection by the power of God, a power not limited to what our human minds can imagine or comprehend. Faith in our own resurrection from the dead is both a belief that God has almighty power, and a confidence that in his goodness he will use that power to raise us from the dead to a new life.

Our faith in the resurrection should influence our lives. Faith in the resurrection should have on us, willingness to suffer death rather than abandon God. But the influence should be more extensive. As we go about the duties of our lives, we should do so with a certain lightness and happiness that comes from the expectation of our resurrection from the dead, a new life with God forever. Our faith in the resurrection should color our otherwise drab lives in joyful hues.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	**November 8**	**9AM, 6PM**
Virgina Cachapper (Thankgiving)		Alma
Wed.	**November 9**	**11:00AM**
Bill Valli (healing)		Bob & Lydia
Thur.	**November 10**	**11:00PM**
Special Intentions		Alma
Fri.	**November 11**	**11:00AM**
Delores Koehne †		Mike Gomez
Sat.	**November 12**	**4:30PM**
Gen Heuser †		Jensen Family
Sun.	**November 13**	**9:00AM**
Jorge, Tomasa, Manuel & Jose		Delgado Family
Port Costa		**11:00AM**
People of the Parish		

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