Fourth Sunday of Lent — March 14, 2021

From the Desk of Fr. Leo

Any organization or community that would develop its potential well, must have genuine leaders who are not out for their personal advancement, but for the good of the organization or the community. In aiming at a definite goal, a leader will meet with obstacles, and even opposition, if the ideals he or she sets forth are with the lower standards of those less concerned about the good of the organization. Opposition is not always a sign of poor leadership. It may evidence just the contrary.

By the witness of his gospel message and his powerful deeds, Jesus proclaimed the Kingdom of God to be at hand. He himself is the great prophet of God, God's mouthpiece, the very Word of God Incarnate, clearly manifesting to his brothers and sisters in the flesh what the will of the Father is for them. The fact that he boldly proclaims what is right in God's eyes, and what the Father in heaven wants his children to do, brings upon him mounting opposition, "Because men loved darkness rather than light" (John 3:11); and the opposition breaks out into open hostility until he is "lifted up" on the Cross, betrayed by one of the Twelve, rejected by his own people, and handed over to the pagans. Yet he did proclaim that "I, once lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself (John 12:32).

While the role of the teacher is to preserve and hand down the doctrine of Christ, interpreting it for the People, the role of the prophet is to render the message more relevantly by applying it to existing conditions which need proper and immediate attention, as well as by proposing solutions for rising problems in the light of the Gospel. Therefore, the prophetic Christian has to be dynamic, stirring up his or her fellowmen and women to the urgent need at hand. He or she speaks boldly like, John the Baptist or the Savior himself, and is not afraid to call misdeeds by their proper name. Hence, he or she will often stir up oppositions, and even hostility, because people are too often more interested in material gain than in the Law of Love of Jesus Christ. The prophet brings to light his or her words and by his or her example the falsehood that is latent in every man or woman, and the inner sinfulness which pride is not willing to acknowledge and confess. His or her role is to lead men and women to the light so that they recognize that Christ alone can bring salvation, fulfillment and universal peace.

The Christian exercises his or her prophetic role chiefly by his or her example of a good Christian life, his or her fidelity to Christian principles, and willingness to stand up for them in face of opposition. He or she likewise deepens his or her knowledge continually of what God has revealed to be his will in the Scriptures, especially the Gospels, and he or she willingly hearkens to the Voice of Christ resounding in the words of those whom Christ has placed over his flock to feed or guide them.

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.	**March 23**	**11:00AM**
Special Intentions		
Wed.	**March 24**	**11:00AM**
Living Memorial		
Thur.	**March 25**	**11:00AM**
Special Intentions		
Fri.	**March 26**	**11:00AM**
Special Intentions		
Sat.	**March 27**	**4:30PM**
Ted Gallo†		Bob & Lydia
Sun.	**March 28**	**9:00A**
Vincente, Arline, John David & Elise †		Pena Family
Port Costa		**11:00AM**
People of the Parish		

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