Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time — July 11, 2021

From the Desk of Fr. Leo

A child is not grateful by birth. It is, on the contrary, quite selfish, looking only for its own needs and wants. But when it has been trained to say "Thank you" for any favor done to it, it grows up well-mannered and pleasing to all. St. Pope John Paul II once visited an orphanage in Rome and one little tot was so pleased that she offered to the Pope what she treasured most: her little doll. What a beautiful act of a child! A grateful heart.

This weekend's reading shows us the immense love of God pouring itself out in abundant favor toward his People. It is St. Paul's hymn of gratitude which has a Trinitarian dimension because it touches on the work of the three divine Persons in regard to humankind's salvation. Humankind's happiness and destiny is entirely bound up with Christ, the Beloved of the Father. In him we are God's chosen children, destined to be holy and without the least blemish one day in heaven, and that for all eternity. Once this imperfect life with its failures, its sins and its ailments is over, there dawns an eternity where love permeates all things. As sons and daughters in the one Son of God, we are destined to enjoy all the inheritance belonging to Christ, our Lord, God's Beloved One. Ought not our hearts lift up in the praise and thanksgiving for such immense favor bestowed on us? If we appreciate so much an inheritance left us in someone's last will, if we gratefully accept benefits bestowed on us, let us say, by the company for which we work, then we ought all the more appreciate and gratefully receive the spiritual benefits of the Father in heaven who has given so much in the heavenly realms towards which we inevitably tend! It was Christ, God's beloved Son, who underwent death for us to set us free from the yoke of sin and Satan. He alone wrought our redemption and paid the price of His Blood. He poured out on us abundant wisdom and gave us insights to realize his great plan. For Christ is the center of the universe, the one in whom all things in heaven and on earth meet in harmony. The Father has been pleased to bring all things together under the Headship of Christ, by whom the universe came into being and for whose glory it was created. He is the New Adam in whom regenerated humankind finds fulfillment and purpose. To Christ, every person, rich or poor, learned or uneducated, can look up to with hope, that this life on earth has a purpose, and all suffering has a deeper meaning, as Jesus so eminently manifested by his patient commitment to his Father's will. In Christ we have all the means necessary to reach that destiny to which we are invited. Again, ought we not break forth in praise of God for his great favor.

All worthy of our love and praise is the Most Blessed Trinity! Each of the three divine persons has been intimately taken up with our well-being here on earth, and our eternal happiness in the world to come. Let words of praise and songs of blessing frequently rise up from our lips and hearts, for the wonderful deeds he has accomplished and continues to accomplish on our behalf.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	**July 13**	**11:00AM**
Christina Quiapo		Mom & Dad
Wed.	**July 14**	**11:00AM**
Special Intentions		
Thur.	**July 15**	**11:00AM**
Special Intentions		
Fri.	**July 16**	**11:00AM**
Special Intentions		
Sat.	**July 17**	**4:30PM**
Special Intentions		
Sun.	**July 18**	**9:00AM**
People of the Parish		
Port Costa		**11:00AM**
Marcelina Morales †		Your family

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