



From the Desk of Fr. Leo

Years ago, in North Dakota, a young married couple went in for sheep-raising on a large scale. They really like sheep. Coming one day upon the flock as they were riding in their brand-new station-wagon, they were horrified to see the sheep in a pile-up. This easily happens when the first row falls into a ditch or trench and those following keep piling on top of those beneath, killing several and maiming many others. With one swift action the young couple dashed into their midst, flung the sheep on top aside, and opening the doors of the new station-wagon, placed the wounded sheep on the newly covered seats. It mattered little to them that the seats became a mess of blood and dirt. What mattered was the life of their sheep. For they love their sheep.

A remarkable trait of a genuine shepherd is that he or she is ready to face any danger, even death itself in order to ward off harm to every and any one of his or her sheep. This is because they are his or her own, and he or she has them at heart. David related to King Saul how he would go after a bear or a lion that came to carry off a sheep from the flock, attack it and kill it while rescuing the helpless sheep. Truly sheep are very helpless creatures. They need the constant care of a



watchful eye, and guidance day after day. If one gets lost by lagging behind the flock, the shepherd or shepherdess spares no effort to go and find it, because he or she has concern for each and every one of the flock. They are very dear to his or her heart. The one interest of

the hired person is his or her salary. In face of danger, he or she takes to his or her heels. The Lord Jesus depicts himself in this appealing image of the Good Shepherd. To save us from eternal death, he was willing to give up the joy of life when his manhood was at its best. He met the enemy head-on, and although the struggles were fierce so that it forced the blood from his pores in the garden of Gethsemani, yet he rose to shoulder his cross manfully and went to the ignominious death of a Roman pagan crucifixion. But death had no hold on him, for he rose glorious and triumphant. By his death he broke down all the barriers between peoples and nations, so that all who are

baptized are incorporated into his Body-Person, so close are they to him. He cares for them individually and leads them invariably to their eternal goal, while watching over them in all the phases of their earthly life.

One must be quite hardened in heart not to be touched by this exquisite love of the Good Shepherd for the sheep. It is not difficult not to let oneself be guided by his all-powerful hand and tended by his mighty love. Even when we fail, he goes in search for the lost sheep and brings it back with tender care. Who else had laid down his life for us but he?

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Table with 3 columns: Day, Date, Time. Rows include Tues. April 23 (Lena McCrossen, Lisa), Wed. April 24 (Vilma Jacob, surgery), Thur. April 25 (Jorgelia B. Quiapo, Ed & Mae), Fri. April 26 (Renee Robinson, Buenaflor-Roth Family), Sat. April 27 (Thanksgiving, Alma & Jong), Sun. April 28 (Jose Buenaflor, Buenaflor-Roth Family), and Port Costa (People of the Parish).

Sunday Collection - April 14th

Table with 2 columns: Item, Amount. Rows: St. Rose, Crockett (\$1464), Bishops Appeal (\$180), St. Patrick Mission (\$422).

Thank you again to all who support our Parish! We know how generous you have been in the changing times!

\*\*\*In able to meet our 2024 budgets, we would like to remind parishioners that we will need a minimum of \$2,100 for Sunday plate collections at St. Rose every weekend, and \$250 every Sunday at St. Patrick Mission. \*\*\*



Confirmation

Please join us Saturday, April 27th at the 4:30 Vigil Mass to celebrate our young Confirmation candidates receiving this sacrament. They have worked for two years, to achieve this goal!

World Wide Marriage Encounter

Jesus is the good shepherd and laid down his life for us that we may have new life. Give your marriage new life by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience on May 3-5 in San Juan Bautista or July 12-14 at San Damiano in Danville or go to https://wwme.org/apply to find the date that works for you!



Saints

In recognition of the saint names that our Confirmations candidates will be taking next weekend, we thought we would get to know some fun facts about their selected saints.

This weekend's saint is St. Bernadette.

SAINTS FUN FACTS by John Sheppard. St. Bernadette was born in Lourdes, France. As a child gathering firewood, the Blessed Mother appeared to her seventeen times. Bernadette was urged to pray for sinners and to build a chapel on the site. Bernadette dug into the mud and a spring developed. Many healings have been attributed to this water. As she got older, Bernadette became a nun and passed away at age 35. Includes illustration of a young girl and St. Bernadette.

Happy Anniversary!

Join us in wishing Fr. Leo a happy anniversary on his 45th year of ordination to the priesthood! This Sunday, keep him in your thoughts and say a special prayer!



Parish Council Meeting

Reminder! The next Parish Council meeting is Tuesday, April 23rd at 7PM in the parish hall.

