



From the Desk of Fr. Leo

The best meal in the world will not benefit anyone if he or she is sick and cannot digest the food. No one approaches a banquet on an upset stomach for he or she knows better. Intake of food and drink will benefit him or her when fitness is regained. Much also depends on how the food is prepared, with what ingredients and condiments, if the full benefit of the meal is to be derived from it.

Jesus prepared the very best food for all the children of God. It is himself in the Eucharist. He is the Bread of Life, the Food that nourishes the Christ-life in us and makes it grow to maturity. But on our part, if we are to benefit from the divine Eucharistic Food, there are certain necessary preparations. If these are not present, the opposite effect can result. In the first place, no one should approach the holy table unless he or she is in the friendship of God (sanctifying grace.) To receive the Lord in Communion while at the same time being fully aware that one has separated himself or herself from God by serious offense against his love (grievous sin) makes one unworthy to receive holy Communion, and no one should presume to do so before being reconciled to God in the sacrament of penance and reconciliation, which Christ instituted for that purpose. Remember the words of St. Paul: "Whoever eats this bread or drinks the cup of the Lord unworthily, sins against the body and blood of the Lord." (1 Corinthians 11:27).

The liturgy prepares us up to the very moment of receiving Communion! Together with the priest we humbly avow our unworthiness, but throw ourselves entirely on his mighty word of healing, that word which so often in the gospels healed all manner of physical and spiritual sickness. When the celebrant shows us the sacred host saying: "The Body of Christ" our spontaneous "Amen" takes the place of a fervent act of faith that it is Christ the Lord, and an ardent act of love welcoming him, into our hearts. With such proper disposition and preparation, the reception of the Lord in the Eucharist cannot fail to produce the effects for which it was instituted.

If we are among those who invariably come late for Sunday Mass, missing so much that is intended for our good, and also disturbing those who are trying to pay attention and to participate, then once and for all this bad habit ought to be eliminated. In most cases this can

be done with a bit of good will. Again, if we are among those who are only silent listeners, then we ought to resolve to take a more active part in the celebration of Christ's Paschal Mystery, realizing that this is also our Mass, our sacrifice, and that by such participation we prepare ourselves so much better for the reception of the Bread of Life, which will benefit us only in proportion to our preparation.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Table with 3 columns: Day, Date, Time. Rows include Tues. August 13 (11:00AM), Wed. August 14 (11:00AM), Thur. August 15 (11:00AM), Fri. August 16 (11:00AM), Sat. August 17 (4:30PM), Sun. August 18 (9:00AM), and Port Costa (11:00AM).

Don't Take a Vacation from God



Attendance at Mass on Sundays and Holy days should be a priority. If traveling to places one is unfamiliar with, information on church addresses and time of Masses can be found on the internet at www.masstimes.org or 1-800-MASS-TIMES.

Sunday Collection -August 4th

Table with 2 columns: Location, Amount. Rows include St. Rose, Crockett (\$2597), CCD Collection (\$256), St. Patrick Mission (\$39), and CCD Collection (\$49).

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. \*\*\*

Parish Council

During the summer, our hard working parish council takes a short break. They will be back to work in August though, and are hoping that a few new faces will join them. If you are interested in helping make important decisions, or have some opinions and ideas on how to improve things, please think about becoming part of the council. The next meeting will be Tuesday, August 27th at 7PM in the parish hall. Mark it on your calendar, and come check it out!

Faith Formation

Our Faith Formation program will be starting on soon! Registration forms will be available in the office.

CCD: and preparation for First Holy Communion is a two-year program, and students must at least be in 1st grade.

CONFIRMATION: This is a two-year formation program. Classes TBD.

R.C.I.A. for those wanting to become Catholics. It is a two- year formation program for adults. Weekly meeting (TBA).

July Financial Overview

Financial overview table for St. Rose and St. Patrick Mission. Includes Expense and Income sections with various categories and amounts, totaling \$17,810,389 for St. Rose and \$12,384.30 for St. Patrick Mission.