



From the Desk of Fr. Leo

We have been commemorating the beautiful events of the infancy of Jesus since Christmas day. In the Liturgy of this weekend, however, we witness Jesus as an adult. We see him being baptized, and we hear the voice of God the Father saying to him; "You are my beloved Son. On you my favor rests."

The Liturgical feast of the Baptism of the Lord concludes the Church's celebration of Christmas. It helps to remind us that Jesus was born to be our Savior. His baptism marks the beginning of his public ministry which culminates in his Paschal sacrifice, his death and resurrection. Jesus was born to die. He came into the world to offer himself in a perfect sacrifice to his heavenly Father for the salvation of the world.

This year will feature the Gospel according to St. Luke. All through his Gospel St. Luke presents Jesus as on a relentless journey to the city of Jerusalem since it is there that he will fulfill his mission. Remember that fifty days after his birth, Jesus was brought by the Blessed Mary and St. Joseph from Bethlehem to the temple in Jerusalem. That event symbolized that the purpose of his birth would be accomplished in the Holy City.

When Jesus was twelve, the Blessed Mary and St. Joseph feared that he had become lost during their pilgrimage to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. Jesus seemed surprised that they did not understand that he would be in his Father's house, the temple of Jerusalem. That temple he would replace in his own person through his sacrifice on the cross, and he would thereby fulfill the meaning of the Passover which his parents had come to Jerusalem to celebrate.

At a critical moment during his public ministry, Jesus said to the Apostles, "We must go up to Jerusalem so that all that was written concerning the Son of Man may be accomplished. They will scourge him and put him to death, and on the third day he will rise again.." (Luke 18:31-32)

Although the baptism of Jesus was not the sacrament which we receive, our baptism is related to his. Our baptism marked the beginning of our Christian lives, God the Father looked upon us with pride and declared, "You are beloved children, my sons and daughters, upon whom my favor rests."

Because we are brothers and sisters of Jesus, as part of God's family, we share his destiny. Baptism

begins our journey up to Jerusalem with Christ to share in his Paschal Mystery. The journey will culminate for us as it did for Jesus., with death and resurrection. But the Christian life is a constant relentless journey with Christ up to Jerusalem. The church, our place of worship, is our Jerusalem. Do you know that on the Lord's day we must all be in our father's house? As we enter our spiritual Jerusalem we find a font. We bless ourselves with its holy water. That action is meant to be a reminder of our baptism, that great event which brought us into God's family and formed us into such an intimate union with the Son of God that his destiny is our own.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Table with columns for Day, Date, and Time, listing special intentions for each day of the week.

Consider the Homeless wishes to thank the parishioners of St. Rose of Lima for their donation of socks to those in need. They were greatly appreciated. Thank you for your generosity.

Sunday Collection - January 5th

Table listing collection amounts for St. Rose, Crockett and St. Patrick Mission for the week of January 5th.

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 2025 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. ***

First Offering Envelopes

For those that receive their parish envelopes in the mail, the January envelopes include one labeled First Offering. The money collected in this envelope helps to offset some of the cost of the envelope service the parish uses. In preparing a budget for 2025, our Finance Council found that if all of the families in our parish donated just \$20 to this collection, it would just about pay for the envelope service for the whole year!

December Financial Overview

Table showing financial overview for St. Patrick Mission, including expense and income items.



December Financial Overview

Table showing financial overview for St. Rose, including expense and income items.