March 6, 2022



This weekend as we begin the season of Lent, the Church wants us to think again about the great fundamental facts about our religion. The Church wants us to reflect on the relationship between God and the people of the Old Testament, between God and his Son Jesus Christ, and between God and ourselves.

Jesus came as the new Israel, the chosen one of God. In his person he summed up the whole purpose and meaning of the chosen people, and fulfilled and completed all that they should have and more. Like the chosen people Jesus was led into the desert, and there spent, not only forty years, but forty days. There he underwent temptations similar to those of the Israelites. The devil tempted Jesus to be selfish. The devil was trying to get him to think only of himself, to use his power for his own convenience and comfort. The devil tempted Jesus to put God to the test, to have God prove his might and his power by saving Jesus from destruction in a leap from the parapet of the temple. The devil even tempted Jesus to idolatry by saying "Prostrate yourself in homage before me and the world shall be yours.

Yes, Jesus did undergo temptations similar to those of the Israelites in the desert, but where the Israelites had failed, Jesus was triumphant. Jesus showed that his relationship with his Father was based on loving obedience. The loving obedience indeed led Jesus to die on the Cross, but it was through that death that God exalted him and led him into the true promised land, the life of perfect happiness in heaven.

What with our relationship with God? We are the new chosen people of God. He wants to lead us into the promised land with Jesus, but for a while we must wander in the desert of this world. Here we too undergo temptations. We are enticed by the devil to be selfish, to think only of ourselves, our welfare our convenience. When our wants and wishes are not satisfied, we are tempted to put God to the test, to demand that he show his power and his might by healing the ills of our society and by solving our own personal problems. We are even tempted to turn from the true God to worship false gods, such as materialism, pleasure, expediency and laziness.

We will fall victim to these temptations if we forget all that God has already done for us and what he promises in the future. God has saved us in Jesus Christ, and as he raised Jesus from the dead and exalted him because of his loving obedience, so God will raise us and lift us up to heaven if we have the same loving obedience as Jesus. That is our faith, and it should be a motive to keep us from failing God.

Lest we become selfish and concerned only with ourselves, we should be more generous in works of charity. Lest we give in to temptation to put God to the test, to demand that he show his power, we should prepare with joy for the paschal feast, the mystery of our salvation in Jesus Christ. Finally, lest we become worshipers of modern false gods, we must be more fervent in prayer.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

| Tues. | March 8 | 11:00AM |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Tom Cummings † | | Lena McCrossen |
| Wed. | March 9 | 9:00AM, 6PM |
| Living Memorial | | |
| Thur. | March 10 | 11:00AM |
| Lisa & Robert | | Lena McCrossen |
| (Anniversary) Fri. | March 11 | 11:00AM |
| C. Essex | | Mom & Dad |
| (birthday) Sat. | March 12 | 4:30PM |
| Adrianne Ware † | | Stella Noe |
| Sun. | March 13 | 9:00AM |
| John Bianchi † | | Choir |
| Port Costa | | 11:00AM |
| People of the Parish | | |
| † ************************************ | ++++++++++++++ | ************* |

Sunday Collection - February 27th

St. Rose, Crockett \$1778 St. Patrick Mission \$360

Thank you again to all who support our Parish!

Current Mass Protocol

Contra Costa County and the Oakland Diocese require masking indoors for those who are unvaccinated (ages 2 and up) as a precaution against increased circulation of COVID-19 and its variants.

Currently no one is required to wear masks outdoors.

Social distancing is not required, though we do ask to keep others in mind as we work our way back to "normal."

Although the Diocese has okayed the use of worship aids, such as the missalettes, it is still recommended to stick to single use items. As there is no good way to clean the missalettes and prayer cards without wearing them down, St. Rose/St. Patrick will not be setting these back out just yet.

The Sign of Peace will still be without physical contact.

Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross have begun, Friday after the 11:00AM Mass, approximately 11:30.







<u>Daylight Savings Begins</u> Don't forget to set your clocks an hour ahead **NEXT SATURDAY NIGHT** before you go to bed!

Ríce Bowls

THE PILLARS OF LENT As we begin our Lenten journey, reflect on how your prayers, fasting and almsgiving can guide you. As Pope Francis explains, these are "elements which, when lived sincerely, can transform life and provide a sure foundation for dignity and fraternity." How can practicing the Lenten pillars transform your life and the lives of our sisters and brothers around the world? Rice Bowl boxes are in the vestibule! Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more.



What is the Bishop's Appeal?

The Bishop's Appeal is an organized effort to give every Catholic family in the Diocese of Oakland the opportunity to make a gift to the best of their financial ability to support the ministries and services that no one parish can provide on its own. It gives each household a chance to help further the mission of the Diocesan Church, through sharing our gifts and our faith as responsible stewards as we, together, share God's Mercy.

What does the Bishop's Appeal Fund?

- Pastoral Ministries & Services
- Religious Education & Formation
- Clergy Formation & Support
- Support for Catholic Schools & Parishes in Need
- Safe Environment Programs
- Assisting Local Parishes

Collection Next Weekend!

For more information on the 2022 Bishop's Appea please visit www.oakdiocese.org/giving