



From the Desk of Fr. Leo

In this weekend's gospel, Jesus meets a pagan woman, a Greek, living in the neighborhood of Tyre and Sidon. The area itself tells us she was probably a financially well- to- do person. She was a woman who was a loving mother and a very clever person. This is a unique story. We cannot think of any other story where Jesus seems so harsh with someone seeking His help. It is also the only one we can think of where someone got the better of Jesus in a debate. I would guess that the only part of this story that most people remember is with Jesus saying to her “it is not right to take the food of the children (the Jews) and throw it to the dogs (meaning the Gentiles).” Referring to someone as a dog in those days, as well as today, would be an insult. A dog would be an unclean animal for the Jews, just as Gentiles were considered unclean by the Jews. What if Jesus had said: “it is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the birds?” Birds were unclean, too, for Jews. Would that have been less offensive? Actually, in Greek, the word that is used here generally means a puppy or a pet, rather than a mangy cur that just freely roamed the neighborhood. Was puppy offensive? We will never know which word would be most cutting. The important thing to notice is that the woman didn't turn and walk away in a huff. She was humble enough and clever enough and persistent enough to accept Jesus' remark and turn it to her advantage in order to gain His help to heal her daughter.

In the gospel, the healing is not the primary focus of the story. It is the conversation between Jesus and the woman. In that, we find a lesson for ourselves. How many times have we prayed earnestly for something, something very dear to us, and God seems to have ignored us or rebuffed us. We turn our heels and walk away, angry, promising we will quit praying or going to Church or thinking God just doesn't care about us. Jesus has on other occasions in the gospels insisted on the importance of perseverance in prayer and not giving up, like the woman in the gospel who wouldn't give up.

The gospel's story about the Canaanite woman reflects both the fact that Jesus came to save all people and, at the same time, it reflects the tension that this idea created. But one really valuable lesson we can

make from hearing this weekend's gospel story is that Christ reaches out to all people in love, even those we don't think are worthy of His love. But there are a couple of other lessons we can take with us as well. This gospel is a good example of faith and perseverance in prayer. It also strikes us as a good example of asking others, including Jesus good friends whom we call saints, to pray for us. Notice that the woman tried to get the apostles to persuade Jesus for help and it worked. We don't understand the dynamics of prayer, but Jesus said there is great power in united prayer. Thus, we pray together the greatest prayer God gave us, the Eucharist.

Fr. Leo A. Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	Aug 18	11:00AM
C. Essex and Janice (anniversary) Mom and Dad		
St. Rose of Lima Novena- Buenaflor- Roth Family		
Wed.	Aug 19	11:00AM
Living Memorial		
St. Rose of Lima Novena-Lacsina Family		
Thur.	Aug 20	11:00AM
Alma and Jong (safe travels)		
St. Rose of Lima Novena- Kim Family		
Fri.	Aug 21	11:00AM
Remedios Levasty Rose Ilagan		
St. Rose of Lima Novena- Flory del Rosario, Molina- Lehman Family, Fugaban Family		
Sat.	Aug 22	4:30PM
People of the Parish		
St. Rose of Lima Novena- Ed and Mitz Huab		
Sun.	Aug 23	10:00AM
David Ponti† and Manuel Morales†		
St. Rose of Lima Novena- Buenaflor Roth Family, Agdinaoy Family, Salvador Family		
Port Costa		11:00AM
No Mass		

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REMINDER, THERE IS NO MASS ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 23RD AT ST. PATRICK MISSION. ALL PARISHIONERS PLEASE JOIN US AT THE ST. ROSE OF LIMA FEAST DAY MASS AT 10:00AM

Sunday Collection -August 9th

St. Rose, Crockett	\$2841
St. Patrick Mission	\$350

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

Scan to Support Our Church!

Your generous gift to St. Rose of Lima enables us to provide beneficial programs that lift up our congregation and serve our community. We are deeply grateful for your support and invite you to contribute online by scanning the QR code.

St Rose Of Lima
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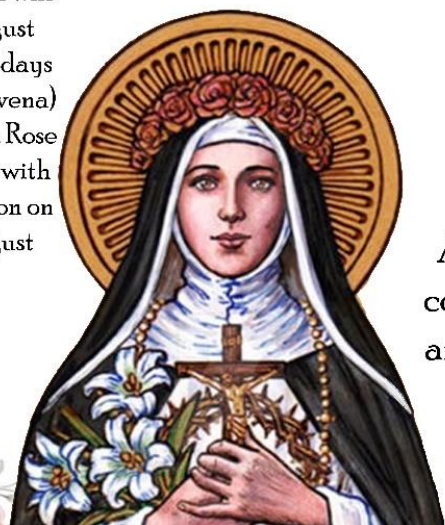
St. Rose of Lima
Feast Day Celebration

Sunday, August 23rd

Please join us in celebrating our
patrón saint's feast day.

Mass will begin at 10:00AM,
with a potluck fellowship in the hall
immediately following.

The celebration will begin on August 14th, with nine days of masses (a Novena) dedicated to St. Rose and culminate with a full celebration on Sunday, August 23rd.



All in our
community
are invited!

From our steering committee:

Dear Parishioners,

Your fellow parishioners continue to work hard on saving our parish from closure. If you have written to the bishop and received a form letter in response, please know that there are several incorrect statements including that St. Rose of Lima is not financially sustainable.

Please continue your efforts to not only challenge closure but to build our faith community by attending mass and financially supporting St. Rose of Lima. Our next general meeting is scheduled for **Monday, September 14 at 7:00 p.m.** in the parish hall. Please join us!

We are all in this together, and may God bless you!

August 23rd is the feast day, the liturgical date we remember a saint or event, for our patron saint, St. Rose of Lima.

All masses this week will continue the novena for St. Rose, and her “wishing well” is available all week. **Next Sunday, we will be culminating our St. Rose Novena with a special mass at 10:00am, followed by a celebration in the hall.** Please sign up on the pot luck list in the vestibule. The parish will be providing hamburgers and hot dogs as well.

We encourage all parishioner to invite friends and neighbors to come celebrate with our parish. Please spread the word!