



From the Desk of Fr. Leo

We are constantly being told our government is doing a great job of protecting us and we can only assume they are doing the best they can, but can we depend totally on the government? When was the last time we actually asked God to help our country? You might say a hacker for example breaking into a department of Homeland Security phone system and charging \$12,000 in long distance phone calls is just a small thing, and maybe it is, but wars have been won and lost over seemingly small things. We can say all this, not with the intent of frightening people but reminding all of us we need to constantly pray.

There are two important ideas in this weekend’s gospel. First of all, there are many places in the Scriptures that emphasize the preeminent position of St. Peter among the apostles, but there are two places where St. Peter’s position of leadership is spelled out more clearly than anywhere else. The one is in St. John’s where Jesus tells S. Peter after the resurrection: “Feed my lambs, feed my sheep.” Also, in Scripture where St. Peter’s position of importance is clearly emphasized is in this weekend’s Gospel. Such insistence on the position of St. Peter vis a vis the other apostles is what underlies our belief that after Christ, the Holy Father is chief shepherd and head of the Church. This doesn’t mean he has perfectly represented Christ at all times in history, but that is still the position he holds. He has the final word on any issues relating to the Church. The keys Jesus said He would give St. Peter symbolize this authority. The keys Jesus gave to St. Peter were not buried with Him and that position of authority did not end when St. Peter died. It was passed on to his successors. This is implied in the gospel St. Matthew wrote. St. Matthew made a big issue of this incident, not to tell us about some personal favor Jesus bestowed on St. Peter, but because the leadership position of St. Peter would remain as part of the structure of Christ’s community of believers.

A second important idea in this weekend’s gospel is the answer to the question Jesus asked His apostles. “Who do you say that I am?” How we answer this question will determine how each of us relate to Him. Is He, for example, someone worth our time on Sunday or even during the week? Is He someone we can trust? Is He someone who loves us, forgives us,

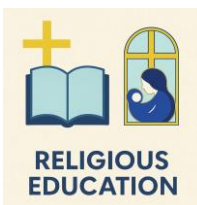
wants only the best for us? Is He someone who has the authority to tell us how to live, what we should do, what we may not do. Is He someone we look forward to spending eternity with? Can any of us give a complete and perfect answer to that question “Who do you say that I am.”? If we do not know Jesus personally, what can we do that will help us know Him, not just by hearsay, but in a deeply personal way? How we do it is how we get to know anyone in a personal way. By spending time with a person. There are no shortcuts. Spending time with God, with Jesus. It is called prayer.

Fr. Leo A. Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Table with 3 columns: Day, Date, Time. Rows include Tues. Aug 25 11:00AM (Edgar Allan and Theresa, Mom and Dad), Wed. Aug 26 11:00AM (Bonifacia Buenaflor, Buenaflor- Roth Family), Thur. Aug 27 11:00AM (Christian Lacsina, Mom and Dad), Fri. Aug 28 11:00AM (Alfonso Combong Jr., Ed & Mae), Sat. Aug 29 4:30PM (Elyse Mathea, Lolo & Lola), Sun. Aug 30 10:00AM (Dionisio Junio Sr., Buenaflor-Roth Family), and Port Costa 11:00AM (People of the Parish).

Faith Formation



Just a reminder for returning students preparing for Confirmation and First Communion, that classes will start back up on Sunday, September 13th.

Sunday Collection -August 16th

Table with 2 columns: Location, Amount. Rows: St. Rose, Crockett (\$1477), St. Patrick Mission (\$180).

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 s***t@comcast.net



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A reflection with St. Rose from 365 Saints:

The first canonized saint of the Americas, St. Rose of Lima wanted to enter a convent, but her parents wanted her to marry. After years of struggle, a compromise was reached when Rose joined the Third Order of St. Dominic and wore the white habit and black veil of a nun, but lived at home.

Making peace with our parents is one of the fundamental tasks of growing up. Few of us reach adulthood without experiencing some conflict with our parents. Learning to separate and establish our own identity and self-worth is our part of the equation. Learning to let go and allow children to become their own persons is our parents’ part.

As Hodding Carter says, “There are only two lasting bequests we can hope to give our children. One of these is roots; the other, wings.” Both roots and wings are essential if we are to become whole, healthy, integrated human beings who relate to our parents as adults. Even if our parents aren’t alive, we can still make peace with

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!

them by forgiving them for hurts, real and imagined, we caused them.

St. Rose’s parents didn’t always understand why their beautiful daughter rejected all suggestion of marriage. St. Rose didn’t understand why her parents couldn’t accept her total dedication to God. But to both their credit, they finally let Rose keep her roots in the backyard while her wings carried her to heaven.

I realize my parents weren’t perfect, but then I realize I’m not perfect either.

