



From the Desk of Fr. Leo

There are people who are afraid to act as witnesses. If they witness by chance a murder or even a bad accident, they disappear quietly for fear of the consequences, should they courageously bear witness against the guilty person or persons. A true witness must be courageous, but he or she must also be honest, well-balanced and reliable. On his or her words at times depend serious decisions. He or she is out to promote the truth and to be of assistance to his or her fellowmen and women.

St. John the Baptist was a man of singular caliber. The crowds could not help being attracted by this gaunt ascetical figure, so utterly detached from material comforts in his dress and food habits, so fearless in denouncing the real culprits as "brood of vipers", so gentle and understanding toward the common man, be he a soldier, official, or ordinary laborer. (Luke 3:10-14).

He was not a self-appointed prophet as to many today, but was sent by God. He does not put himself forward as a Leader to whom all must conform their way of living. He is simply a witness to Someone greater than he, a witness to the Divine Light, already shining in their midst, but unknown and unacknowledged. "Witness" in Greek is the English word "martyr", for the latter is a supreme witness even unto death for the cause in question. St. John's whole ambition aimed solely at preparing people's hearts to receive the Light, each in his or her own capacity. He leads his own disciples to the Light and finally, at the mere whim of an adulterous woman, lays down his life for the Master.

The Church needs men and women today who will be witnesses to Christ the Light in all its stark reality: who are not afraid to stand up for the truth of the Gospel (not watering it down to suit the tastes of contemporaries); undaunted in holding the law of God in the many and varied moral issues of the day (which is not always the case in the so-called "theology of compassion"); who know how, like St. John, to demand much of themselves but are gentle and understanding of other's weaknesses; and whose goal is not self, nor self-advancement, but solely Christ the Lord, in whose light they suffuse that clear light of a witness sent by God.

There is no need to look for extraordinary opportunities to bear witness to Christ the Light. This

is best done in the little situations of the day, at home or at work, in school or at play; the honest word, the correct answer; a courageous "No", when association demands are contrary to the ideals of Christ, a fearless example when leadership is needed; a teacher's faith professed, a parent's belief manifested. These and many other ways prove the true witnesses to the one who is the Light Divine.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Though we are not able to meet together during this week, please keep these intentions in your personal prayers, as Father will continue to include them in his private masses.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues. December 15 N/A
Special Intentions

Wed. December 16 N/A
Living Memorial

Thur. December 17 N/A
Special Intentions

Fri. December 18 N/A
Dave Botta † John Collins

Sat. December 19 4:30PM
Fr. Ciaran Dillon † ICF #14

Sun. December 20 9:00AM
Ray & Mary Lou Austria † Olivia

Port Costa 11:00AM
People of the Parish

Sunday Collection - December 6

St. Rose, Crockett \$2573

St. Patrick Mission, Port Costa \$130



In your prayers, please remember in a special way, Robert Pallotta.

No Indoor Mass!!!

At this time, Contra Costa County has called for outdoor Mass at both St. Rose and St. Patrick Mission! We are still working on a plan, especially for Christmas. Father Leo is considering returning back to distributing Communion as we were doing earlier in the summer months if people are not comfortable with outdoor Mass due to the cold weather. PLEASE LET US KNOW HOW YOU FEEL; IT IS VERY IMPORTANT!!!

Breaking Bread Mass Book

Due to the pandemic and safety, we have had to remove all Mass aides, including the missalettes, because we cannot safely clean them, and we anticipate this to follow through next year. We do understand that many would like to follow during Mass, and we do have access to the new Breaking Bread music and reading books (Advent 2020-Thanksgiving 2021). If you are interested in a personal copy for \$10 donation please come by the office or let Father Leo know! There are only

Crockett Christmas Committee

As with most things this year, the Crockett Christmas Committee will work a little differently. In order to help keep everyone safe and maintain social distancing, they will not be able to put together the donated food baskets. Instead of the traditional baskets, the Committee is encouraging donations of money or gift cards that they will put together for families. If you would like to participate, and we would greatly appreciate it, donations can be dropped off at the St. Rose Office. Checks need to be made to the Crockett Christmas Committee, and some gift card ideas: Target, Walmart, Safeway, etc. Remember, unlike many groups, these donations always stay in our Crockett and Rodeo communities.

**The proceeds from the Thanksgiving Dinner are not included in the finances due to participating in the Foundations Fundraising Program. We will hopefully be able to include in next month. **



November Financial Outlook

St. Rose

Expense:

Table with 2 columns: Expense Item and Amount. Items include Priest Salary, Secretary Salary, Priest Food Reimbursement, PG&E Classrooms, PG&E Church/Rectory, Comcast, Garbage, Health Insurance, Taxes (IRS), EDD, Virtus Online Training (Diocese), Thanksgiving Dinner Expenses, Liability, EBMUD (Church/Rectory), EBMUD (Classrooms), Hosts, Property Tax, Bookkeeping Service, Ordos (Mass Calendar), Total \$15084.20

Income:

Table with 2 columns: Income Item and Amount. Items include Sunday's Plate, Donations, Maintenance, CCD Envelope, CCD Tuition, Facility Use (Parking lot lease), Facility Use (Little Roses), All Souls/All Saints, Thanksgiving, Total \$12638.25

St. Patrick Mission

Expense:

Table with 2 columns: Expense Item and Amount. Items include Liability, PG&E, Property Tax, Total \$3397.07

Income:

Table with 2 columns: Income Item and Amount. Items include Sundays Plate, Maintenance, CCD Envelope, Thanksgiving, All Souls/All Saints, Total \$1604.00