



From the Desk of Fr. Leo

Modern shepherds often control their sheep with dogs, horses, pick-up trucks or other advanced technological methods. Shepherds in the ancient world didn't have such methods and they guarded and guided their sheep themselves. Shepherds make their living caring for sheep and, since sheep require full time care, they were together almost constantly with their sheep. Old time shepherds gave each lamb its own name just as we give names to our pets. Like our pets recognize our voices and come running when we call them, unless they're cats, which are very independent, so also the sheep came running when their shepherds call them.

Even though we do not see real sheep and shepherds very often, still the image of the good shepherd is one of the most comforting images in the Scriptures. The best remembered and loved psalm of all the 150 psalms is Psalm 23: "The Lord is my Shepherd." It symbolizes God's protection and care and guidance. But there are two sides to that coin. If He is to be our shepherd and protector, He expects that we will follow Him. We will hear His voice.

A second image Jesus used in this weekend's Gospel is that He is the gate of the sheepfold. Whoever goes in and out through Him will be safe and find pasture. Gates serve the same function as doors. Think of how important doors are. They let us in our homes where we find safety and family. They let us go out so we can meet friends or make a living or buy things we need or do something fun. They close out people who shouldn't be there. Jesus is telling us doors and gates are important, so is He. When He is part of our comings and goings, when we make Him central in our lives, when we ask His blessing on all our activities, our life will be secure and our happiness will be ensured.

Does this mean nothing bad will ever happen if we follow Christ? If it were true that if we do everything God wants, God would do everything we want, church would be packed every week. We know there are rewards in this life when we stay faithful to Him. We certainly have tried to stay on God's good side and God has been very good to us, but as we all know bad things do happen to good people. Even many of Jesus' friends suffered, some were even tortured and put to death as Jesus was. But it's not just to protect us

in this world that Jesus came. Jesus said "I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly." When people ask why Jesus doesn't keep bad things from happening to those who are faithful to Him, perhaps one answer could be that life in this world is not where the abundant life really is. Even if we have looks, popularity, health, wealth, youth, wisdom and everything else our hearts desires, we don't "have it all." We'll always feel some emptiness in our hearts, we'll never be totally satisfied, because our hearts were made for perfect union with God, and we won't know what that's like until we get to heaven.

Fr. Leo A. Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Table with 3 columns: Day, Date, Time. Rows include Tues. April 28 (11:00AM), Wed. April 29 (11:00AM), Thur. April 30 (11:00AM), Fri. May 1 (11:00AM), Sat. May 2 (11:00AM), Sun. May 3 (9:00AM). Each row lists the intention and the celebrant.

Port Costa 11:00AM
Mother's Day Novena

St Rose of Lima & St. Patrick Mission SUPPORT



Every act of service, every outreach effort, every moment of compassion is our diocese living its mission together, as one body, one family in Christ.

Sunday Collection - April 19th

Table with 2 columns: Location, Amount. Rows: St. Rose, Crockett (\$2045), St. Patrick Mission (\$176)

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 2026 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. **

Parish Council Meeting

This Tuesday, April 28th, is our monthly pastoral council meeting. The meeting is held at 7:00PM in the parish hall. All are welcome to attend to see what our council is working on, as well as to share your thoughts and opinions.



First Communion

Please join us on May 3rd at the 9:00AM Mass at St. Rose to help celebrate the special milestone of First Communion with some of the younger members of our parish!



Advertisement for St. Patrick St. Vincent Catholic High School. Text: EXPERIENCE THE BRUIN DIFFERENCE. Includes QR code and contact info: 707.644.4425 x 435, www.spsv.org, enrollment@spsv.org

CROCKETT SCOUTS Fish Fry Fundraiser. Friday, May 15th 4PM - 8PM Crockett Scout Hall. Dinner includes all you can eat: Battered Fish, French Fries, Coleslaw, Corn. Tickets: \$30 Adults, \$12 Children under 12.

Mother's Day Novena

Mother's Day envelopes are available in the vestibule if you would like to enroll your mother or mother figure, living or deceased, in the Mother's Day Novena, May 1st -May 10th. Please return by April 29th!



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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

