



From the Desk of Fr. Leo

Three hundred years is a long time. In our nation, three hundred years would take us back to before George Washington was born and long before our Declaration of Independence. In our first reading this weekend, we hear Zechariah the prophet. For those who first heard Zechariah's words, there would have been the realization that it had been three hundred years since their country had a king and had known independence. They could recall their sad history that three hundred years earlier, their homes and lands, their city and their Temple had been destroyed and they were exiled to Babylon and became Babylonian slaves. Then the Persians conquered the Babylonians. They allowed the Jews to return home, but continued to rule them and to collect taxes from those they ruled. Then came the Greeks who conquered Israel and who eventually bitterly persecuted the Jews who would not give up their faith and their traditions. So, when the prophet Zechariah tells God's people, "Rejoice!" many of them probably thought he had been out in the sun far too long. But God's prophet has reasons to be full of joy. The role of a prophet is to see clearly what others cannot see. He could see a time when there would be no more war, or exile, destruction or conquest. He could see that one day they would have their own king, a king who would bring peace. That is the symbol of the donkey in the first reading. Horses were weapons of war, used by warriors and conquerors. Horses, chariots, warriors' bows and other instruments of war would be outlawed in his kingdom. The people of Jerusalem remembered this prophecy when Jesus came riding into Jerusalem on a donkey on Palm Sunday. We're not at Palm Sunday. But we hear in this weekend's gospel Jesus revealing Himself as a man of peace who is meek and humble of heart. That's why the passage from Zechariah was chosen for our first reading. Someday after we learn to better follow Jesus, the man of peace., maybe we will then see Zechariah's prophecy of peace fully fulfilled.

This weekend, we celebrated our Independence Day. But there's no independence from God. We treasure our freedom in this country, but if we think freedom is doing anything we want, we won't have any freedom at all. In think the image of a sailboat is a good example. When you sail, it is important that you keep

your hand on the tiller and keep the sail at the right angle to the wind. If you let the boat go free it would be a disaster. If you turn wrong into the wind, you will be blown over. In our own lives, we need to keep going in the right direction to find peace and happiness, and God's laws are meant to keep us going in that direction. God's way is not to limit our freedom as sometimes people think, but to guide us to peace and happiness. When we ignore and violate His law (which is sin) we become slaves to our own worst selves.

Fr. Leo A. Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	July 7	11:00AM
Julia Martin		Ed & Mae
(healing)		
Wed.	July 8	11:00AM
Special Intentions		
Thur.	July 9	11:00AM
Special Intentions		
Fri.	July 10	11:00AM
Special Intentions		
Sat.	July 11	4:30PM
Soledad Caparas Banaban †		Cris & Evelyn
Sun.	July 12	9:00AM
Theresa Marie		Mom & Dad
(birthday)		
Port Costa		11:00AM
People of the Parish		

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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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Sunday Collection - June 28th

St. Rose, Crockett	\$1426
Peter's Pence	\$240
St. Patrick Mission	\$355
Peter's Pence	\$32

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. **

Food Bank

You may have forgotten the food barrel in the vestibule from Contra Costa Food Bank; it happens when things are a fixture for a while! Our commitment to helping our community is a yearlong process. Right now, this is the suggested list for donations:

- Nut butters (peanut, almond)
- Jam/jelly/honey
- Canned tuna and chicken (in water)
- Boxed macaroni and cheese
- Shelf-stable milk
- Applesauce
- Beans/lentils (dry or canned)
- Rice
- Whole grain cereals/crackers
- Oat/oatmeal/farina
- Whole wheat/grain pasta
- Canned soups/vegetables/tomato products (low sodium, easy open)
- Canned fruits (in juice)
- 100% Fruit juice (cartons or small boxes only)
- Nonperishable ready-to-eat meals: chili, ravioli, meats, etc. (low sodium)

Please remember summer can be an especially hard time for families with kids; check out the Contra Costa Food Bank website for more suggestions:
www.foodbankccs.org/fooddrive

SAVE OUR PARISH UPDATE:

Please help us in our effort to save St. Rose of Lima from closure. We request all parishioners to:

- Ensure you are registered with the Parish (even if you only attend occasionally)
- Sign our Petition in opposition to the closing
- Please consider writing a letter to the Bishop (see past bulletin)
- Attend our update meetings to stay informed. We need everyone's input!
- Please continue your support of our Parish through your typical collection plate contribution

We welcome all parishioners to our open update meetings! The next meeting is scheduled for July 6, 7pm in the Parish Hall – Please Join Us

