

From the Desk of Fr. Leo

The night before he died, the savior of the world gave his followers an urgent command which he repeated over and over: "Love one another as I have loved You." Love was to characterize his followers the world over. Love of one another was to be the leaven that would pervade the whole of mankind and bring about the reign of God in its fullness by preparing it for the glorious Parousia of the Lord Jesus. Love was to cross the frontiers of the unknown, break down the barriers of nations, and spread the good news everywhere that God is love, and all of humankind were called to union of love in his family.

But what has happened? Is the situation of today's world with its flood of hatred, war and cruelty a sign that Christ's commandment has been forgotten, laid aside and repudiated? What will shake the Christian world out of its lethargy so that once again love is on the move, and love conquers? What is needed is a new outpouring of the Spirit, that Spirit that conquered the ancient pagan world the first time, and transformed it into a haven of love and peace in countless Christian quarters: a haven where joy and peace reigned, and the powers of darkness were kept at a distance. Perhaps God has set the world of mankind sink deeper and deeper to the present miserable mess to awaken it to an awareness of its great need of love, which only the Spirit of love can bestow. Then there is hope, when mankind turns to God and begs him once again for a renewal of Pentecost.

Pentecost is approaching, and we ought not to let the matter stand still, but do something about it. Renewed endeavor to love those in our immediate neighborhood, renewed periods of earnest prayer begging God to grant a new outpouring of love, coupled with a deep conviction that we can stand and must do something about the situation will surely bring about good effects. A small fire can burn a whole forest, a single candle can start a chain-reaction of good. Let us not wait for the great ones to do it. God has always saved the world through his "little ones."

"Love one another as I have loved you" is Jesus' last request. What he desires of us is the same love in action which impelled him all during his life, that willing service of fellowmen and women in need. For some it will be caring for their families, for others the corporal and spiritual works of mercy, for still others teaching children and youth. There are ways and means for each of Christ's followers to serve his or her fellowmen or women. To acknowledge ourselves as children of God in need of everything from the good God and to manifest genuine love toward one another is the epitome of the Christian calling. Happy are those who realize this and endeavor to carry it out.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	May 7	11:00AM
Mother's Day Novena		
Wed.	May 8	11:00AM
Mother's Day Novena		
Thur.	May 9	11:00AM
Mother's Day Novena		
Fri.	May 10	11:00AM
Mother's Day Novena		
Sat.	May 11	4:30PM
Mother's Day Novena		
Sun.	May 12	9:00AM
Mother's Day Novena		
Port Costa		11:00AM

Mother's Day Novena

<u>Sunday Collection -April 28th</u>		
St. Rose, Crockett	\$3771	
St. Patrick Mission	\$230	

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 2024 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. ***

Mother's Day Novena Mother's Day envelopes are available in the vestibule if you would like to enroll your mother or mother figure (\$10/ name), living or deceased in the Mother's Day Novena, starting May 4th Turn in by Wednesday, May 8th at the latest.





<u>Saínts</u>

In recognition of the saint names that our Confirmations candidates will be taking this weekend, we thought we would get to know some fun facts about their selected saints.

This weekend's saint is St. Agnes.



Saint Agnes is one of 7 women mentioned in the Roman Canon of the mass. Most of what we know about her is legend, but there are records of her being venerated as a saint as early as the time of Saint Ambrose.

She was born to a noble family in the 3rd century AD, during the time of the reign of Emperor Diocletian. She was very beautiful and had many suitors, but was committed to her faith and to chastity. She was only about 12 or 13. She swore her purity and virginity to Christ, refusing marriage. They tried to force her to marry, but she continued to refuse. It is said that she was dragged through the streets naked until she died. One legend says that her hair grew long to hide her naked body. Another legend says that it snowed to hide her nakedness. Either way, through a miraculous event, her desire for modesty was granted.

When she was sentenced to death for being a Christian, she was sentenced to being burned at the stake, but despite all efforts, the wood would not burn. The officer in charge then beheaded her with his sword.

Each year on her feast day, lambs are blessed inside her church in Rome. The wool from these lambs is woven by the nuns of the St. Agnes convent.

(<u>www.catholicicing.com</u>;https://www.elevatortoheaven.com/sain t-agnes/)