



From the Desk of Fr. Leo

Give anyone a worthwhile challenge and you have instigated interest, energy and ambition, if the person has any idealism at all. Witness the numerous races in the field of sports, the contests in arts and music, the essays and other literary competitions. All bring out the best in a person. Even people with disabilities or those who know they suffer from particular illnesses and have not long to live, are known to have accomplished marvels for their fellow human beings, just because they met the challenge with which they were faced.

To be a Christian is a real challenge. Christ never intended the following of him to be easy. He said: "Whoever loves father or mother, son or daughter, more than me is not worthy of me" (Matthew 10:38). And again: "Whoever wishes to be my follower must deny his very self, take up his cross each day, and follow in my steps" (Luke 9:23). His very first announcement was not a message that people welcome: "Repent" he tells us in this weekend's gospel. Metanoia, a change of heart, a change of attitudes.

Many are hardly aware that they need a change of attitudes, and that they are catering to the standards of the devil. The lust for power, to dominate the minds and wills of others, to push their own will through at any cost, with no concern for the personal needs and happiness of others: these are not Christ's standards but Satan's and there is need of a change of heart. The greed for acquiring wealth, not the honest effort for means to live decently with personal or family requirements, but the avid desire to acquire, possess and selfishly cling to all manner of worldly possessions; these are not Christ's standards but Satan's, and there is need of a change of heart. To put pleasure and comfort before all other considerations, regardless of the moral angle involved in these pursuits: these are the standards of Satan, not Christ's, and there is need of a change of heart.

But Christian living implies more than a change of heart from past ways. It involves a serious following of the ways and guidelines of Christ: to think as he did

about life and eternity, to live as he did with the constant aim to please the Father and serve the fellowman. He came to give, not to take away. He came to share our life with all its



inconveniences and troubles in order to sanctify all our sufferings in the crucible of love.

The season of Lent beckons to us to make a whole-hearted response. A change of heart will enable any to turn away from selfish aims and come to the need of their fellowmen and women, to share their goods with those more in need, to spend their time and efforts on things of real value. For the true follower of Christ has found joy in life and strength in good living.

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. February 23 N/A
Special Intentions

Wed. February 24 N/A
Special Intentions

Thur. February 25 N/A
Special Intentions

Fri. February 26 N/A
Special Intentions

Sat. February 27 4:30PM
Ted Gallo † Trudi

Sun. February 28 9:00A
Pat Guerrieri † Rita DeTomasi

Port Costa 11:00AM
People of the Parish



Sunday Collection - February 14

St. Rose, Crockett \$1266

St. Patrick Mission, Port Costa \$294

Thank you again to all who support our Parish!

Indoor Mass!!!

We received an email from the Bishop Barber giving us the green light to get back in our churches!

Last night the US Supreme Court ruled that Governor Newsome's executive orders shutting our churches for indoor worship was unconstitutional. I welcome this decision by the Court. They also ruled that capping attendance at 25% and restricting congregational singing was reasonable and permitted.

Therefore, effective immediately, you may (not must) reopen your parish church for indoor worship at 25% of your occupancy, as long as you continue to follow social distancing and wear a face covering. We were in a similar situation last summer with indoor worship, and the protocols we established then are still valid.

From here on out, hopefully, we will be back inside, but maintaining a maximum of 60 people at St. Rose (25 at St. Patrick) for now.

Please remember face coverings are required, keep six feet distance at all times and only sit in the open sections/pews. During communion, please follow Fr. Leo's directions, and STAY ON THE MARKINGS IN THE AISLE TO MAINTAIN A SAFE DISTANCE!!!



Scarves

Runette has been kind enough to donate her time in making some scarves like the ones offered at the Christmas Boutique last year. If anyone is interested in purchasing some (\$15 each) to keep you or your family warm they are available in the rectory Mon- Fri from 8:30AM-2:00PM.

There are only a few scarves left!!!

Join ICF Branch #14 for our CORNED BEEF & CABBAGE Drive Thru Dinner. Corned Beef & cabbage, potatoes, carrots, roll & butter. \$20 cash or check. Please reserve your dinners by March 8th. Saturday, March 13th. Pickup from 3:30 - 5:30pm. Crockett Boy Scout Hall, 991 Loring Ave. For reservations, contact Donna @ 510-367-5669 or email dhoffm3101@aol.com by March 8th.

Weekday Mass

Beginning Tuesday, February 23rd, we will begin having weekday Masses again.

MASS WILL BEGIN AT 11:00AM.

St. Rose will keep weekday Masses at 11:00 until we get a little closer to normal. Beginning next week, Father Leo will also resume Stations of the Cross on Fridays after Mass as we have traditionally done during Lent.



Rice Bowl

It is not too late to join other members of our parish community—and nearly 14,000 Catholic communities across the United States—in a life-changing Lenten journey of encounter with CRS Rice Bowl. Pick up your family's CRS Rice Bowl in the vestibule. Remember, your contributions to Rice Bowl helps those in need both globally and locally: 25% of the proceeds remain in the Oakland Diocese, with a portion being given out as grants to St. Vincent de Paul Conferences and other organizations working to alleviate hunger and food insecurity in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. Last



December our own St. Vincent de Paul conference received a Rice Bowl grant of [SEE AMOUNT ON GRANT RECIPIENTS LIST].