



From the Desk of Fr. Leo

Confrontation is really a very difficult thing. Few of us do it well. There are so many escapes. Either we gunny-sack our feelings until we explode or we nag constantly. Sometimes we tell everyone we know about a problem except the one concerned. It is a rare person who can open a tender subject, discuss it reasonably, and then leave it alone.

The problem with confrontation seems to be twofold: too much fear, not enough hope. We are afraid of anger, rejection, another blow from the offender. We cannot arouse enough hope to believe that we can be reconciled.

A wise teacher once told me that to cease to expect anything from a person was the same as condemning that person to death. The person from whom we expect nothing might as well be a post in the side of the road.

This weekend's readings demand from us expectation when it is most difficult. They demand that we expect goodness from one who has wronged us. The prophet Ezekiel shows us a God who is willing to wait till the last minute, who is willing to value the present moment of righteousness more than any and all previous moments of wrongdoing. He shows us a God who demands perseverance from a prophet, who demands that a prophet never give up, never cease to warn a stubborn and rebellious people. The prophet Ezekiel shows us a God of hope. It is the hope of God which makes possible the forgiveness of God.

The gospel this weekend makes the same demand of us. When we suffer wrong, first we must seek reconciliation without proclaiming to the world our own righteousness and the wickedness of the other. We must expect goodness from the other.

If that attempt at reconciliation fails, we still must take only two or three others in order to try again. Only on the third try may we involve the whole community of the church. But still, we may not give up. Still, we must expect goodness from the other. Only if the third party fails, may we write off the other. Only then may we treat the other as a Gentile (an outsider) or a tax collector (an outcast).

The message this weekend is to hope., to have the greatness of heart to hope even in the one who wrongs us. That is St. Paul's message about love, the ultimate debt we owe one another. Love supports our patience and creates true peace. It is, in the last analysis, love

that never gives up on the other, love that expects goodness even from an enemy.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Table with columns for Day, Date, and Time, listing mass intentions for Tuesday through Sunday and Port Costa.

Decorative separator line

Sunday Collection - September 3rd

Table listing Sunday collection amounts for St. Rose, Crockett and St. Patrick Mission.

Thank you again to all who support our Parish!

Prayers for the Deceased

In your prayers, please remember in a special way Alex Padilla and Mary Brazil.



Faith Formation

Our Faith Formation program will be starting next Sunday, September 17th! Registration forms are available in the office, and class begins at 10:15 in the CCD building.

Virtus Training

It may seem as though we just switched to the Virtus training, but it has actually been 4 years! With that, all our volunteers will need to log on to the program and do a review session to keep us up to date. If you have done your training in the last two years you are good. Please log onto virtusonline.org to sign in. If you have done this in the past you will be getting a reminder email soon. If you are a new user, please start a new account.

I know in the past many have expressed their feelings that this training does not pertain to them because they do not come into contact with any youth, but the program is not just for that. Virtus will help you learn how to see signs of abuse, how to help those who have been abused in the past and how to avoid creating an environment where abuse can happen. Taking these classes can help ALL THE VULNERABLE PEOPLE IN YOUR LIFE AND SOCIETY! It goes far beyond just our little parish and children.

If you are unsure of doing this at home, or don't have access to the internet, we are happy to have you come to the office and take the class on the computer here with help.

NO MATTER WHAT POSTION YOU SERVE IN OUR PARISH, YOU NEED TO DO THIS TRAINING!

Second Collection

Second collection this Sunday is for Diocesan Priest Retirement Benefit. Although responsibilities as a pastor may go away, the retired priests of the diocese continue to serve the people of God. Those who are able are serving wherever they are called. Those who are less able are serving in place. It is quite possible it might be a "retired" priest celebrating Mass. Their readiness to serve has been witnessed time and again in the Diocese of Oakland this past year.

In parishes throughout the diocese, the weekend of Sept. 9th and 10th, a second collection will be taken to support the Priest Retirement Fund. Supporting the collection is a way to thank them and honor them for their service. Please give generously.

August Financial Overview

St. Rose

Expense:

Table listing expenses for St. Rose including Priest Salary, Secretary Wages, Priest Food Reimbursement, Health Insurance, PG&E Classrooms, PG&E Church/Rectory, Comcast, Garbage, EDD, Liability, Church cleaning, Rectory Cleaning, Mass Coverage, Office Supplies/Mass cards, Hosts, Copier Contract.

Total \$10,934.03

Income:

Table listing income for St. Rose including Sunday's Plate, Holy Days, Maintenance, CCD Envelope, Facility Use -Parking Lot, Certificates, Bishops Appeal Rebate.

Total \$8,054.00

St. Patrick Mission

Expense:

Table listing expenses for St. Patrick Mission including PG&E, Anniversary (Food, Décor, Honor.), Pest Control, CCWD, Donation PCCS.

Total \$5175.34

Income:

Table listing income for St. Patrick Mission including Sundays Plate, Holy Days, Maintenance, CCD Envelope, Anniversary Fundraising, Donations.

Total \$4263.00