



From the Desk of Fr. Leo

Give anyone a worthwhile challenge and you have instigated an intense 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 essay and other literary competitions. All bring out the best in humankind. Even handicapped persons are known to have accomplished marvels for their fellowmen or women, just because they meet 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 love 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.

In the battle against evil, Christ has given us a powerful example. In the wilderness, nothing that Satan proposed to him succeeded in alluring him, neither easy solutions to problems, nor the lust for power, not the glamour of spectacular success. The will of the Father was the sole guideline for Jesus, and this he found in the ordinary duties of everyday life, the daily drudgery of work and toil combined with prayer and love. In these he found his daily cross until the cross became a reality on Golgotha where he gave himself up as a victim for all mankind.

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 his fellowman or woman. 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. Therefore, the second part of his announcement in this weekend's Gospel was "Believe the Good News. Believe what I tell you, what I propose to you for your happiness, and live the Gospel message; live that life that I am leading, for this alone will make you truly human, and fulfill your

inmost desire for happiness. Then you are meeting the challenge of Christian living.

The season of Lent beckons to us to make a wholehearted response. A change of heart will enable many 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 and gracious living.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Table with 3 columns: Day, Date, Time. Rows include Tues. February 20 11:00AM, Wed. February 21 9AM, 6PM, Thur. February 22 11:00AM, Fri. February 23 11:00AM, Sat. February 24 4:30PM, Sun. February 25 9AM, and Port Costa 11:00AM.



Tax Time

If you need a copy of your contributions for 2022, please call the office (510-787-2052). Leave your name, phone number and address (if it has changed) and we will be happy to help out.



Sunday Collection - February 11th

Table with 2 columns: Location, Amount. Rows: St. Rose, Crockett \$1495; St. Patrick Mission \$190.

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. ***

Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross have begun on Fridays after the 11:00AM mass.



The office will be closed, Monday, February 19th, in observance of President's Day.



A.C.F. Crockett Branch #14

Corned Beef Dinner

March 09, 2024 6:00pm \$30

St. Rose of Lima Hall 555 Star St. Crockett, CA 94525

Dinner Includes: Corned Beef, Cabbage, Carrot, Potato, Bread, & Dessert Wine included at Dinner

GREAT RAFFLE PRIZES TOO! TAKE OUTS ARE AVAILABLE PICK UP 4:30-5PM

CONTACT: DONNA HOFFMANN PHN: 510-367-5669 EMAIL: DHOFFMANN3101@AOL.COM OR PAT BOTTA PHN: 510-787-1131

Thank you to the Crockett Community Foundation for their support with matching donations



Rice Bowls

A SEASON FOR REFLECTION

During this holy time, we are called to pause and pay closer attention to our relationship with God and our neighbors. Reflect on how the Lenten pillars of prayer, fasting and almsgiving can guide your journey and how the Eucharist helps us to live in solidarity with our sisters and brothers around the world. Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more and read this week's Story of Hope.

Rice Bowls are available in the vestibule.

