



From the Desk of Fr. Leo

There is a great mystery in human suffering. It is not an easy question to answer. There is indeed a great mystery in human suffering. The mystery is that somehow there can be a tremendous value in human suffering. Just how? It is impossible to say with complete satisfaction, but that there can be value in it is beyond doubt. Jesus himself has shown us the great value of suffering.

In this Sunday's Gospel, we heard Jesus say, "The Son of Man must endure many sufferings." He must suffer because such was the plan of God for the salvation of the world. It is not that God in heaven looked down upon his suffering Son, and took some kind of twisted pleasure in what he saw. Nor was it really a question of some type of payment for sin in the old idea of a tooth for a tooth and an eye for an eye. Perhaps we get closer to the truth when we realize that suffering is the measure of a human being. It shows how big a person he or she is. It can also be the best of love, because we are willing to suffer for a person to the extent that we love him or her. As Jesus himself said at the Last Supper, "There is no greater love than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." Still, even these ideas leave us unsatisfied. There is obviously a mystery about suffering.

And yet, the value of suffering is undeniable. Thomas a' Kempis, who lived some 1300 years after Christ, wrote these words: "If anything had been better and more beneficial for man's salvation than suffering, Christ would have shown it by word and by example." The words of Christ we heard in this Sunday's gospel: "If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me." The example of Christ we know full well: not only did he take up his cross, but he died upon it.

Our Christ-like suffering takes many forms. It is found in the anguish of parents who care for a paralyzed son or daughter who they know will never walk again. It shows itself in the humiliation of parents who cannot provide for their family, and who must turn to others or to the state for help. It is in the boring monotony of a housewife and the poignant loneliness of a widow or a widower. The list of human suffering is almost without end.

If we were to go through the New Testament page by page, we would find many passages dealing with

Christ's suffering and our suffering. More importantly, we would also find that not once does the New Testament bring up the necessity of our own suffering. In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus said that he had to suffer, that he would be put to death. In the same breath, he also stated that on the third day he would rise again.

And so, with us. Somehow in God's plan, suffering is good for us. It will lead to our final glory and happiness just as surely as it did for Christ.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Table with columns for Day, Date, and Time, listing mass intentions for Tuesday through Sunday, including names like Daisy Salvosa Malasig and Priscilla Abaya.

Sunday Collection - June 26

Table listing collection amounts for St. Rose, Crockett (\$1291) and St. Patrick Mission (\$220).

Thank you again to all who support our Parish

Coffee and Canvas

NEXT WEEKEND!

SATURDAY, JULY 9TH AT 10:00AM!!



Join us for a fun relaxing morning of carefree painting and coffee! Enjoy a light breakfast and lunch while you get the chance to paint a simple canvas, guided by a wonderful instructor from our parish. And of course, there will be coffee!! All of this for \$30, plus your painting to take home as a memento. Set some time aside for yourself; all are welcome!

Sign-ups in the vestibule.



June Financial Overview

St. Patrick Mission

Table showing expenses (PG&E, CCWD, Assessment, Liability) and income (Sundays Plate, Maintenance, CCD Envelope, Donations) for St. Patrick Mission, totaling \$1286.07 expense and \$819.00 income.

June Financial Overview

St. Rose

Expense:

Table listing various expenses for St. Rose, including Priest Salary, Secretary Wages, Priest Food Reimbursement, PG&E Classrooms, PG&E Church/Rectorry, Comcast, Garbage, EBMUD, Health Insurance, EDD, IRS, Liability, Assessment, Worker's Comp Insurance, Bookkeeping, Missals, Priest Retreat, Kel-Aire, Bank Fee, and Mike's Appliances.

Total \$21,098.07

Income:

Table listing various income items for St. Rose, including Sunday's Plate, Holy Days, Father's Day, Maintenance, CCD Envelope, Donations, Facility Use - Parking Lot, Sacramental Services, Air Conditioner Repair, and Fundraisers- Boutique Sales.

Total \$26,210.68

