



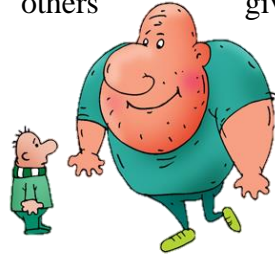
From the Desk of Fr. Leo

Saints are extraordinary people, but one of the most extraordinary things about them is their humility. Frankly, their humility at times seems to border on the unreal. Take St. Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles, for example. His writings make up a large portion of the New Testament, and we frequently hear his letters read at Mass. He was indeed a great man, full of love for Christ and his fellow human beings, a man of wisdom and zeal. And yet he spoke of himself as the worst of sinners. St. Vincent de Paul is famous the world over for his wonderful works of charity. He spent a lifetime in the service of others. When he died at the age of eighty, it was more from exhaustion than old age. But this magnificent saint referred to himself as "a miserable wretch" and declared that he was unworthy of even the simple food he consumed. These two saints are but two examples among the many.

Were the saints a little psychotic on this point of humility, or were they actually in touch with reality in a deeper way than the so-called "normal" person? Let it be understood that the saints were not psychotic, that they were in profound touch with the Great Reality, God Himself. The reason they could sincerely feel such deep humility was that they compared themselves with God, and not with their fellow men or women. Their faults, their failures, their weaknesses were manifestly clear to themselves in the brilliant light of God's perfection.

If we could only learn to compare ourselves with God, how could we feel anything but humility? Pride comes from a false point of comparison. These days, it is commonplace to read in the papers or hear from the television, Facebook, Twitter etc. about people whose lack of morals is notorious. Drug dons make fortunes in a narcotic racket, the effect of which reduces people to a state that is lower than that of animals, and they compound the gross disrespect for the dignity of human beings by coldly decreeing the murder of competitors who get in their way. Some celebrities whom we idolize, produce only disgust in us by their apparent disregard for the permanence and sacredness of marriage.

It is easy to feel pretty proud of ourselves in comparison with these types of persons. The comparison makes us feel complacent, and the desire for such a comfortable feeling is behind a lot of prejudice, racial and otherwise. Looking down on others gives us a sense of personal elevation. If you are under six feet, you are short by today's standards; but if you could manage to live among pygmies, you would think of yourself as a giant.



A pride that is produced by comparing ourselves with despicable people, or with people that we may consider as despicable, is condemned by Jesus. The complacency it begets inhibits our spiritual growth, and even from a natural point of view puts us in an unhealthy state of mind. God's own perfection is the ideal toward which we must strive. We will never reach this ideal – but keeping the ideal, this proper perspective on life, should be a healthy incentive to keep on trying to improve ourselves.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Sunday Collection - August 21th

St. Rose, Crockett	\$2014
St. Patrick Mission	\$294

Thank you again to all who support our Parish



Mass Intentions for the Week

<b>Tues.</b>	<b>August 30</b>	<b>11:00AM</b>
Johnny Bianchi†		Family
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>August 31</b>	<b>11:00AM</b>
Elyse Combong (birthday)		Lolo & Lola
<b>Thur.</b>	<b>September 1</b>	<b>11:00PM</b>
Jia Combong (birthday)		Mom & Dad
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>September 2</b>	<b>11:00AM</b>
Lorenzo & Amparo Buhain †		Bob & Lydia
<b>Sat.</b>	<b>September 3</b>	<b>4:30PM</b>
Anne & Caesar Airoidi †		Your Children
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>September 4</b>	<b>9:00AM</b>
Special Intentions		
<b>Port Costa</b>		<b>11:00AM</b>
People of the Parish		



Faith Formation

Our Faith Formation program will be starting the end of September! Registration forms are available in the office.

CCD: and preparation for First Holy Communion every other Sunday at 10:15 AM (must be in 1<sup>st</sup> grade).

CONFIRMATION: This is a two-year formation program. Classes will be every other Sunday at 10:15AM and one weekday a month with Father Leo.

R.C.I.A. for those wanting to become Catholics. It is a two- year formation program for adults. Weekly meeting (TBA).



Bishops Appeal

To successfully achieve both our parish goals:

St. Rose – 70.35% Our overall goal is \$6,000.  
St. Patrick Mission –117.22% Great job!

If you have not had an opportunity to make a pledge by returning your card through the mail, please complete contribute in the collection basket **this weekend.**

**WE CAN DO IT!**



Coffee and Canvas

SATURDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup>  
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.