

# Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 18, 2024

## From the Desk of Fr. Leo

You are invited to a banquet on a special occasion. There are many well-known guests. There is a large amount of food on the table and a variety of drinks. You eat well and thoroughly enjoy the company of others with whom you are soon bound in jovial friendship. Yet, after sometime the banquet is over. You return home, separated from the other guests. Next day you are hungry and thirsty again. But the banquet of the Lord joins in everlasting friendship both with God and with humankind. And Jesus says explicitly: The man who feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him and; no one who comes to me shall ever be hungry; no one who believes in me shall ever thirst.

Who would ever have thought that Christ would devise such a wonderful meal as the Eucharist? It is a banquet that is a bond of union between God and his People and between each member of Christ. It is truly the Eucharist that makes community. Jesus wanted to be so closely united with each of us that he himself became our sacred Banquet. On special occasions, a host might deign to cook the meal himself or herself if he or she is an expert and even serve the guests if he or she desires. But Jesus goes much further. He himself is the Food offered to the guests! If the Jews were angry at his words, it is only because they understood him in a materialistic way, after the manner of cannibals. But Jesus had in mind the mystery of the Eucharist. Mankind would eat his Flesh and drink his Blood but it would be in a sacramental manner, under the appearance of bread and wine.

When we partake of food and drink, they are transformed into our blood-cells and become part of us, so that we continue to live and be healthy and strong, warding of all poisonous germs. But when we partake of the Body and Blood of Christ it works in reverse. Christ transforms us more and more into himself. We become more like unto him each time we receive him in communion, and more united with the great community of Christ's members, the family of God. That is why he states emphatically that unless we eat his Flesh and drink his Blood, we will not have life in us at all, much less continue to live of his life. Every human heart longs to live fully, and that is exactly what he offers us. The more we partake of him in the Eucharist, the stronger becomes our

Christian life, the easier we find it to ward off temptations and sin, for these are the germs that bring on death.

The Mass is taking the first place in all manifestations of our Catholic faith. It must hold the first place in the heart of every sincere Catholic.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

### Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	August 20	11:00AM
Special Intentions		
Wed.	August 21	11:00AM
Living Memorial		
Thur.	August 22	11:00AM
Manuel†		Your Children
Fri.	August 23	11:00AM
Special Intentions		
Sat.	August 24	4:30PM
Edgar Allan & There	sa	Mom & Dad
(Anniversary) <b>Sun.</b>	August 25	9:00AM
David Ponti †		Franca
Port Costa		11:00AM
People of the Parish		
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## Don't Take a Vacation from God

Attendance at Mass on Sundays and Holy days should be a priority. If traveling to places one is unfamiliar with, information on church addresses and time of Masses can be found on the internet at <a href="https://www.masstimes.org">www.masstimes.org</a> or 1-800-MASS-TIMES.

#### Sunday Collection - August 11th

St. Rose, Crockett \$1137

St. Patrick Mission \$390

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. \*\*\*

#### Parish Council

During the summer, our hard working parish council takes a short break. They will be back to work in August though, and are hoping that a few new faces will join them. If you are interested in helping make important decisions, or have some opinions and ideas on how to improve things, please think about becoming part of the council. The next meeting will be Tuesday, August 27<sup>th</sup> at 7PM in the parish hall. Mark it on your calendar, and come check it out!

### Faith Formation

Our Faith Formation program will be starting on September 15th! Registration forms are available in the office.

**CCD:** and preparation for First Holy Communion is a two-year program, and students must at least be in 1<sup>st</sup> grade. Classes are every other Sunday at 10:15AM.

**CONFIRMATION:** This is a two-year formation program. Classes are every other Sunday at 10:15AM, as well as one weeknight a week 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). Please reach out to Father Leo.

### Bishop's Day

Contra Costa & East Bay Districts of the Italian
Catholic Federation welcome
Bishop Michael Barber



for our annual

ICF Bishop's Day

Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at the 4:30 pm Mass St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church 555 Third Avenue, Crockett, California dinner reception to follow in the parish hall

The cost is 50\$ per person, and dinner includes grilled tri-tip, mushroom and spinach lasagna, Italian Salad, grilled vegetables, bread and dessert. There will also be wine, iced tea, and coffee for refreshments.

If you would like to joins us for dinner, please RSVP by September 2<sup>nd</sup> to Pat Botta. Checks can be made payable to ICF Branch 14 and sent to: 66 Welle Road, Crockett, California 94525. If you have any questions, please contact Donna Hoffman at 510-367-5669

#### Volunteer at Catholic Charities East Bay!

- We are looking for caring people who can help our compassionate team of Administrative Coordinators for few hours a week, answering the phone, finding out what our clients need, explaining what help is available, and answering their questions.
- Learn more about other volunteer opportunities and apply at www.cceb.org/volunteers
- If you have any questions, call or email Mari Mosca at mmosca@cceb, 510-350-6177

Your work and support will help you fulfill your dream to help people in need.

Our mission is to support children, youth, families, and senior from crisis to stability to well-being.

Catholic Charities East Bay is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with tax ID number 94-2677202.



