



From the Desk of Fr. Leo

We may consider ourselves experts in many different ways or areas, but if really pushed for detailed explanations we would no doubt flounder. We know how to run a car- that is, which key fits the door and ignition, how to put it in gear, what to do if it stalls – but it's still probably a mystery to us how the car really works. The same is more or less true for articles like televisions, computers, I pads, cell phones and other gadgets. Anyone can strike a match, but who can explain the mystery of fire? We see millions of living organisms – blades of grass, trees, birds, animal, people – but who can truly explain life.

The mysterious nature of the “reign of God” is featured in this weekend's Gospel reading. Jesus compares it to a grain of wheat which is first planted, then dies or germinates and finally matures into a full-grown plant. Even the tiny mustard seed, he says, is able to increase itself thousands of times to become a large bush. Think of a solid oak towering into the heavens, and then remember that it came from an acorn no larger than the tip of your thumb. The acorn has something special within it, that, when planted in the soil allows it to become an oak tree. But both seed and soil, are essential.

The Lord says that the same is true of His word and our response. The kingdom is not established by His words only nor solely by our efforts, but by the synthesis of the two. The farmer does not understand why or how the seed grows, for what happens automatically, according to a set of instructions which have been programmed into it by God. Thus, the farmer can sleep while much of the maturation is happening.

The word of God – the seed of the Christian life – has been implanted at baptism, unknown to the infant but nonetheless growing within even during the sleeping hours. If the soil of our soul resists and expels the seed, there can be no new life. It is in our personal and conscious power to either accept or reject what has been planted within.

Since the clock of nature moves slowly, we must not try to force our maturity ahead of schedule. Before we can fully develop, we must first allow the seeds plenty of time to dig their roots of faith, hope, perseverance and justice into our supporting ground.

The higher and taller we rise, the deeper our roots must be.

God's word will produce a bountiful harvest within us if we let it. What we need to do is simply provide a fitting atmosphere for the planting, growth and eventual harvest.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Table with 3 columns: Day, Date, Time. Rows include Father's Day Novena for Tues through Sun, and Port Costa.

Port Costa 11:00AM
Father's Day Novena
People of the Parish



Sunday Collection - June 6

Table with 2 columns: Location, Amount. Rows: St. Rose, Crockett (\$2828); St. Patrick Mission, Port Costa (\$370)

Thank you again to all who support our Parish!

Indoor Mass!!!

Please remember face coverings are required, keep six feet distance at all times and only sit in the open sections/pews. As the Governor has lifted attendance limitation in places of worship, our Churches are able to increase to normal capacity, but we must remember that we still need to maintain our 6ft distance to keep everyone safe. For updated information regarding the Oakland Diocese, please visit https://www.oakdiocese.org/prayer-and-masses.

During communion, please follow Fr. Leo's directions, and STAY ON THE MARKINGS IN THE AISLE TO MAINTAIN A SAFE DISTANCE!!!

Father's Day Novena

Father's Day is June 20th. Father's Day cards are available in the vestibule to enroll your father or father figure, living or deceased, in the Father's Day Novena, June 15th thru June 24th. You may drop it in the collection basket or the office by this Sunday, June 13th.



Confirmation

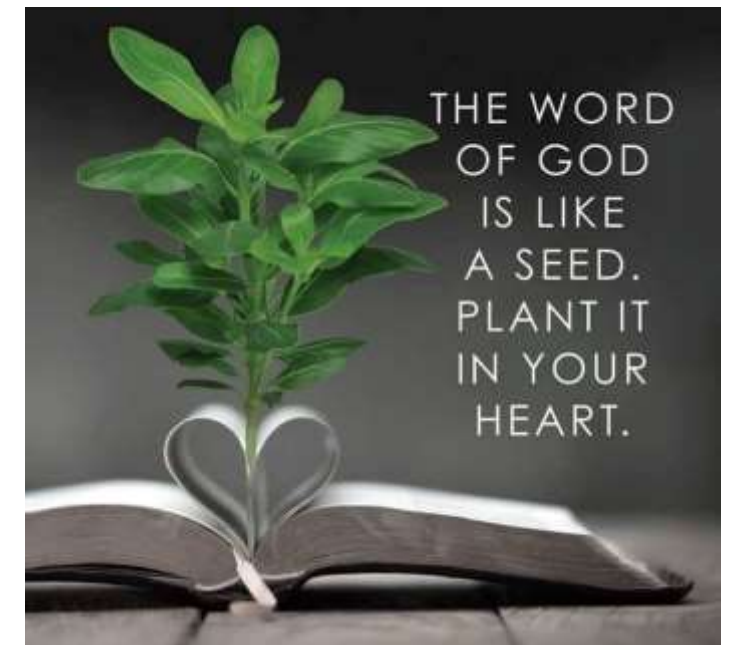
Confirmation is a special outpouring and strengthening of the Holy Spirit. This sacrament permanently seals us to Jesus Christ. With that in mind, we would like to congratulate our Confirmandi, McKenna Brosnan, Ruth Castro-Silva, Max Dutra and Maxine Espiritu, who celebrated the sacrament of Confirmation last Saturday.



Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Don't take a vacation from your marriage!

Come learn a technique of loving communication that you can use for the rest of your lives. Fill your marriage with joy! Sign up today to attend a Virtual Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience from the comfort of your own home by going to https://wwme.org/ Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at: https://wwme.org/



A Fishy Excuse

Saint Peter halted a man at the entrance to heaven. "I'm sorry," the saint told the man, "but I cannot admit you. You've told too many lies." "C'mon, Pete, give me a break," the man pleaded. "After all, you were once a fisherman yourself!"

