Sixth Sunday of Easter — May 17, 2020

From the Desk of Fr. Leo

When traveling to an unknown, foreign land, one is always glad to have a companion who knows well that seat and can be of assistance in many ways. In the Old Testament, the story of old Tobit and his son Tobias is just such an instance. Tobit was sending his son to a far-off land and he needed some guidance. The Lord sent his angel Raphael in the form of a fellow Israelite to accompany him. Raphael proved to be an excellent guide, helper in many a need, advocate towing both wife and possessions for the young man and finally intercessor before God to obtain the cure for old Tobit's blindness. How lovingly God manifests his diving providence in the actions of Raphael for the young Tobias.

The one Gift that Jesus longed to give mankind was love. Not just any kind of love, not a passing or human love only, but the Spirit of divine love, the fullest expression of the mutual love the Father and the Son. One that summed up all other gifts as being the sum total of God's outpouring on humankind. He is the Gift of the Father, for from the Father all love proceeds. But he will be given through the Son and obtained by the pleading of Christ, whose life aim was to win for humankind this supreme gift. He labored and tilled, he preached and taught. He suffered and died in order to obtain from the Father this gift of diving love which includes all others.

He is to be Paraclete, which is helper, on who assists the followers of Christ by staying at their side, guarding them and assisting them when the going is rough and the journey difficult. He is Paraclete, which is Advocate, to take their part before the throne of the Most High against the accusations of the Evil One, and with their cause. He is Paraclete, which is intercessor, for those entrusted to his care, and he stands between the Almighty Father and the weak sinful man to plead his cause. The Lord Jesus knew how much the vacillating heart of humankind needed such a Helper to uplift him and be a constant companion along his journey in life, beset as he is with trials and temptations, with doubts and disappointments. So he gave him a Consoler, one who would strengthen him in his plodding toward the eternal goal.

As Pentecost approaches, it is only fitting that we prepare for a renewal in the Spirit, and open our hearts wide in order that God's outpouring of Love may be experienced all the more forcefully in the believing community and every member of it. United with Mary and the Apostles in the upper room, we determine to be one in mutual understanding with our fellow men and women, and one in prayer and community, so that God will find no obstacle to fill us to overflowing with his love.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Though we are not able to meet together during this week, please keep these intentions in your personal prayers, as Father will continue to include them in his private masses.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	**May 19**	**N/A**
Heather Cooley		Jensen/ Littleton Family
Wed.	**May 20**	**N/A**
Bernardina Dela Pena †		Antonio Family
Thur.	**May 21**	**N/A**
Luzviminda Lejano Baustista †		Evangeline Santos & Family
Fri.	**May 22**	**N/A**
Lucy & Leo Bottini †		Bill & Diane Thomas
Sat.	**May 23**	**N/A**
David Botta †		Mr. & Mrs. Tony Machado
Sun.	**May 24**	**N/A**
Thanksgiving		Ed & Mae
Port Costa		**N/A**
People of the Parish		

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