

Ascension of the Lord

May 12, 2024

From the Desk of Fr. Leo

When anyone works for a definite end, there is genuine rejoicing when the goal is reached: the student at his or her graduation, the scientist in his or her new invention, the soldier on the day of victory, the laborer at the completion of a definite task, parents in the successful accomplishment of their children. Success crowns the long and arduous toil. People are glad and make merry.

This weekend's feast celebrates the exaltation of Christ at the Father's side, sharing his dignity, power and glory, he the King and Heir of the universe. The entire Christian world has followed him from his taking human flesh of the Virgin Mother by the power off the Holy Spirit until he was crucified for our sake on Golgotha. They have gazed on him as a tiny babe, listened to his preaching on the hillside, suffered with him in his passion, rejoiced with him the Risen Christ, and now are exultant that he is enthroned at the Father's side, in glory that he had with the Father before the world began.

The Ascension is a feast of great rejoicing. Everyone who loves the Savior will rejoice with him, for his life of toil and sacrifice now receives a magnificent and divine reward. The limitations which he had imposed upon himself during his earthly life have come to an end, and the glory of Jesus, Son of Mary, shines in the fullness of the Godhead. From the meek and humble savior riding into Jerusalem on a beast of burden, he is the mighty Lord of the universe, in whom everything holds together and all things continue in existence. Yes "all things in the heavens and on Earth are being brought together into one under his headship' making him the Center and attracting Force of all creation. No wonder that the entire court of heaven breaks out with



exultant praise; "Worthy is the lamb that was slain to receive power and riches, wisdom and strength, honor and glory and praise." (Revelations 5:1

As the head of the Body, the Church, he has gone on ahead to prepare a place for us in the mansions of the Father, that where he is we also may be. Our hope is bolstered up at the thought of what awaits those who remain faithful to him during this earthly pilgrimage, and endeavor to carry out this command he so earnestly impressed on his followers: to love one another as he has loved them.

Faith alone opens up to us these grand vistas of the glory to come. But faith needs to be treasured, to be fostered, to be increased day by day, lest we lose the savor of Christian endeavor, and our hope gradually dims. Rejoicing with our Blessed savior in the glory of the Father is a true stimulus to follow him faithfully now, so as to be with him forever in the eternal abode.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	May 14	11:00AM
Thanksgiving		Ed & Mae
Wed.	May 15	11:00AM
Magelende McBride †		
(death anniversary)		
Thur.	May 16	11:00AM
Gloria Bañaga †		Lydia
(birthday)		•
Fri.	May 17	11:00AM
Theo Jacob		
(birthday)		
Sat.	May 18	4:30PM
Matthew Bañaga †		Lola
Sun.	May 19	9:00AM
Raymond Arcega		
(birthday)		
Port Costa		11:00AM
People of the Parish		



Sunday Collection - May 5th

St. Rose, Crockett	\$2408
Maintenance	\$249
St. Patrick Mission	\$ 145
Maintenance	\$77

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. ***



Saints

In recognition of the saint names that our Confirmations candidates took, we thought we would get to know some fun facts about their selected saints.

This weekend's saint is St. Mary.



There lived in the town of Nazareth, in Galilee, a man by the name of Joachim with his wife Anna. Both he and his wife were God-fearing people and were known for their humility and compassion. They never had children and, being very aged, had little chance at having any. They made a vow that if they had an infant, they would dedicate that

child to the service of God. Childlessness was especially difficult for Joachim since, according to prophecy, the Messiah-Christ was to be born into his family line. Anna had a daughter. The newborn child was given the name of Mary, which means in Hebrew "Mistress-Hope.

When the Virgin Mary turned three years old, her parents took her to the temple in Jerusalem to consecrate her to God. Mary was left to stay at the temple, in a school for girls, where she was taught the Law of God and handiwork. Willing only to serve God, she gave a vow to never marry and to remain forever a virgin. However, when she turned fourteen, the law said she had to marry. The High Priest knew of her vow and betrothed her to the widowed Joseph, who promised to care for her and protect her virginity. The Virgin Mary led a modest and solitary life in the home of Joseph as she did in the temple. It was during this time she learned through an angelic visitation of God's plan for her to serve as Jesus Christ's mother on Earth. The Gospels show Mary as having constant concern for Her Son, always ready to help and care for His wellbeing. In Jesus's final words he placed her care with his apostle John who took her into his home, and cared for her until her very end. Many Christians came to see and hear the Holy Virgin Mary and she became a mother to all of Christ's pupils and a high example of

(https://st-takla.org/Feastes-&-Special-Events/Virgin-Mary-Fast/Saint-Mary-Fast_Virgin-Life-Hymns-mp3s-03-Life-of-St-Mary.html)