March 23, 2025

From the Desk of Fr. Leo

Most children, especially in the "old days," did not like the season of Lent compared to Christmas. The reason was that at the insistence of their parents, they had to give up things they liked, such as eating candy and going to the movies. Not eating candy was hard enough, but not going to movies was really a sacrifice because there was no television. Of course parents had in mind only the spiritual welfare of their children.

The Church, like a good parent, has our spiritual welfare in mind during this season of Lent, but we must rise above childish limitations to appreciate its value. To begin with, the Church sees Lent as related to three realities of our life of faith.

The first reality is the Paschal Mystery, the sacrificial death and resurrection of Jesus which brings about our salvation. The Church developed Lent precisely as a preparation for the celebration of this great event at Easter. The Paschal Mystery is at the very heart of our faith in Christ.

Through the Paschal Mystery, the Church came into being, Pope Pius XII wrote in 1943: "The Church was born from the side of our Savior on the cross like a new Eve, mother of all living. "(Mystici Corporis 29.) From this truth flows the second reality, Christian initiation. Very early in our history it became clear that the most appropriate time to introduce new members into the Church through the spiritual birth of baptism was at the time when the Church was celebrating her own birth. Lent became a season of special preparation for baptism, and Easter was understood to be the ideal time for the celebration of this sacrament or for its renewal.

The third reality is repentance and renewal. The Church recognizes that Easter is the time for Catholics to become reconciled to God and his Church through repentance and the celebration of the sacrament of Penance. Each year one reality takes on a prominence, and this year it is the turn of repentance to occupy the center of our attention. The Church gives this emphasis through her selection of the Gospels for the Sundays of Lent.

On this weekend's Gospel, we hear Jesus refer to tragedies which had recently occurred. From these two mishaps, he drew a lesson; to judge the victims as guilty of sin is not the correct response, but to think about about one's own need for repentance is. Next

Sunday, we will hear Jesus tell a beautiful story which illustrates how eager God the father is to offer forgiveness to all his children when they repent. This story has come to be known as the Parable of the Prodigal Son.

All three realities are present in every Lent. This year maybe we should turn our attention to our need for repentance, and we should begin to make plans to celebrate the sacrament of Penance as an important part of our own preparation for Easter.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	March 25	11:00AM	
Junuaria Sinambal †		Buenaflor-	
		Roth Family	
Wed.	March 26	11:00AM	
Living Memorial			
Thur.	March 27	11:00AM	
Ray Austria†		Olivia & Marvin	
& Andrew Yoshid	a		
Fri.	March 28	11:00AM	
Arturo Balagot †		Arturo	
Sat.	March 29	4:30PM	
Joseph Noe†		Family	
Sun.	March 30	9:00AM	
Jorge, Tomasa, Jose		Family	
& Manuel †			
Port Costa		11:00AM	
People of the Parish			
* *************************************			

Tax Time

If you need a copy of your contributions for 2024, please call the office (510-787-2052). Leave your name, phone number and



address (if it has changed) and we will be happy to help out.

Sunday Collection - March 16th

St. Rose, Crockett	\$2112
Bishop's Appeal	\$832
St. Patrick Mission	\$259
Bishop's Appeal	\$61

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 2025 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. ***



Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross has started, Fridays after the 11:00AM mass.



FISH FRY

Thank you to everyone who has donated beverages for the fish fry. We are still in need of 12oz sodas (Coke/ Diet Coke, Sprite, Pepsi/Diet Pepsi and Mountain Dew), wine and beer for those that would still like to donate.

We also understand if monetary and physical donation just aren't in your budget right now. Please consider volunteering your time and talent instead! Volunteer sign-up sheets are in the vestibule.



MINISTRIES of HOPE

A gift to the 2025 Bishop's Ministries Appeal enables 70+ ministries to foster evangelization, faith formation, and pastoral outreach across our diocese. The outcome of your generosity is that the Gospel is spread, seminarians are supported, pastoral care is provided and our youth are inspired in their faith journey.

Every gift matters—each act of charity strengthens the Church's mission and brings Christ's love to those in need. Please prayerfully consider contributing to the Bishop's Ministries Appeal as an act of faith and a reflection of God's unending love.

WAYS to GIVE

MAIL: Send check or money order to: Bishop's Ministries Appeal
Diocese of Oakland, 2121 Harrison Street, Suite 100, Oakland, CA 94612

ONLINE: Scan the QR code or visit oakdiocese.org/bishops-ministries-appeal to make a gift by credit card.



CALL: 510-267-8358

EMAIL: BishopsMinistriesAppeal@oakdiocese.org

ADDITIONAL GIFT OPTIONS:

Gifts of stock, IRA distributions, bequests, and charitable gift annuities can be coordinated by contacting the Office for Mission Advancement at 510-267-8358 or BishopsMinistriesAppeal@oakdiocese.org.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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2025 BISHOP'S MINISTRIES APPEAL