



From the Desk of Fr. Leo

Ancient Babylon was in modern day Iraq, with its capital on the Euphrates River., less than 100 miles south of Baghdad. When the Babylonians conquered the Jews in 587 BC, they took most of the Jews off to Babylon as prisoners and slaves. This event, known as the Babylonian exile lasted 50 years. When the Persian people who lived in modern day Iran, conquered the Babylonians, the Persians allowed the Jews to return home. Most of those Jews who returned to Israel were the grandchildren of the ones who were taken into exile. When they got home to Israel, they found their cities and farms in the same deplorable state in which they had left them when they were originally conquered 50 years earlier. They had to rebuild every thing, their farms, their homes, their businesses, their cities, their temple. And here is where our First Reading comes in this weekend.. Their efforts to survive created deep division in the community. It is a survival of the fittest, and the poor and homeless were ignored. God is telling them that their selfish, self-centered, "every man for himself" attitude was not going to be successful. If they wanted to grow and thrive, they had to start caring about each other. Justice, fairness, honesty and kindness would bring light into their darkness. Selfishness would bring continued suffering.

The words of the prophet Isaiah are as true now as they were 2500 years ago. We can make our world beautiful by the way we treat each other or we can make it a very unpleasant place to be. If everyone's only concern is about themselves, the survival of the fittest, few will survive and not very happily. If we work together, we will do more than survive, we will thrive. As Benjamin Franklin said at the signing of the declaration of Independence: "We must all hang together, or assuredly we shall all hang separately." And Jesus, as He continues the Sermon on the Mount, tells us "you can do it.": "You are the salt of the earth, the the light of the world." When we think of salt, we think of how it makes our food taste better, but we better not eat too much of it. It's a pretty cheap item in our world today, but at the time of Jesus it was a very valuable commodity. So valuable in fact that the word "salary" comes from the Latin word for salt: "sal." In those days it not only made food more tasty, but it was used very much like we use refrigeration today" as

preservative. There is no need to emphasize the importance of light on our world today as well as at the time of Jesus. Don't forget Jesus was talking to a large group of people, not just His picked Apostles. He was talking to fishermen, farmers, housewives, merchants, carpenters and stone masons, old people and young. He told them: "You are the salt of the earth, you are the light of the world." God has given us the ability to bring light and joy to others in simple ways as well as in major ways.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Table with columns for Day, Date, Time, and Intention. Includes entries for Tues. Feb 10, Wed. Feb 11, Thur. Feb 12, Fri. Feb 13, Sat. Feb 14, Sun. Feb 15, and Port Costa.

Sunday Collection - February 1st

Table with 2 columns: Location and Amount. St. Rose, Crockett: \$1720; St. Patrick Mission: \$350

Thank you again to all who support our Parish! We know how generous you have been in the changing times!

January Financial Overview

St. Rose

Expense:

Table listing expenses for St. Rose: Priest Salary, Priest Food Reimbursement, Car Insurance Reimbursement, Secretary Wages, Lay Employee Pension, Health Insurance, Unemployment, PG&E Classrooms, PG&E Church/Rector, Comcast, Garbage, EBMUD, EDD, IRS, Liability, Assessment, Church cleaning, Rector, Envelope Service, Hosts, Printer, Palms, Total \$19,132.76

Income:

Table listing income for St. Rose: Sunday's Plate, Christmas, Holy Days, Maintenance, CCD Envelope, First Offering, Sacramental Services, Facility Use, Fundraisers, Reimbursement, Donations, Total \$14,551.00

Scan to Support Our Church!

Your generous gift to St. Rose of Lima enables us to provide beneficial programs that lift up our congregation and serve our community. We are deeply grateful for your support and invite you to contribute online by scanning the QR code.

St Rose Of Lima s\*\*\*t@comcast.net



January Financial Overview

St. Patrick Mission

Expense:

Table listing expenses for St. Patrick Mission: St. Rose Reimbursement, PG&E, Total \$434.01

Income:

Table listing income for St. Patrick Mission: Sundays Plate, Christmas, Holy Days, Maintenance, CCD Envelope, First Offering, Flowers, Donation, Total \$2188.00

Save the Date St. Rose Fish Fry!

We know it may seem early, but it is time to start planning our annual Fish Fry! Please mark the date on your calendars, Friday, March 27th!

Our first meeting will be this Thursday, February 12th at 7:00PM in the parish hall. All are welcome to give input and make this event a success.

St. Patrick's Day FUNDRAISER poster for Crockett Lions Annual Cornbeef & Cabbage. Includes date (Saturday, February 21, 2026), time (5:00PM until 7:00PM), location (Saint Rose of Lima Catholic Church Hall), ticket price (\$25 per adult and \$12 per child), and QR code.