### December 1, 2024



The famous Czechoslovakian film -maker, Milos Foreman, was interviewed a few years ago on television about the prospects for the future. It was the period when all the political changes were taking place in Eastern Europe after the collapse of Communism. He said, they were exchanging the zoo for the jungle. For three generations they had lived in a zoo under the communist dictatorship. Now that the zoo-keepers were disposed of and their cages unlocked, they had all the freedom of the jungle. His comment has since proved prophetic. In the zoo, they were fed and looked after by their keepers, sufficiently though frugally. They had their cages which protected them from the elements and other predators. Their days were passed with regular supervised exercises. All they lacked was the freedom to roam at will. Such was the socialist society under communism. It provided its citizens with housing, education and health services, however basic. Unemployment did not exist officially. They were now released into the wild, to survive in the jungle of capitalist society. Here, the norm is the survival of the fittest,. Jobs are scarce, housing is in short supply and expensive, health services and education are two-tiered. Society is divided into the "haves" and "have nots". It is a "dog eat dog" world. In any case, most zoo-raised animals would not survive in the wild. They have lost the knack of surviving. Forman's prediction came true. A few short years later, they welcomed back their former zoo-keepers. Poland, Lithuania, Romania, Hungary, Czech Republic (now Czech Republic and Slovakia) etc., re-elected communist governments.

This weekend, the First Sunday of Advent, we prepare for Christmas and the coming of Christ. But beyond that, we look forward to the Second Coming which Christ speaks about in the Gospel. Recent political events, spectacular though they were, do not herald the imminence of the Second Coming, when Christ will return at the end of the world. But they are straws in the wind that bring it to mind. As the Gospel says we "know not the day or the hour." We must go on living from day to day, yet always remain ready for the Second Coming.

To travel anywhere by Metro in Paris, you must look up the name of the end-line terminus in the direction you wish to go. Once in the underground, you follow the signs with that name. It leads you to a platform, over which hangs a sign with the word "Direction" and the name of that terminus. The next train will take you there. Life is full of cross-roads, spaghetti junctions, crisscrossing routes going in all directions. It is easy to lose the way, to get lost. We can spend all our lives going everywhere and getting nowhere. Advent is a sign-post on our way, giving us direction. The end of the line for us is Christ's glorious advent and eternal life.

## Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion Mass Intentions for the Week

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Tues.	December 3	11:00AM
John Lira †		ICF #14
Wed.	December 4	11:00AM
Lucy & Leo Bottini †	•	Bill & Diane
Thur.	December 5	11:00AM
Thanksgiving	D CCCIIIN CI	Ed & Mae
Fri.	December 6	11:00AM
Special Intentions	December 0	11.00AN1
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Sat.	December 7	4:30PM
Teddy & Steve Gallo	†	Your Family
Sun.	December 8	9:00AM
Thanksgiving	December 6	Ed & Mae
Port Costa		11:00AM
People of the Parish		

### Sunday Collection - November 24th

St. Rose, Crockett	\$2343
Guadalupe Celebration	\$310
St. Patrick Mission	\$252
Guadalupe Celebration	\$30

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



### Food Drive

This year, our food drive will be helping to support the Holly Day Coalition. St. Rose will serve as a drop off spot from now until December 15<sup>th</sup>! Please see the flier below for more information.

Holly Day Coalition Serving those in need in our community

# Holiday Toy and Food Drive

Holly Day Coalition serves seniors, families and children from Crockett, Rodeo, Tormey, Port Costa and families within JSUSD.

Nov. 15 - Dec. 15

Canned goods such as: Corn, Green beans and Cranberry Sauce Box of Mash Potatoes Jar of grauy Box of Macaroni and cheese Jiffy cornbread mix Bag of marshmallows Bag or Box of Stuffing

 $\cdot$  Toys for children 16 years and under  $\cdot$  \$20 Gift cards

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All toy donations must be unwrapped and new, all food donations should not be expired, thank you!

#### rop Off Locations:

Aimee Henry, Phillips 66, 1380 San Pablo Ave, Rodeo Crockett Lions Club Wednesday Meetings Carquinez Women's Club Membership Meetings Questions? Email Aimee.M.Henru@p66.com

Sponsored by: Phillips 66 Rodeo Renewable Energy Complex, Carquinez Women's Club. Crockett Lions Club, Society of St. Vincent de Paul St. Patrick Church Rodeo-Hercules and Sunoco.

Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup> is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Mary. This is a Holy Day of Obligation, and St. Rose will be having Mass at 11:00AM that morning.



### Guadalupe Celebration

having our celebration for the Virgin de Guadalupe. Before Mass we invite everyone to participate in the beautiful procession led by the mariachi. We will meet in the parking lot at 8:15am, and begin the procession at 8:30am. After Mass, everyone is welcomed to a fellowship down in the hall. We are asking parishioners to help out by bringing a dish to share.

On Sunday, December 15th, we will be

It can be whatever you would like: dessert, side dish, etc. Our Guadalupe group has worked hard to make this event a success, and would really like everyone to come, so please spread the word. This is a wonderful celebration that was started many years ago by a late parishioner from St. Patrick Mission, and we would love to see it continue and grow. At last year's celebration, it was such a beautiful sight to see so many participate and enjoy!

### THANK YOU!!

An immense thank you to all who made the Christmas Boutique and Pancake Breakfast a success! We were able to raise \$2600!

We would also like to take a moment to recognize Runette, Jesse and their crew, and John Giuntoli, the

hidden force behind this success. Thank

you for doing everything! You are angels to this parish! A big thank you to our Confirmation candidates and the parishioners who showed up to cook, serve and cover our St. Rose tables as well!

For those parishioners who were unable to attend this year, hopefully you will be able to make it next year. It was truly a wonderfully put together event.

OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT WILL BE MOVING TO A SATURDAY EVENING THIS YEAR. THE CONCERT WILL BE ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup> FOLLOWING THE 4:30 MASS!

