

4 March 2018
Third Sunday of Lent

Saint Anne

SEAL BEACH



Expulsion of the Money-Changers from the Temple, Giodano Luca, 1675

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MASSES: SAT: 5:00 PM; SUN: 8:00, 10:00 AM; 12:00, 4:00 PM; DAILY: 9:00 AM

CONFESSIONS: Mon. - Sat: 8:30AM; Sat: 4:00-4:45 PM

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WHAT THE ITALIANS TAUGHT ME

More than thirty years ago, the bishop called me in to ask me to study for a doctorate in theology in Rome. With a mixture of excitement and trepidation, I wrote a letter to a Mexican Jesuit I had met who had studied there and asked him for advice. I thought I would get a couple of suggestions on which professors to take classes from and perhaps the location of a masterpiece to see hidden in an out of the way church. What I got was a beautiful letter in Spanish in which he instructed me to be ready for a big change in my life. He saw that I was an American that only spoke English and that, except for vacations, had never been immersed in a different culture. Boy, did he know what he was talking about!

I had good parents and a loving family and had done very well in school. What I didn't have was the experience of crossing over and living a different way of life. I noticed it first regarding food. The main meal was at noon and consisted of a *primo* and *secondo*. Except when it was winter when it would be soup, the *primo* was always pasta of some sort with a sauce made of tomatoes or cream with little bits of vegetables or meat, often what was left over from the day before. On top would be freshly grated cheese. The *secondo* would be a small portion of meat, fish or grilled vegetables. Rarely was there dessert but there could be a *digestivo*, like a small glass of *vin santo* or *grappa*. *Grappa* is an acquired taste and I don't recommend acquiring it. From the Italians I learned that a meal on its own can be a sacrament.

Near the end of my years there, when the first McDonald's opened up near the Borghese gardens, Rome went nuts. The young wanted to try the new fad in food, but the elders were incensed; why would anyone want to eat food fast? The newspapers sputtered with letters complaining about the smell of the oil used to fry the fries. I remember a man on the street asking me if it was true that Americans wouldn't even get out of their cars but would drive up to a restaurant and get their food through a window and then eat it in their cars. When I said, "Yes, that's what some people do. It's very popular," he looked at me and made the sign Italians use for someone who's out of his mind. From

the Italians I learned that there were different ways of doing things; the American way is not the only, or often, even the best way. This was news to me.

Meals could last hours. Who wants to hurry? Italians are talkers and you can see it as much in their hands and arms as in hearing it from their voices. They have strong passions and opinions. Every city of any size would publish a number of newspapers, editorially reflecting different points of view. It was not unusual for a family on Sunday to buy all the papers, read all of them and then have long and enthusiastic discussions on the topics of the day at lunch. From the Italians I learned that disagreement is not always a bad thing, just so long as you really listen to the one who is disagreeing with you.

What they were not very good at was efficient dry cleaning. When I went to the place in our neighborhood, I would leave off my pants and be told to come back on *mercoledì*. On *mercoledì* I would return and ask for my pants. The man at the counter would look at me closely and then go to the back, reach down into a mountain of dirty clothes and pick up mine and ask, "These?" I would nod in agreement and he would say to me, "Tomorrow," and when I would return the next day, he knew me instantly and told me to come back in an hour because he hadn't pressed them yet. I learned the hard way that an hour was a much longer length of time to him than to me. So, I would go the next day and on the third visit, I would get my pants back clean and pressed. I called it the three-visit rule. The Italians taught me the virtue of patience, or maybe better, persistence.

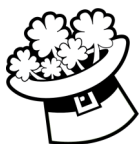
The Casa where I lived was a couple of minutes away from the Piazza Venezia, the noisy artery of Roman traffic. Vehicles were coming into it from several directions and then crossed to the other side, a disorderly chaos of movement, exhaust and horns. But it worked, and I am sure still works. If you are going to Rome, tell me and I will teach you how to cross the traffic on foot and live to see the next day. It is not difficult, but you must have courage. Msgr. Mike

Around our Parish

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

ST. PATRICK'S/ST. JOSEPH'S POTLUCK

Save the date for our annual St. Patrick's/St. Joseph's



Potluck Dinner on Saturday, March 10th at 6:00 PM in the Parish Hall. Sign-up sheets are posted in the vestibule and by the side entrance of the Church. For more information, contact Jim St. Omer Roy at 714-609-1297.

NEW DEGREES

St. Anne Knights of Columbus, Council 9594, is pleased to announce its newest 2nd Degrees—Matthew Talley and Robert Crabb, and 3rd Degrees—Michael Van Vooren and Roy Roudine.

MONTHLY MEETING/MEMBERSHIP

All interested Catholic men are invited to attend our Council meetings. We typically meet the 1st Monday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Parish Hall. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 5th. For additional information, please contact J. Jones at 562.936.0164.

"Help Us Help Those In Need"

WOMEN'S GUILD

MONTHLY MEETING/MEMBERSHIP

St. Anne Women's Guild is proud to present its 5th Clinical Update. The topic for Monday, March 26 is "Women and Heart Disease" by Debbie Truax, Geriatric Nurse Practitioner from Kaiser Permanente. Ms. Truax will share why women's heart disease presents differently from men's and will focus on how to optimize heart health. The meeting is open to all parishioners and the Seal Beach community. Join us in the Parish Hall for the presentation beginning at 7:00 p.m. To support our ministries and speakers as a member, please contact Kathy Stoddard at 707-477-0104.

MINISTRY TO SICK MEETING

Our Ministry to the Sick will meet in the Parish Hall on Monday, March 5 at 9:45 a.m.

MARIAN CONSECRATION RETREAT

Join Fr. Ben for a 6-week retreat on Wednesdays, April 11—May 9 from 9:45-11:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall. The retreat is designed to draw us closer to the Heart of Jesus through the Heart of Mary. We will be using the book 33 Days to Morning Glory and its accompanying Retreat Companion by Fr. Michael Gaitley. The cost for the retreat which includes the book/retreat companion will be approximately \$30. For registration or more information, contact Lisi at 714-622-5831 or lizcave@yahoo.com.



OUR MISSION:

Saint Anne Church exists to help us become disciples of Jesus Christ who connect with God, grow in faith, and serve in love.

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As of 2/26/18

Registered Families	750
Family Pledge Goal	200
Families Pledged	123
Amount Pledged Goal	\$120,000
Amount Pledged	\$77,097

Thank you to all who have prayerfully and generously made a pledge in support of our Church!

RITE OF ELECTION

Three St. Anne parishioners, A. Martinez, J. Ho and H. Walker, participated in Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversation last week. These individuals in the RCIA program follow a spiritual journey of "steps" accomplished through defined periods punctuated with formal rites. The first period is the Precatechumenate, when candidates inquire about the faith and receive evangelization. This period ends with the Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens when the candidates publicly declare their intention to enter the Church. This Rite of Acceptance then begins the Period of the Catechumenate, during which the catechumens receive catechetical and liturgical training. The Rite of Election closes the Period of the Catechumenate, normally coinciding with the first Sunday of Lent. At this rite, upon the testimony of sponsors and catechists and the catechumens' affirmation of their intention to join the Church, the Church makes its "election" of these catechumens to receive the Sacraments of Initiation. In the presence of the bishop (or his delegate), they inscribe their names in the Book of the Elect as a pledge of fidelity. Now the catechumens are called "the elect" or "the illuminandi" and begin a Period of Purification and Enlightenment — the final, intense preparation for the reception of the Sacraments of Initiation. The RCIA program is a spiritually moving process beneficial to the whole parish community. As we draw closer to the celebration of Easter, let us pray in particular for these elect who will be entering our holy Catholic Church this Easter.



YOUNG ADULT NIGHT

All young adults are invited to this fun night with games, music, worship, appetizers (bring something to share) on March 10th at 6:30 p.m. on the Patio. Feel free to invite friends!

Around our Diocese

TRIP TO THE HOLY LAND WITH FR. DUY AND FR. BRANDON

WALKING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS
NOVEMBER 25—DECEMBER 4, 2018

Reaffirm your baptism in the Jordan River, visit Bethlehem, Nazareth, and Jerusalem, the holy city that was witness to the death and resurrection of our Lord. Imagine crossing the Sea of Galilee or renewing your wedding vows in Cana at the sight of the first miracle. Brochures are available in the vestibule. For more information call Carre at 949-589-7747 or email mba+carre1@yahoo.com

REJOICE MY SOUL

MARCH 8, 7:00 p.m.

Fr. Ho Lung of the Missionaries of the Poor and the Five Jamaican Tenors will perform a night of beautiful music at the Arboretum at Christ Cathedral. Fr. Ho Lung and the more than 500 Brothers of the Missionaries of the Poor are dedicated to “Joyful Service with Christ on the Cross” to serve the poorest of the poor. Join them at Christ Cathedral in support of their truly inspiring global ministry. All proceeds benefit the Missionaries of the Poor.

CRS RICE BOWL/FAITH IN ACTION

This week’s encounter takes us to Burkina Faso, where we encounter Safiata, a mother, grandmother and farmer who relies on the money she makes from her crops to put her children through school. How can our purchases this Lent support farmers and artisans? How can you support those worldwide, who are forced to flee their homes to find safety and better opportunities?



HOME MISSION APPEAL

Next weekend, we will take up the Catholic Home Mission Appeal. Nearly half of our country is considered home mission territory. This appeal helps our neighbors here in the United States who do not have access to basic pastoral services like Mass, the sacraments, and religious education. Through your support, the Catholic Home Missions Appeals helps these mission dioceses form vibrant faith communities and strengthens the Church at home.



9:00 AM MASS INTENTIONS

3/5 ✠Rolf Hess
 3/6 ✠Pops
 3/7 ✠Sandra Gatfield
 3/8 ✠Leo Gillispie
 3/9 ✠Burke & Keating Families
 3/10 ✠Amy Davidson
 (✠ Rest in God's love and peace)



A FUNERAL MASS FOR MARGARET REIMER WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, MARCH 10TH AT 10:30 AM

PLEASE PRAY FOR



Fr. Bob Vidal, Katia Bergstrom, Juanita Kho, Brenda Malloy, Kathleen Kastner, Kathy Purcell, Aurora Lavadia, Mike Pendleton, Jerome Gendron, Julia Poirier, Jim & Julie Ferguson, Mary Maskell, Merrill Butler, Steven Lang, Kay Lang, Linda Bolt, Bob Wagner, Greg Rousselo, Sylvia Bartolomucci, Bob Rattray, Joel Rivera, Don Miller, Jean Barbazette

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Sunday Offertory—2/25/18 \$9,349

SACRAMENTS

In order to celebrate the following Sacraments at St. Anne, it is vital to be an active member of our Faith Community.

Baptism: Contact the Parish Office to arrange for baptism. Baptisms are usually celebrated the first Saturday of the month at 11:00 a.m.

PreK-8 Faith Formation: Applications for enrollment in next year's faith formation programs will be available in April.

Confirmation: Students typically begin the Confirmation process as a freshman in high school and complete the process at the end of their sophomore year.

Marriage: An appointment with one of our priests to begin marriage preparation must be made at least 6 months before the wedding celebration.

Funeral: Contact the parish office to arrange funerals.

Pastoral Care: If you, or someone you know, wishes to have their name placed on our prayer net, or a visit and/or Holy Communion, please contact the Parish Office.

Sacrament of the Sick: In case of serious illness, contact the parish office. Please do not wait until death is imminent.

- ⇒ If you wish to become a member of our parish family, please stop by the Parish Office.
- ⇒ If you want information about any of our many active Ministries, please pick up a brochure from the vestibule.