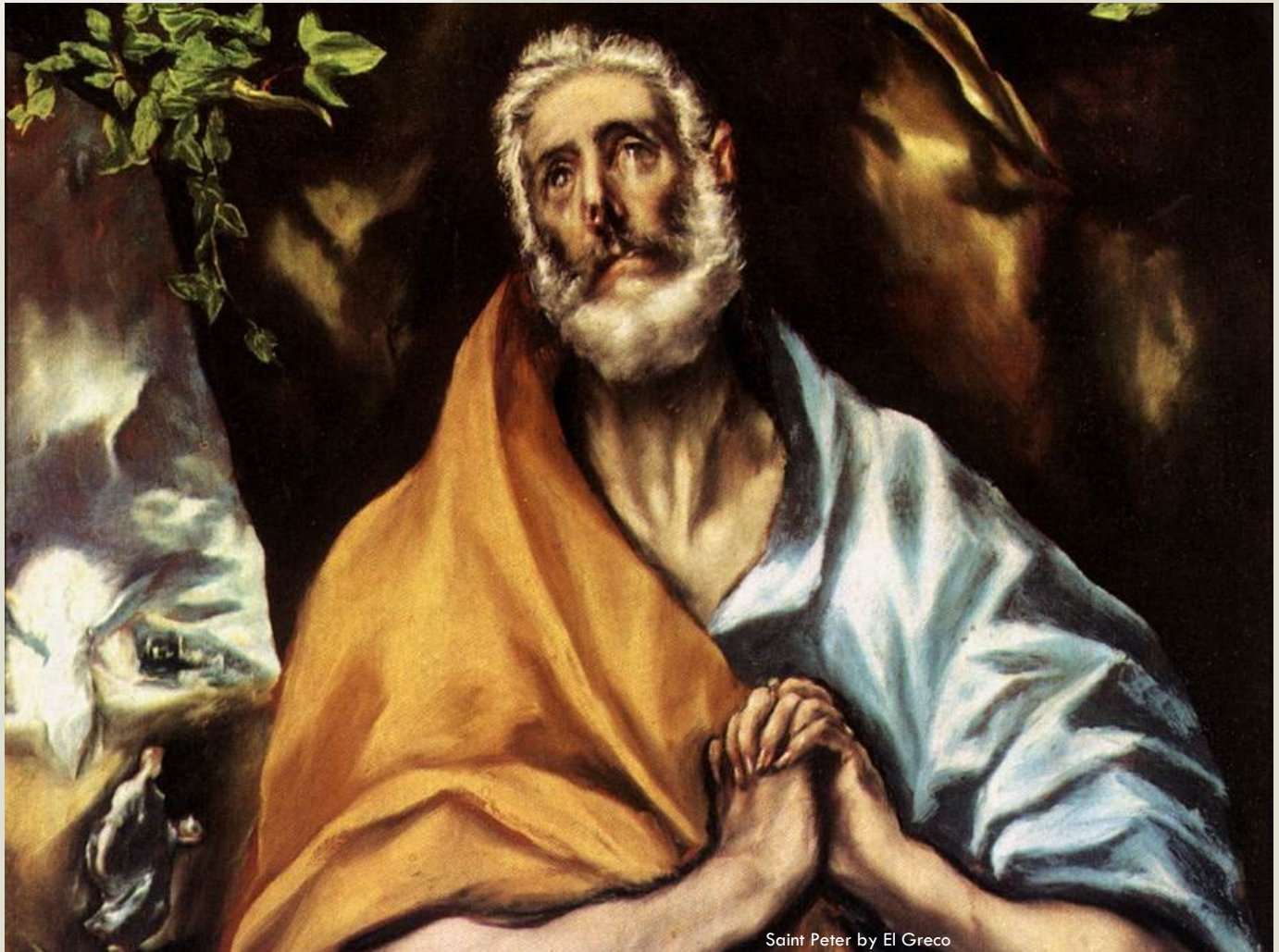


16 September 2018
Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saint Anne

SEAL BEACH



Saint Peter by El Greco

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MASSSES: 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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YOUR GOD IS TOO SMALL

Many years ago, I picked up a book entitled, "Your God is Too Small," mostly because the title intrigued me. As a Catholic, I believed that God was a trinity of three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. How can the author tell me that my God was too small? What I can remember of his argument was that, though we may hold an orthodox belief in God, on the functioning level of prayer we can reduce God to something else, something less.

Jesus told us that at the end of time, "when the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit upon his glorious throne and all the nations will be assembled before him. And he will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates sheep from goats." Until then Jesus can be thought of as a "**Resident Policeman**," someone who keeps track of who's good and who's not. Jesus is seen as just, but this image does little to express his forgiveness and mercy.

If you are in the habit of watching *The Late Show with Stephen Colbert*, you will have witnessed occasions when God appears on the ceiling of the theater to comment on current events. He looks like a "**Grand Old Man**," with a robe, flowing hair and a deep resonating voice. He doesn't look very different from the way God the Father was pictured in the catechism and simple religious books I saw in my youth. God, being divine, is beyond old, of course, but seeing him in this way can give the impression that he is distant from us, which he is not.

Jesus preached, "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land." One could infer that he was himself "**Meek-and-Mild**," and wanted his disciples to be nice

too. But I don't think that tells the whole story. The author, Philip Yancey, has asked, "How would telling people to be nice to one another get a man crucified? What government would execute Mister Rogers or

Captain Kangaroo?" Jesus is also the one who "cleansed" the Temple, overturning tables with violence and a whip. Jesus was determined and courageous.

I can imagine God as a "**Managing Director**." I can see him seated at his heavenly control panel, looking down to earth through the lenses of a huge set of binoculars, barking orders to his

attending angels, determining who lives and who dies, who gets grace and how much and who goes without. An archangel oversees the weather but doesn't do a great job; some places are deserts and other places are flooded. Saints come and go, interceding for this or that person or group. He is the nexus of all this activity. True, God is in charge, but I can't imagine him doing it as a control freak.

If you think of the Bible as the account of a love story between the creator and his creatures, you will want to read it to find out who this God is really is. You will read to see God in all his moods and dreams and purposes. You will want to find out why he did what he did, and you will discover the variety of ways in which his creatures have responded to his love. If we don't want to be accused of having a God who is too small, we should read the story closely to catch the endless manifestations of his nature and life. Only such a God is big enough to command our highest admiration and respect.

Msgr. Mike



Around our Parish

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

MONTHLY MEETING/MEMBERSHIP

All interested Catholic men are invited to attend our Council meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 1st at 7:00 PM in the Parish Hall. For more information, please contact Paul Pudenz at 562-370-5341.

"Help Us Help Those In Need"

WOMEN'S GUILD

SALAD SUPPER



All women of the parish are invited to the Women's Guild annual Salad Supper on Monday, Sept. 24th at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Sign-ups to attend this free event will be accepted after all weekend masses. For more information, contact Kathleen Fox at 913-775-2809.

MONTHLY MEETING/MEMBERSHIP

General meetings are usually the 4th Monday of each month in the parish hall. To support our events and speakers as a member, please contact Kathy Stoddard at 707-477-0104.

ST. PADRE PIO HEALING MASS

Please join us on Monday, Sept. 17th at 1:00 p.m. for the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and the Holy Rosary. Individuals may receive personal blessings after the Healing Mass. All are welcome! For more information, please call Janice Herlihy at 562-537-4526.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Our Women's Bible Study group meets each month at 5:15 p.m. in the Hall before the regular Women's Guild meeting (this month on September 24th). If you are interested in joining, please contact Sharon Stark at sstark19@aol.com or 818-404-3216. It is a great opportunity to grow in faith!

ST. ANNE BOOK CLUB

Everyone is invited to join us the first Thursday of each month from Noon to 1 PM in the Parish Center. Our book for October 4th is the OC Catholic Book Club pick—*Lessons In Hope, My Unexpected Life with St. John Paul II* by George Weigel. In the book, George tells the story of his unique friendship with St. John Paul II and offers a first hand account of the tumult of post-Vatican II Catholicism and the Cold War's endgame. He also shows us the aging pope grappling with the post 9/11 world order and teaching new lessons in dignity through his own suffering. Mr. Weigel and a panel of experts will discuss the life and papacy of Pope John Paul II on Nov. 8th at Christ Cathedral.



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.

SINGERS NEEDED

Come join the St. Anne Adult Choir and praise the Lord through song! Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings from 7:30–9:00 p.m. We sing at the 10 a.m. mass on Sundays. It is a great opportunity for fellowship and service—no previous experience is necessary. Please contact John Glaudini at 714-883-9041, or email him at jungledini@me.com, or see John after mass upstairs in the choir loft.

ST. ANNE SCHOOL SPONSORSHIP

The scholarship fund for tuition help for less fortunate students at St. Anne's School in Santa Ana was a huge success! Over \$28,000 was contributed and will be distributed among 24 students using both monthly pledges and flat donations. Donors will be given a photo of their student who is receiving help. Thankfully, this fund will allow more children to continue to attend Catholic school and be immersed in this Christian academic environment. If you have any questions, please contact Maureen Habel at 562-810-1561.

CATECHETICAL SUNDAY

This Sunday those who have been designated to serve as catechists will be called forth to be commissioned for their ministry. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an occasion for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith.

U.S. RELIGIOUS WORKFORCE

	<u>1975</u>	<u>2017</u>
Priests	58,909	37,181
Religious Sisters	135,225	45,605
Permanent Deacons	898	18,287



Over the past half-century, the number of permanent deacons in the U.S. Catholic Church has steadily grown, providing support to parishes during a period of decline in the number of ordained priests. The data above comes from the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate's study "The Diaconate in the U.S. Catholic Church, 1968-2018" as well as from data on current enrollment in diaconate formation programs.

Around the Diocese

HOLY HOUR FOR HOPE & HEALING

A Holy Hour for Hope and Healing will be held from 7:00-8:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at the Arboretum on the Christ Cathedral Campus. The Holy Hour is being offered for all those who have experienced abuse of any form in their lives, all victims of abuse in our Church, and the lay and clerical leaders guiding the rebuilding of our Church.

DIVORCE RECOVERY

Divorced? Separated? Find healing, hope and help with the divorce recovery program offered at St. Irenaeus Parish in Cypress. The program begins on Wednesday, Sept. 19th, meeting from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the Hall Conference Room. Newcomers are welcome at any time during the sessions. For more information and to sign up, email phansmeyer@gmail.com

MAGNIFICAT PRAYER BREAKFAST

Magnificat Prayer Breakfast welcomes speaker Fr. John Bradley to their breakfast on Saturday, Sept. 22nd. Join them for this inspiring testimony of God's transforming love and deep relationship with Jesus Christ that changed the course of a young man's life and produced a tremendous zeal for souls! The breakfast will be held at Embassy Suites Anaheim-South in Garden Grove. Registration must be postmarked by Sept. 17th at \$28 per person and mailed to Magnificat Ministry, P.O. Box 4381, Orange, CA 92863. Registration at the door is \$33.

ENCOUNTERING ANGELS—SCRC

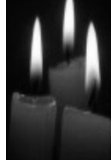
On Saturday, Sept. 22nd from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., St. Edward the Confessor in Dana Point will host "Encountering Angels." The event begins with a Healing Mass. The featured speakers are Dominic Berardino and Fr. Ben Tran. The cost to attend is \$20 and includes a catered chicken lunch. Please register online at scrc.org before Sept. 17th.

SERVICE HOURS

Do you need service hours? Come and help the Sacred Heart Sisters at the Sacred Heart Kids' Club on Thursdays from 3:00-6:00 p.m. Training and orientation will be held on Saturday, Sept. 22nd from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. To attend, please RSVP by Tuesday, Sept. 18th. The Heart of Jesus Retreat Center is located at 2927 Greenville St. in Santa Ana. For more information call 714-557-4538 or email heartofjesusrc@sbcglobal.net.

9:00 AM MASS INTENTIONS

9/17 †Conor Egleston
 9/18 †Dan Thomas
 9/19 Gabriela Oliveira Stolarz
 9/20 †Mother Mary Felix Montgomery
 9/21 †William Holman
 9/22 Jan and Edward MacArthur
 (†Rest in God's love and peace)



PLEASE PRAY FOR



Fr. Bob Vidal, Katia Bergstrom, Juanita Kho,
 Brenda Malloy, Kathleen Kastner, Kathy
 Purcell, Aurora Lavadia, Mike Pendleton,
 Jerome Gendron, Julia Poirier, Don Miller,
 Jim & Julie Ferguson, Mary Maskell, Merrill

Butler, Steven Lang, Linda Bolt, Bob Wagner, Gary
 Roussel, Bob Rattray, Julie Rivera, Jean Barbazette,
 Robert Dutro, Pat Giacomi, Janet Tedesco, Mike Maloney,
 Ernie Ramirez

*If you would like to have your name added or removed
 from this list, please call the parish office.

AUTUMN DAYS

Autumn days come swift like the running of a hound upon
 the moor. —Seumas MacManus

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. Baptism preparation classes for
 parents and Godparents are held once a month on a
 Tuesday night at 7:00 p.m.

PreK-8 Faith Formation: For information and/or
 enrollment in faith formation programs, please contact
faithformation@stannesealbeach.org.

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.

⇒ If you want information about any of our
 many active ministries, please pick up a
 brochure from the vestibule.