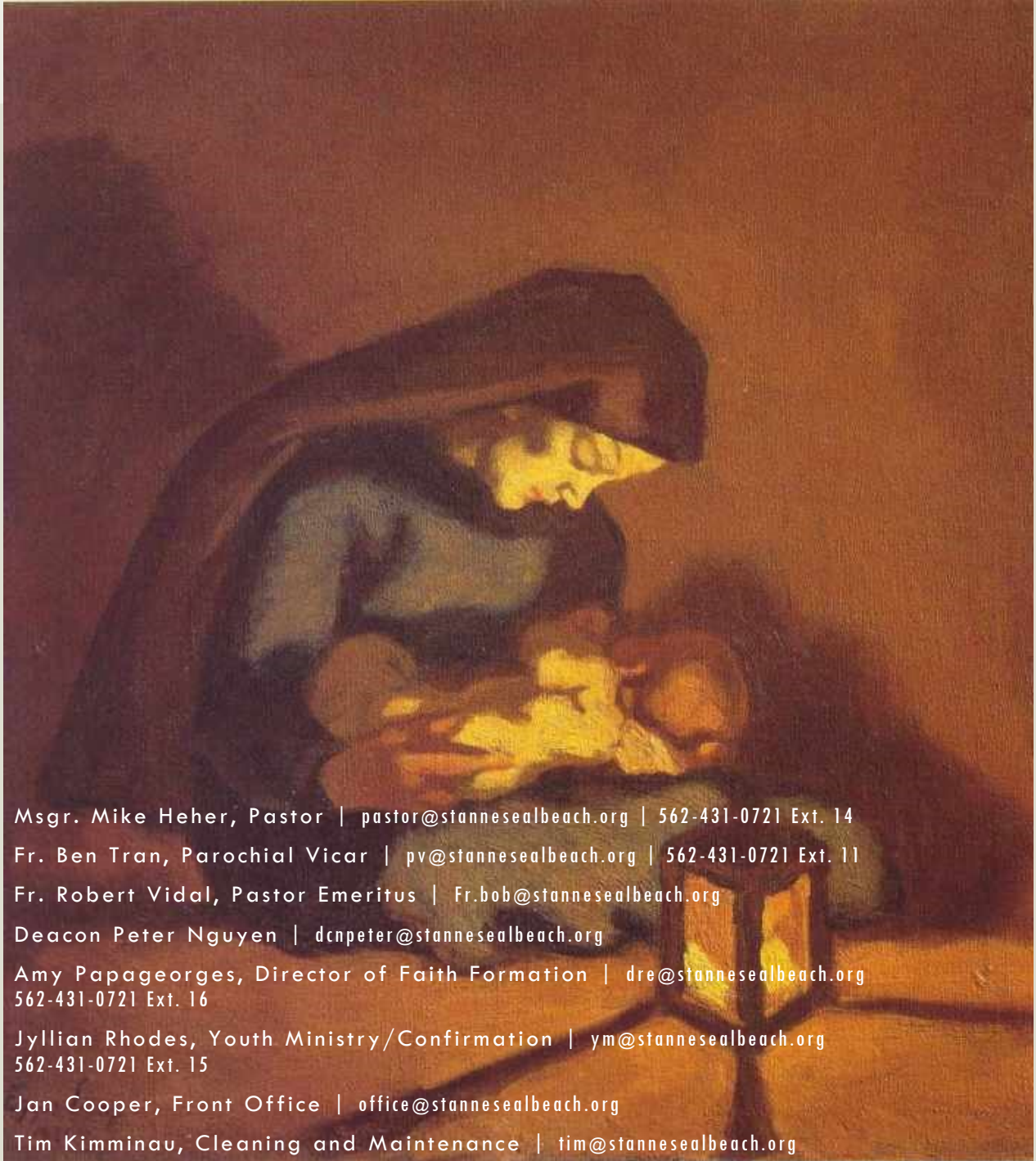


23 December 2018  
The Fourth Sunday of Advent

# Saint Anne

SEAL BEACH



Msgr. Mike Heher, Pastor | [pastor@stannesealbeach.org](mailto:pastor@stannesealbeach.org) | 562-431-0721 Ext. 14

Fr. Ben Tran, Parochial Vicar | [pv@stannesealbeach.org](mailto:pv@stannesealbeach.org) | 562-431-0721 Ext. 11

Fr. Robert Vidal, Pastor Emeritus | [Fr.bob@stannesealbeach.org](mailto:Fr.bob@stannesealbeach.org)

Deacon Peter Nguyen | [dcnpeter@stannesealbeach.org](mailto:dcnpeter@stannesealbeach.org)

Amy Papageorges, Director of Faith Formation | [dre@stannesealbeach.org](mailto:dre@stannesealbeach.org)  
562-431-0721 Ext. 16

Jyllian Rhodes, Youth Ministry/Confirmation | [ym@stannesealbeach.org](mailto:ym@stannesealbeach.org)  
562-431-0721 Ext. 15

Jan Cooper, Front Office | [office@stannesealbeach.org](mailto:office@stannesealbeach.org)

Tim Kimminau, Cleaning and Maintenance | [tim@stannesealbeach.org](mailto:tim@stannesealbeach.org)

**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

340 10TH ST. | SEAL BEACH CA 90740 | 562-431-0721 | [WWW.STANNESEALBEACH.ORG](http://WWW.STANNESEALBEACH.ORG)

## NOT AT HOME

Our Christmas' take place most often at home, if not your home, then the home of a relative or close friend. There we gather and find food and drink, a comfortable place to sit, a beautiful decorated tree to contemplate and stories being told; often these are the same stories we hear every year; they have become traditions to be remembered annually. "Do you remember the time Uncle Fred nearly burnt down Gramma's house...." "I will never forget when Jimmy surprised us by walking in the door on Christmas eve; we thought he was still in Vietnam."

And yet, nobody was at home on the first Christmas, except for any animals that were sleeping in the stable. Joseph and Mary couldn't even find room in the Bethlehem inn. The shepherds were out in the cold open fields keeping guard of their flocks of sheep. The angels came from heaven, of course, presumably a long way from the hills outside of Bethlehem. Magi from the east came later, after asking for directions in Jerusalem; after all, if you want to find "the newborn king of the Jews" wouldn't you want to check with Herod the current king of the Jews? After the holy family had departed, according to the account in Matthew's gospel, they didn't return home to Nazareth but departed by night for Egypt to escape the wrath of Herod.

Having to leave the comforts of home is a spiritual path. Under the leadership of Moses and Aaron, the Jewish people left the fleshpots in Egypt to make the long and difficult journey across the desert to the promised land. When they forgot what they had learned in the desert, God sent them into exile for sixty years, but even in Babylon, the prophet Ezekiel was given a divine vision. John the Baptist was not found in the cities or villages but appeared preaching in the desert. Like him, Jesus went into the desert to prepare for his ministry by being tempted by the devil. The first two disciples, brothers, were fishermen when Jesus called them to leave their nets and their father to become fishers of men and women. St. Paul left his

whole persecuting life behind him when on the road to Damascus Jesus called him to his vocation to be an apostle.

Through the succeeding centuries many have left their homes in the service of and devotion to Christ. St. Antony of Egypt went into seclusion as a hermit in the desert. Cyril and Methodius were Greek brothers who were sent to preach the gospel to the Moravians. Boniface was born in England but went to Germany where he brought many pagans to the faith. Spanish-born Saint Francis Xavier was a companion of Ignatius Loyola in Paris, was sent to India where he was a highly successful missionary, then on to Indonesia and Japan where he died trying to reach his ultimate goal, China. Eight French Jesuits were sent to parts of Canada and the United States as missionaries to the Huron Indians and were all martyred. Born in Flanders, Belgium, Damien the Leper spent the last sixteen years of his life half-way around the world on the island of Molokai, attending to the spiritual and temporal needs of the lepers who had been quarantined in a camp there. Mother Teresa was born of Albanian parents in what was then the Ottoman empire but went to India to care for the poorest of the poor, founding an order that now extends to all parts of the globe.

Referring to Jesus' birth in a stable, Thomas Merton wrote: "Into this world, this demented inn, in which there is absolutely no room for Him at all, Christ has come uninvited. But because He cannot be at home in it, because He is out of place in it, and yet He must be in it, His place is with those others for whom there is no room. His place is with those who do not belong, who are rejected by power because they are regarded as weak, those who are discredited, who are denied the status of persons, tortured, exterminated. With those for whom there is no room, Christ is present in this world."

Blessed Christmas to all. Msgr. Mike

## Around our Parish

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

#### 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, January 7th. For more information, contact Paul at 657-245-3722.

*“Help Us Help Those In Need”*

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION


St. Anne will have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Wednesday, Dec. 26th from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All are invited to come, pray and spend some time with our Lord. If you can, please volunteer to be present for a specific period of time to ensure that every hour with our Lord is covered by signing up in the vestibule of the church.

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Mary, Mother Par Excellence, helps us to understand the key words of the mystery of the birth of her divine Son: humility, silence, wonder, joy. She exhorts us, first of all, to humility, so that God can find space in our heart, not darkened by pride and arrogance. She points out to us the value of silence, which knows how to listen to the song of the Angels and the crying of the Child, not stifling them by noise and confusion. Together with her, we stop before the Nativity scene with intimate wonder, savoring the simple and pure joy that this Child gives to humanity...we make the sentiments of the Virgin our own, remaining in anxious expectation for the Birth of Christ.

—Bl. John Paul II, Homily on December 21st, 2003

### CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

	Monday, Dec. 24	3:30 PM	Christmas Story
		4:00 PM	Children’s Mass
		6:00 PM	Mass
		9:00 PM	Mass
	Tuesday, Dec. 25	9:00 AM	Mass
		12:00 Noon	Mass



#### 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.

### HELP! PSA PREPARATION EVENT



Please come help our office staff on Thursday, December 27th in the hall to stuff envelopes for our 2019 Pastoral

Services Appeal which will kick off in January. Coffee and pastries will be served following the 9:00 AM mass for those lending a hand.

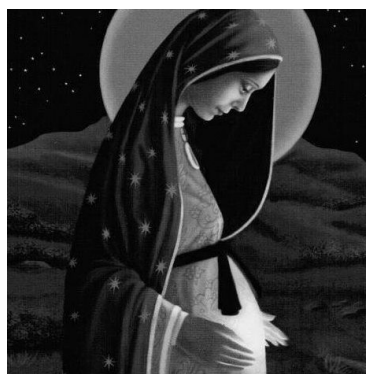


### AWAKENING TO LIFE

Mary’s pregnancy has a few highlight moments in Scripture: the Annunciation, the Visitation, and the Nativity. We’re invited to consider these events at multiple times throughout the liturgical year, but they only make up a fraction of the nine months Mary spent carrying Jesus in her womb. How did she spend the rest of her time? Probably engaged in the same sort of homemaking as any wife and expectant mother, albeit the first century version. She prepared meals, washed clothes, and tended to the upkeep of the home, all with the awareness of a new life growing within her. She had hope and anticipation – the very spirit of Advent.

We may not all have the experience of a pregnant mother, but the life of Mary during those nine months is the very life of Advent. Our time of waiting has an end. Our spiritual anticipation has a point of fulfillment. As Jesus was born of Mary, so too can new life be born in us. Every Christmas offers the opportunity to be renewed in the life and love of God.

This transformation brings a communal benefit. Mary’s “yes” to the angel Gabriel resounds through-



out time and space, bringing grace to each individual life. We are called to bear Christ to the world as Mary did. When we say “yes” to the plan of God, when we say “yes” to the unexpected, life is always renewed and reborn.

# Around the Diocese

## ST. HEDWIG CHRISTMAS DINNER

St. Hedwig Church is offering a Christmas Dinner on Tuesday, December 25th at 1:00 p.m. in Quinn Hall.



If you are alone this Christmas, you are invited to St. Hedwig for a delicious dinner. There will be families to share their love and prayers with you, plenty of food, singing and more. There is no charge but **reservations are required**. Please contact Ed or Dewey at 562-598-7060 no later than December 22nd.

## TV MASS FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Is someone you love unable to join us at church during this holy time of Advent and Christmas? For the faithful at home or in healthcare settings, the TV Mass brings spiritual comfort and the blessings of joyful hope in our Savior. The TV mass does not fulfil the obligation for those who can get to church. Online Mass—[www.HeartoftheNation.org](http://www.HeartoftheNation.org)

CONNECT WITH THE  
ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ORANGE

---

Follow us on Social Media



**FACEBOOK**  
Diocese of Orange: @dioceseoforange  
OC Catholic: @ocatholicnews  
Bishop Tim Freyer: @bishopfreyer



**TWITTER**  
Diocese of Orange: @orangediocese  
Bishop Kevin Vann: @OCBishop and @OCobispo (Spanish)  
Office of Catholic Schools: @CatholicEdOC  
Dr. Erin Barisano, Superintendent of Schools: @DrBarisano  
OC Catholic: @OCCatholicNews



**INSTAGRAM**  
Diocese of Orange: @orangediocese  
OC Catholic: @oc\_catholic  
Bishop Tim Freyer: @bishopfreyer



**ROMAN CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF ORANGE**

## 9:00 AM MASS INTENTIONS

12/24 For the Parish  
 12/25 For the Parish  
 12/26 Mary Keyes  
 12/27 †Hap Pudewa  
 12/28 †Noemi Baeza  
 12/29 †Truong Ancester  
 (†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 Ferguson, Mary Maskell, Merrill Butler, Steven Lang, Linda Bolt, Bob Wagner, Bob Rattray, Julie Rivera, Jean Barbazette, Pat Giacomi, Janet Tedesco, Ernie Ramirez, Mike Harvey, William Spillane, Bill Matheus, John Barnes, Carol Forbes, Catherine Tautges, Ken Hammond, Stefanie Lavery, Myrna Navarro

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

"Since love completes all, makes all hard things soft, and the difficult easy, let us strive to make all our acts proceed from love." — St. Arnold Janssen

## SACRAMENTS

**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](mailto: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.

**Sacrament of the Sick:** In case of serious illness, contact the parish office.

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