Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time





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Jan Cooper, Front Office | Mon.—Fri. 8:00am to 4:00 pm | office@stannesealbeach.org

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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

340 10TH ST. | SEAL BEACH CA 90740 | 562-431-0721 | WWW.STANNESEALBEACH.ORG

BECOMING A SAINT

When I was in the second or third grade, I was captured by this idea of becoming a saint. I am sure Sister Rose Marie planted it in my head. But who wouldn't want to have a

halo's glow? I knew that a saint had to do good and avoid evil, which would have been easy except that my brother was around, and we were always fighting.

I was thinking about this because I read that Jesuit Father Pedro Arrupe's cause for sainthood was getting started. It's not easy becoming a saint. The Church collects all one's writings and gathers sworn testimonies about one's life and holiness. Then a postulator is appointed who will put together and present the case for sainthood. Once the inquiry is completed, the documentation is sent to the Vatican Congregation for Saints' Causes, which reviews the gathered

information. If the individual is found to have led a heroic life of Christian virtues, the church bestows on him or her the title "venerable."

The process in my case would end right there. I have some virtues alright but none that even touch the outside boundaries of "heroic." Case closed. The sworn testimonies will attest to the unheroic nature of my life.

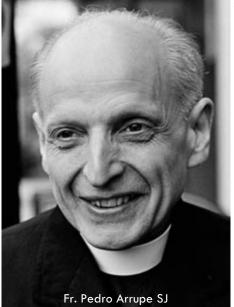
If I somehow got that far, the next steps would have been beatification (when one is declared "blessed.") and canonization (when one is declared "a saint.") To get each, a miracle must have occurred through the candidate's intercession. I had been told that heaven is a place of "eternal rest" but apparently the holy ones still have work to do.

The spokesperson for Father Arrupe's cause said that he was "rich" in such treasured qualities as the ability to listen, understand, respect, help and trust others, teaching many how to become "men and women for others." I'm a pretty good listener myself, though I doubt I am much competition for Arrupe.

But then we come to another "heroic" action in his life. Father Arrupe was serving in a Japanese mission outside of Hiroshima when the United States dropped the atomic

bomb there in 1945. The Jesuit priest, who studied medicine before entering the society, and several companions "were able to give aid to 150 victims."

The most heroic thing I ever do is get up in the middle of the night to anoint someone who is dying. The only medical expertise I have is the ability to put a bandage on my bleeding finger. My only chance might be if it turned out that there are levels in heaven: a "downtown" where all the canonized saints hang out and the "suburbs" where people live who were not bad enough to be sent to hell but not heroic enough to score a condo downtown.



Which will be good enough for me. I would be super intimidated if I were to run into, say, Saint John of the Cross on the street. What do you talk with a mystic about? "Seen any good visions lately?" "How's your friend. Saint Teresa of Avila, doing?" "Can I buy you some sangria?"

Maybe we all expect too little from heaven. Without much imagination, we believe we will just sit up there feeling beatific, like a satisfied Buddha. But I am reminded of Saint Thomas Aquinas, when he was asked if it was okay to drink alcohol, answered, "Hinc bibere usque ad hilaritatem per se quidem non est illcitum, hence to drink even to the point of hilarity is certainly not illicit per se." Heaven just might be a place of boisterous merriment. There might be dancing—particularly conga lines—and people will form ad hoc choirs to sing the songs they learned in their youth. Yes, we will spend time praising and thanking God, but I can't imagine that's the sum total of the job description. Heaven will be fun, I promise. Msgr. Mike

Around our Parish

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

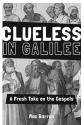
ST. PATRICK'S/ST. JOSEPH'S DAY PARISH POTLUCK

Save the date for this free annual dinner event on Saturday, March 9th at 6:00 PM in the Parish Hall. Plan on a fun evening of parish fellowship with good music, Irish dancers, great food, beverages, door prizes and a raffle. Sign-up sheets are posted in the vestibule and by the side entrance of the Church. For more information, please contact Jim St. Omer Roy at 714-609-1297.

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 4th. For more information, contact Paul at 657-245-3722. "Help Us Help Those In Need"

ST. ANNE BOOK CLUB



Please join us the first Thursday of each month from Noon to 1 PM in the Parish GALILEE Center living room. At our book club we learn a little about the author's background and then discuss different aspects of the book brought up by the participants. Everyone is invited! Our book for

March 7th is "Clueless in Galilee: A Fresh Take on the Gospels" by Mac Barron. Mac Barron assures us that Jesus loves us, even though we are human. With its hilarious, sometimes irreverent, and always humble reflections, this book will make us laugh and help us look at the Bible, and ourselves, in a whole new way.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Sunday Offertory-2/17 \$8,671 Online giving week ending 2/17 \$2,295 Thank you to all who have prayerfully and generously donated in support of our Church!



"I like modern ideas... And collections do take a long time. But install EZ Pass at the door? No, Thanks."



OUR MISSION:

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

WOMEN'S GUILD

PREPARING FOR LENT

Fr. Baca will be our guest speaker at our next Women's Guild meeting on Monday, February 25th at 6:30 p.m. All women of the parish are invited to attend this inspirational beginning to the Lenten season. The Lenten 'Little Books' will be distributed at the meeting.

MONTHLY MEETING/MEMBERSHIP

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

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION



Beginning on Friday, March 1st, we will have Eucharistic Adoration monthly on the First Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Our Youth Ministry will be extending this month's adoration from 7:00-8:00 p.m. with music and liturgical activities designed to deepen your

connection with scripture and presence of Christ in your life. All are invited to come pray with our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Please sign-up to ensure that every hour is covered. The sign-up sheet is on the counter in the vestibule. We hope you will join us for this wonderful experience!

CAREER RENEWAL MINISTRY

Attention job seekers and volunteers! Thursday Career Renewal meetings continue weekly from 7:00–9:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. On Feb. 28th, there will be training for volunteers interested in helping others at 6:00 p.m., before the 7:00 p.m. Career Renewal meeting. Retired business people, teachers, HR personnel, all who wish to volunteer are welcome! For more information on job help or becoming a volunteer, contact Ted at 714-330-5067 or Kathy Keller at keller.math@gmail.com.

Around the Diocese

CONFRONT GLOBAL POVERTY

Be one of a million Catholics connected through "Catholics Confront Global Poverty" sponsored by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and Catholic Relief Services. Work together to increase and improve international assistance, make global trade fair, help poor countries benefit from their natural resources, address the causes of migration and reform migration policy to protect human dignity, protect creation and poor people by tackling climate change, and promote peacebuilding and diplomacy to end impoverishing effects of conflict. For more information go to www.crs.org/globalpoverty.

CALLED AND GIFTED

To help lay Catholics discover their mission, a Called & Gifted workshop will be held on Saturday, March 9th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at St. Irenaeus in Cypress. The workshop guides individuals through a process of discernment in which they may recognize their charisms, gifts given by the Holy Spirit through baptism and confirmation. For more information go to https://tinyurl.com/cgirenaeus.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES WALKING PILGRIMAGES

Catholic Charities of California is excited to be hosting walking pilgrimages in Spain along the Camino de Santiago and in Italy along the Via



Francigena, as well as non-walking pilgrimages visiting colonial Catholic Churches in Cuba and following in the footsteps of martyrs in Mexico. These pilgrimages will change your life and support the work of Catholic Charities of California. Please join them for a meeting on Saturday, March 16th at 10:00 AM at Our Lady Queen of Angles in Newport Beach or at 2:00 PM at St. Justin Martyr in Anaheim. To RSVP for the meeting, or for more information, contact 916-706-1539x12 or CCCpilgrim@catholiccharities.org.

9:00 AM MASS INTENTIONS

2/25 Ron Cave & Family

2/26 Ilsa Esquivel

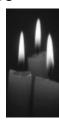
2/27 PAnne Wiltgren

2/28 Casey Neill

3/1 Seminarians

3/2 PJesus, Eufemia & Rainier Destura

(Prest 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, Julia Poirier, Jerome Gendron, Jim Ferguson, Mary

Maskell, Steven Lang, Linda Bolt, Bob Wagner, Bob Rattray, Julie Rivera, Jean Barbazette, Pat Giacomi, Janet Tedesco, Ernie Ramirez, Mike Harvey, Mary Kiely, John Barnes, Carol Forbes, Catherine Tautges, Ken Hammond, Myrna Navarro, Jean Engel

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

"To fall in love with God is the greatest romance; to seek Him the greatest adventure; to find Him, the greatest human achievement." — St. Augustine of Hippo

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.

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.