

26 January 2020

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

# Saint Anne

SEAL BEACH



Christ Calling the Disciples by Philip Richard Morris

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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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## REASONS FOR PRAYING

Over the years I have prayed for many reasons. At first I prayed because my parents taught me to. In Catholic school I prayed because the sisters insisted. For reasons still obscure, I discovered that I wanted to become a priest, so I prayed that my parents would let me go to the seminary, that the seminary would let me in and that I would do well enough that they would not toss me out. After I was ordained, I prayed quite fervently that I would not mess up, that is, give penitents lousy advice, preach nonsense, or worse, heresy, get into fights with my pastor and a really pushy parishioners, not be able to comfort the grieving or engage those getting married or bring solace to those I anointed. In other words, I prayed that God would spare me from being a failure. This may be how most of us pray in our youth.

Then, once I got to know the people of my parish, I started praying for them, for those I knew who were dying, for the families of the children I baptized, for the dead whose names were mentioned at Mass, for the children in school, especially those I knew were having a difficulties either in their families or with other students in their class. It was and is part of my vocation to pray for those I marry, bury and give communion to. In the morning, I still prayed for myself but I wasn't looking in the mirror so much as looking out at the world I was engaged in.

When Bishop McFarland called me in and asked me to be a pastor, I remember asking him if it was such a good idea to send someone who has never been a pastor to go to such a large parish. He said something he thought was reassuring but I was not reassured. I prayed that God would send me angels to guide my leadership. I prayed this very loudly and often. I felt I was like Jonah crossing the great city of Nineveh; it took me a whole month just to meet individually with the pastoral staff and the principal of the double-classroom school. I asked God whether I should do this or that, make a

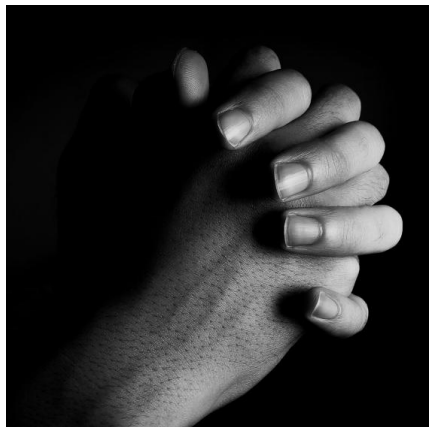
change or let things ride, even whether or not to paint the school during the summer or put a new roof on the church. In the seminary I had been formed to be obedient; we were given no management training. (In the days when there were plenty of priests, a guy wouldn't be made a pastor until he had about 25 years of experience; the bottom fell out of that demographic and I was appointed somewhere around 12 years ordained.)

Because I watch too many news programs (and I'm not talking about Fox) I pray now for the endangered spots across the globe: bush fires engulfing Australia, almost anywhere in the Mideast, famines in Africa, earthquakes all over, momentous events at the Vatican, the parishioners now out of their Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris. The world seems more fragile to me nowadays; maybe it is because I am more fragile myself and so feel it more intensely.

Except for a few occasions, I have no idea whether or not my personal prayers helped. I remember when a baby was born with lots of life-threatening medical problems, a priest encouraged us to "storm heaven" with our prayers. I forget if the "storming" worked; it probably didn't because if it did, that is something I definitely would have remembered. I think I pray now more because I consider myself to have a relationship with God (and our Lady and a few of the saints) and I just want to let God know where I am at and what help I need and why he is important to me. And I like to think that in ways unknown to me directly, he answers my prayers and inspires me to do what he wants to be done.

My best prayers now are silent. I sit in his presence and I feel him silently with me. That is enough for me.

Msgr. Mike



## Around our Parish

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

#### MEMBERSHIP

All interested Catholic men are invited to attend our Council meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for February 3rd at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. For more information, please contact Russell at 949-527-0172.

*"Help Us Help Those In Need"*

### WOMEN'S GUILD

#### SPUDTACULAR

Don't miss it! SPUDTACULAR, this Monday, January 27th at 6:00 p.m. All women in the parish are encouraged to attend our "Be My Valentine" potato bar! A \$5 suggested donation will be collected at the event and includes baked potatoes, toppings, refreshments, and hospitality. Please sign-up to RSVP outside after mass this weekend. If you have questions call Desiree at 714-906-0996 or Jolinda at 714-655-6348.

### ROMANS: GOSPEL OF SALVATION

Romans: The Gospel of Salvation is a new eight-week Bible study we are offering that will help you make sense of the difficult passages regarding faith, works of the law, and justification. St. Anne will begin Romans on Thursday, February 6th at 7:00 p.m. Participants will meet every week to view an engaging thirty minute video presentation by Swafford/Cavins, followed by a lively group discussion and fellowship. For more information contact Joe Gallo at 562-343-8993. Registration forms are available in the church vestibule and the Parish Office. We hope you can join us!

### CONCERN AMERICA

Volunteers will be here February 8th and 9th after all Masses in the large hall with a Craft Sale featuring unique, quality handcrafts from El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico and Bangladesh. Inspired by nature, these items honor indigenous traditions and were selected to be reminders that when a Concern America product is purchased we are providing a source of income to materially poor communities; promoting human scale endeavors; eco-friendly work patterns; and fair working conditions. Concern America is based in Santa Ana. [www.concernamerica.org](http://www.concernamerica.org)



#### 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.

### PASTORAL SERVICES APPEAL

Next weekend, St. Anne kicks off its annual PSA! Our call to action for this year's Pastoral Services Appeal is **Our Faith, Our Future**. The old adage holds true, it takes a village. By supporting the work of our Church and participating in this appeal we will continue to strengthen Our Faith and Our Future. No gift is too great or too small. Once we have met the goal for our parish's share (\$60,450) for diocesan services, your donation will be returned to our parish. Look for a letter from Msgr. Mike along with a brochure about the PSA and prayerfully consider how your family will respond to this call to carry out Christ's work in our community.

If you don't receive a letter, PSA information and envelopes will be available in the vestibule of our church. Pledges can be made by mail or you can drop your pledge in the collection basket during Mass.

### ST THOMAS AQUINAS FEAST DAY – JANUARY 28



We can look to Thomas Aquinas as a towering example of Catholicism in the sense of broadness, universality, and inclusiveness. His greatest contribution to the Catholic Church is his writings. The unity, harmony, and continuity of faith and reason, of revealed and natural human knowledge, pervades his writings. One might expect Thomas, as a man of the gospel, to be an ardent defender of revealed truth. But he was broad enough, deep enough, to see the whole natural order as coming from God the Creator, and to see reason as a divine gift to be highly cherished. He is the Patron Saint of Catholic Colleges, Schools and Students.

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## Dynamic Faith

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### CAREER RENEWAL MINISTRY

Step into a more productive year in 2020! Come to a Career Renewal Ministry meeting on any Thursday night at 7:00 p.m. Find and give encouragement to fellow job seekers. For more information contact Kathy Keller at 714-206-0885 or Ted Rozolis at 714-330-5067.

### HEALING MASS

The Charismatic Prayer Group at St. Angela Merici Church (585 S. Walnut) in Brea invites you to their Healing Mass on Monday, January 27th at 7:15 p.m. All those suffering physically, emotionally, spiritually, psychologically or know others who are, are encouraged to come.

### WORLD DAY OF THE SICK

All are invited to participate in our Diocesan Celebration for World Day of the Sick Mass on Saturday, February 8th at Christ Cathedral at 10:00 a.m. There will be an anointing of the sick and a blessing for all those who care for the sick.

### THE POPES INTENTIONS

JANUARY 2020



We pray that Christians, followers of other religions, and all people of goodwill may promote peace and justice in the world.

#### WITH JESUS IN THE MORNING

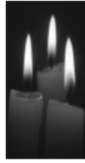
Loving Father, I let your love embrace me this morning. Fill me with your life, that I may be a joyous witness of the Gospel. I offer this day for the intention of the Holy Father for this month.

#### WITH JESUS IN THE NIGHT

Heavenly Father, I thank you for the gift of another day. I offer again the love of this day and through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, I pray for the intentions of Pope Francis for this month.

## 9:00 AM MASS INTENTIONS

1/27 †Madalena Ty  
 1/28 †Linda Mroz  
 1/29 †Alfred Gabriel  
 1/30 †Mark Fudakowski  
 1/31 †Mamerta Ybanez  
 2/1 †John Patrick Healy  
 (†Rest in God's love and peace)



## PLEASE PRAY FOR



Fr. Bob Vidal, Katia Bergstrom, Juanita Kho, Kathy Purcell, Julia Poirier, Jerome Gendron, Jim Ferguson, Mary Maskell, Mary Kiely, Steven Lang, Linda Bolt, Marlene Blackford, Bob Wagner, Bob Rattray, Julie Rivera, Pat Giacomi, Ernie Ramirez, Mike Harvey, John Barnes, Mary Kunz, Katherine Irwin, Dixie Redfearn, Beverly Maybrier, Cathy Oliver, John Holland, Dorothy Ceballos, L. Tanguay, Leo Zuvich, Ed Michaud, Bob Dutro

*Jesus looks at the paralytic and focuses on what is essential: "Your sins are forgiven". Physical health is a gift that we must preserve but the Lord teaches us that we must also preserve the health of the heart, spiritual health.—Pope Francis*

## 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 about Faith Formation programs, please call 562-431-0721 ext. 16 or email [faithformation@stannesealbeach.org](mailto:faithformation@stannesealbeach.org).

**Confirmation:** For information about our Youth Ministry programs, please call 562-431-0721 ext. 15 or email [ym@stannesealbeach.org](mailto:ym@stannesealbeach.org).

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

**Funeral:** Contact the Parish Office to arrange funerals.

**Sacrament of the Sick:** In case of serious illness, contact the Parish Office.

**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.