

14 January 2018  
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

# Saint Anne

SEAL BEACH



Domenico Ghirlandaio, The Calling of St. Peter and St. Andrew, 1481

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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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## FEELING

If I remember my ancient history, first the Greeks, and then the Romans after them, thought that life was great if one lived without care. The Greek word *apathia* means without care and our English word *apathy* comes from that. The closest we have for this kind of sensibility is how we imagined the cowboy lived, out there on the prairie, alone, riding on his horse and smoking a cigarette, content under the noon-day sun. The urban version of this is captured with the adjective, *cool*. The cool person knew what was going on, knew the right people, listened to the latest music, and who never seemed to have to worry about or be frustrated with anything.

When I was growing up, we had something similar in Catholic culture. A saint was not only someone who didn't sin; he or she was perfectly accepting on God's will, regardless of what it was. There was a story about the martyrdom of Saint Lawrence in Rome. He had been responsible for the material goods of the church, which often meant distributing alms to the poor. After his arrest, the Prefect of Rome demanded he hand over the treasures of the church so Lawrence brought the poor to the Prefect. This was not what the Prefect was expecting; enraged, he had a gridiron prepared with hot coals beneath it and had Lawrence placed on it. After suffering for a long time, he cheerfully declared, "I'm done of this side; turn me over." I remember thinking that was so cool and heroic and with a clever line all at the same time. I aspired to be strong like Saint Lawrence, though without the red hot coals.

Music changed my mind. In the seminary we sang a lot of Gregorian chant, which seemed the musical equivalent of simplicity and acceptance of God's will. But that was not the only music I was listening to. There was James Taylor and Cat Stevens, Carol King and Crosby, Still and Nash, later to add Neil Young. The first live concert I went to was at the Anaheim Convention Center, featuring both Carol King and James Taylor. At the seminary we weren't supposed to have music in our dorm rooms but, it will come as no surprise to you, we did anyways. We loved that kind of music too.

The folk and rock and roll music we were listening to did not cool the emotions, they inflamed them. That's

what delighted us. Listening to music like that made you want to move your arms and body, even dance, which was not something the seminary faculty was recommending. The lyrics sang of longing, disappointment, the delight of falling in love or discovering that someone was secretly in love with you. They wondered, "Will you still love me tomorrow?" They also came to demand civil rights, social justice for the poor and freedom for our black brothers and sisters. Bob Dylan's lyric became a mantra for us in those times, "The times, they are a-changing." They were the opposite of apathy.

Though I loved them all, Joni Mitchell came to be my favorite. You could call it a crush, but it was more than that, much more. She didn't sing as mellifluously as Judy Collins, nor was she the crusading prophet that Joan Baez was. Joni was the poet that moved me most. She put sublime words to various new things that I was feeling, or, rather, when I listened to her songs, she taught me that there were so many different ways a person could feel, ways in my sheltered, nearly cloistered, life, I didn't know existed. In the seminary I was being warned about the world, the flesh and the devil; Joni strongly suggested that two out of the three could be pretty good and while she admitted that she was frightened by the devil, she added, "I'm drawn to those ones that ain't afraid." Her world was not black and white; it was complex and challenging and sometimes disappointing, just like what I was then experiencing in my own life. Here was an antidote to the perfectionism that sometimes was called for if one wanted to be a saint, or even just a parish priest. She inspired me to live life less cautiously, more eagerly, as she did, regardless of the pain and sorrow that may come along.

People who have been hurt by life can sometimes hide, like a turtle pulling in his extremities to protect itself. I don't blame them as I have sometimes felt the same. But I reject apathy as a plan for safety. Joni taught me that. When I was young I desperately wanted to be considered "cool." But now I am delighted that I am alive, feeling all there is to feel. Msgr. Mike

## Around our Parish

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

#### PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Please join St. Anne Knights of Columbus this Sunday following the 8:00 and 10:00 AM masses for a Pancake Breakfast in the Parish Hall. "World famous" homemade buttermilk pancakes (with blueberry and chocolate chip options) along with eggs, sausage and fruit will be served. The suggested donation is \$6 per person or \$20 per family with all proceeds going toward supporting local charities.

#### 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, February 5th. For additional information, please contact J. Jones at 562.936.0164.

*"Help Us Help Those In Need"*

### WOMEN'S GUILD

#### SPUDTACULAR DINNER

On Monday, January 22, the Women's Guild will host their "almost famous," potato bar supper. Hospitality hour begins at 6:00 p.m. and a short meeting will follow. Big baked potatoes will be served, with many delicious and nutritious toppings. Attendees are asked to bring desserts, and their own favorite beverage. Sign-ups, for a head count, will be after masses this weekend. For more information or to sign up to help, call Jackie at 562-431-6092 or Christa at 714-799-0168. All women of the parish are invited!

#### 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 Joanne Groustra at 562-296-8705 or Kathy Stoddard at 707-477-0104.

### SISTER PARISH

Last November, an outreach committee of our parishioners presented a proposal to our Parish Pastoral Council suggesting we form a supportive, on-going relationship with St. Anne in Santa Ana. St. Anne in Santa Ana's Parish and School is economically poor but with a dedicated pastor, principal and staff who provide parishioners and school children the promise of future success and love of their Catholic faith. Their needs are identified as monetary, supplies/materials and service. Watch the bulletin for more updates about this new liaison. If you would like more information, please contact JoAnn at 562-598-4967. Sr. Teresa Lynch, principal of St. Anne, is bringing a group from her Children's Choir to sing at the 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. masses on January 28th.



#### 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 *Proud to be Catholic* Pastoral Services Appeal is **WE ARE ONE—one in faith, one in love, one in service...one body in Christ.** Every household is encouraged to show that they are *Proud to be Catholic* by supporting the work of our Church and participating in this appeal. No gift is too great or too small. Once we have met the goal for our parish's share (\$61,000) for diocesan services, your donation will be returned to our parish to help us with our 2018 goal of increasing the safety and security of our guests, parishioners, and children in faith formation and youth ministry. In broad outline, it will include an intercom system to alert people immediately if there is a compromise to our safety, adding locks on the doors of the hall that can be secured quickly from the inside, additional security cameras and better outdoor lighting. Look for a letter from Msgr. Mike along with a brochure about the PSA in the coming week, 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. ANNE'S NEEDS YOU!

We are looking for volunteers to help serve at the 8:00 a.m. and Noon masses on Sundays in various capacities including Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers and Tech Support. The commitment can be for once or twice a month. No experience is required, just a willing and generous heart. To contribute your time and talent to St. Anne, please contact the Parish Office at 562-431-0721 or fill out a form from the vestibule and drop it in the offertory basket.

### ST. PADRE PIO HEALING MASS

Please join us on Monday, January 15th 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.

## 9:00 AM MASS INTENTIONS

I/15	Fr. Ed Broom
I/16	✠Mae McGlynn
I/17	✠Sr. Joseph Keating
I/18	✠Charles Castagna
I/19	✠Mary Ann Valdez
I/20	✠Jimmy Price
	(✠ 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, Jim & Julie Ferguson, Mary Maskell, Mike Maloney, Merrill Butler, Steven Lang, Kay Lang, Linda Bolt, Bob Wagner, Greg Rousselo, Sylvia Bartolomucci, Bob Rattray

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## Around Our Diocese

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### NATIONAL SLAVERY & HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH

Recognized by presidential proclamation since 2010, January is National Slavery and Human Trafficking Awareness Month. The U.S. Senate has designated January 11th as Human Trafficking Awareness Day. Human Trafficking is a worldwide, country-wide and county-wide problem. Worldwide over 25 million victims are trapped in forced labor including children as young as 4, who can easily pick coffee and cocoa beans with their small hands. Country and county-wide labor trafficking occurs in domestic service, agriculture, and the food industry. Millions of others are trapped in sex trafficking. Some statistics cite 714 as the most frequently called area code for this exploitation of men, women, girls and boys. Pope Francis states, "I would like to draw on everyone's commitment to make this aberrant plague, a modern form of slavery, adequately countered. Let us pray to the Virgin Mary to support the victims and to convert the hearts of the traffickers." Please consider praying every day in January!

- For the emotional, physical and spiritual healing of victims.
- That traffickers will come to repentance and conversion.
- That all of us might live in such a way that others are not made to pay the price for our comfort and convenience.
- For a day when all people will be treated, not as a commodity, but as radiant images of your freedom, beauty and truth.