

10 December 2017
Second Sunday of Advent

Saint Anne

SEAL BEACH



John the Baptist, El Greco

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

Msgr. Mike Heher, Pastor

pastor@stannesealbeach.org

562-431-0721 Ext. 14

Fr. Ben Tran, Parochial Vicar

pv@stannesealbeach.org

562-431-0721 Ext. 11

Fr. Robert Vidal

Pastor Emeritus

Fr.bob@stannesealbeach.org

Deacon Peter Nguyen

dcnpeter@stannesealbeach.org

Amy Papageorges

Director of Faith Formation

dre@stannesealbeach.org

562-431-0721 Ext. 16

Jyllian Rhodes

Youth Ministry/Confirmation

ym@stannesealbeach.org

562-431-0721 Ext. 15

Jan Cooper, Front Office

office@stannesealbeach.org

TENDERNESS

If you want to know what true tenderness is, Pope Francis is the one to ask. He advises, “use our eyes to see the other, our ears to hear the other, to listen to the children, the poor, those who are afraid

of the future, to listen also to the silent cry of our common home, of our sick and polluted earth.” I think of this often when I look out my window in the morning with a cup of coffee in my hand and see smog already forming up against the mountains. We ought to be more tender with Mother Earth. The essayist, Annie Dillard, has a similar suggestion: “Learn to see what is there without the need to own it, pick it, stuff it, pickle it, photograph it. Just let it show itself ... there is a kind of seeing that involves a letting-go. When I see this way, I sway transfixed and empty.” The other day I was looking for my cell phone. I went through each room of the house, even the rooms I hadn’t gone into in the last day. “I used the phone last night,” I told myself. “It has to be here somewhere. Do you know how expensive it will be if I have to replace it?” But I didn’t see it until I gave up, sat down and took a deep breath. I looked over at my coffee table and there it was in plain sight. I had to calm down enough to see what was in front of my eyes.

We might do well to have a little tenderness when we pray. Instead of starting off telling the Lord what you need from him—which he already knows—we might do better to take it easy and sit there in silence for awhile. We might ask the Lord what he wants to say to us. St. Teresa of Avila had that experience; she writes, “When the Lord speaks, the words are accompanied by effects... they prepare the soul and make it ready and move it to tenderness, give it light and make it happy and tranquil.” That sounds like the kind of prayer I could really

use. I pray best when I am looking out a window at the horizon; doing so suggests to me the awesomeness of God, his grandeur. But also, how he comes to me as the light of the sun comes in the window.



God expresses his tenderness to us eloquently when he forgives us our sins. Again, Pope Francis, “God never tires of forgiving us; we are the ones who tire of seeking his mercy. Christ, who told us to forgive one another ‘seventy times seven’ (Mt 18:22) has given us his example: he has forgiven us seventy times seven. Time and time again he bears us on his shoulders. No one can strip us of the dignity bestowed upon us by this boundless and unfailing love. With a tenderness which never disappoints, but is always capable of restoring our joy, he makes it possible for us to lift up our heads and to start anew.”

We admire people who can get things done, who know a lot, or have had a lot of experience, or have expertise, or are powerful in the way they act. That’s only natural. But what about admiring those who are tender with us as well. Like a nurse who puts a damp towel on a fevered brow. Like the stranger who helps you pick up your groceries in the parking lot after your bag rips. Like a father who kneels down to tie his child’s shoes. Like a friend that drives you to your doctor. Like the neighbor who waters your plants and takes in your mail when you are away. In this sometime harsh world, there are many acts of tenderness. But I think what we need is more of them. How about making tenderness a gift you give to everyone this Christmas?

Msgr. Mike

Around our Parish

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

PARISH FOOD DRIVE

During this glorious season of Advent our Knights of Columbus will be collecting cash, checks, and/or canned and boxed food donations at all masses this weekend and at the masses on December 16th and 17th. All donations will go toward assisting local disadvantaged families this Christmas.

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. For additional information, please contact J. Jones at 562.936.0164.

"Help Us Help Those In Need"

WOMEN'S GUILD

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 Lorraine Fiori at 562-296-5163.

COMMUNION AND HEALTH

Cold and flu season has arrived! Here are some guidelines for attending mass:

- ⇒ If you are sick, stay home. Staying home from church when you are sick is NOT a sin; it is an act of consideration for your priests and fellow parishioners.
- ⇒ You can choose not to receive the cup.
- ⇒ During the "sign of peace," when we usually greet each other with handshakes, you might just bow toward the other. They'll appreciate your consideration.

ADVENT CLASSICAL CONCERT

Our parish will host an Advent concert on Monday, Dec. 11th at 7:00 p.m. A trio of professional classical musicians (flutist, violinist, cellist) will present an hour repertoire of Classical and Christmas music in our sanctuary. Please invite your friends to join you at this seasonal celebration.

YM LEADERSHIP & SEE'S CANDY

Our Youth Ministry Leadership Team is selling boxes of See's chocolates or peanut brittle for a donation of \$8.00 each after masses this weekend or in the parish office during the week. Please support these awesome young people in their ministry.



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.

RETIRED RELIGIOUS COLLECTION

This weekend we will take up a second collection for retired religious. Across the United States, hundreds of religious communities lack financial resources sufficient to meet the retirement and health-care needs of aging members.

LACK OF FUNDS—Many elder religious worked for years for small stipends, leaving a large gap in retirement savings. At the same time, fewer religious are able to serve in compensated ministry.

RISING COSTS—Like many Americans, religious communities face the monumental challenge of funding eldercare.

CHANGING DEMOGRAPHICS—By 2027, retired religious are projected to outnumber wage-earners by more than three to one.

CHRISTMAS GIFT OF A RETREAT

For the woman in your life that has everything—give a quiet weekend retreat of 2 nights and 3 days at the Sacred Heart Retreat House with its beautiful serene grounds, deliciously prepared meals and spiritually reviving talks. For more information about the April 13-15, 2018 weekend, call Maureen at 562-596-4141.

Christmas Schedule 2017	
Confessions	
18 – 22 December	8:30 – 8:50 AM
Saturday 23 December	8:30 – 8:50 AM
	4:00 – 4:45 PM
Christmas Masses	
Sunday 24 December	
3:30 PM	Christmas Story
4:00 PM	Children's Mass
6:00 PM	Mass
9:00 PM	Mass
Monday 25 December	
9:00 AM	Mass
12:00 noon	Mass
<i>There is no evening Mass</i>	

9:00 AM MASS INTENTIONS

- 12/11 ☩Burke & Keating Families
- 12/12 For the People
- 12/13 ☩Mae McGlynn
- 12/14 Thanksgiving
- 12/15 ☩Albert Dinger
- 12/16 ☩Tony Dauer
- (☩ Rest in God's love and peace)



PLEASE PRAY FOR

Fr. Bob Vidal, Katia Bergstrom, Juanita Kho, Brenda Malloy, Ed Palacol, Kathleen Kastner, Kathy Purcell, Aurora Lavadia, Mike Pendleton, Jerome Gendron, Julia Poirier, Jim & Julie Ferguson, Mary Maskell, Rosemary Hirsch, Mike Maloney, Merrill Butler, Steven Lang, Kay Lang, Linda Bolt, Bob Wagner

Around Our Diocese

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

- Wednesday, December 13th @ 7:00 p.m.
St. Joachim Parish, 1964 Orange Ave., Costa Mesa
- Monday, December 18th @ 7:00 p.m.
Holy Spirit Parish
17270 Ward St., FV
- Monday, December 18th @ 7:00 p.m.
St. Mary by the Sea
321 10th St., HB
- Tuesday, December 19th @ 7:00 p.m.
Holy Spirit Parish
17270 Ward St., FV
- Tuesday, December 19th @ 7:00 p.m.
St. Bonaventure Parish
16400 Springdale St., HB
- Wednesday, December 21st @ 7:00 p.m.
Sts. Simon & Jude, 20444 Magnolia St., HB



HOMELESS PERSONS' MEMORIAL

On Thursday, December 21st at 7:00 p.m., the Diocese of Orange along with Our Father's Table and HomeAid Orange County, will be hosting the "Homeless Persons' Memorial Service." This memorial serves to remember those who have died as a result of being homeless. We also hope to strengthen our resolve to work for a world where no life is lived or lost in homelessness. The event will be held in the Arboretum at Christ Cathedral in Garden Grove. To provide the name of someone you know who has lost their life on the streets in Orange County this past year, or to RSVP, contact Esther at 714-282-6001 or by email at eramirez@rcbo.org.