11 November 2018
Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

# SEAL BEACH



The Widow's Mite, Basilica di Sant" Apollinaire, Ravenna

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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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# DRINK

I am taken by the fact that, in John's Gospel, the first miracle Jesus performs is turning water into wine at a wedding reception he was attending with his disciples. He did it because his mother wanted him to. And the best part: his wine was really good, causing the headwaiter to comment to the groom, "Everyone serves good wine first, and then, when people have drunk freely, an inferior one; but you have kept the good wine until now." Pope Francis, perhaps with this scripture in mind, said, "But imagine finishing a wedding party drinking tea ~ it would be shameful! Wine is necessary for the celebration."

Saint Paul may have written to the Romans: "The Kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of justice, peace, and the joy that is given by the Holy Spirit." I am all for the joy that is given by the Holy Spirit but there is also an earthly joy in drinking a good wine or a beer, or, my personal favorite: a scotch. I see no reason why we can't enjoy lots of different joys.

An anonymous poet in the tenth or eleventh century wrote, "I would like to have the men of heaven in my own house with vats of good cheer laid out for them. I would like a great lake of beer for the King of Kings. I would like to be watching heaven's family drinking it for all eternity." Now there is a new image of heaven, a giant pub with everyone toasting the King of Kings.

Like the rest of society, the church has always had makers and consumers of alcohol. The most famous of the winemakers was Dom Pérignon, a Benedictine monk of the Abbey of Hautvillers in France. He pioneered techniques to improve wines that are still used today, including a second fermentation in Springtime which gave his wine their bubbles, what we call champagne. One day, when he tasted a particularly excellent bottle of champagne, he shouted out, "Brothers, come quickly. I am drinking stars!"

Wine, Saint Thomas Aquinas said, could lawfully be drunk *usque ad hilaritatem*, to the point of cheerfulness.

I admit there are fewer references to scotch over the ages. Jesus never visited Scotland and, besides, even if he did, it hadn't yet been invented. The Scotch Whiskey Society reports that the earliest record of distillation in Scotland occurred as long ago as 1494. Scotch whisky evolved from a drink called *uisge beatha*, which

means "water of life." Some of the older priests I knew when I was newly ordained referred to scotch as "Holy Water," as in, "Mike, could you do me a favor and bring me a little more holy water?"

The famous writers, William Kennedy and Gabriel Garcia Marquez, met one day and had been "drinking Scotch carefully for about five hours, lost in small talk and the free-form interchange of two languages," English and Spanish. There was someone with them who could translate for them but sometime during their conversation García started popping English phrases at Kennedy and Kennedy declared that he was "fluently pidgin in Spanish. There was no comprehension problem," Kennedy said. "We praised the liberating effect of whiskey."

Here are some drinking prayers. The first two are in the Roman Ritual. I bet you can guess where the last one came from.

#### WINE

Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, who in Cana of Galilee changed water into wine, be pleased to bless and to hallow this creature, wine, which you have given as refreshment for your servants. And grant that whenever it is taken as drink or poured into wounds it will be accompanied by an outpouring of grace from on high.

#### **BEER**

O Lord, bless this creature beer, which by Your kindness and power has been produced from kernels of grain, and may it be a health-giving drink for all humanity.

#### **SCOTCH**

Lord Jesus, you told us when two or three gather in your name, you are present. Join us now as we pour our drinks. Be with us in our conversations and our reminiscences. Hear our questions and our doubts. Let not the scotch lead us to tell untruths or to boast of capacities we do not actually possess. Keep us humble and honest. Be patient with us when we enthusiastically work to solve all the world's thorniest problems; remind us that you have already redeemed the world. Let there be moments when we shut up and silently share our bonds of friendship. And, yes, thanks also for the gift of ice. Amen.

# Around our Parish

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

#### ALASKA FISHING TRIP

St. Anne Knights of Columbus are organizing another opportunity for anyone in our parish, or friends of the parish, to fish in Alaska next July 7th-13th. It's a 1st class package at a great price. Details of the trip are posted on the Knight's bulletin board outside the Parish Hall. In order to secure the same fantastic accommodations as this year's trip, we are trying to get as many reservations as possible now. For more information, contact Dave Davies at 562-708-9900.

#### PENNIES FROM HEAVEN

Thank you very much for your phenomenal generosity for Pennies from Heaven. Your donations directly save many unborn babies and assist new moms as they care for their newborns.

#### 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, December 3rd. For more information, contact Paul at 657-245-3722.

"Help Us Help Those In Need"

### CAREER RENEWAL

The Career Renewal meeting schedule has been altered for the holidays. The meetings for November will be held on 11/15 and 11/29, and for December will be 12/6 and 12/13. We will begin our regular weekly schedule again in January on 1/10. All meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. Those who desire help with a job search, want to volunteer for this ministry, or just curious about the meetings are invited to attend. For more information, call Kathy at 714-206-0885.

# ST. ANNE SCHOOL, SANTA ANA

Third and fourth grade students from St. Anne School in Santa Ana will be our lectors on Sunday, Nov. 18th at the 10:00 a.m. mass. Sr.

Teresa will be present requesting STEM toys for the school which promote Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. If you are interested in purchasing one of the toys suggested by Sr. Teresa, please contact JoAnn Rossi at 562-598-5967.



#### **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.

#### USHERS NEEDED!

#### Are you called to serve your parish as an usher?

Ushers greet each person as they arrive for mass with a smile. They are available to answer visitors' general questions and provide help in seating those with special needs who want assistance. During mass, the ushers collect the church offering. Ushers are on hand to minimize distractions during mass. In an emergency, they access first aid supplies and if necessary, ushers will help direct the congregation to safety in an orderly manner. They inform those in the sanctuary of any urgent matters. At they end of Mass they hand out the weekly bulletin. More ushers are needed at all masses to fill in during absences and holidays. Just one mass a month will make a big difference. Please contact Dick at 562-596-0359 if you have questions. Everyone interested in finding out more about being an usher are invited to attend an Orientation meeting on Saturday, November 17 at 4:15 p.m. To volunteer, please call the parish office with your name, phone number and which mass you usually attend.

# NATIONAL NEEDS COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous support last week to the National Needs Collection. As a parish, we raised \$2,744 to support those on the margins who are living in poverty in the USA; to help the CCC connect millions of people with Christ and spread the gospel message; to underwrite scholarships to assist financially deserving students at CUA; and to help strengthen the Church at home and ensure that the Gospel is spread across the USA.

## **WOMEN'S GUILD**

All women of the parish are invited to attend our Advent meeting on Monday, Nov. 26th. Social time begins at 6:30 p.m., and the meeting at 7:00 p.m. We will celebrate the birth of Jesus with a baby shower, hand out little Advent books, and talk about fun things to do to de-stress during the holidays.

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# Around the Diocese

# PRECIOUS LIFE/NAPLES RIB CO.

Precious Life has been chosen as a beneficiary of "35 Years of BBQ, 20 Days of Charity," a community celebration in which 35 non-profit organizations have been chosen to receive 20% of all Newport/Naples Rib Company restaurant sales from November 1-20. Precious Life will receive 20% of your guest check for dine in or take out orders this November.

### PRIESTHOOD DISCERNMENT

Men interested in Diocesan Priesthood are invited to attend the next Priesthood Discernment evening on Wednesday, Nov. 14th at 6:00 p.m. on the first floor of the Pastoral Center on the Christ Cathedral Campus. The purpose is to familiarize interested men with the life, prayer, and possible call to Priesthood in the Diocese of Orange. There is no commitment, other than the expression of interest to participate. Questions? Call Rev. John Moneypenny, Director of Vocations, at 714-282-3036.

## SERVITE INFORMATION NIGHT

An information night for prospective students and their parents will be held on Tuesday, November 13th from 6:30–8:30 p.m. at the Giacomini home, 12392 Ballantine Drive in Rossmoor. Current students, parents, faculty, and administrators will be present to provide information and answer questions. Please RSVP online at www.servitehs.org/rossmoor.

## MAGNIFICAT PRAYER BREAKFAST

Magnificat welcomes speaker Sharon Lee Grant to their breakfast on Saturday, November 17th. Join them for this presentation on the hidden dangers of the New Age movement and other counter-Christian ideologies. She will share her story of how God lead her out of that spiritual darkness through His holy Word and brought her home to the Light and Truth of the Catholic Church. The breakfast will be held at Embassy Suites Anaheim-South in Garden Grove. The ballroom opens at 8:45 a.m. Registration must be postmarked by Nov. 12th at \$28 per person and mailed to Magnificat Ministry, P.O. Box 4381, Orange, CA 92863. Registration at the door is \$33.

#### 9:00 AM MASS INTENTIONS

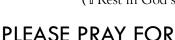
11/12 In Thanksgiving to St. Joseph

11/13 Paisy Toor

11/17

Fr. Duy Le

(Prest in God's love and peace)



Fr. Bob Vidal, Katia Bergstrom, Juanita Kho, Brenda Malloy, Kathleen Kastner, Kathy Purcell, Aurora Lavadia, Mike Pendleton, Jerome Gendron, Julia Poirier, Don Miller, Jim & Julie Ferguson, Mary Maskell, Merrill Butler, Steven Lang, Linda Bolt, Bob Wagner, Gary Rousselo, Bob Rattray, Julie Rivera, Jean Barbazette, Pat Giacomi, Janet Tedesco, Ernie Ramirez, Mike Harvey, William Spillane, Bill Matheus, John Barnes, Carol Forbes

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

"There is still time for endurance, time for patience, time for healing, time for change. Have you slipped? Rise up. Have you sinned? Cease. Do not stand among sinners, but leap aside."

— St. Basil the Great

## **SACRAMENTS**

In order to celebrate the following Sacraments at St. Anne, it is vital to be an active member of our Faith Community. 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.

