SEAL BEACH



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 | denpeter@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

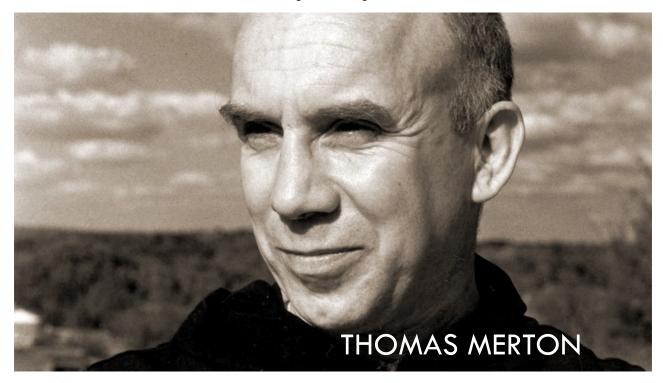
Jan Cooper, Front Office | office@stannesealbeach.org

Tim Kimminau | Cleaning and Maintenance | tim@stannesealbeach.org

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



Thomas Merton was a world-renowned Trappist monk and author best known for his autobiography, The Seven Storey Mountain, one of the most influential religious works of the twentieth century. Recently we celebrated the 50th anniversary of Merton's tragic accidental death – he was electrocuted by an electric fan near Bangkok, where he was attending an interreligious monastic conference. I thought you might enjoy reading some of what he wrote. Msgr. Mike

One thing I think we have to learn in our present predicament is to distinguish between a faith that is faith and one that is simply a disguised despair. Paradoxically, the true act of faith sets us back on our feet in this world, instead of carrying us out into some vague beyond. For if God is not in our turmoil, where can we find him?

You weren't meant for pleasure, you were meant for joy.

One of the sources of futile struggle in the spiritual life is the assumption that one has to become a person without problems, which is, of course, impossible. And if a man is struggling to be without problems in his life, he is beating his head against a brick wall.

Christ, who came on earth to form contemplatives and teach the ways of sanctity and prayer, could easily have surrounded himself with ascetics who starved themselves to death and terrified the people with strange trances. But his apostles were workers, fishers, publicans who made themselves conspicuous only by their

disregard for most of the intricate network of devotions and ceremonial practices and moral gymnastics of the professionally holy.

We must approach the whole idea of time in a new way. We are free to love and you must get free of all imaginary claims. We live in the fullness of time. Every moment is God's own good time, his *kairos*. The whole thing boils down to giving ourselves in prayer a chance to realize that we have what we seek. We don't have to rush it. It is there all the time and if we give it time, it will make itself known to us.

◊

My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road, though I may know nothing about it. Therefore will I trust you always, though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.

The Feast of the Holy Family Page 3

Around our Parish

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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, January 7th. For more information, contact Paul at 657-245-3722. "Help Us Help Those In Need"

THANK YOU

St. Anne's priests and staff wish to express their sincere appreciation to our volunteers who cleaned our church for Christmas: Jeanette Moneau, Sarah Houlahan, Lori Moreno, Rick and Mary Wiltanger, Teresa and John Sullivan, Grechen Dinger and Ed Jones.



SAFETY AND SECURITY MESSAGE

St. Expeditus (died in 303) may or may not be a real person. However, the saint's name has been invoked as the "patron of emergencies." Whether a prayer is directed through the intercession of a saint or directly to God, prayer should be present if an emergency takes place in our presence. There have been medical incidents during mass that require the assistance of a fellow parishioner to provide aid. Whether in church, a social event, faith formation, or walking across the parking lot, please remain calm and allow those with medical knowledge to assist the person. Please follow the directions of ushers, priests, or medical practitioners rendering aid.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

The parish office will be closed on Tuesday, January 1st in observation of New Year's Day.

ST. ANNE SPIRITUAL BOOK CLUB



Please join us the first Thursday of each month from Noon to 1 PM in the Parish Center living room. Our book for Thursday, January 3rd is "Signs of Life" by Scott Hahn (given out this year at Christmas masses). Everyone is invited to participate!



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.

WELCOME!

If you are new to the area or visiting St. Anne for the first time—welcome to our parish! If you would like to become a member of our faith community, please fill out one of the registration forms located in the vestibule and drop it in the collection basket. On Sunday mornings we invite you to join us in the Parish Hall after Mass for coffee and donuts. Let's get acquainted!

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY

The Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God marks the eighth day of the octave of Christmas. The Christmas season does not end until the Baptism of the Lord on January 13th. As the New Year begins, look at Mary as a model for renewed Christian life: in her openness to the Holy Spirit, her radical assent to God's will for her life, her patience through suffering, and her willingness to bring the Savior into the world. Those are all qualities that would make any of us better people in the coming year.



January 1st, The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, is not a Holy Day of Obligation in the ecclesiastical province of Los Angeles which includes the Diocese of Orange. It remains a Holy Day of Obligation for the Universal Church.

Please join us and begin the New Year in Prayer!

Tuesday, January 1 Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God 9:00 a.m. Mass

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

The feast of the Holy Family was introduced into the liturgical calendar in 1921, and was promoted as a way to honor the Christian family. We celebrate the feast of the Holy Family on the first Sunday after Christmas—December 30 this year. On this day, we not only honor the Holy Family, we also focus on our own families and consider how we can be like the Holy Family. Jesus, Mary and Joseph—in their devoted love and care for each other and in the way Mary and Joseph raised and cared for Jesus—can be a model for our own families. As Pope Francis has said, "Each Christian family can first of all—as Mary and Joseph did—welcome Jesus, listen to him, speak with him, guard him, protect him, grow with him; and in this way improve the world." (General Audience, December 17, 2014).

Prayer for Our Parish Families

God, who gifts us with life and everlasting love, we give thanks and praise to you for this feast of the Holy Family. We thank you for the gift of our families, our immediate family as well as our extended one. You have generously blessed us, surrounding each of us with people who love and cherish us. They are living examples of your great love and care for each of us. Help us to never take our families for granted; rather, help us to regularly spend time together, to help one another and pray, love and cherish one another. We ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,



9:00 AM MASS INTENTIONS

12/31 Eefa Shanloy and Regiment 1/1 For the Parish

1/3 Rita Akers
1/4 Seminarians
1/5 PMarie Smith

(₱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, Don Miller, Jim Ferguson, Mary Maskell, Merrill Butler, Steven

Lang, Linda Bolt, Bob Wagner, Bob Rattray, Julie Rivera, Jean Barbazette, Pat Giacomi, Janet Tedesco, Ernie Ramirez, Mike Harvey, William Spillane, Bill Matheus, John Barnes, Carol Forbes, Catherine Tautges, Ken Hammond, Stefanie Lavery, Myrna Navarro

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

"We have been called to heal wounds, to unite what has fallen apart, and to bring home those who have lost their way." — St. Francis of Assisi

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.