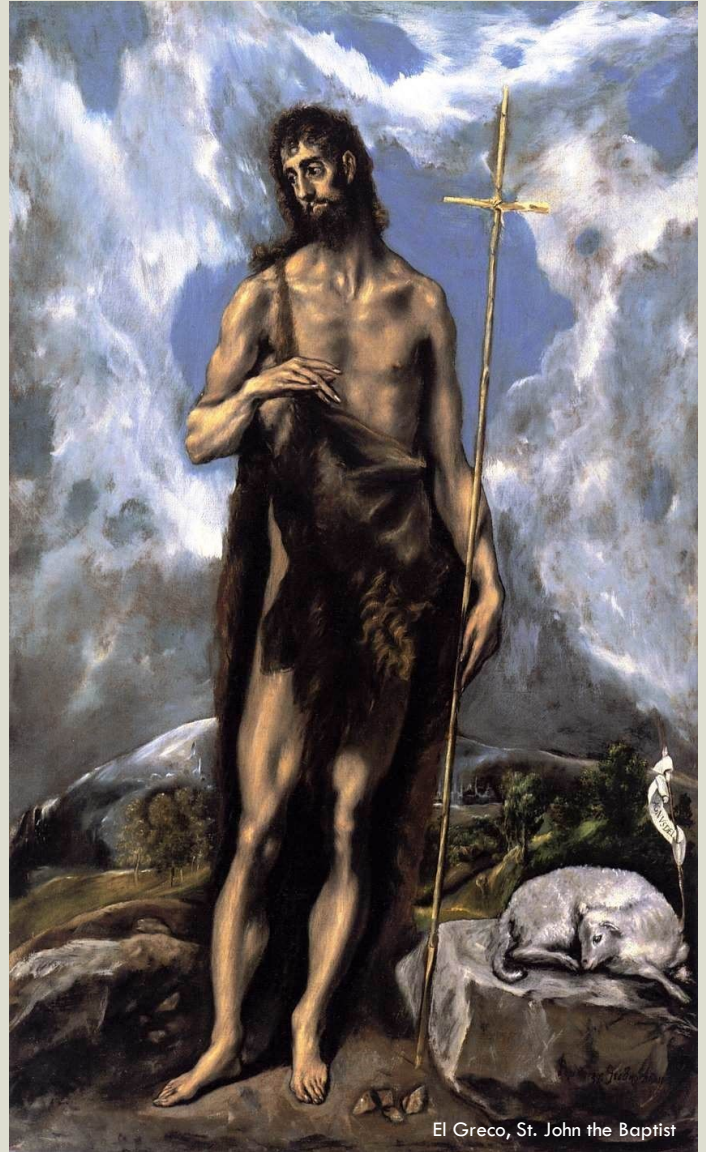


9 December 2018  
The Second Sunday of Advent

# Saint Anne

SEAL BEACH



El Greco, St. John the Baptist

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Tim Kimminau | Cleaning and Maintenance | [tim@stannesealbeach.org](mailto: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](http://WWW.STANNESEALBEACH.ORG)



## LOOK AT YOUR FISH

**L**ouis Agassiz, a nineteenth-century Harvard naturalist, would give the same test to every new student. Taking a smelly old fish out of a jar and placing it in a tin pan, he would tell the student, “Look at your fish.” Then he would leave. When he came back, he would ask the student what he’d seen. Not very much, they would most often answer, and Agassiz would say it again: “Look at your fish.” It is said that this could go on for days; his students came to call it “the ordeal with the fish.”

The professor would encourage the student to draw the fish but not to use any tools for the examination, just hands and eyes. After several days, one such student, Samuel Scudder, who would later become a famous entomologist and expert on grasshoppers, still could not see whatever it was Agassiz wanted him to see. But, he said, “I see how little I saw before.” Then Scudder had a brainstorm and he announced it to Agassiz the next morning: “Paired organs, the same on both sides.”

“Of course! Of course!” Agassiz said, very pleased.

So, Scudder naturally asked what he should do next, and Agassiz said, “Look at your fish.”

This episode came to mind as we are penetrating the Advent and Christmas season, a time of special decorations and festive hymns, holiday parties and presents, decorated trees and frosted cookies. Some items are venerated for their history; my maternal grandmother gave our family a hand carved German Nativity set, and we fondly remember her when we take the pieces out of the box and place them on the mantle. But if your house is anything like mine, the decorations, once dusted off, are placed exactly where they had been the year before.

Our well-worn traditions and our many seasonal activities can very easily overwhelm our ability to contemplate Jesus, whom we are celebrating. As the old bumper sticker used to say: “Jesus is the Reason for the Season.” So, don’t forget to look at your Jesus. There is the possibility that you will see how much you have not seen before, even though it has been right before your eyes all along.

Msgr. Mike

## Around our Parish

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

#### ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE



St. Anne's Knights of Columbus will be collecting canned and boxed food donations (please, no perishables), and cash or checks at all masses through the weekend of Dec. 16th. All donations will go towards assisting local disadvantaged families. For more information, contact Brian at 949-378-7454.

#### 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"*

### SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

At the beginning of a new yearly cycle, the liturgy invites the Church to renew her proclamation to all the peoples and sums it up in two words 'God comes.' These words, so concise, contain an ever new evocative power...it is not used in the past tense - God has come, nor in the future - God will come, but in the present. At a closer look, this is a continuous present, an ever-continuous action: it happened, it is happening now, and it will happen again ... It rings out as a salutary appeal in the days, weeks, and months that repeat: Awaken! Remember that God comes! Not yesterday, not tomorrow, but today! Now! ...He is a Father who never stops thinking of us and, in the extreme respect of our freedom, desires to meet us and visit us; He wants to come, to dwell among us, to stay with us. -Pope Benedict XVI, homily on 12/2/06

### RECONCILIATION

Our 2nd grade class prepared for First Reconciliation with their teacher, Mrs. Fiori. On Tuesday, December 4th they received Reconciliation for the first time. Please keep our students, their families and Mrs. Fiori in your prayers as they continue on their faith journey! The students in our faith formation classes will attend reconciliation on Monday, December 10th at 4:00 p.m. (grades 6-8) or on Tuesday, December 11th at 3:00 p.m. (grades 3-5).



#### 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.

### RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

The National Religious Retirement Office coordinates the annual appeal and distributes financial assistance to support, educate and assist eligible religious institutes in the US to care for their elderly and frail members now and in the future. Aging religious need your help. Senior Catholic sisters, and brothers, and religious order priests ministered for years for little to no pay. Their sacrifices now leave their religious communities without adequate retirement savings. Your gift to today's second collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and more for thousands elderly religious. Please be generous.

Please give to  
those who have  
given a lifetime.



### CLEANING THE CHURCH

If you are handy with a dust rag or vacuum, please join other parishioners to help prepare our church for Christmas liturgies! Cleaning will begin after the 9:00 a.m. Mass on Thursday, December 13th. The more the merrier so please lend a hand!



### ANGELS & SHEPHERDS NEEDED

Children, ages 4-7, are needed to be little angels and shepherds at our 3:30 p.m. Christmas Eve celebration. The children should wear a simple costume to mass, wings and a halo, a shepherd tunic and head covering. The faith formation office has a few costumes to lend. Please sign up before 12/20 at [faithformation@stannesealbeach.org](mailto:faithformation@stannesealbeach.org).

### CAREER RENEWAL

The last Career Renewal meeting of 2018 will be Wednesday, Dec. 13th and will have a Christmas theme. All are welcome. For details, go to [www.stannesealbeach.org](http://www.stannesealbeach.org) and check out the Career Renewal Ministry page.

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## Around the Diocese

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### ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

All services begin at 7:00 p.m.

Mon., Dec. 10 and Tues., Dec. 11–

Holy Spirit Parish  
17270 Ward Street,  
Fountain Valley



Tues., Dec. 11–St. Bonaventure

16400 Springdale, Huntington Beach

Mon., Dec. 17–St. Mary by the Sea

321 Tenth Street, Huntington Beach

Thurs., Dec. 20–Sts. Simon and Jude

20444 Magnolia Street, Huntington Beach

### ADVENT & DYNAMIC CATHOLIC

Advent is a time to prepare our hearts for Christmas, but we often get distracted and busy. Don't let this Advent pass you by. Slow down and focus on what matters most with BEST ADVENT EVER. Each day, you will receive an email with short inspirational videos, or real-life stories to encourage you in your faith journey. Sign up at [BestAdventEver.com](http://BestAdventEver.com)

### NEW HOPE CRISIS HOTLINE

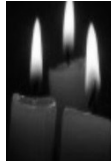
The New Hope Crisis Hotline provides telephone crisis intervention and suicide prevention services in Orange County. Trained crisis workers at the Tower of Hope on the Christ Cathedral campus provide counseling to those who are struggling to cope with day to day life. Services are free and available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Their number is 714-newhope (714-639-4673).

### PRIESTHOOD DISCERNMENT

Men interested in Diocesan Priesthood are invited to attend the next Priesthood Discernment evening on Wednesday, Dec. 12th 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 Money-penny, Director of Vocations, at 714-282-3036.

## 9:00 AM MASS INTENTIONS

12/10 ✠Margaret Stock  
 12/11 ✠Burke & Keating Families  
 12/12 For the People  
 12/13 ✠Stephen Pryharski  
 12/14 ✠Demetri Wood  
 12/15 ✠Magdalena Ty Bui  
 (✠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 & Julie 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 Laverly

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

"O my God, fill my soul with holy joy, courage and strength to serve You. Enkindle Your love in me and then walk with me along the next stretch of road before me."  
 — St. Benedicta of the Cross

## 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](mailto: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.