

6 January 2019
Epiphany

Saint Anne

SEAL BEACH



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MASSSES: 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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WHAT WILL HEAVEN BE LIKE?

I admit there's a chance I won't get there, but I have been wondering lately what life might be like in heaven. Isaiah the prophet promised that it will include "a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined." Sounds good to me.

But will there be bacon? Not sure. On the one hand, heaven is supposed to be the place where the inhabitants are perfectly happy, and I'm not sure my happiness would be complete without crisp bacon from time to time. On the other hand, pigs are highly intelligent creatures so perhaps they will also be welcomed into heaven, not as bacon but as hog.

Jesus said that there are many rooms in his Father's house. I wonder what mine will be like. If I can put in an order, I'd like one

with windows and a good chair to sit in and read. There are so, so many books I want to read, I will certainly never get to all of them in this life; in heaven I'll have plenty of time to catch up.

I really enjoy sleeping (and I am good at it, let me tell you) so when the afterlife is described as "eternal repose" at my age, I find it attractive. When I was younger, I was sure I would be bored to tears with an eternity of such repose but no longer.

What will we be wearing in heaven? The book of Revelation and most paintings of celestial beings suggest we will be wearing long white flowing robes. I'd prefer a bit of color. People tell me I look good in red, so I am hoping for something in crimson or scarlet.

Of course, when Adam and Eve were with God in the garden of Eden, they were naked, so maybe we'll all be naked. That thought terrifies me. I need to keep in mind that our bodies then will be "glorified." If you go looking for me, expect to see me 75 pounds lighter, an inch taller, buff with a lovely even tan. I will be so glorified that you probably won't recognize me. Perhaps I'll need a nametag so you will know that it's me.



One of the best things about heaven will be that all our tears will be wiped away and there shall be no more mourning or crying or pain. As a priest I meet so many people that are filled with sorrow, it will be a pleasure to get to know them without their burdens.

Maybe I am getting ahead of myself with all these heavenly day-

dreams. Isaiah said, "Behold, there will be a new heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind." Heaven may indeed be very different than life here and now. St. Paul told the Corinthians that "no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him." It may be best to think of heaven as a surprise party.

To get an invitation, Jesus told us that our righteousness must surpass that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law. In this new year, let's resolve to strive for holiness.

Msgr. Mike

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 Tuesday, January 8th. For more information, contact Paul at 657-245-3722.

"Help Us Help Those In Need"

THANK YOU

They say it takes a village. Maybe so. It sure takes a large crew to celebrate Advent and Christmas. Father Bob, Father Ben and I want to thank all those who cleaned the church, vacuumed the carpet, swept the sanctuary, typed up schedules and memos, decorated the church, rehearsed and sang hymns and chants, arranged flowers and wreaths, washed and ironed linens, set vessels and books out to their proper place in the sanctuary and then put them back where they belong in the sacristy afterward, those that served at the altar and those that trained them, the proclaimers of scripture, the distributors of holy communion and whosoever else who in their hidden way helped us celebrate the season. It was beautiful and touching because of all of you. We also want to thank so many of you who sent us your greetings by card or email or text and those that dropped by gifts, cookies and other goodies. You are so good to us and we very much appreciate your love and support. Msgr. Mike

BAPTISM MINISTRY HELP

We are looking for another baptism team to put in our rotation schedule. The time commitment is **ONLY** one Tuesday night and one Saturday from 10:30–11:45 a.m. once every three months. Baptizing a baby is one of life's special moments! The baptism team prepares parents and Godparents for the baptism and the commitment to raise their child, or support their Godchild, as a Catholic. When parents come to baptize their baby it often invigorates their own faith and brings them closer to the Church. The class is facilitated with a video and prepared discussion questions. Is it your calling to help by becoming involved in baptism ministry? For more information, please email Kristin at kabadjian@yahoo.com.



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!

FINDING GOD

The splendid magi, all sparkle and dash and solemnity, march right up off the pages of Matthew's Gospel and into our churches today. Matthew alone tells us this grand and seductive story so that we might see the light and know that the child these magi visited is the fulfillment of prophecy, the king of the world that stretches to the magi's home country and beyond, right down the ages to us.

We too see and understand anew. Like the magi, our patron saints for this day, we see in the newborn child the king of the universe and light of the world. Like the magi, we find in ourselves a new faith and a new life. Like them, we return to our home by a new route.

We are asked to come away from this festive season ourselves renewed and awake to the presence of God among us. We are asked to find God where God is to be found, to be attentive and surprised and ready to bow down in adoration and to offer our gifts. © J. S. Paluch Co.

YEAR END TAX STATEMENTS

Parishioners who made deductible financial donations to St. Anne Church during 2018, requiring a statement for the IRS, will receive one in the mail the end of January. Please review your statement to insure accuracy and contact the parish office if clarification is needed.



Around the Diocese

ADULT CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Sts. Simon and Jude Church in Huntington Beach is offering nine sessions for adults who have been baptized and received first communion, but have not been confirmed on Sunday mornings from 10:45 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Confirmation will take place at Sts. Simon and Jude on May 3, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. All sessions must be attended. Registration forms can be obtained from Lisa Einck at leinck@ssj.org, or by calling 714-963-0014.

SEPARATED AND DIVORCED

Sts. Simon and Jude Church in Huntington Beach is hosting a 12-week program to support those going through the emotional pain of separation and divorce. These meetings will be held on Monday evenings, January 7th through April 8th, from 7:00–8:30 p.m. in their Multi-purpose room. The sessions address key challenges and unique family dynamics that occur as a result of this unexpected journey. The sessions also offer a safe environment to share concerns and reconnect with new understanding and new hope. Please come and open yourself up to experience healing and allow Jesus to restore your faith and renew your path. Register anytime. Donation is \$35 and includes a book, journal, and daily devotional.

For more information or to register, please contact Barbara Weaver at 714-614-5517. You can also register on the day of the sessions.

PRIESTHOOD DISCERNMENT

Men interested in Diocesan Priesthood are invited to attend the next Priesthood Discernment evening on Wednesday, January 9th 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 at 714-282-3036.

9:00 AM MASS INTENTIONS

1/7 ✠ Evelyn Wierzbicki
 1/8 ✠ Lenore Alba
 1/9 ✠ Luiz Amarante de Oliviera
 1/10 ✠ Burke and Keating Families
 1/11 Ian MacArthur
 1/12 ✠ Brenda Eschback
 (✠ 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, Julia Poirier,
 Jerome Gendron, 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, John Barnes, Carol Forbes, Catherine
 Tautges, Ken Hammond, Stefanie Lavery, Myrna Navarro,
 Jean Engel

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

"There are two ways of knowing how good God is:
 one is never to lose Him, and the other is to lose Him
 and then to find Him." - Archbishop Fulton Sheen

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.