

17 March 2019

Second Sunday of Lent

Saint Anne

SEAL BEACH



The Transfiguration by Fra Angelico

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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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ASCETICISM

During Lent it is natural to think about asceticism, which is the practice of religious discipline with an emphasis on self-control and the fostering of virtuous habits. Skipping a meal, spending an extra hour in prayer, praying the rosary each day, cutting out booze during Lent, reading a chapter of the Bible every day, walking to the store instead of driving, doing the shopping for an ailing neighbor, going to daily Mass, turning off the TV at 9:00 PM and going to bed or getting up at 5:00 AM to make coffee and pray: all of these could be considered acts of asceticism if done with the right intention. So could the kindness of a parent who could have slept in but got up instead to make pancakes for the kids. She did not do it out of guilt, or because she was trying to show everyone that she was the best possible parent in the world, but only because her kids love pancakes and she wanted to please them. Of course, her kids have to be ascetics themselves; if they eat too many pancakes loaded with too much syrup, the kids will be groggy and distracted at school.

There are at least two ways of looking at this. One's asceticism might be like that of great athletes who are faithful to their schedule of exercise, frequent practices, and who are obedient to the direction of their coaches and follow their special diet.

At the end of the time of early church persecution, great ascetics went out into the desert to follow a proven way of life. The story is told about the holy Abba Anthony who was beset by listlessness, and whose mind was attacked by many sinful thoughts. He said to God, "Lord, I want to be saved but these thoughts do not leave me alone; what shall I do in my affliction? How can I be saved?" A short while afterwards, when he got up and went out of his cell, Anthony saw a man like himself sitting at his work of weaving a rope, getting up

from his work to pray, then sitting down again and weaving more rope, then getting up again to pray. Tradition says it was an angel of the Lord sent to correct and reassure Anthony. He heard the angel saying to him, "Do this and you will be saved." At these words, Anthony was filled with joy and courage. He did this, and he was saved. This asceticism emphasizes discipline.



St. Anthony of the Desert

But consider the actions of a husband. He gives up smoking, not because his wife nagged him to do so, but because he wanted to save money. Quitting was not easy for him, but he toughed it out. The money he did *not* spend on cigarettes, he secretly put into a special fund. He wanted to give his wife a new kitchen. It took several years but, when he knew he had enough, he asked his wife to go with him to a store that sold quality appliances and invited her to choose a new refrigerator, sink, oven and stove top. There was even enough money to get a new microwave. Since he was good at such things, he installed them all himself and repainted the cabinets and drawers. On the day everything had been done, he presented a wrapped box to his wife. Inside she found a beautiful new apron with a note in his handwriting that said, "I've been wanting you to have a new kitchen for years. By not smoking, I have been able to save enough to do so. Thanks for being such a wonderful wife." This way is less discipline, more devotion.

Asceticism helps us focus our life and activities in a meaningful direction. Devotion is the reason you chose to be ascetic in the first place and discipline is what keeps you at it even when you don't particularly feel like it. Most of us need both. All of this is simply to cheer you on if you have chosen some form of asceticism for Lent. Don't get discouraged.

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 Monday, April 1st. For more information, contact Paul at 657-245-3722.

"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. Our next meeting will be Monday, March 25th. To support our ministries and speakers as a member, please contact Kathy Stoddard at 707-477-0104.

CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA...

Today, we will take up the combined Collection for the Church in Latin America, Eastern Europe and Africa. Your gift to this collection will fund catechesis, youth ministry programs, seminarian education and provide further opportunities for formation programs for years to come. Please be generous!

ST. PADRE PIO HEALING MASS

Please join us on Monday, March 18th at 1:00 p.m. for the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, the Holy Rosary and Healing Mass. Individuals may receive personal blessings after the Mass. All are welcome! For more information, please call Janice at 562-594-6357.

CAREER RENEWAL

Learn skills you can use in your job search. Career Renewal meetings are on Thursday nights from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. The March 21st meeting will feature a speaker on "The Power of the Informational Interviews and Internships" and how to make these tools work for you. All are welcome. For more information contact Kathy Keller at 714-206-0885.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Sunday Offertory—3/10	\$12,869
Online giving week ending 3/10	\$ 6,045
Pastoral Services Appeal to 3/10	\$ 83,887



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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Please join Fr. Ben after mass on Friday mornings for Stations of the Cross. Like many of our Catholic traditions, Stations of the Cross can be rich, deep, and meaningful, but at the same time we can lose sight of their significance and how to relate them to our everyday lives. Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, speaks on why we should pray the Stations of the Cross. Here are 2 more reasons from his speeches.

3. They Remind Us That Jesus Suffers with Us
 "The Cross of Christ bears the suffering and the sin of mankind, including our own. Jesus accepts all this with open arms, bearing on his shoulders our crosses and saying to us: 'Have courage! You do not carry your cross alone! I carry it with you. I have overcome death and I have come to give you hope, to give you life' (cf. Jn 3:16)."



4. They Compel Us to Action
 "But the Cross of Christ invites us also to allow ourselves to be smitten by his love, teaching us always to look upon others with mercy and tenderness, especially those who suffer, who are in need of help, who need a word or a concrete action."

PRAYER SHAWL ANNIVERSARY

We've been blessed with the opportunity to share our love and concern for others through something tangible - making prayer shawls. March 2019 marks the 10th Anniversary of St. Anne's Prayer Shawl Ministry. A Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated on Monday, March 18th at 9:00 a.m. If you are interested in learning more about our ministry, please stop by after mass to speak with one of us.



Around the Diocese

FOOD + FAITH + SONG

A night of *Food + Faith + Song* with Fr. Leo Patalinghug and Fr. Rob Galea will be held on Wednesday, March 20th from 7:30-9:30 p.m. at the Christ Cathedral Cultural Center. Fr. Leo and Fr. Rob will offer spiritual talks, a mini concert and the opportunity for praise, worship and Adoration. Admission is free for the concert and talk. Reserve tickets at foodfaithsong.com.

WHAT THE CHURCH SAYS ABOUT

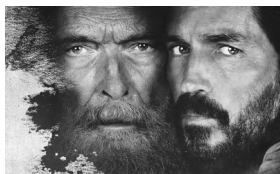
All are invited to attend a series of speakers addressing current/moral issues. The series begins with Msgr. Steven Doktorczyk, the Vicar General of our Diocese, discussing Marriage, Divorce, and Annulments on Thursday, March 21st with a potluck dinner at 6:30 p.m. and the program from 7:00-8:30 p.m. Future programs in the series will include: Suffering and End of Life on April 12th; Gender Issues on May 16th; and Happiness on June 20th. Please RSVP to Norah at ndopudja@christcathedralca.org.

24 HOURS FOR THE LORD

On Friday, March 29th to Saturday, March 30th at the Christ Cathedral Campus, Catholics from across Orange County will answer Pope Francis' call to show the Mercy of Christ to the world. Mass is at 3:00 p.m. on Friday in the Arboretum. The Benediction is at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday. There will be prayer opportunities with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Exhibits, a Praise and Worship Holy Hour, and opportunities for individual confessions. A schedule and more information is posted at <https://www.rcbo.org/24-hours-for-the-lord/>

PAUL THE APOSTLE

Join Executive producer Eric Groth for a screening of the award-winning film "Paul: Apostle of Christ" on Tuesday, March 19th at 6:00 p.m. at St. Hedwig Catholic Church. After the film, Mr. Groth will be available for reflection and Q&A. Please RSVP by calling the parish office at 562-296-9000.



9:00 AM MASS INTENTIONS

3/18 †Paul E. Ringer
 3/19 For the Parish
 3/20 Shane Reichman
 3/21 †Danny Flores
 3/22 †Chad Carl
 3/23 †Juan Campelo
 (†Rest in God's love and peace)



PLEASE PRAY FOR



Fr. Bob Vidal, Katia Bergstrom, Juanita Kho, Brenda Malloy, Ken Hammond, Kathy Purcell, Aurora Lavadia, Mike Pendleton, Julia Poirier, Jerome Gendron, Jim Ferguson, Mary Maskell, Steven Lang, Linda Bolt, Bob Wagner, Bob Rattray, Julie Rivera, Jean Barbazette, Pat Giacomi, Ernie Ramirez, Mike Harvey, Mary Kiely, John Barnes, Katherine Irwin, Dcn. Gary Mucho, L. Tanguay, Madeline Watkins

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

“Lent is the ideal time to unmask temptations, to allow our hearts to beat once more in tune with the vibrant heart of Jesus. The whole of the Lenten season is imbued with this conviction, which we could say is echoed by three words offered to us in order to rekindle the heart of the believer: pause, see, and return.”
 —Pope Francis

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.