

29 December 2019

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Saint Anne

SEAL BEACH



The Holy Family by Rose Dato Dall

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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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You may already have made a list of your new year's resolutions but just in case you haven't, let me offer a few suggestions:

Listen. Too many of us pretend to listen or listen just enough to be able to figure out what we will say in response. As a confessor I have had to work at listening carefully so a penitent will know he or she has been heard. Parents, please note that children will keep saying the same things over and over until they know that you heard what they have to say. You can save yourself some grief by listening the first time.

Watch where you are going. Often I see people walking down Main Street who are lost in the screens of their smart phones, even crossing the street without looking up. The phone may be smart but they are not. The same can be said about drivers who are talking on their phones but not paying attention.

Say your prayers. Pray every day, and I'm not talking about grace at meals. Our lives are often action-packed from sun up to sun down, so we forget to say our prayers. For me, prayer is the second thing I do each morning. (The first is making coffee.) It is part of my routine and that's why it happens each day. By the way, I'm not sure God is impressed by long, rambling prayers, so don't go on and on; Jesus advised, "when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words."

Gratitude. God's providence is ever-present but when we notice it, we ought to say thank you. I mean out loud. For example, you almost get in a traffic accident but don't. "Thank you, Lord." When you have bills you aren't sure you can afford to pay and, unexpectedly, a check comes in the mail, say, "Thank you, Lord."

You are headed for the checkout counter in the market but you see an item that you were also going to buy—say mustard—in another person's cart. As you turn back down the condiment aisle, remember to say "Thank you." (I doubt that God is that detail-oriented with regard to mustard but it could be a nudge from your guardian angel.)

Care for the Poor. Make it your practice to regularly give help to the poor. I have a hunch that when you face Saint Peter at the pearly gates, if he's not sure about letting you in, he'll then see a note in the big book that says you took care of the poor. That will count for a lot. I promise.

Don't Swear. If you are one of those people who swears at other drivers, give a buck to the poor every time you do. I guarantee you will soon break that bad habit.

Less Fast Food. Cut back on drive-thru fast food. When I lived in Italy, an Italian friend said to me, "I have never been to America but somebody who went there said that Americans buy their meals out the windows of restaurants and then eat them while driving in their cars. Is that true?" He thought it was uncivilized. (I make an exception for In-and-Out; their burgers and fries are so tasty!)

Lent. Consider going to Mass each day of Lent. The readings then are given for our conversion and going to communion every day increases the graces we all need. (But don't get obsessive about it; if you miss one or two, no worries. Just do the best you can.)

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 January 6th. For more information, please contact Russell at 949-527-0172.

"Help Us Help Those In Need"

LOVE IN ACTION—LAUDATO SI

Prayer for Wisdom to Care for the Earth in 2020:
Lord,

Grant us the wisdom to care for the earth and till it.
Help us to act now for the good of future generations
and all Your creatures.

Help us to become instruments of a new creation,
Founded on the covenant of Your love. Amen.

SOLEMNITY OF MARY

In our diocese, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God is not observed as a holy day of obligation, except when it falls on a Sunday. Please join us for a special Mass on Wednesday, January 1st at 9:00 a.m.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

St. Anne will have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Friday, January 3rd from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. All are invited to come, pray and spend some time with our Lord. Spending time with Jesus in Adoration is an opportunity for us to encounter His loving presence in a new way.

Parish Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament has a long history in the Diocese of Orange. Building on the foundation of that practice, our first Friday adoration provides an opportunity for all the faithful to join in a beautiful time of deep communion with Jesus, in time of trial and in joy, to be with Him in silence and in communal prayer.

If you can, please volunteer to be present for a specific period of time to ensure that every hour with our Lord is covered by signing up in the vestibule of the church.



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.

REDISCOVER THE SAINTS

We are pleased to offer our parishioners another inspirational book by Matthew Kelly this Christmas. *Rediscover the Saints* is not a biography about saints. It is an invitation to reflect on how the saints are active in our lives and to let them be even more involved. God is constantly trying to open our eyes to the amazing possibilities that he has enfolded in our being. The saints continue this work, encouraging us to explore all our God-given potential, not with speeches but with the example of their lives. The subtitle of the book is 'Twenty-Five Questions That Will Change Your Life' and many of them are deep and penetrating and will stir your heart, your soul, your spirit. The focuses are on recognizing the opportunities to create holy moments, and looking at how God worked through the saints, and can work through us.

Please pick up a copy of the book from the vestibule of the church. One per family please!

ST. ANNE BOOK CLUB

Please join us the first Thursday of each month from Noon to 1 p.m. in the Parish Center. We learn about the author's background and then discuss different aspects of the book brought up by the participants. Everyone is invited! Our book for January 2nd is "Rediscover the Saints" by Matthew Kelly, the St. Anne Christmas book.

PERSPECTIVE

A mountain shames a molehill until they both are humbled by the stars.

2020 PARISH CALENDARS

Complimentary 2020 parish calendars are located in the vestibule of the church.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

The parish office will be closed on Wednesday, January 1st. Happy New Year!

Dynamic Faith

SALVATION IN DAILY LIFE

This Sunday is the feast of the Holy Family, which comes on the first Sunday after Christmas Day.

Today's feast celebrates how the humanity of Jesus (including his entire family life) has brought saving significance into the daily rhythms of our human family life.

The scriptures offer instruction and encouragement on how to share—within our families, parish families, and the wider human family—the love that God shares with us in Jesus. Selections from Sirach, Psalm 128, and Colossians encourage us to reflect divine love and thus find holiness in all our human relationships. The reading from Matthew's Gospel offers a living example of love in the actions Joseph took to protect his young family from danger and to nurture them within the larger family of faith of their time.

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SAINT THOMAS BECKET

December 29

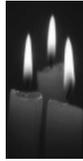
To anyone who imagines conflict between religion and politics to be a modern phenomenon, history witnesses otherwise. Martyred under Henry VIII in 1535, Thomas More declared, "I die the king's good servant, but God's first!" Thomas Becket could have said the same four centuries earlier. As Henry II's closest friend and trusted chancellor, Becket, the king presumed, could be counted on, if made archbishop, to deliver the church to royal control. But Becket experienced a profound conversion, confirmed by the ordination liturgy's rich symbolism of the bishop as Good Shepherd and the church as Bride of Christ. Renouncing secular responsibilities, distributing his wealth to the poor, Thomas became the church's uncompromising champion. Faced with this "new" Becket, the king's previous friendship turned into a ferocious, almost irrational hatred. As eight centuries later, Archbishop Romero would be martyred at the altar of Christ's sacrifice, Becket was slain before the altar of Canterbury Cathedral by royal agents, neither the first nor last good shepherd to lay down his life as the price of freedom for Christ's church and justice for Christ's sheep.



—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

9:00 AM MASS INTENTIONS

12/30 †Imelda Wargo
 12/31 †Mary O'Shea
 1/1 For our Parish
 1/2 †Jim Swearingen
 1/3 Seminarians
 1/4 †Genevieve Anastasi
 (†Rest in God's love and peace)



PLEASE PRAY FOR



Fr. Bob Vidal, Katia Bergstrom, Juanita Kho, Kathy Purcell, Julia Poirier, Jerome Gendron, Jim Ferguson, Mary Maskell, Mary Kiely, Steven Lang, Linda Bolt, Marlene Blackford, Bob Wagner, Bob Rattray, Julie Rivera, Pat Giacomi, Ernie Ramirez, Mike Harvey, John Barnes, Mary Kunz, Katherine Irwin, Dixie Redfean, Beverly Maybrier, Cathy Oliver, John Holland, Dorothy Ceballos, L. Tanguay, Leo Zuvich, Ed Michaud

"Never be afraid of loving the Blessed Virgin too much. You can never love her more than Jesus did."
 — St. Maximilian Kolbe

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 about Faith Formation programs, please call 562-431-0721 ext. 16 or email faithformation@stannesealbeach.org.

Confirmation: For information about our Youth Ministry programs, please call 562-431-0721 ext. 15 or email ym@stannesealbeach.org.

Marriage: An appointment with one of our priests to begin marriage preparation must be made at least six months before the wedding celebration.

Funeral: Contact the Parish Office to arrange funerals.

Sacrament of the Sick: In case of serious illness, contact the Parish Office.

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.