

22 March 2020

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Saint Anne

SEAL BEACH



Msgr. Mike Heher, Pastor

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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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A GOOD LIFE

What constitutes a good life? Does someone make his or her life good by doing what is virtuous and avoiding what was harmful? *You always could find her at the soup kitchen helping out.* Or is a good life a gift from God? *Poor So-and-So had a tough life but her sister had a good one, almost a charmed life. She inherited that money from her aunt and set for herself the vocation of doing good for others.*

One attribute of a good life is gratitude. One feels that her own life is blessed, if not specifically by God, at least by good fortune. But it cannot be said that someone who is ill or troubled or homeless or in debt does not have a good life. The circumstances of our days are mostly out of our hands, though we don't want to admit this.

Think of the shock one feels when the doctor tells you that you have a life-threatening illness. Or the surprise when a lifelong friend suddenly stops communicating with you. Or the boss that tells you on a Friday afternoon that she is letting you go, after thirty years with the firm. Or the shockwave you feel when the boss calls you in and offers you a promotion but you will have to uproot yourself and your family from here away from friends and coworkers and relocate to Abu Dhabi.

It is useful to reflect that Jesus tells those around him that the *poor in spirit* are blessed. That's in the Sermon on the Mount in chapter five of Matthew's gospel. Luke is more blunt in his Sermon on the Plain: "Blessed are you who are poor," Jesus says.

Contrast that with images of "the good life" that is portrayed in our culture. When a guy can go out to a relatively good restaurant and buy himself a tender porterhouse steak pouring over the edges of the plate and sip a good glass of red

wine, we nod our heads and say, "He's living the good life." If a woman drives home from the car dealership in a brand new shiny silver Mercedes, we know she too is living the good life. Parents think of themselves as living such a life if they are able to put their kids through college, preferably at one of those with a prestigious reputation or a winning football team.

In a war-torn place, the definition of a good life gets a lot more focused: life is good when the bombs don't go off, when the enemy is not at the door, when there is food to buy in the market and the electricity works in the evening. It is a good day when you have batteries for your

radio and can tune in to the BBC news at the top of the hour from London.

Way back then, people might have observed that Jesus was living the good life. He had twelve apostles and myriad disciples following him. He attracted thousands by his preaching and healing ministry. Yet when his friend Lazarus died, Jesus wept. He also wept over Jerusalem knowing that the holy city would one day be destroyed.

When finally he entered Jerusalem, he was promptly arrested, condemned, crucified and died crying out, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Yet we believe Jesus lived the best life of all for by his death and resurrection,

he saved all of us. (I can't explain how but I do believe it.)

Perhaps it is better to say, there is only life, often good, occasionally spectacular, but sometimes hard, sometimes almost unbearable. And perhaps it is best to say, God is with us every step of the way, every single step.

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 p.m. in the Parish Hall. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, TBD. For additional information, please contact Russell Stark at 949-527-0172.

"Help Us Help Those In Need"

WOMEN'S GUILD

The **Women Gather, A Special Retreat** that was to take place Saturday, March 21st from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon has been cancelled until further notice.

LEGION OF MARY

Interested in joining the Legion of Mary here at St. Anne's. All you need is a desire to grow in faith, sacrifice your time, as you go with our Mother Mary to see Christ in others. If interested contact Rosemary Schneider at 714-821-4076 or email at rmarys2431@yahoo.com.

YOUTH MINISTRY

3/22/2020—C2 Class Online

3/25/2020—Youth Night Cancelled

3/29/2020—Confirmation Registration Drive (Postponed)

Due to current events our Confirmation Registration Drive is postponed until further notice. Thank you for your understanding. If you have any questions please email ym@stanneseallbeach.org.

PASTORAL SERVICE APPEAL

GOAL: \$65,000 TO DATE: \$47,700

How are you living out your faith? One way to respond to the Gospel call to serve the poor, support life and strengthen faith is by partnering with the Pastoral Services Appeal. By doing so, you help thousands of people in need. You assist in ministering to the imprisoned, evangelizing Catholic youth and strengthening families in our community. Together, we're transforming lives by God's grace. Please return your pledge today, 66 of 900 families have responded. PSA brochures/forms can be found in the vestibule.



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.

PUBLIC MASSES SUSPENDED

Following the guidance of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles (our Metropolitan See), effective Tuesday evening, March 17, 2020, public Masses are hereby suspended in the Diocese of Orange. Bishop Vann wants churches to remain open so the faithful may pray privately keeping social distance in mind.

UPDATE: DIOCESE OF ORANGE RESPONSE TO CORONAVIRUS

From the of the Office of Communications:

As news surrounding coronavirus continues to emerge, Catholics across Orange County are asked to take necessary precautions to stop the spread of this virus. We acknowledge the importance of washing of our hands, "social distancing" and "flattening the curve" to restrict its spread.

The mission of the Church is the salvation of souls. We consider it essential that churches remain open for worship for the care of souls, just as hospitals remain open for care of the body. While other parish-related gatherings are being canceled, during this time of crisis the Church is called to provide hope and comfort.

The public's health and safety are paramount to the Diocese of Orange. We are monitoring the health situation and will make changes as needed. Catholics and all Christians are urged to join Most Rev. Kevin Vann, Bishop of Orange, in praying for those who are ill, health care professionals and caregivers. We ask for the protection of our Lord Jesus Christ and the intercession of our Blessed Mother.

As a community of faith, let us hold one another in prayer during this challenging time.

The Cathedral will livestream daily Mass in English at 6:30 a.m. Monday through Saturday and Sunday in English at 9:45 a.m. at facebook.com/christcathedralca. St. Edward the Confessor livestreams daily Mass at 8:15 a.m. from Monday through Saturday and on Sunday at 9 a.m. at <http://stedward.com/stedcast/>.

Dynamic Faith

MASS RESOURCES

Daily Readings in English and Spanish from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops: http://www.usccb.org/bible/index.cfm?utm_source=googleadwords&utm_medium=cpc&utm_content=catholicbible&utm_campaign=NABRE

Prayers, readings for Mass, and additional spiritual readings are available at: Magnificat publication, a spiritual guide that includes daily Mass: <https://us.magnificat.net/free>

“Give Us This Day” a digital file of their periodical, which includes daily Mass texts. Visit GUTD.net and select "Digital" in the upper right of the screen.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Friday Stations of the Cross have been cancelled. The church will remain open for individual prayer and books will be made available for Stations of the Cross if you wish to do the devotion individually.

TAMALE FEST—CANCELLED

The Tamale Fest scheduled for next Sunday, March 29th has been cancelled.

ENVIRONMENTAL TIPS

LAUDATO SI'

As the spring continues and you prepare for your yards and gardens to wake up, make the commitment to go chemical-free; no more pesticides, herbicides or synthetic fertilizers. Worried about the neighbors? Buy a sign and let them know you aren't lazy, you're doing it all for a good cause. Who knows, maybe you'll enlighten someone else!

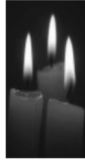
CENSUS 2020

2020CENSUS.GOV

Every year, billions of dollars in federal funding go to hospitals, fire departments, schools, roads, and other resources based on census data. The results of the census also determine the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives, and they are used to draw congressional and state legislative districts. The 2020 Census will mark the 24th time that the country has counted its population since 1790.

9:00 AM MASS INTENTIONS

3/23 †Jack France
 3/24 Mass of Thanksgiving
 3/25 †Thomas Joseph Notturniano
 3/26 †James Fox
 3/27 †Jacob Jahn
 3/28 Dr. Dennis Galligani
 (†Rest in God's love and peace)



PLEASE PRAY FOR



Fr. Bob Vidal, Katia Bergstrom, Juanita Kho, Kathy Purcell, Jerome Gendron, Jim Ferguson, Mary Maskell, Mary Kiely, Linda Bolt, Jackie Chambers, Marlene Blackford, Bob Wagner, Bob Rattray, Julie Rivera, Pat Giacomi, Ernie Ramirez, Pat Clustka, Mike Harvey, John Barnes, Mary Kunz, Katherine Irwin, Dixie Redfearn, Beverly Maybrier, Cathy Oliver, John Holland, Dorothy Ceballos, L. Tanguay, Ed Michaud, Bob Dutro and Nick Williams.

“Be strong and of good courage; be not frightened, neither be dismayed; for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.” —Joshua 1:9

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 faith_formation@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.