December 9, 2018 ~ 2nd Sunday in Advent

All are invited to
St. Anne's Parish Christmas Celebration
on Sunday, December 9, 2018
following the 10:30am Mass
in the vestibule

WELCOME TO ST. ANNE'S

If you haven't registered or are changing information on your registration card, please complete this form and return it to the Rectory.

Name__________________________________________ Address______________________________________________

New Parishioner____ Moving ______ New information______ Send Envelopes______

Telephone #____________ E-Mail____________________ Please put me on the mailing list______
The Second Sunday of Advent

December 9, 2018

God has Commanded that every lofty mountain be made low.
— Baruch 5:7

AWAITING THE SALVATION OF GOD

The world does not seem big enough to contain the jubilation of the first reading. In the Gospel reading, the Roman empire isn’t big enough, either. The great powers of Rome are named and made to stand waiting for the arrival of God’s salvation. And we find Paul meditating joyfully on what really matters.

According to Baruch, the city of Jerusalem is like a person standing on tiptoe looking for God’s salvation, which is coming from the east. Those who were led away on foot, heads down, now come back, a proud people. Why, the very way is smoothed out. The path is lined with fragrant, lush trees.

It can’t get any better than this, can it? Well, yes, it can. For a voice calls out in the desert. Here is the beginning of the salvation of God.

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TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Look around most Catholic churches, and you will discover an image of John the Baptist, often in the old baptistery, or in a window near where the font is or was located. He has two feast days in the calendar: one commemorating his birth, and the other his death. There are only three nativities in our calendar: for Jesus, for Mary, and for the Baptist. John’s birthday is reckoned according to the schedule given in Luke’s Gospel of the angel’s announcement to Mary. The angel tells her that her cousin Elizabeth is in the sixth month of pregnancy, and so Mary hastens to help her. Reckoning Christmas as December 25, we count backwards nine months to March 25 for the Feast of the Annunciation. Then we count forward three months to June 24 for John the Baptist’s birth. Halfway to Christmas, his nativity gives ample reason for rejoicing in the summer, and his symbols of fire and water are used playfully in bonfires and dives into the sea. Even at the polar opposite of Christmas in the calendar, the energy of Christ’s birth in the Incarnation provides cause for rejoicing.

Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Pastor’s Column

A Gift of Hope – Today, many people are worried about the future and what it holds. We worry about our children, grandchildren, and the future of our Church. So we need hope. Parishioners Amelia and Martin Austria and I wanted to give you an early Christmas present in the form of a book entitled, “Beautiful Hope: Finding Hope Every Day in a Broken World.” Author Matthew Kelly, assembled different authors—from Pope Francis to Archbishop Jose Gomez to Dr. Allen Hunt and 16 others. Some are well-known authors and speakers, but many are ordinary Catholics like us dealing with everyday life and its challenges. Their stories are meant to spark hope in us so that we in turn can bring Light and Hope to others. You can pick up a copy of this easy-to-read book at the entrances of our Church, and you can read it now to help you enter into this Season of Hope. Thank you, Amelia and Martin, for your gift!

Christmas Giving Tree – Last weekend, we put up our Giving Tree to collect gifts for the low-income Clients of Catholic Charities. Catholic Charities helps not only the poor and homeless, but also the elderly, the young, and immigrants. This year, from their 34 programs, they’ve helped 33,556 people and have safely housed 3,285 individuals. Of the 120 ornaments, each of which designates a gift for one individual, last Sunday you picked up 87, leaving only 33 more to go. Hopefully, this Sunday we will be able to pick up the rest and return the gifts to the parish by the following Sunday 12/16. Catholic Charities will be out at St. Anne of the Sunset on Monday, 12/17 to pick up our presents to deliver to their Clients. Thank you for being someone’s Secret Santa.

Advent Confessions – In addition to the regular confession time of Saturday 4-5pm, on the next few Sundays of Advent, the parish will add additional opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation in between the Sunday morning masses. We invite you to make use of this Sacrament in preparation for Christmas. As Pope Francis said, “As Christmas approaches don’t downplay your sins. Instead, name them honestly in the Sacrament of Confession, open your heart, and ask the Lord to heal you from within.”

Help Decorating for Christmas – We could use your help decorating and cleaning our Church in preparation for Christmas. The Nativity scene, Christmas trees, banners & wreathes will need to be put up. If you’re free to join us, we’ll begin on Sat., Dec 15 at 9:45am and work until about 12pm. Afterwards, you’re all invited to the rectory for lunch. Thank you!

—Fr. Dan

Looking for Gifts? Our Gift Shop is open Saturdays at 4:00 p.m. and after the 5:00 p.m. Mass; and on Sundays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Sr. Mary Francis and her assistants are always happy to assist you!
December 9 to December 15, 2018

**Sunday, December 9**
- 7:30  Barbara Doherty (D)  Rev. Tieng, LRMS
- 9:00  Susan Dominici (D)  Bishop Walsh
- 10:30  Parishioners of Saint Anne and healing, M. Kinces, RSM  Rev. Tieng, LRMS
- Noon  Luc Ming Tang (D)  Rev. Nascimento

**Monday, December 10**
- 6:30  birthday, Roman Rey Pastor, Jr.  Bishop Walsh
- 8:45  Zeny Francisco (D)  Rev. Zhai, SVD

**Tuesday, December 11**
- 6:30  birthday, Madison James Wong  Bishop Walsh
- 8:45  Margaret Carion (D)  Rev. Nascimento

**Wednesday, December 12**
- 6:30  In honor of the 60th Jubilee of Mother Celine, LSP  Bishop Walsh
- 8:45  Gloria Motak (D)  Rev. Nascimento

**Thursday, December 13**
- 6:30  Harry Colen (D)  Rev. Zhai, SVD
- 8:45  Violeta & Luciano Amistan (D)  Rev. Nascimento

**Friday, December 14**
- 6:30  Joseph Wong Sing Siu (D)  Rev. Tieng, LRMS
- 8:45  Antonio Do Nascimento (D)  Rev. Zhai, SVD

**Saturday, December 15**
- 8:45  Confraternity of Saint Anne and Rev. Mario Russo (D)  Rev. Nascimento
- 5 p.m.  Parishioners of Saint Anne and Lazaro & Anicia Tamayo (D)  Rev. Nascimento

**On Monday, December 10, at 10:30 AM, SAGES is holding an Advent Retreat in the Parish Hall, directed by Monsignor Harry Schlitt, who is widely known as the early Sunday AM TV Mass celebrant. Msgr. and his God Squad hold many fund-raisers so they can continue to provide this wonderful spiritual service for hundreds of homebound people, who otherwise would not be able to celebrate Sunday Mass. Msgr. has written his autobiography, I’LL NEVER TELL: Odyssey of a Rock & Roll Priest, which won the Independent Press Award. Autographed copies of the book may be purchased at the Retreat for $15. This will not only be a wonderful spiritual event, but (knowing Msgr. Harry) a fun-filled one, too. Free parking will be available in the schoolyard. A $10 donation is payable at the door.**

**A Support Gathering for Those Who Grieve**
Is being held next Sunday, December 16, from 3:30 to 5:30 pm at St Dominic Church, 2390 Bush St., San Francisco with Deacon Chuck McNeil. This is a one-time gathering for any who are grieving the loss of a loved one. You are not alone in your grief. To attend, please RSVP to Deacon Chuck McNeil at 415-567-7824 or deaconchuck@stdominics.org and come to the front office of the parish for the meeting. The next closed 8-week group will begin on Sunday, Jan. 13. To join this group, a meeting with Dcn. Chuck is required.

**St. Anne School** will be celebrating their 100th year of educating students in the Catholic tradition this next school year (2019-2020.) We are now accepting applications for students entering Preschool through seventh grade for the coming 2019-2020 school year. If you are looking for an outstanding education for your child, you should visit our website and tour our school. Tour dates are listed on our school website: www.stanne.com.

**A Very Special Vatican Collection of over 150 First Class Relics of the Saints**

Dec 10.  St. Bruno’s Church, San Bruno  6:30pm
Dec. 13  St. Francis of Assisi, East Palo Alto  6:30pm
Dec. 14  Church of the Epiphany, San Francisco  7:00pm

Among the treasures will be Relics of St. Peter, St. Maria Goretti, St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Anthony of Padua, St. Therese of Lisieux, and St. Faustina Kowalska.

In addition, there will also be a piece of a veil believed to have belonged to Our Lady as well as one of the largest remaining pieces of the True Cross in the world.

You are encouraged to bring rosaries or holy cards as well as photos of loved ones, which you can touch to the reliquaries as a means of intercession. Many miracles and healings have happened in the presence of these relics.

Website: www.TreasuresoftheChurch.com

**Last Week’s Collection**

1st Collection, December 2, 2018—$5,630.00
School Earthquake Retrofit Fund— $1,308.00

**This Week’s 2nd Collection**

Retirement Fund for Religious

Archdiocesan Annual Appeal 2018
Assessment— $56,321.00
Total Donations Received - $51,427.00

For on-line giving, visit: www.stanne-sf.org

Thank You All for Your Generosity!
ST. ANNE REGULAR SCHEDULE

Sunday Mass
Sat., 5pm; Sun: 7:30, 9, 10:30am & 12pm (Chinese)

Daily Mass
Mon - Fri: 6:30am & 8:45am
Sat: 8:45am (Devotion to St. Anne)

Holy Days of Obligation
6:30am, 8:45am, 12 noon & 6pm

Exposition of Blessed Sacrament
1st Friday following 8:45am Mass until 10am

Reconciliation: Sat., 4 - 4:55pm or by appointment

Baptism: 2nd Saturday @ 12:30pm
Preparation Class: 3rd Saturday @ 10am in Rectory

Office Hours: Mon - Fri: 9am - 4:30pm
Church Hours: Mon—Fri: 8am-4pm
Sat:: 8am-6pm Sun: 7am-1:30pm

ST. ANNE STAFF

Pastoral Staff:
Fr. Daniel Nascimento, Pastor
frdan@stanne-sf.org 415-665-1600 x 24
Fr. Peterson Tieng, LRMS, Parochial Vicar
frpete@stanne-sf.org 415-665-1600 x34
Sr. Esther McEgan, Adult Ministries
emcegan@mercywmw.org 415-665-1600 x 26
Sr. Mary Francis Melencion, Pastoral Associate
510 309-5029
Rachel Gee, Coordinator of Religious Education
Rachel.Gee@stanne-sf.org 415-665-1600 x 38
Jun Alvar, Parish Music Director
JunAlvar@stanne-sf.org 415-665-1600 x 22

In Residence:
Bishop Daniel Walsh, Bishop Emeritus of Santa Rosa
Fr. Peter Zhai, SVD, Chinese Ministries
ZhaiP@sfarch.org 415-665-1600 x 36

Office Staff:
Ken Del Ponte, Parish Manager
kdelponte@stanne-sf.org 415-665-1600 x 21
Mie Mie Kwong, Athletic Director
athleticdept@stanne-sf.org 415-665-1600 x 22
Jessica Guevara, Bookkeeper
bookkeeper@stanne-sf.org 415-665-1600 x 21
Tessie Evelyn Velicaria, Secretary
tessievelicaria@stanne-sf.org 415-665-1600 x 22

Parish Emergency Number 415– 866-6455

School Staff:
Tom White, Principal, Elementary School
white@stanne.com 415-664-7977
Judy Glaeser, Director, Preschool
stanneps@gmail.com 415-731-2355
Eva Wong, Director, Chinese School
evawong467@gmail.com 415-665-3929
St. Anne Mission Statement

We, the people of Saint Anne, envision a Christ-centered community, enriched by the gifts of a diverse heritage. We remember the past and are open to the future; living out the Gospel values with enthusiasm, joy and celebration under the protection of Saint Anne.

We commit ourselves to sharing the mission belonging to all followers of Christ: caring for one another and reaching out to those in need.

We commit ourselves to revitalizing our parish community; to participating meaningfully in the celebration of the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist, to developing a strong sense of stewardship; and to regularly evaluating our work and ministries.
From the WLP Vault comes the Bible Story of Christmas featuring 8 Classic Christmas Carols and a reading of the Gospel of Luke 2: 4-20 by Bing Crosby! Also available on vinyl.

Visit WLPmusic.com to purchase your copy - CD $10.00

4545 Geary Blvd. at Tenth Ave.
For Information, Pre-Arrangements & Assistance call 668-0077

Catholic Cruises and Tours
Come Sail Away on a 7-night Catholic Exotic Cruise. Prices begin at $1045 per couple which includes all port fees and taxes. Daily Mass and Rosary offered. Deposit of only $350 per person will reserve your cabin.

Space is limited. Thanks and God Bless,
Brian or Sally, coordinators 860.399.1785

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