

## Parish Bulletin

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
July 26, 2020

# Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



July 26 - August 1, 2020

<b>Sunday, July 26 – Feast of Good St. Anne Presider</b>		
9:00	Parishioners of St. Anne	Fr. Tieng, LRMS
10:00 *	Confraternity of St. Anne	Bishop Walsh
12:00**	Parishioners of St. Anne	Fr. Zhai, SVD
<b>Monday, July 27</b>		
8:45 *	Johnson Chan (D)	Fr. Zhai, SVD
<b>Tuesday, July 28</b>		
8:45 *	Kin Sang Chan (D)	Bishop Walsh
<b>Wednesday, July 29</b>		
8:45 *	Stephen Lau (D)	Fr. Tieng, LRMS
<b>Thursday, July 30</b>		
8:45 *	Francisca Ngo (D)	Fr. Zhai, SVD
<b>Friday, July 31</b>		
8:45 *	Joan White (D)	Fr. Tieng, LRMS
<b>Saturday, August 1</b>		
8:45 *	Confraternity of St. Anne	Bishop Walsh
5:00 *	Angie Mendoza (D)	Fr. Tieng, LRMS

\* - Watch mass at: <https://www.facebook.com/StAnneSF/>

\*\* - Watch Chinese mass at: <https://www.facebook.com/CCinSF/>

## The 113th Novena to Good St. Anne

Saturday,  
July 18  
thru  
Sunday,  
July 26,  
2020



*Good St. Anne, Pray for Us!*

## Pastor's Corner

**Novena Like No Other** - This novena will go down as one of the most memorable ones in its 113 years of history. It's memorable to me because though we are hindered by this pandemic and shelter-in-place order, yet we didn't give up on the Novena. Like entertainers, "the show must go on." And it continued with the help of creativity, technology and plenty of faith and prayers. I'd like to thank Fr. Patrick Keyes who began early in the year, thinking about the possible theme for the Novena with the parish's Liturgy Committee and me. And I'd like to thank his Redemptorist brothers as well as my brother priests at St. Anne, for preparing and participating each day, feeding us with hope and strength from the Holy Father's reflection in this time of pandemic. Thank you all for participating with us via Facebook and YouTube. Thank you grandmother St. Anne for hearing our prayers and interceding for us with your grandson Jesus. And God willing, we shall all be together in person, with the Redemptorist Fathers, for the 114th Novena. Good St. Anne, pray for us!!!

**Welcoming New Grandchildren** - As the shelter-in-place order prevented us from celebrating the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil, this Sunday at a special outdoor mass at 12pm, we will be celebrating it with a few adults who have longed to be fully initiated into the Catholic Church. Below and in the next few pages, is the story of their journey to faith prepared by one of the candidates, **Natalie Reclosado**. We welcome them especially on this Feast of St. Anne.

- Fr. Dan

**Journey to Faith** - After 9 long months since our first RCIA meeting, it's now time for our rebirth into the Catholic faith through the sacraments of initiation. This Sunday, July 26th 2020 -- the feast day of St. Anne -- we are celebrating our baptism, confirmation, and first communion.

At the start of this journey, back in October 2019, we each knocked on the St. Anne's rectory door and felt the need to learn about religion -- looking for some answers to life's questions. We all came from different spiritual backgrounds, but we were all called to St. Anne's to learn together. So, we met every Wednesday evening, discussing Christianity as a whole, and Catholicism more specifically. Then, from the start of 2020 to the start of shelter-in-place, we met twice a week, creating (for some of us) our first church community, which centered around a sense of trust, a longing for learning, and a growing love for Jesus.

We were meant to be initiated into the Catholic faith on Easter Sunday, but as we all know, the shelter-in-place order started at the end of March. So, we pushed back our baptism date. Then, we pushed it back again. And a month went by, and then another, and then another, and our un-confirmed faith was soon tested and the sins that



# JOURNEY OF FAITH

we had yet to cleanse were sometimes distracting us from our path to holiness. As we get closer to the date of our baptism, confirmation and first communion, we felt it was important to share some of our struggles, learnings, and experiences, during this uncertain time. Through shelter-in-place, we've all learned how to best keep our faith alive in a way that works for us -- through study, prayer, and community. Here's a little information about the RCIA members, our struggles through shelter-in-place, and how God helped us to get to the point of being baptized:

## AL

If you're a parishioner at St. Anne's, you probably know Al. He's always helping out at school events, chauffeuring his kids to sport tournaments, and lending a helping hand at the church. At the start of shelter-in-place, this busy dad found it difficult to sit still. In one meeting, he even said, "I'm not ready to retire!" But as shelter-in-place extended, Al had enough time to develop a new love for something he used to think would be boring: Bible Study. Al grew his faith by spending time with the word of God, and all of the fascinating historical contexts that he's learned through Father Pete's bible study. Growing up as a Baptist Christian, he anticipated some resistance to the Catholic faith. But he said, "It's been easy. It feels right."



## FRANK

"Coming to the Faith as an adult has been an interesting journey for me. I grew up in San Francisco, a decidedly culturally Catholic city. And because I have an Irish surname, most of my acquaintances usually presumed I was or had been Catholic and had "lapsed." My parents had never had me or any of my siblings baptized in any religion. When I married, I promised I would support my wife in raising the children in the Church. We have lived in St. Anne Parish since 1971 and our youngest two sons were baptized here by Monsignor Foudy in 1972 and '73. But I never felt as if it was the path for me. That changed in the spring of 2018. I suffered a serious medical emergency and nearly died. I spent more than two weeks in the ICU and eight weeks in various stages of recovery. It was at that time that I realized I needed something more than myself to deal with life. I decided to seek Baptism and began attending classes at St. Anne of the Sunset. I received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist



## NATALIE

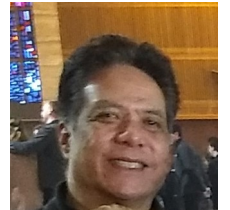
Natalie joined RCIA in preparation for her marriage to her Catholic fiancé. She said, "I want to be as present in my faith as he is." Natalie had little exposure to Christianity, but her eagerness to learn and her clarifying questions were often the catalyst for deep, interesting discussion in our RCIA group. At the start of Shelter-in-Place, she wondered what it must feel like to have been receiving the body of Christ through communion each week, and to no longer receive it. It seemed like although she hadn't received Jesus, she really felt His absence.



But as time went on, she learned to appreciate the time at home, as it helped her to notice the Holy Spirit in the little things in life and in the shift in herself. Natalie says she feels the Holy Spirit urging her to do and be better for herself, her family, and her community. She has found that without the consistency of a church community, during shelter-in-place, she has the conviction to learn how she relates to God because she isn't trying to emulate someone else's relationship. Needless to say, she is extremely excited to finally receive the Holy Spirit, commune with Christ, and become a full member of the Catholic Church on Sunday.

## MEL

Mel was baptized in the Philippines when he was a baby, but wasn't confirmed and didn't receive first Holy Communion. Mel actually attended RCIA three years ago, but was pulled away from the path. But in 2019, he felt the need to return and to get back in touch with his faith. Mel never had doubts about his beliefs in God, but he felt like he needed to be more present for God. Mel is a musician, and during shelter-in-place, he has missed bringing joy to those around him by playing music. Instead, he provides for this community as an essential worker—who hasn't stopped serving his community throughout the pandemic. Mel recently completed the sacrament of reconciliation, and is now ready to become a full Catholic. Go Mel!



## KARINA

Karina was baptized as a child, but felt the desire to complete her sacraments of initiation now that she has children, herself. Karina recently completed the sacraments of reconciliation, baptism, confirmation, and communion. She's explained that she didn't feel a big change during her ceremonies. It wasn't until she realized that the Holy Spirit was guiding her to the word of the Lord, where she read scripture that made her aware of the changes that had taken place. She seems to be in bliss, and she calls it her "honeymoon phase," which she hopes to never end. Karina's experience has gotten the rest of us really excited about feeling something similar, or perhaps being open to feeling something that is uniquely our own.



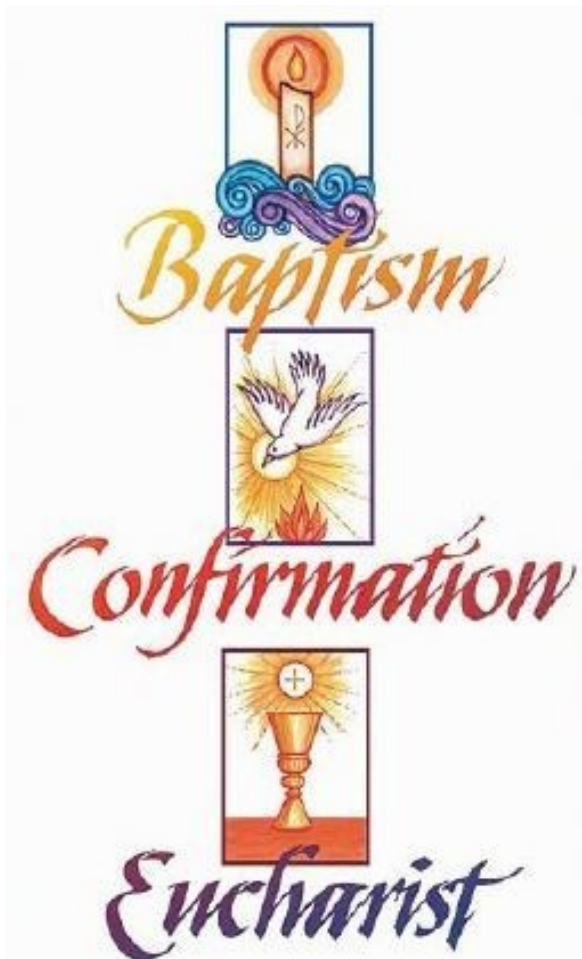
## NATALIE C. (ME)

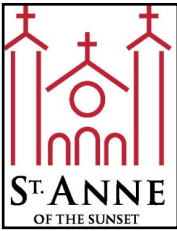
As someone who grew up without faith, I was skeptical when I joined RCIA. But I knew I joined for a reason. At the start, I thought the reason was to learn about the history of Catholicism—that's it. But as the weeks went on, and I learned to open myself up to the Holy Spirit, I became aware of just how much God had been guiding me my entire life. That realization has helped me during shelter-in-place, where I sometimes struggled with staying consistent in my prayers, spending time with the Word, and focusing during online mass. But I feel the pull—the same pull that led me to St. Anne's—to return to my faith each day. And when I do, I feel happier, more worthy of life, more compassionate... I feel blessed and thankful. Sunday, July 26th can't come fast enough!



Though we were separated from each other because of the pandemic, thankfully, we were able to still meet online to talk and relate about our struggles with keeping consistent in our faith. And though we did keep in touch with God through masses, bible studies, and meetings with our little (now online) community, we are eager to receive our sacraments. Together, we chose the date, Sunday, July 26th, to receive our sacraments or celebrate those of us who will. From knocking on the St. Anne rectory door to 9 months later being reborn on the Feast Day of Saint Anne, the grandmother of Jesus - it's easy for all of us to see God does work in beautiful ways.

Thank you to Ken and Father Dan for helping guide us through RCIA and beyond - we are grateful for your evangelism, we strive to spread the good news to the world, just as you did for us.





# Thank You

for supporting  
Catholic Charities



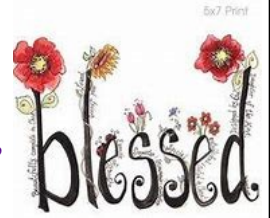
To everyone who supported the baby items drive. Your gift of baby items will make a big difference for mothers in shelters.



This summer, in Catholic Charities' residential and hotel shelters, 26 women are expecting or new mothers. They came into the shelters with what they could carry in a bag, often with toddlers in tow.

Thank you to all at St. Anne who helped spread the word and gave gifts to these mothers. With your help, their infants will come into the world with what they need to be safe and healthy.

Urgent items, Pack and Play and infant layettes, and high importance items, diapers, cases of wipes, baby clothes, and a cuddly soft knitted blanket, were among the generous gifts from St. Anne parishioners, delivered in person and from online Costco and Amazon orders.

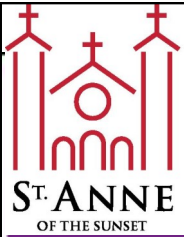


Catholic Charities will continue supporting these babies with diapers, formulas and essentials as they grow.



Again, thank you, for your love for these newborn bundles of joy.





# BLOOD DRIVE



Because of you, life doesn't stop.



## Saint Anne's Parish

**Saturday, August 1, 2020**  
**10:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

### Moriarty Hall

13698 Funston, San Francisco, CA 94122

To make an appointment, visit [vitalant.org](http://vitalant.org)  
and click donate. Use your unique sponsor  
code: **stannesunset**

"You're not just doing something good, you are potentially saving a life like mine. I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for the help of 32 strangers who donated blood, plasma and platelets back in 2016."

-Emily



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**Strong in the Face of Tribulation:  
The Church in Communion -  
a Sure Support in Time of Trial**

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Posted by **St. Anne of the Sunset, San Francisco**  
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