

SAINT ANNE OF THE SUNSET CHURCH

850 Judah St., San Francisco, CA 94122

Office: 415 665-1600 stanne-sf.org

JANUARY 24, 2021

THIRD

Sunday

IN ORDINARY TIME



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They abandoned their nets and followed Jesus.

Mark 1:18

COME
FOLLOW
ME



3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 24, 2021

THE INAUGURATION

Mark describes the beginning of Jesus' ministry with his proclamation that the "kingdom of God is at hand." The rest of Mark's Gospel—all of Jesus' preaching and healing, his death and resurrection—describes the inauguration of this kingdom of God. For Mark, the life of Jesus is the center point of history, where everything leads up to Jesus, and everything follows from Jesus. Mark then tells us that the first disciples follow Jesus immediately and wholeheartedly. They leave their work and family, all for Jesus. Because compared to Jesus and the life he offers, everything else is secondary.

Perhaps our invitations from God do not entail such dramatic life changes. But all who follow Jesus are called to align our life and values with his ways of love. As we continue to mature in love and in faith, we might ask: What needs to be renewed, re-oriented, or discarded in light of our life in Christ?

JONAH AND NINEVEH

Jonah makes a rare appearance this week. The book of Jonah is a fascinating tale of God, stubborn Jonah, surprising Nineveh, and the famous fish (or whale). Please consider reading the whole book, just 48 verses, together with a good commentary. The book is read at Jewish services at Yom Kippur, as a profound reflection about God and about all of us.

Today's passage takes place shortly after Jonah's time in the fish's belly. Jonah finally performs the task that God asks of him, to call the people of Nineveh to repentance. (Nineveh was notorious for its brutality.) Their sudden repentance is bitterly accepted by Jonah, as he resents God's mercy for Nineveh. God reminds Jonah that the people of Nineveh are God's beloved too. Like the parable of the Prodigal Son, the story hints at the vastness of God's mercy, especially forgiveness of those who seem least deserving. We are reminded that all of us are sinners, and we are all in need of God's mercy.

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Pastor's Column

Fare-Thee-Well, Fr. Pete - The Buddha is quoted as saying that "*The only constant in life is change.*" And that was true not only in his lifetime, Four centuries before the birth of Christ, it is also true in our own community. As some of you may have heard during Fr. Pete's Bible Study, he will be leaving us on Wed, Jan 27, 2021 and returning to the Philippines. It is with great sadness that I share this with you because he has been not only a brother priest, but a great partner in ministry. The priests in the house, Bishop Walsh, Fr. Peter, Fr. Pete and myself have often counted our blessings that we have the fellowship and support from one another in our ministry. Each is gifted in a different way, yet each is dedicated to the service of the Lord and this community. We not only complemented each other, but we also supported one another.

We've also joked, using scripture, of this upcoming departure. When the disciples were saddened that Jesus was going to leave them, Jesus said to them, "*Do not let your hearts be troubled... I go to prepare a place for you and I shall come back again and take you to Myself, so that where I am, you also may be*" (John 14). And so Fr. Pete said he'll go ahead to the Philippines so that one day we can go there and he will have prepared a place for us to stay and we can celebrate once again. That indeed will be something to look forward to. In the meanwhile, though our hearts might be saddened, we are grateful for this time that we were able to live together, serve together, get sick with Covid together, as well as recover together. God has blessed us through Fr. Pete, and we shall ever be grateful for his ministry among us. Thank you, Fr. Pete!

*May the road rise to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face
and until we meet again,
may God hold you in the palm of His hand.*

Zoom Farewell Party for Fr. Pete:

When: Mon, Jan 25, 2021 @ 7pm
Where: [www.Zoom.US/join](https://www.zoom.us/join)
Meeting ID: 998 7716 0069
Passcode: 068168

—Fr. Dan

The Archdiocese of SF has announced that the time for donations to the 2020 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal has been extended to the end of January, so if you still wish to contribute something,

Greetings to our Brothers and Sisters in St. Anne Parish,

It is with mixed feelings that I am leaving St. Anne Parish on Jan.27. With great sadness I am departing this community that has been my family for the past two and a half years.

I came to the Archdiocese of San Francisco in 2016, served at St. Brendan Parish for two and a half years, and on the 1st of July, 2018, came to St. Anne Parish. By the end of this month, I will complete my five years of service in the Archdiocese. That is the maximum limit for a religious visa.

I am grateful to all of our parishioners for the journey of faith we shared. I believe my stay here has been an enriching experience for me. There was an exchange of gifts between us, for while I shared my knowledge and faith with you, you also shared your life with me. I learned and grew in my priestly life and ministry.

St. Anne Parish is home and family for me. People say that one of the difficulty missionaries experience is loneliness from being away from their original home. With your love and concern, I did not feel that loneliness. You have always welcomed me as part of your own families. For this I am and will always be grateful. I thank our brother priests in the rectory, especially Fr. Dan, our pastor, for making sure that we are well taken care of both spiritually and materially.

I thank our parish staff for the support and services they have rendered to me. I thank all the parish ministries for the generous involvement in our parish life. I thank our school community, both students, parents, school administrators and teachers for always welcoming me in your midst. Finally, I thank all our parishioners for journeying together and for being family.

In this last month, I am truly sorry for having caused a disruption in our parish life because I contracted covid-19. We had to close down our office and stop our public masses, I really felt so much guilt for my indiscretion that caused all this. However, I believe it was also God's way of showing how much our parishioners really cared for and loved us. Thank you so much for all your prayers and for the sacrifices you have done for us. Special mention to the families who brought food and other needs to us during

this time. I will always be grateful and remember your generosity.

Many times, I pray to God, "Lord, surprise me." At this point, I have not been given a new assignment. I entrust to the Lord where and what my next pastoral assignment will be.

When this pandemic is over, and if God is willing, I wish I could still come and visit you. You will always be remembered in my prayers. And please continue praying for me. Thank you very much, and God bless your families.

Fr. Peterson Tieng, LRMS



MASS INTENTIONS

January 24 to January 30, 2021

Sunday, January 24

***8:00 am Ben Bergado (D)**

10:00 am Harry Colen (D)

Luisa Gaskell Sapalo (D)

Ricardo Cuaresma (D)

Noon Parishioners of Saint Anne

Monday, January 25

8:45 am Lisa Nascimento (D)

Carmen Sabolboro (D)

Tuesday, January 26

8:45 am Birthday, Paulita Mendoza

Eli Lubag (D)

Wednesday, January 27

8:45 am Evelyn S. Rull (D)

Romeo Lubag (D)

Thursday, January 28

8:45 am Deceased Members of the Pizinelli Family

Jean Lau (D)

Friday, January 29

8:45 am Ben Bergado (D)

Saturday, January 30

8:45 am Confraternity of St. Anne

4:00 pm Virginia Loosli (D)

Reflection on Psalm 25:4-9

by Dr. Mark O'Brien

The responsorial psalm is the kind of prayer that a character like Jonah needs to take on board. The psalmist prays that God will teach him/her the ways of God so that he or she can follow them rather than one's own way or will. This is a foundational prayer for the good life because God is our savior; the psalm teaches that it is only when we follow God's ways that we find salvation—the fullness of life. If we try to find our own way we won't make it. The second stanza seems to envisage the psalmist walking along the way or path of life. But in trying to follow God's ways we human beings will almost inevitably stumble at some stage. We will need God's merciful help to get back on the straight and narrow and this is what our psalmist prays for. God is merciful and compassionate because God is good and God's mercy is consistent, in accord with "the love you have shown from of old". The final stanza celebrates the universal that is manifest in the particular. The personal experience of the psalmist inspires a confession of God's universal goodness. God shows the right path to whoever strays and whoever is humble. All that is required is that one acknowledges one's poverty, that I cannot do it under my own steam. But God always "teaches his way to the poor."

The Catholic Faith and Modern Science: with Dr. Stephen Barr *Five Tuesdays at 7:00 – 8:30 pm: February 2, 9, 16, and 23; March 2*—Are you a teenager or adult who has always wondered if faith and science are at odds with each other? How is a Christian to understand evolution, the Galileo controversy, the New Atheism, consciousness, and Adam and Eve? The Archdiocesan Online School of Pastoral Ministry offers a five-part live webinar class taught by the President of the Society of Catholic Scientists, Dr. Stephen Barr. In these lectures Prof. Barr will show that the widespread idea that faith and science are opposed to each other is based on misconceptions about the history of science, about Catholic teaching, and about what science has actually discovered. He will discuss how fundamental Catholic beliefs dovetail with the basic assumptions of science; how the Catholic Church powerfully contributed to the founding and development of science; and the creation of the universe from the viewpoint of both Catholic theology and modern cosmology. Learn how the doctrine of the human "spiritual soul" does not conflict with modern science, and how the idea of biological evolution is consistent with a Christian conception of the universe. For complete information and to register, visit sfarch.org/science.

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SAINT ANNE MASSES

Outdoor Masses: 8:45am Mon.—Sat.
in front of 1390 14th Ave.

Drive-in Masses (in Schoolyard):
on Saturdays at 4pm and
on Sundays at 8am, 10am, and Noon.

All Masses Livestreamed
except Sunday 8am Mass.

Office Hours: 9am –4:30pm M-F

Confessions: by Appointment