

SAINT ANNE of the SUNSET CHURCH

850 Judah St., San Francisco, CA 94122

www.stanne-sf.org 

Rectory: 415-665-1600

School: 415-664-7977

★ *The Epiphany of the Lord* ★ *January 7, 2024* ★



PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Daniel Nascimento, Pastor
frdan@stanne-sf.org 415-665-1600 x 24

Fr. Peter Zhai, SVD,
Archdiocesan Director of Chinese Ministries
ZhaiP@sfarch.org 415-614-5575

Sr. Mary Francis, Pastoral Associate
415-665-1600 x 22

Rachel Abaqueta Leluc, Pastoral Programs Director
raleluc@stanne-sf.org 415-665-1600 x 23

Randell Rentar, Music Director
rvrentar@stanne-sf.org

Carmen Perlas, Coordinator of Religious Education
415-665-1600 x 38

OFFICE STAFF

Ken DelPonte, Parish Manager
kdelponte@stanne-sf.org 415-665-1600 x 21

Tessie Velicaria, Secretary
tessievelicaria@stanne-sf.org 415-665-1600 x 22

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

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

PASTORAL EMERGENCIES: 415-866-6455

Daily Mass: 8:45am Mon.—Sat.

**Sunday Masses: Sat. Vigil at 5pm,
Sundays at 8am, 10am, and Noon (Chinese)**

All Masses Livestreamed except Sunday 8am

**Confessions: 20 minutes before
Saturday Vigil and each Sunday Mass**

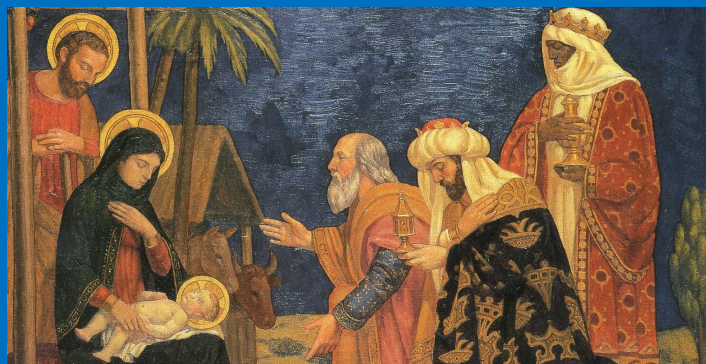
Office Hours: Mon.—Fri., 9am — 4:30pm

**Baptisms: 2nd Sat. of month, 12:30pm
(Registered Parishioners only)**

**Baptismal Prep: 3rd Sat. of month, 10:00am
(Registered Parishioners only)**

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 7, 2024



A Light to the Nations

The Gospel account of Matthew for the Feast of the Epiphany is particularly striking in its depiction of the visit of the Magi. This event is not just a narrative about wise men from the East bringing gifts to a newborn king; it is a profound theological statement about Jesus' role as the Messiah for all people. The star that guides the Magi symbolizes the divine light leading the nations to Jesus. In contrast to the powerful and paranoid King Herod, the infant Jesus embodies a different kind of kingship – one that is humble, vulnerable, and yet, paradoxically, a threat to the established political power.

Matthew's account, unique among the Gospels, emphasizes the universal scope of Jesus' mission. While some scholars suggest that Matthew may have embellished this story to highlight Jesus' role for the Gentiles, the absence of contrary evidence gives this narrative a significant place in Christian theology. It illustrates that from the very beginning, Jesus' life and mission were marked by miraculous signs that pointed beyond the boundaries of Israel to the wider world.

The stark contrast between Jesus and Herod in this account is also noteworthy. Herod's reaction to the news of a newborn king – a brutal decree to murder male children – starkly contrasts with the innocence and helplessness of baby Jesus. This juxtaposition sets the tone for Jesus' ministry, where he consistently challenges and redefines the concept of power and authority. The Epiphany, therefore, is not just about the revelation of Jesus to the Gentiles but also a revelation of the nature of God's kingdom – a kingdom where the last are first, the humble are exalted, and true power is found in love and vulnerability.

The Feast of the Epiphany, through its readings, invites us to reflect on the universality of Jesus' mission and the radical nature of God's kingdom. It calls us to recognize the light of Christ that shines for all peoples and to embrace the transformative power of this revelation in our lives and communities.

©2023 *Young Catholics*. All rights reserved.

Pastor's Column

Prayer to St. Michael – Do you believe that Satan and evil spirits exist? While some people believe that these were superstitions people held before the advent of modern science, even Jesus taught us in the Lord's Prayer, to ask God to protect us, to *deliver us from evil*. A 20th century saint, Mother Teresa, also recognized that the hardships she encountered in her work were due to the evil one attempting to subdue the good she was trying to do, similar to what Jesus encountered. Although we should have a healthy respect for the evil one, we don't have to be afraid of him, says Fr. Gabriel Amorth, in his book *"An Exorcist Tells His Story."* He shares that we already do battle with the evil one when we turn from sin and temptation and that the greatest battle many of us face against the evil one is in the Confessional. The Prayer to St. Michael was composed by Pope Leo XIII when he saw a vision of evil spirits wishing to destroy the Church. St. Michael the Archangel is known as a powerful intercessor against evil and is depicted in the Book of Revelation as having *"battled against the dragon. The dragon and his angels fought, but they were defeated and there was no longer any place for them in heaven"* (12:7-9). So in 1886, Pope Leo XIII introduced this prayer to the Church and instructed us to recite it at the end of Mass. Although it was discontinued after the reforms of the 2nd Vatican Council in 1965, both Pope John Paul II reintroduced this devotional prayer and Pope Francis also encouraged its use in liturgy. So as we begin a New Year, we can call upon this Saint to defend us, our families, our nation and our world from the evil one. Here's the prayer:

*St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.
Be our protection against the wickedness and snares
of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray,
and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts,
by the power of almighty God, thrust into hell
Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world
seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.*

Christian Meditation – It's a New Year. Would you like to try Christian Meditation? Starting Jan 9, we'll meet on Tuesday nights at 7pm via Zoom. For more information or registration, contact Fr. Dan at frdan@stanne-sf.org or visit www.wccm-usa.org to learn more.

Champagne Brunch – Save the Date! Those who joined Fr Dan and gave 1% (or half-a-percent) to the Archdiocesan Annual Appeal are invited to a Champagne Brunch on Sun, Jan 21 @ 11am @ Moriarty Hall. Invitations will be out shortly.

—Fr. Dan



Saint Anne Parish
MASS INTENTIONS
WEEK of January 7, 2024

Sunday, January 7

8:00am Healing, Mum McCue

10:00am Vincent Vago (D)

Noon People of the Parish

Monday, January 8

8:45am Mary Jean Dominguez (D)

Tuesday, January 9

8:45am Tom Fox (D)

Wednesday, January 10

8:45am Mary Jean Dominguez (D)

Thursday, January 11

8:45am Thanksgiving, Maria Alice de Guzman

Friday, January 12

8:45am Mary Jean Dominguez (D)

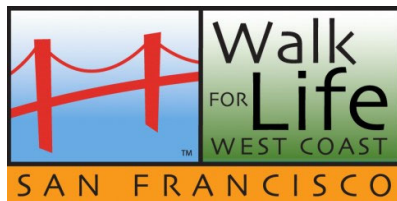
Saturday, January 13

8:45am Confraternity of Saint Anne

5:00pm Mary Jean Dominguez (D)

Please Note that under the direction of the Archbishop, we are again offering only **one intention per Mass**. Visit the rectory or call 415 665-1660 x22 to offer a Mass on behalf of a loved one or yourself.

**Denying
Personhood
Is Always
a Tool
of Oppression.**



Join fellow Catholics and Pro-Lifers from all over California and beyond as we stand up for the littlest among us at the 20th Annual Walk for Life West Coast in San Francisco on **January 20, 2024**. There will be Mass at 9:30 am celebrated by Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone at St. Mary's Cathedral. The rally begins at 12:30 pm in San Francisco's Civic Center Plaza, and the Walk, down the city's Market Street, begins at 1:30 pm.

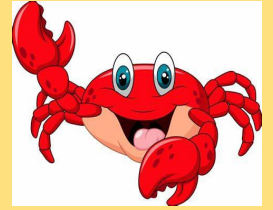
For more information visit www.walkforlifewc.com or call **415-658-1793**.

Looking for Part-Time Work? Saint Anne School (K-8) seeks a part-time **Teacher's Aide**, 8:30am to Noon, Monday through Friday. If interested, call the school at **415-664-7977** or contact Principal Tom White at white@stanne.com

SAVE THE DATES
for Fun Evenings at Saint Anne's
in MORIARTY HALL!

Athletic Department
CRAB BASH

Saturday, March 2,
2024



ST. PATRICK'S
DINNER DANCE

Saturday, March 9,
2024



SAPTO
CASINO NITE

Saturday, March 23,
2024



More information to follow!

Tuesday, January 23 at 6:30pm via Zoom: a Jon Fosse play, in a staged reading directed by Ruth De Palileo, who amazingly makes Zoom plays work dramatically. **Jon Fosse is the Catholic Norwegian playwright, poet, and novelist who just won the Nobel Prize.** His work is little known in this country so here is a chance to get personally acquainted with the work of a new, living Catholic artist--and a Catholic convert to boot. Event is free but registration is required. Visit benedictinstitute.org and scroll down to **Nobel Prize Winning Jon Fosse Play**.

Previous Week's Collections

1st Collection, Dec. 31, 2023— \$3,634.00

Late Christmas Donations— \$4,296.00

This Week's Second Collection

School Earthquake Retrofit Fund

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

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