

SAINT ANNE OF THE SUNSET

Baptism of the Lord

January 12, 2025

Pastor's Column

Reflecting on the Gift of Baptism – As we celebrate the Feast of the Lord's Baptism, we are invited to reflect upon our own Baptism. For many of us, this was a decision made by our parents, but through the years, we kept the faith and chose it for ourselves. So, what do you value about your Baptism?

- For me, I first think about the image of water as cleansing and purifying. At our Baptism, our souls are washed cleaned, but God continues to give us many opportunities for renewal. I like the image of starting over, like the New Year, having a new beginning. God is always a God of second chances, cleansing us, purifying us, giving us the opportunity to grow and learn from our mistakes, and to begin anew.
- Secondly, I think about what Baptism does for us. We are no longer alone in life. Yes, we may have our earthly families, but through Baptism, we become also part of the Holy Family, a wider family that is in every part of the world. We are adopted sons and daughters of God and so we are brothers and sisters to so many people in the world. We are never alone.
- Thirdly, Baptism calls me to holiness. Being baptized, we are called to a different way of living. Whereas our basic instincts for survival seeks only our own welfare, Baptism calls us to live by a greater set of instincts that are nobler and more generous, that seeks the well-being of the other over my own self-interest. I like that Baptism calls me to be my better self, not that I always succeed, but it's always a goal that inspires me to grow.
- Lastly, Baptism gives me hope. Hope that I am never alone. Hope that amidst the darkness around me, I will not be defeated but that the Lord will walk with me, be by my side, and see me through. And one day, He will lead me through the darkness of death, and into the bright light of new life in heaven.

So Baptism stretches me, gives me the opportunity to begin again, lets me know that I'm never alone, and helps me become a better person. What do you appreciate about your Baptism?

- Fr Dan

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading - Isaiah speaks of the Servant whom the Lord upholds; he shall bring forth justice to the nations (Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11).

Psalm - The Lord will bless his people with peace (Psalm 104).

Second Reading - Jesus was anointed by God with the Holy Spirit; he went out healing and doing good (Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7).

Gospel - A voice comes from heaven proclaiming Jesus as the beloved Son, with whom God is well pleased (Luke 3:15-16, 21-22).

Treasures From Our Tradition

Merry Christmas! Share that cheerful greeting with some folks today. They may wonder if you have had any Elvis sightings lately, attended Star Trekkie conventions, or were Cleopatra in a previous lifetime. Despite the skeptics, today is solidly within the Christmas season. In fact, in some strands of the Christian tradition it represents the clearest manifestation of the mystery of the Incarnation. On Christmas Day, for example, the Gospel reading is the Prologue of John's Gospel, which reveals the glory of Christ shining through our humanity precisely in his baptism.

At any rate, this is an ancient feast, celebrated first in Egypt sixteen centuries ago. More than most other ancient people, the Egyptians understood the life-giving properties of water. On this day, they drew water from the Nile, so central in the history of their people, and reserved it in honor. Many other places copied the custom, so that St. John Chrysostom wrote of people in Antioch gathering at midnight to collect flowing water into vessels they brought from home since "today there is a blessing on the water." At home for dinner tonight, decorate the table with beautiful bowls of water and white candles, toast one another with goblets of sparkling water, and light a Christmas candle in the window one last time.

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Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



Week of January 12, 2025

Sunday, January 12

8:00AM Filippo, Catarina, and Teresa D'Asaro (D)
10:00AM Parishioners of St. Anne
12:00PM Healing, Rosalinda Javedona

Monday, January 13

8:45AM Quin White (D)

Tuesday, January 14

8:45AM Barbara Levins (D)

Wednesday, January 15

8:45AM Julia Christina Howard (D)

Thursday, January 16

8:45AM John Hidihl (D)

Friday, January 17

8:45AM Thanksgiving, Elizabeth Mamon

Saturday, January 18

8:45AM Confraternity of St. Anne
5:00PM Dennis Bonney (D)

thank you

Previous Week Collection

Sunday Offertory - \$2152.00
Second Collection (School Earthquake & Retrofit Fund) - \$646.00
Solemnity of Mary Collection - \$1066.00

This week's second collection is for the Building & Maintenance Fund.

A Catholic Prayer App for only \$1 – Want to enrich your prayer life? *Hallow* is a prayer App that offers such things as guided prayers, meditations, audiobooks and various genres of Christian music. Visit <https://Hallow/parish/> and enter **St Anne Sunset**. Do something to enrich your faith in the coming year and share this with others.

Upcoming Events

At St. Anne:

- 1/19 – **Feast of Santo Nino**
(Bring a statue of your baby Jesus for a blessing this day that the Christ child may continue to dwell close to our hearts even after Christmas is over)
- 1/26 – **Catholic Schools Week**
(School Mass at 10am followed with School Open House. All are welcome!)
- 2/9 – **Scout Sunday**
(Join the Scouts this Sunday as they celebrate the founding of the Scouts program in the US)
- 2/22 – **Crab Bash**
(A fun-raiser dinner for the Sports program. Begins at 6pm in the Church Hall. More information to follow)

In the Archdiocese:

(Visit www.sfarchdiocese.org/events for more info)

- 1/19 – **Immigration Community Listening Session**
1:30 – 3:30pm @ St. Raphael Church
Contact: Saul Perez, 415-614-5616
perezsa@sfarch.org
- 1/25 – **21st Annual Walk for Life**
9:30am – Mass at Cathedral
11am – Information Fair
12:30pm – Rally: Civic Center Plaza
1:30pm – Walk: Along Market Street
Contact: Saul Perez, 415-614-5616
perezsa@sfarch.org
- 1/26 – **Immigration Information Fair**
1:30 – 6pm @ St. Raphael Church
Contact: Saul Perez, 415-614-5616
perezsa@sfarch.org
- 2/6 – **Rosary to Eradicate Human Trafficking**
(At 6pm via Zoom. Contact Maria Martinez-Mont at prolife@sfarch.org)
- 2/22 – **Wedding Anniversary Celebration**
(Mass at 10am at the Cathedral with the Archbishop. RSVP by 2/14, 415-614-5574)

Pastor: Fr. Daniel Nascimento

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Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 10am- 4:30pm;
Office closes on Federal Holidays

Daily Mass: 8:45am

Sunday Mass: 5pm Vigil (Sat.), 8am, 10am
& 12pm in Chinese

Confession: 20 min before Saturday 5pm Vigil
& 8am and 10am Sunday Masses

Pastoral Emergencies: 415-866-6455