

SAINT ANNE OF THE SUNSET

The Presentation of the Lord

February 2, 2025

Pastor's Column

Happy Lunar New Year – As many Asian Americans celebrate Lunar New Year these next few weeks, I want to share a little about the story of Christianity in China. The Christian faith wasn't a recent introduction to China in the late 19th and 20th century. Here are some interesting dates:

- 635AD is the earliest documented historical record of Christianity reaching China during the Tang dynasty. It was introduced by missionaries who traveled the Silk Road. However by the end of the Tang dynasty in 907, Christianity was suppressed and largely disappeared.
- 1294 was when Pope Nicolas IV sent Franciscan friar John of Montecorvino to China. There, he translated parts of the Bible into Chinese and baptized thousands, establishing even a church in Beijing. With the fall of the Yuan Dynasty in the 14th century it also slowly disappeared.
- 1582 was when Jesuit Matteo Ricci established a mission in China. In 1601, he was invited by the Chinese Emperor to serve in areas of astronomy, mathematics and language translations. Many prominent Chinese officials were converted to Christianity at this time. Due to disagreements with the Emperor and the Pope, Christian missionaries were expelled in 1721.
- In the 19th & 20th centuries, Christianity once again returned and set up schools and hospitals. In 1949 when the Communist government came to power, missionaries were expelled and the government established the state-controlled Chinese Patriotic Catholic Association with no ties to the Vatican. Many Catholics remained loyal to Rome and formed an underground Church.
- With the 2018 Vatican-China agreement, relations between the Vatican and China improved. In spite of restrictions, the Catholic Church in China remains vibrant.

Between 1648 and 1930, the Church recognizes 120 Martyr Saints of China. In spite of the difficult journey through the centuries, the faith has endured and taken root in China. And the Church in China is also now sending missionaries like our own Fr. Peter Zhai abroad to serve the Universal Church, that Christ's gospel may be proclaimed to all. Happy Lunar New Year! - Fr Dan

Treasures From Our Tradition

By Candlemas, forty days after Christmas, February 2, the season of Christ's coming has depleted our candle supply. Soon, the parish will order a new paschal candle from a catalogue or candlemaker, or in some communities, wax will be collected to be melted and molded. Last year's paschal candle shows the wear and tear of summer heat, or many funerals or baptisms.

Paschal candles have been around since at least the fourth century, when Constantine's biographer Eusebius reported that the night of the sacred vigil was "transformed into the brilliancy of day, by lighting throughout the city pillars of wax, while burning lamps in every place so that the splendor of this night was brighter than the brightest daylight."

Light was a precious commodity in the ancient world, and this lavish use of precious beeswax was a sign of the Christian's call to bear Christ's light into the world's darkness. In a pre-electric age, a whole city aglow from the paschal flame must have been a glorious sight, and a reminder to every baptized Christian of our vocation to "be in the light of the world."

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

Valentine Opportunities – Have you made plans for Valentine's Day yet? Would you consider 2 fun opportunities for you and your significant other? It comes with childcare. They are:

- **A Marriage Enrichment Course:** This course covers topics to help couples fine tune their relationship such as the Art of Communication; Resolving Conflict & Good Sex. This will take place on Thurs., Feb 20 with dinner at 6pm and ends by 7:30pm at the School Library. For more info, contact: DelMundo@stanne-sf.org.
- **A Crab Bash:** You can't beat this All-You-Can-Eat offer with both hot and cold crab, salad, pasta, garlic bread and dessert, on Sat, Feb 22 @ 5:30pm at our Church Hall. For registration or info, contact BeverlyPerea@gmail.com, CisyHsu@gmail.com, or RosendaLuk@hotmail.com.



Week of February 2, 2025

Sunday, February 2

8:00AM Parishioners of St. Anne
10:00AM Alfredo Mendoza (D)
12:00PM Wan Lee (D)

Monday, February 3

8:45AM Healing, Flordelita C. May

Tuesday, February 4

8:45AM Healing, Flordelita C. May

Wednesday, February 5

8:45AM Healing, Flordelita C. May

Thursday, February 6

8:45AM Healing, Flordelita C. May

Friday, February 7

8:45AM Death Anniversary, Kristine Quinn

Saturday, February 8

8:45AM Confraternity of St. Anne
5:00PM Healing, Rosalinda Javelona

thank you

Previous Week Collection

Sunday Offertory - \$2,542

This week's second collection is for the **School's Earthquake Retrofit Fund.**

Pastor: Fr. Daniel Nascimento

Email: info@stanne-sf.org

Office: 415-665-1600

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

Upcoming Events

At St. Anne:

2/9 - **Scout Sunday**

Join the Scouts this Sunday at 10am as they celebrate the founding of the Scouts program.

2/8 - **Chinese New Year Celebration**

Chinese Ministry invites you to mass at 2:30pm and a Banquet at 5pm, both at the Cathedral. Tickets for the Banquet: \$80

Contact: Fr Peter Zhai; zhaip@sfarch.org

2/20 - **Marriage Enrichment Course**

To help couples fine tune their relationships. Weekly on Thursdays from 2/20-4/3, from 6-7:30pm at the School Library. Dinner & Childcare provided. Contact: Tom DelMundo, delmundo@stanne-sf.org.

2/22 - **Crab Bash**

A fun-raiser dinner for the Sports program. Begins at 5:30pm in the Church Hall. Contact: BeverlyPerea@gmail.com, CisyHsu@gmail.com, rosendaLuk@hotmail.com

3/5 - **Ash Wednesday**

Mass times: 8:45am, 12pm & 6pm

In the Archdiocese:

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

2/6 **Rosary to Eradicate Human Trafficking**

At 6pm via Zoom. Contact Maria Martinez-Mont at prolife@sfarch.org

2/6-7 **Catholic Healthcare Ethics Seminar**

For more info or to register, visit the National Catholic Bioethics Center, www.ncbcenter.org, held at St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park

2/10 **Grief Support**

At St Pius, Redwood City, at 7pm
Contact: Mary Dickinson, 650-365-8514 or marymys@comcast.net

2/22 **Immigration Workshop**

At Mission Dolores, SF, from 1-5pm

2/22 **Wedding Anniversary Celebration**

Mass at 10am at the Cathedral with the Archbishop. RSVP by 2/14, 415-614-5574

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.