

SAINT  ANNE  
OF THE SUNSET

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2025

## *Pastor's Column*

**A New Church Year** – The celebration of a new church year centers around the birth of Christ. And just as the Jewish people wait for the coming of the Messiah, so the Church begins our New Year also with waiting. Advent, which means *coming*, is our time of waiting. In the first two weeks of Advent, we await Christ's promise of return. And only in the last 2 weeks of Advent, do we celebrate Christ's first coming. It was in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> century that this practice began to take shape, as Christians were no longer persecuted and were able to worship freely. And since the gospels didn't specify when Jesus was born, December 25 was chosen to coincide with the Roman festival of *Sol Invictus*, which means *the Unconquered Sun*. As this festival happened in the darkest time of the year, it was easy for the Church to reframe and transform this celebration into a Christian one, for Christ is the Light of the World. With each succeeding day after December 25, as the darkness grows shorter and the light grows longer, the Season becomes a perfect metaphor for Christ's entrance into our world to scatter the darkness. As the Church begins a New Year, we'll also be using a new gospel in Ordinary Time. To familiarize Catholics with the Bible, some changes were made to the readings used at mass. Prior to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vatican Council, that happened between 1962-1965, the faithful would hear the same Sunday readings every year. After the council, in order to expose the faithful to a broader set of scripture, they developed a 3-year-cycle of readings, A, B & C. In Year A, this year, the gospel of Matthew would be used during the Sundays in Ordinary Time. Year B would use the gospel of Mark and parts of John. While Year C, would hear from the gospel of Luke. The gospel of John is used especially during Lent, Easter and certain feasts. Using this cycle, the faithful are exposed to nearly all of the New Testament in 3 years. Each of the gospels were written to address different audiences. Mark likely aimed at Roman Christians, while Luke addressed Gentile Christians. John's focus was more theological while Matthew's primary audience were Jews, to help them see Jesus as the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy. So, as we begin this Season of Advent, a season of hope, may we find comfort knowing that Christ walks with us. He entered into human history, as Emmanuel, to show us that He is near, and God is with us.

**Happy Thanksgiving** – It's so easy for us to focus on all the things that are not right and that annoy us. But this poem from an anonymous author, "*Putting Things in Perspective*," helps us to look to see the silver lining amidst the darkness that sometimes surround us.

*I am thankful:*

*For the child who is not cleaning his room,*

*but is watching TV, because that means  
he is at home and not on the streets.*

*For the taxes that I pay,*

*because it means that I am employed.*

*For the mess to clean after a party, because it means*

*that I have been surrounded by friends.*

*For the clothes that fit a little too snug,*

*because it means I have enough to eat.*

*For my shadow that watches me work,*

*because it means I am in the sunshine.*

*For a lawn that needs mowing, windows*

*that need cleaning, and gutters that need fixing,*

*because it means I have a home.*

*For all the complaints I hear about the government,*

*because it means*

*that we have freedom of speech.*

*For the parking spot I find at the far end*

*of the parking lot, because it means*

*I am capable of walking*

*and that I have been blessed with transportation.*

*For my huge heating bill,*

*because it means I am warm.*

*For the lady behind me in church that sings off key,*

*because it means that I can hear.*

*For the pile of laundry and ironing,*

*because it means I have clothes to wear.*

*For weariness and aching muscles at the end of the day,*

*because it means I have been capable*

*of working hard.*

*For the partner who hogs the covers every night,*

*because they are not out with someone else.*

*The alarm that goes off in the early morning hours,*

*because it means that I am alive.*

St. Paul taught us to give thanks in all circumstances (1

Thess 5:18) because as Joan Chittister expressed,

*Darkness deserves gratitude... [because] all growth  
does not take place in the sunlight.*

- Fr. Dan

## Mass Intentions for the Week

Week of November 30– December 6, 2025

### Sunday, November 30

8:00AM Parishioners of St. Anne  
10:00AM Michael Smuin (D)  
12 00PM Chun Mui Chu (D)

### Monday, December 1

8:45AM Laverne Little (D)

### Tuesday, December 2

8:45AM Rev. Edward Phelan (D)

### Wednesday, December 3

8:45AM Michael Smuin (D)

### Thursday, December 4

8:45AM Rev. Edward Reese (D)

### Friday, December 5

8:45AM Rev. Saimore Moala (D)

### Saturday, December 6

8:45AM Confraternity of St. Anne  
5:00PM Lorraine, Claire & Ben Gotelli (D)

## Thank You!

### Previous Week's Collection

Sunday Offertory, – not yet available

Second Collection – not yet available

*This week's second collection: none*

### St. Anne Giving Tree 2025



"Be a Blessing" Holiday Campaign, supporting those experiencing tough times this Holiday Season. Together, we can bring hope and warmth to those who need it most - and we need YOUR help to make that happen.

### How You Can Be a Blessing:

1. **Choose an ornament from our Giving Tree.** Please take it home as our small token of appreciation for your generosity.

2. In return, we invite you to donate a **\$25 gift card** to **Target** or **Safeway**. You may:

- Hand your gift card to parish staff member or volunteer, **or**
- Drop it in the secure St. Anne rectory mailbox at **850 Judah St., San Francisco, CA 94122**

**Donation Deadline: December 15, 2025**

From the bottom of our hearts, **thank you for your kindness and generosity.** Together, we truly *can be a blessing* this Christmas. Contact Carmen Ng at St. Anne Religious Education [ngcarmen2013@gmail.com](mailto:ngcarmen2013@gmail.com).

## Upcoming Events

### At St. Anne Church:

#### 11/30 Christmas Fair & Swap Meet

Shop for your holiday gifts and support our local community. The Christmas Fair opens on Sunday from 9am – 3pm in Moriarty Hall. Sponsored by the Knights and the DADS Club.

#### 12/12 Christmas Appreciation Party for Volunteers

Parish volunteers, save the date for a party in gratitude for your service.

When: Fri, Dec 12 from 3:30-8pm

Where: Rectory

RSVP: Respond to Evite or call Secretary

#### 12/14 Parish Christmas Party

The parish is throwing a Christmas party for all the parishioners on Sunday, 12/14 following the 10am mass down in the Church Hall. Come enjoy good food, good company, arts and crafts for children and free family pictures with Santa.

### In the Archdiocese:

(Visit [www.sfarchdiocese.org/events](http://www.sfarchdiocese.org/events) for more info)

#### 12/4 Cherished Belonging: The Healing Power of Love in Divided Times with Fr. Greg Boyle.

All are invited to the priest and the founder of the largest gang-intervention, rehabilitation, and re-entry program in the world. The event will be held at Our Lady of Angels Church, Burlingame at 7:00 pm (seating is first come, first served)

## Contact Us!

**Pastor:** Fr. Daniel Nascimento

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**Office:** 415-665-1600

**Address:** 850 Judah St., San Francisco 94122

**Office Hours:** Monday – Friday, 9:30am – 4:30pm  
Office closed on Federal Holidays

**Daily Mass:** 8:45am

**Sunday Mass:** 5pm Vigil (Saturday), 8am, 10am and 12 pm in Chinese

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

**Pastoral Emergencies:** 415-866-6455

### *An easy digital payment option for Sunday donations!*

Checks, cash, credit cards are still accepted. To donate using Zelle go to [stannesunset@gmail.com](mailto:stannesunset@gmail.com) or use the Venmo QR Code. We are SO grateful for your help!



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