

SAINT ANNE OF THE SUNSET

Baptism of the Lord

January 11, 2026

Pastor's Column

What Does Baptism Mean To You? I think in order for me to answer this question, I'd have to imagine what I would be without baptism. If my parents did not bring me to the waters of baptism, I may not know God or Christ as my Savior. And even if I may have come on my own later to the Church, I may not feel at home. I would have no spiritual home. And in my travels, I would not find a home away from home. I would feel no connection to other Catholics or Christians. I would have no anchor in life. I would feel the weight of my worries and anxieties with no one to bring them to. Life would all be dependent on me, to succeed or fail will all fall upon my shoulders. I'd have no divine or spiritual partner to turn to. So in retrospect, Baptism means the world to me. It gives me identity, belonging and unconditional love with a divine power, and belonging in the human family with fellow believers. Life isn't as scary because I don't travel it alone but with someone who can see farther and knows better that I can trust and lean on. So, what does baptism mean to you?

- Fr. Dan

Quotes on Baptism – Here are a few quotes on Baptism to help us deepen our sense and appreciation of this gift from God:

- *“Baptism is like a wedding ring: they both symbolize transactions. A wedding ring symbolizes marriage, just as baptism symbolizes salvation. Wearing a wedding ring does not make you married any more than being baptized makes you saved. Baptism is a symbol of salvation and only a symbol. But like a wedding ring, it is such an effective symbol that it should never be taken for granted”* – Author unknown.
- *“We may never be martyrs but we can die to self, to sin, to the world, to our plans and ambitions. That is the significance of baptism; we died with Christ and rose to new life”* - Vance Havner.
- *“The preacher had said there was nothing magic in the water. Yet as I descended into its depths and rose again, I knew something life-changing had happened. A cleansing inside out. No longer did there seem to be two uncertain contradictory Paul Harveys — just one immensely happy one. I felt a fulfilling surge of the Holy Spirit”* - Paul Harvey.

Though I'm Born Again – A poem by Deborah Ann Belka:

*Though I'm born again,
I still look the same . . .
the only difference is
I'm baptized in His name.*

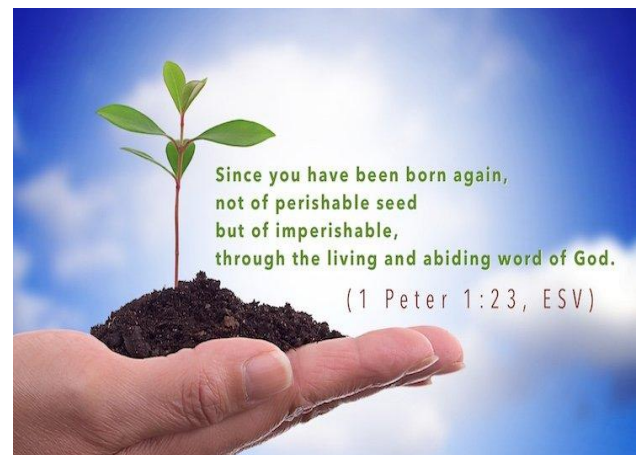
*I know I'm still a sinner,
but, I'm trying hard not to be
and I'm sure that my faults
you still can see in me.*

*I've got a lot of changing,
that I know I need to do
but, I believe that my Savior
is doing in me something new.*

*I know I'm not yet perfect,
but, I'm learning every day
how to live like Jesus
by following His righteous way.*

*I've made many choices,
that I am not proud of
but, I'm counting on God mercy
and trusting in His love.*

*Though I am born again,
I am not without blame . . .
but, the day I accepted Jesus
He took away my shame!*



Mass Intentions for the Week

Week of January 11– January 17, 2026

Sunday, January 11

8:00AM Benito & Leonarda Hildago (D)
10:00AM Parishioners of St. Anne
12 00PM Chun Mui Chu (D)

Monday, January 12

8:45AM The SanGil Family - *Thanksgiving*

Tuesday, January 13

8:45AM Rev. Mario P. Farana (D)

Wednesday, January 14

8:45AM Clara Xem (D)

Thursday, January 15

8:45AM Peggy Spillane (D)

Friday, January 16

8:45AM Pat Toop (D)

Saturday, January 17

8:45AM Confraternity of St. Anne
5:00PM Thomas La Grave Sr. (D)

Thank You!

Previous Week's Collection

Sunday Offertory Jan. 4th – \$2,758

New Year's Day Mass Jan. 1st - \$1,279

Christmas Collection – none

This week's second collection: Building & Maintenance

Treasures from our Tradition

Through the centuries, artists and craftspeople have depicted Jesus' baptism in the Jordan River by John. At first in mosaics and frescoes, and later in tapestries, stained glass and paintings, the scene is familiar. Jesus is standing waist-high in flowing water. Above him, standing on dry land, John the Baptist pours water over Jesus. The first artists to depict this were sketching from memory. This is exactly how most people were baptized in the early days: as adults, standing or kneeling in the water, with water poured over their heads.

This method of baptizing, called immersion, is the favored way today. An adult enters a font, or an infant is lowered a bit into the water supported by a parent's hand, and water is poured or splashed over them. The treasures of baptistry art attest that submersion, or plunging beneath the water's surface, is not really in our tradition, and that "infusion," the mere pouring of a few drops of water, yields too narrow an understanding of what it means to be plunged into Christ's life. Jesus Christ has gone before us into the water, and waits for us there with abundant gifts. No wonder the tradition calls for abundant symbols!



Upcoming Events

At St. Anne Church & School:

1/18 Feast of Santo Niño (Holy Child)

This Filipino celebration, reminds us not to pack Jesus away after Christmas, but to continue to welcome Him into our lives the rest of the year. **Bring your baby Jesus to the 10am Mass for a blessing and celebration.**

1/25 Catholic Schools Week

Save the date, come visit our School and see the wonderful things our children are learning in this Annual Catholic Schools Week. Open House follows the Sunday, 1/25 10am mass.

In the Archdiocese:

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

1/18 Purified & Gender & Theology of your Body

Discover the beauty of God's plan for human love at St. Anthony, Novato, from 1pm – 4:15pm. Info: eventcoach@chastity.com. Tickets: chastity.com/purified, \$25.

1/24 Walk for Life Events

Walk for Hope, Walk for Love & Walk for Life
9:30am – Mass w/Archbishop at Cathedral
12:30pm – Rally at Civic Center Plaza
1:30pm - Walk

Contact Us!

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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 or use the Venmo QR Code. We are SO grateful for your help!



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Use Venmo in our Gift Shop too!