

# Saint Anne Catholic Parish

## gaudete sunday

December 15, 2013



JOY

When my younger son faced bullying at school, he wanted to respond in kind. His argument was that a bully would never change unless he was challenged, unless his violence was met with more violence. “Why would you ever change your behavior if it gets you whatever you want?” he asked. With more patience than I felt, I said, “Well, hopefully, you’ll have parents who teach you that kindness and peace are a better approach.” He brought our theoretical chat to a screeching halt by countering, “When am I going to get those parents?” It can be confusing to hear the story of John the Baptist asking whether Jesus was “the one to come.” It seems so obvious to us that Jesus is the way, the truth, the life. Yet, if we’re honest, we sometimes catch ourselves hoping for another way—maybe an easier one, maybe one that is more satisfying in the short term. While any situation might seem to have a number of solutions, our faith tells us that there is always only one right answer—Jesus

### PRAYER

You who are Time Itself,  
teach me patience;  
comfort my restless heart;  
reassure my weary spirit,  
that I will be ready when  
your hour is at hand.

### REFLECTION QUESTIONS REFLECTION

- How does waiting make you feel?
- Has impatience ever made you question your faith? What did you learn from that experience?
- How are the rhythms of nature a sign of God at work in the world?

## Third Sunday of Advent December 15, 2013

Those whom the LORD has ransomed will return  
and enter Zion singing,  
crowned with everlasting joy.

— Isaiah 35:10a



*My dear friends in Christ,*

*This Sunday is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent! The readings this Sunday invite us to rejoice, to hope and to anticipate with joy the coming feast of the coming of the Son of Man!*

*My friends, we don't want our Christmas celebration to be smashed by our lack of preparations. We must continue to focus and to fill our life and heart with joy and thanksgiving. The first reading today gives us a glimpse of what will happen in the coming of the Son of man. He will come to save us. The eyes of the blind will be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared, the lame will leap like a stag and then the tongue of the mute will sing. Zephaniah, one of the prophets of old, asks to rejoice: "Shout for joy, O daughter Zion! Sing joyfully, O Israel! Be glad and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior; he will rejoice over you in his love, and he will sing joyfully because of you!"*

*The rose color on this 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent symbolizes hope and joy! It is up to us to make these things happen! The coming of the Son of Man is indeed a reason for us to hope and to be filled joy! The vision of hope is truly inspiring, and it offers true spiritual joy! Hope is the understanding and belief that a better world is possible!*

*There is hope because of God's love for us! When he sent his Son to us, he revealed a new life of hope and love. Do not take this invitation lightly and live your life with grace and thanksgiving. We need to rejoice and not to be caught up in a life that is destructive and miserable. We should bring smile to the people and be the bearer of good news and joy.*

*The psalmist today invites us to join in singing Alleuia, the song of joy and exultation! He has come to save us! The second reading today asks not to complain but to be patient and make our hearts firm. St. Paul in his letter to the Philippians challenges us to rejoice: "Rejoice in the Lord always! The Lord is near! Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your request known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus!"*

*And so my friends, celebrate what is beautiful and hand over your anxiety to God! Do something joyful, something extravagant--- and that is by doing something transforming done in great love! Dorothy Day once said, "No one has the right to sit down and feel hopeless. There is too much to be done." Experience hope by giving hope to others! Because hope gives a reason to rejoice in life for a better tomorrow!*

*In Christ's peace,  
Fr. Geoffrey*





## MASS INTENTIONS

December 14, 2013 - December 15, 2013

### Saturday, December 14

5:00 pm + Felipa Reyes

### Sunday, December 15

8:00 am + Luke & Maria Arevalo

10:00 am + Artemio Posadas, Sr.

12:00 pm For the People

6:00 pm Spe.Int. - Lourdes Estacio

### Monday, December 16

5:30 am - Simbang Gabi

8:00 am + Spe.Int. - Secky Chiu

### Tuesday, December 17

5:30 am - Simbang Gabi

8:00 am + De. Mem. - Mosquera Family

### Wednesday, December 18

5:30 am - Simbang Gabi

8:00 am Spe.Int. - Vener & Teresita Siasoco  
Wedding Anniversary

### Thursday, December 19

5:30 am - Simbang Gabi

8:00 am + Milagros Ordonez

### Friday, December 20

5:30 am - Simbang Gabi

8:00 am Spe.Int. - Ann Ly

### Saturday, December 21

5:30 am - Simbang Gabi

8:00 am + Juliana Tayco

5:00 pm + Ramon La Torre

## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — The barren deserts will rejoice and flower. (Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10).

**Psalm** — Lord, come and save us (Psalm 146).

**Second Reading** — Be patient, for the coming of the Lord is as sure as the rain (James 5:7-10).

**Gospel** — Tell of what you hear and see: The blind regain their vision, the crippled their movement, the deaf their hearing. (Matthew 11:2-11).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9; Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17

Wednesday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25

Thursday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a;

Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25

Friday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38

Saturday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a;

Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

Sunday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Rom 1:1-7;

Mt 1:18-24

## *Please pray for the sick...*

Ester Acda, Johnny Ang, Saturnino Angeles, Reynaldo Antonio, Susana Aquino, Alma Arreglado, Rachel Austria, Gay Badillo, Cecilia Barrera, Francisco Barrera, Victoria Bantugan, Epifania Bundang, Franklin Calub, Jr., Gold Cantolino, Maria Castro, Virginia Ester Claudio, Cuadras, Aurea Dacanay, Ofelia de Guzman, Theresa De Rivera, Bert Dimaano, Angeles Dingcong, Bernardo Dingcong, Roberto Dingcong, Theresa Diola, Ramona Dizon, Alice De Loyola, Fely de Jesus, Albert Doble, Cezar Domingo, Elpidio Dorotheo, Edilberta Enriquez, Enrique Escalante, Juanita Estrellas, Mina Fernando, Emerita Fulinar, Leticia Garces, Lenie Gutierrez, Linda Hernandez, Rosario Ilustre, Reynaldo Joachico, Erlinda Kasilag, Francesca Kelsey, Tessie Lacandazon, Mori Lacson, Gregorio Lintao, Sr., Arthur Macapagal, Reilly McDonald, Ruth Marquez, Theresa Martinez, Saturnina Mayo, Janet McCulley, Zeny Mesa, Victor Montoya, Roquita Padua, Esperanza Paz, Marlen, Peralta, Orlando Peralta, Benita Quintong, Cora Ragasa, Lita Raposas, Oliver Rasul, Elaine Resurreccion, Leo Reyes, Felix & Marcie Rivas, Charmaine Rivera, Eufenia Rivera, Anita Sacdalan, Epifania Santos, Bill Sarati, Fe Segundo, Jose Segundo, Virginia Sosongco, Joseph Thompson, Leonard Torres, Deity Trocino, Emmeline Velayo, Pio Verdan, Lydia Villacorta, Delfin Villafior, Joe Yumang, Milad Zayat.

**\*Please call the parish office @510-471-7766, if you have someone to add or delete to the Sick List.**



## Interested in knowing more about the Catholic faith?

Are you an adult who...

is interested in being baptized Catholic?

- was baptized in another Christian tradition and would like to explore what being Catholic is all about?
- was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist?

If you answered yes to any of the above, please consider joining our ongoing Inquiry sessions for chance to ask questions, learn more about us and about the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, the process by which adults join the Church. No commitment required. For more information, call the parish office at 510-471-7766 or email:

stantheadultfaithformation@gmail.com



## ST ANNE SCHOOL OF FAITH FORMATION

### ST. ANNE SCHOOL OF FAITH FORMATION (GRADES 1- 8)

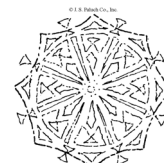
**FAITH IN ACTION...Life and Dignity of the Human Person** – The human person is the clearest reflection of God's presence in the world; all of the Church's work in pursuit of both justice and peace is designed to protect and promote the dignity of every person. *How do we model respect for all human life in our interactions with the children?*

### CCD Children's Stewardship Envelopes

Kimberly Luna:	Treasure giving \$4.00.
Rayanne Flores:	Cleaned my room & did my homework.
Justin Hui:	I swept the floor.
Ailinh:	I played the piano for a nursing home.
Nicolas B.:	I helped my Mom do the laundry & donated \$1.00.
Feliza A.Z.:	I made sushi & pancakes.
Angela Adug:	Stand up to people who are bullying & donated \$.50¢.
Sawyer Smith:	I cleaned up without getting mad.
Gian:	Donated \$.25¢.
Ana:	I prayed the rosary.
Adrian Fellers:	Treasure giving \$.25¢.
Kaila Pacrem:	I helped gramma with kitchen chores & donated \$1.00.
Abby Pearson:	Helped bake pie.
Adrian Pearson:	Cleaned my toys.
Jose Silvestre:	Help set the table & donated \$1.00.

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Third Sunday of Advent  
Monday: Las Posadas begins  
Saturday: St. Peter Canisius; Winter begins



Winter

### St. Anne Youth Ministry

The Youth Ministry/Confirmation/Emmaus Peer Ministry Advent Potluck is this Monday, December 16 at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. **This is the last Youth Ministry meeting until January 13, 2014!**

**WHAT TO BRING:** Everyone is assigned by **last name** in the list below.

Please do not come with your hands empty on December 16!! Questions, contact Jim Soltau, youth ministry coordinator – St. Anne Church at 510-471-7766 extension 22, or stayouthministry@sbcglobal.net. This potluck is for students in Youth Ministry & Confirmation. **Please remember**

**to bring your December Stewardship Envelope.**

**BY THE FIRST INITIAL OF YOUR LAST NAME:**

YM Students, Confirmation Candidates and EMMAUS Peer Ministry

😊 A to G: desserts!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

😊 H to P: appetizer

😊 Q to Z: main dish

Please provide a serving utensil with the dish you bring!!

### Los Angeles Catholic Youth Day

Payments are now being accepted for any high school student or young adult who would like to attend the annual Los Angeles Catholic Youth Rally scheduled March 12-15, 2014. This is an OUTSTANDING way to experience the Young Church of Today on a larger level...over 20,000 young people participate in Youth Day every year. We have 22 spots available. If you'd like more information about the trip, please email the Youth Ministry Office at stayouthministry@sbcglobal.net

### **Knights of Columbus**

**“Serving our church, community & country.”**

**December 16 to 24 – 5:30 AM** Simbang Gabi (Dawn Masses) Knights will usher and help at the Parish hall.

**December 18 – 8:00 PM** Regular Council Meeting  
CCD Room 104.

For information contact: Roland Nimis, Grand Knight  
RNimis@yahoo.com or 510-487-8232

Sunday, December 15, 2013

### FINANCE CORNER

#### Weekly Collection Goals

<u>Sunday, December 8, 2013</u>	\$11,994.75
<b>Budget</b>	\$15,000.00
Over (Under)	(\$ 3,005.25)

### CHRISTMAS BASKETS

The St. Vincent de Paul and the Knights of Columbus are collecting non-perishable food (**NO CLOTHING**) to make Christmas Baskets for those in need in our community. Please food donations in the barrels at the Church entrances by December 18. If you know of a person/family in need of a basket, please call the parish office at 471-7766 and leave their name and phone number.

### ADVENT GIVING TREE

There will be an Angel Gift Tag Tree at the Church entrance. Please consider sponsoring someone in need by donating a gift card from a local store. Please leave gift cards at the parish office by December 18. Thank you!

### PROMISE FULFILLED

Today's readings address the faithful one, the one who waits on God but may not feel God's presence.

Every person who seeks God has at one time or another experienced the absence of God. Jesus himself cried out during his dark night of the soul.

The Epistle of James speaks to this. The author says that we must be as patient as the silent, fallow earth that awaits the slow, soaking rains of winter and the hard, necessary rains of spring. As the farmer is sure of the precious yield of the land, we can be sure of the precious yield of our patient waiting. God is never far away.

The messengers from John the Baptizer asked Jesus if he was the one whose coming John had announced. The messengers wanted to hear the answer that the imprisoned John already knew. Everything that John said was finally happening: because of Jesus, light shines in eyes; words of promise are received; people leap and dance.

The promise of Isaiah is fulfilled in Jesus. Wobbly knees and feeble hands are strong, the desert blooms, the savanna and steppe flower, the darkness is chased away.

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### THIS WEEK AT ST. ANNE

Monday, December 16

#### 5:30 & 8:00 am

- 9:30 am - Legion of Mary, CR #103
- 4:45 pm - Faith Formation, CR #102 - #105
- 5:00 pm - Youth Ministry, SH
- 7:30 pm - Lectors, CH

Tuesday, December 17

#### 5:30 & 8:00 am - Mass, CH

- 4:45 pm - Faith Formation, CR #102- #105
- 7:30 pm - Fit Club, SH
- 7:30 pm - RCIA, CR #106

Wednesday, December 18

#### 5:30 & 8:00 am & 7:00 pm - Mass, CH

- 5:00 pm - Faith Formation, CH, CR #102-105
- 6:00 pm - SPRED, SH
- 7:00 pm - Perpetual Help, CH
- 7:30 pm - Young Adult Choir, CR #105
- 8:00 pm - Knights of Columbus, CR #103

Thursday, December 19

#### 5:30 & 8:00 am - Mass, CH

- 5:00 pm - Faith Formation, CR #102-106, SH
- 7:30 pm - Pinto Choir, CH
- 7:30 pm - KofC Squires, CR #103
- 7:30 pm - Unity Choir, CR #106

Friday, December 20

#### 5:30 & 8:00 am - Mass, CH

- 9:00 am - St. Vincent de Paul, CR #104 & 106
- 10:00 am - Lectio Divina, CR #103
- 6:00 pm - Legion of Mary, CR #103
- 7:00 pm - Holy Trinity, CH
- 7:00 pm - Divine Mercy, CR #105
- 7:00 pm - Indonesian Community, CR #102
- 7:30 pm - Fit Club, SH

Saturday, December 21

#### 5:30 am & 8:00 am & 5:00 pm Mass, CH

- 9:00 am - Lectio Divina, CR #104
- 9:00 am - St. Vincent de Paul, CR #104 & 106
- 9:00 am - SPRED, CR #105 & 105
- 9:00 am - Altar Servers, CR #103
- 1:00 pm - Baptism, CH
- 6:15 pm - Charismatics, CR #104
- 7:00 pm - El Shaddai, CH

Sunday, December 22

#### 5:30, 8:00, 10:00 am, 12:00, 6:00 pm- MASS, CH

- 9:00 am - Choir, CR #106
- 11:00 am - Indonesian Community, CR #102
- 1:00 pm - Children's Choir, CR #103
- 1:30 pm - Polish Community, CH & #104
- 3:00 pm - Unity Choir, CR #106
- 7:30 pm - Divine Mercy, CH
- 7:30 pm - Fit Club, SH



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## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

We make transitions along life's journey, and search for meaning. Watch an infant take those first wobbly steps. Inevitably they are toward the arms of a dear one, and the gleeful smile and wordless laughter let us know that the baby understands that the whole world is renewed in an instant. Parents may see that wide-eyed smile again some years later as they flip car keys in the teenager's direction, and by God's grace at in-between moments of forgiveness and affirmation.

Sacraments open a window to the blessings of everyday life and help us claim their deep meaning. A voice from a fiery bush warned Moses to take off his shoes because he stood on "holy ground." Your first steps, your first word, taking your place at the family table, stirring to new love, forgiving and being forgiven: all of this is holy, laden with meaning, full of possibilities. Sacraments are not escape pods from the realities of the everyday; rather they invest us ever more deeply in life and recruit us for the kingdom inaugurated by Jesus. We take baby steps all our life long. In the world of sacrament, they are always directed toward the arms of a loving God, and always on the common holy ground of a community's life.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.