



St. Anne's Catholic Church

1600 Rossmoor Parkway
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www.stanneswc.org



December 24, 2023 Fourth Sunday of Advent

"He will be great and will be
called Son of the Most High,
and the Lord God will give him
the throne of David his father..."
- Luke 1:32

Facebook.com/saintjosephstudios
Joe Aboumoussa

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9 am – 4:30 pm
Friday 9 am – 1:00 pm

Masses in Church

Monday - Friday 8:15 am
Saturday 8:15 am & 5 pm (Vigil)
Sunday 9 am & 11 am

Sacrament of Confession :

Tuesday 9 am - 9:30 am
Saturday 3:30 pm- 4:00 pm

Library Hours:

Wednesday & Thursday - 9 am - 12 pm

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Leonard L. Marrujo

Priest in Residence: Rev. George DaRoza

Off./Min. Coordinator : Janet Money

Bookkeeper: Aileen Baker

Housekeeper: Martha Sanchez

Organist: Sheila Wilkins

Cantor: Gina Downen

Parish Office will be closed on Monday, December 25th and Tuesday, December 26th for Christmas.

A WORD FROM THE PASTOR

The holidays are filled with images of home. In Hallmark movies, for example, home is a beautiful house in a country village with a wide front porch where rocking chairs and blankets invite close family members to sit outside in the frosty air with a cup of steaming hot chocolate cradled in mittened hands. Neighbors call out cheery greetings, inspiring spontaneous singing of Christmas carols in perfect harmony.

I suppose there are truly places like that, but where I live near the city of Oakland and across the bay from San Francisco, home can take on a very different image. Only a few miles from our parish church there are rows of tents and dilapidated mobile homes and campers where people live with no heat and no running water. They sleep on cold concrete. They live with the uncertainty of where their next meal will come from or if they will be safe during the night. For those living in tents, the Hallmark image of home might as well be from a different planet. And yet, there are always signs of the tent residents trying to make their tent and their surroundings more home-like for themselves. A blanket, a pet, a flowerpot, maybe even a Christmas tree.

Today, Mary is invited to make a home for Jesus in a unique and special way. To carry the spark of the light of the world in her womb, a place of warmth and darkness and secrecy and protection. A place where the heartbeat of the savior of the world is in harmony with the heartbeat of the Blessed Mother.

By her willingness to say yes to the invitation, Mary models the way of making a home for Jesus, and not only Jesus but all who follow him. Even though she did not know where her **"yes"** would lead, she trusted the message of the angel and opened her heart to the ark of God—the ark of the covenant, God's promise to be present to all who believe. Once Mary had said yes, she was also offering a welcome to all those who follow Jesus.

Once we learn how to welcome Jesus, who else do we welcome inside? Do we gaze upon homeless encampments and come to the same realization that King David did? **"Here I am living in a house of cedar, while the ark of God dwells in a tent!"** Can we imagine those experiencing homelessness as home for the ark of God? Perhaps God would more readily be found there than in Hallmark houses.

The invitation of Mary and the Christ child is to make our home where we are most likely to encounter God. We do not need to be afraid to respond to this invitation. From the Pastoral Letter of the Synod, we find encouragement: **"Mary, Mother of the Church, the first on the journey, accompanies our pilgrimage. In joy and sorrow, she shows us her Son and invites us to trust. And He, Jesus, is our only hope!"** *Emmanuel: God with us.*

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday, December 24th - Holy Day of Obligation

9 AM & 11 AM – Mass (Forth Sunday of Advent)

5 PM - Christmas Vigil (4:45 pm - Carols)

Monday, December 25th - Holy Day of Obligation

9 AM – Christmas Day Mass

Monday, January 1st - Not a Holy Day of Obligation

9 AM – New Years Day Mass

May the happiness of Jesus'
coming surround you.

Merry Christmas to you and
your loved ones

From: Fr. Leonard, Fr. George
and the staff at St. Anne's.



PARISH FINANCIALS

November 2023

Plate collections, donations, gifts, and bequests

November donation \$ 41,358

November Budget \$ 47,900

November excess /shortfall \$ (6,542)

Year to date excess \$ 11,185

Development Fund November \$ 1,620

Development Fund - YTD excess \$ 1,396

Thanks for your generous donations!

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday 12/23	5:00 PM	† Beatriz Vilela
Sunday 12/24	9:00 AM 11:00 AM	† Dr. Robert Wilkinson Living and Deceased members of Cohan, Torres, and Lang families.
<u>Christmas Vigil</u>	5:00 PM	Sp. Int. Parishioners & Benefactors
<u>Christmas Day</u> Monday 12/25	9:00 AM	Sp. Int. Parishioners & Benefactors
Tuesday	8:15 AM	† Rev. William Kegel
Wednesday 12/27	8:15 AM	† Rev. Timothy Doody S.J. † Henry Au
Thursday	8:15 AM	† Henry Au
Friday	8:15 AM	Sp. Int. Jean & Charles Emery
Saturday 12/30	8:15 AM	Sp. Int. Jean & Charles Emery

St. Anne's Society News

The Christmas Bazaar, held the first week of December, was again a huge success.

Thanks to Chairperson Gale Lydecker and her huge group of volunteers. The Bakery, Jewelry shop, silent auction and raffle were all winners!

There are too many people to mention here, but we are fortunate to have so many bakers, contributors, donators and purchasers.

Financially it was the best ever!

Thanks to everyone who participated.

MINISTRIES

Altar Servers	Charles Cobb	925-705-7143
Eucharistic Ministers	Charles Cobb	925-705-7143
Greeters Weekend	Mary Beth Hodge Lupe Roberts	925-954-1158 925-322-8798
Homebound	Evelyn Noriega	510-386-1573
Library	Odile Crandall	925-937-2643
Facility Maintenance	Keith Crandall Bob Martini	925-932-2324 Parish Office
Men's Ministry	Martin Bailey	925-932-2324
Parish Council	Paul Molloy	925-323-0730
Parish Finance Council	Peter Newell	925-891-4479
St. Anne's Society	Joe Cellucci	843-870-6683
Ushers	Fran Long	925-939-5151

Landscaping Work

The landscaping project we have been planning for the past two years is now underway! We will be replacing water-thirsty lawn with drought-tolerant trees and shrubs, which will be irrigated initially by a low water use system. The project is projected to pay for itself, through water and mowing savings, in less than 10 years. It has been underwritten by a very generous donation from a parishioner, for which we are deeply appreciative!

Bulletin: If you would like to receive the weekly bulletin and highlights by email contact the parish office at info@stanneswc.org. Bulletin is also available on our website www.stanneswc.org

THIS
PARISH
LIFE

Please visit our parish website www.stanneswc.org for parish information, calendar of events, copy of the bulletin, lectures and audio recordings of "This Parish Life" by Fr. Leonard.



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PRAY FOR THE SICK

Andrea Puccini	Debbie Campbell	Jannet Tuvilla	Kathleen Clemons	Patricia Carey
Bob Pape	Don Corempas	Jeanette Martini	Linda Podesta	Richard Daniels
Caroline George	Edward Regan	Jeff Westerfield	Lois Belmessieri	Robert DeGraca
Carter Whitlatch	Elaine Chiou	Joe Cellucci	Mark Suprachauna	Robin Duggan
Cass Candell	Ellen Stevens	John Statz	Martin Keegan	Robert Kraftschik
Cathy Grimesey	Ev Eaton	Josay Hayes	Megan Smith	Ron Barajas
Cheryl Spitz	Felice Santos	Kathleen Rose	Michael Dunn	Tom & Vicki Hughes
Chris Ramirez	Fr. Anthony Chang	Karen Salchett	Mike Abell	Wayne & Maria Sylvia
Cathy Bridges	George Slinsen	Karl Kropp	Pamela Maria	

If you wish to be included or removed from our prayer list, please contact Fran Long at 925-939-5151