



# St. Anne's Catholic Church

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## The Octave Of The Nativity Of The Lord

### December 29, 2024



#### Parish Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9:00 am—4:00 pm

Friday - Sunday CLOSED

#### Masses in Church

Monday - Friday 8:15 am

Saturday 8:15 am & 5:00 pm (Vigil)

Sunday 9:00 am & 11:00 am

#### Sacrament of Confession

Tuesday 9:00 am—9:30 am

Saturday 3:30 pm—4:00 pm

#### Library Hours

Wednesday 9:00 am—12:00 pm

#### Parish Staff

Pastor : Rev. Leonard L. Marrujo

Priest in Res.: Rev. George DaRoza

Office/Ministry: Rachelle Harmon

Bookkeeper : Aileen Baker

Housekeeper: Martha Sanchez

Music Director: John Montanero

[www.stanneswc.org](http://www.stanneswc.org)

## A WORD FROM THE PASTOR

Happy New Year!!! What happened to 2024?

I wish you all a wonderful New Year and that the Grace of God be upon you and yours. It's amazing to me how fast 2024 slipped by so quickly. Like a blink of an eye the year disappeared. And here we are again at the beginning of a new year. I hope 2025 will be a nicer, more kind year for all of us.

Despite many of us losing a loved one or loved ones, we still continue on and live our lives accordingly. We must! It is not fair to those we love who remain with us, nor is it fair to ourselves. "Live your life, move forward, and keep the faith, baby." as Al Davis of the Oakland Raiders used to say.

This year as practicing Catholics, we have an obligatory day to attend mass and many of us will do so, either out of tradition or habit, but there are some who do not seemingly know why. In reality, the practice is more than a tradition and has nothing to do with the start of the secular New Year.

Every January first, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God, a major feast day and a holy day of obligation, which generally means practicing Catholics are required to go to Mass that day or to the vigil Mass the night before. The Church's new year, liturgically speaking, begins with the first Sunday of Advent, so this isn't a celebration of the new year, but of Mary's unique role as the mother of our Lord. To celebrate our Mother's feast is always a pleasure and certainly a celebration to share amongst our community. To celebrate the Mother of God, or the Theotokos, should be an honor; much like when we honor our earthly mother.

We all deserve the beauty of a new beginning. We all deserve to forgive our past mistakes so that we can move forward once more. Letting go is a deep, misty and winding road of inner reflection. It is a brave journey, so appreciate and celebrate each small, tentative step you take forward. And remember to be gentle on yourself and others you come across.

My biggest prayer for 2025 is to find a way to live, and share, more of the peace Christ. To hope for an end to war and abortion. To live a life pleasing to God and to gently guide you, my parishioners, to a path that encourages you to seek a better understanding of your faith. What are your hopes and dreams for the new year? Find a quiet place, make yourself a pot of coffee or tea, and meditate on God's Word and the Incarnate Word of His Son.

May the God of Abraham and Issac be upon you during this next year. Let's hope it doesn't slip away as quickly as 2024.

I'll leave you this quote:

"This time is given to me by God that I may live in it. It is not given to make something out of it, but given me to be stored away in eternity as my own."

***-Thomas Merton, A Year with Thomas Merton: Daily Meditations from His Journals***

*Fr. Leonard L. Marrujo*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, January 1st  
**HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**

9:00 am Mass

Octave of Christmas, Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

Wednesday, January 1st  
 New Year's Day—Parish Office Closed

Tuesday, January 7th  
 1st Tuesday of every month after 8:15 am mass  
 Anointing of the Sick

Wednesday, January 8th  
 Homebound Communion Retreat  
 11:00 am

In St. Anne's Church

Thursday, January 9th  
 1st Thursday of every Month at 9:00 am  
 Holy Hour with Benediction

Thursday, January 16  
 11:00 am  
 Grieving Ministry  
 Parish Hall

## HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

Would you like to bring communion to the homebound? New and returning Eucharistic Ministers are invited to join a retreat on January 8th at 11:00 am in the church. Call, stop by the rectory office or email rharmon@stanneswc.org to RSVP.



### Sunday's Readings:

1st Reading: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

2nd Reading: Colossians 3:12-21

Gospel: Luke 2:41-52



DAILY READINGS

## MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 12/28	5:00 PM	Parishioners & Benefactors
Sunday 12/29	9:00 AM	† Living & Deceased Members of the Marrujo Family
	11:00 AM	† Angela & Carlos Marrujo
Monday 12/30	8:15 AM	Special Intention: Dylan Madell
Tuesday 12/31	8:15 AM	† Rosie King
Wednesday 1/1	9:00 AM	Parishioners & Benefactors
Thursday 1/2	8:15 AM	† Living and Deceased Members of Da Roza & Rodrigues Families
Friday 1/3	8:15 AM	† Jim Chanquet † Albert Touron
Saturday 1/4	8:15 AM	Special Intention: Meri Lisa Bozzini (Healing Mass for Aphasia)




Are you new? Moving? Leaving the parish? Drop off an updated parishioner registration card at the office or call to deactivate your registration.

  
 masstimes.org  
 MASS TIMES FOR TRAVEL



Father Leonard, Father George and the entire staff here at St. Anne's pray that you and your family have a Blessed Christmas Season and a grace filled New Year.



Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to people of goodwill!

## HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION: 1/1

January 1st is a Holy Day of Obligation. It is the Octave of Christmas, Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God.



Your support is needed for pastoral ministries/ services, religious education & formation, clergy formation & support for Catholic schools and parishes. Scan the QR code with your camera on your phone for more info.



## THANK YOU!

On behalf of all our parishioners, we wish to thank all the hard working volunteers for the time and talent that went in to making our Christmastide environment prayerful, solemn and festive. From arranging our new Nativity Scene to climbing the attic stairs and shopping for the perfect poinsettias, it took many hands to bring it all to life. A special thanks to the Marrujo Family for the generous donation of flowers and the nativity ensemble.



Cheers,  
Your Environment Committee



## PRAY FOR THE SICK

Diane Mauch	Cathy Bridges	Kathleen Rose
Rob Mills	Joe Cellucci	Mike Dunn
Sheila Wilkins	Kathleen Clemons	Tony Dunleavy
Andrea Puccini	William Egan	
Bunk Sicotte	Bill Burnette	

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

## GRIEF MINISTRY RESUMES 1/16

Whether the death was sudden or tragic, or one with warning and preparation, the reality of death leaves most of us in a state of shock, confusion, and sadness. Grieving people need time and space to honor their grief and figure out how to keep on living when a loved one is gone.



Our Grieving Ministry provides spiritual, emotional and practical support to people who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

## GROCERY CARDS STILL NEEDED

Please continue purchasing grocery store gift cards for the St. Vincent De Paul food bank at St. Mary's in Walnut Creek. Gift cards can be dropped in the mailbox near the parish office window. Because of your generosity and love of our brothers and sisters in need we have exceeded more than \$5K in gift cards in 2024. Non-gift card donations can be placed in the bin outside St. Anne's Church, near the courtyard entrance. Items needed are listed in the side of the bin and pamphlets are available in the church entrance. Thank you for your generosity.



Get the bulletin every week in your email before mass! Send a request to: rharmon@stanneswc.org