

SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS
December 11, 2022



Isaiah 11:1—“Then a shoot shall spring up from the stump of Jesse.”

St. Anne Byzantine Catholic Church

222 E. Foothill Boulevard
San Luis Obispo, CA 93405

Parish Office: (805) 543-8883

Parish website: www.stanneslo.org

Pastor's e-mail: stanneslo@gmail.com

Served by:

Father Michael Bezruchka, Pastor

Deacon John Bradley

Bishop: Most Reverend Thomas J. Olmsted, D.D., J.C.D. Apostolic Administrator Sede Vecante

Holy Protection of Mary Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Phoenix

Welcome! We are honored to have you come to worship with us. If you are unfamiliar with the worship of the Byzantine Church, simply listen to the Liturgy and allow the rest of the congregation to carry you in worship. We extend our hands and hearts in Christian fellowship to you here, celebrating with us, whether long-time residents or newly arrived in the parish. We thank God that you are with us. If you would like to be an active member of our Byzantine Catholic community, please contact the parish office. Since we are one Catholic Church with many Traditions (each that includes a liturgical rite), becoming a parishioner does not require that you make a canonical transfer of Rite, for example, from the Roman Rite to our Byzantine Rite. Yet we invite you to join us in our traditions, fast days, and feast days so as to better understand and perhaps one day embrace our Eastern Catholic spirituality. Please join us for our Coffee Social, held in the fellowship hall, immediately after the Divine Liturgy and make yourself known to our Pastor who would be happy to answer your questions. Welcome to St. Anne's!

St. Anne bulletin email list: Would you like to have our bulletin emailed to you each week? Request it at slosa.email@gmail.com

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory forever!

This week's liturgical schedule: (Check the MCI <https://mci.archpitt.org> for music and prayers.) Livestreaming of Sunday in the parking lot is available for those taking extra health precautions. Contact the pastor.

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| Sat., Dec. 10 Use handout | 5 PM Great Vespers | Judges 13:1-5, 24-25, 14:1-20; Isaiah 25:1-9. |
| Sunday, December 11 Use handout | Confessions: 8:30-9:30 AM 10 AM Divine Liturgy <i>For the Parishioners</i> 12:00 PM | <i>SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS</i> Colossians 3:4-11; Luke 14:16-24. <u>Tone 2</u> Potluck Sunday with St. Nicholas Play |
| Monday, December 12 | No liturgical services today | <i>Our Lady of Guadalupe.</i> Hebrews 9:1-7; Luke 1:39-56. Parish Office Closed. |
| Tuesday, December 13 MCI or p. 381 | Confessions: 6:15-6:30 AM 7:00 AM Divine Liturgy +Francoise Linskey | <i>Holy Martyrs Eustratius, Auxentius, Eugene, Mardarius, and Orestes.</i> Ephesians 6:10-17; Luke 21:12-19. Parish Office Open. |
| Wednesday December 14 Use handout | 7:00 AM Emmanuel Moleben & First Hour Day of Alleluia 5:30 PM RCIA Class | <i>Holy Martyrs Thrysus, Leucas, Philemon, Appolonius and Callinicus.</i> 2 Timothy 4:9-22; Mark 7:14-24. Day of Alleluia Parish Office Open |
| Thursday, December 15 MCI or p. | Confessions: 6:15-6:30 AM 7:00 AM Divine Liturgy +Carmel Linskey | <i>Holy Martyr Eleutherius.</i> Titus 1:5 - 2:1; Mark 7:24-30. Parish Office Open. |
| Fri., Dec. 16 MCI or p. 366 | Confessions: 4:30-5:00 PM 5:30 PM Divine Liturgy +Dr. Bill Carnazzo by the Thomas Family | <i>Holy Prophet Haggai.</i> Titus 1:15 - 2:10; Mark 8:1-10. Parish Office Open. |
| Saturday, December 17 Mem. DL p. 428 & 432 | Confessions: 9:10-9:30 AM 10 AM Divine Liturgy +Wilma Snyder by Robert & Mary Lynn Cihak 5 PM Great Vespers | <i>Holy Prophet Daniel and the Three Holy Children: Hananiah, Azariah and Mishael.</i> Ephesians 1:16-23; Luke 14:1-11. Parish Office Open. Genesis 14:14-20; Deuteronomy 1:8-11, 15-17; Deuteronomy 10:14-21. |
| Sunday, December 18 Use handout | Confessions: 8:30-9:30 AM 10 AM Divine Liturgy <i>For the Parishioners</i> 12:15 PM | <i>SUNDAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS</i> Hebrews 11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40; Matthew 1:1-25. <u>Tone 3</u> ECF Class |

UPCOMING CALENDAR DATES

December 24: Christmas Eve

10 am Royal Hours

December 25: CHRISTMAS: Nativity of Our Lord (Obligation)

December 24 at 8pm—Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy; December 25 at 10am—Divine Liturgy

January 6: THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD (Obligation)

January 5 at 6:30pm—Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy; January 6 at 10am—Divine Liturgy

Birthdays: December 11—Clara G.; December 14—Genevieve Aguirre

Anniversaries: [none]

God grant them many blessed years!

SUNDAY GIFTS TO THE LORD

December 4, 2022

Total bank Deposit: \$3,341

Total parish income: \$2,721

Tithes: \$1,650

Building Fund: \$150

Donations: \$569

Flowers: \$110

Candles: \$122

Holyday—Maternity of St. Anne: \$70

Holyday: Thanksgiving: \$50

***Sp. Coll.: Retired Religious: \$620**

*These are special collections initiated by the Eparchy and do not count as income to the parish.

Your donations are enabling us to continue paying our bills at St Anne's. Thank you! Please note that you have three ways to contribute: 1) Place your donation in the collection basket or the secure locked box in the Narthex; 2) Mail it; or 3) Go to www.stanneslo.org and click on the Giving tab.

May God bless your generosity to His Church!

OIL LAMP INTENTIONS

Eternal Lamp above Ambon in church: +Janice Sawko by Paul Sawko (1/28/23)

Eternal Lamp to St. Anne in the narthex: Louis Petrie Jr. & Anna Marie by Suzanne Petrie (2/11/23)

Icon of Jesus Christ: [Available] Icon of the Theotokos: [Available]

Icon of St. John the Baptist: [Available]

Icon of St. Anne: +Ann & Alex Sawko by Paul Sawko (1/28/23)

Icon of St. Nicholas: [Available] Icon of St. Mary Magdalene: +Sheryl Ibarra by Paul Sawko (1/28/23)

The large "eternal" vigil oil lamps have a suggested offering of \$10 and will burn continuously from Sunday through Saturday. The other smaller oil lamps are each available for a suggested \$2 offering, which will burn for each Divine Liturgy for one week. The bulletin will remind your fellow parishioners of your special intention or loved one above. (These donations are probably not tax-deductible and are not included in your tax-deductible letter.) See narthex envelopes to sponsor a lamp. Make checks payable to **St. Anne Catholic Church**.

LITURGY INTENTIONS Please fill out one of the Liturgy Intention envelopes on the greeting table in the narthex with the name of your living or deceased person. Make checks payable to **St. Anne Stipends** and write "Liturgy Stipend" in your memo line. Donations are not required, though the suggested stipend from the Pastoral Handbook is \$10, which is later paid to the priest offering the Liturgy. (These donations are probably not tax-deductible and are not included in your tax-deductible letter.)

Online Byzantine courses and resources: Visit <https://tinyurl.com/ntmuetab>

and <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzhBP62eRM1Dur1Y43SfNJw> to learn more about our Tradition.

Another great website of Byzantine Catholic resources can be found at <https://godwithusonline.org>

Vocation corner: “Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, so that my house may be filled.” Our gracious Lord seeks to bring all people who are willing to his heavenly banquet. His servants are called to reach out to the ends of the earth so that his house may be filled. While this is the calling of all Christians, those called to the priesthood, diaconate, minor orders, monastic and religious life do so in a special way. If this may be your calling, contact the Vocations Office at 206-329-9219 or email: vocations@ephx.org

Thank you for voting: Several of you have responded to my invitation to vote for specific charitable organizations within three categories for giving a tithe of our 2022 Eparchial Appeal rebate. Voting ends tomorrow, December 12 at 8pm with no late votes counted. This is open to parishioners and friends of the parish who attend here regularly throughout the year. If you are a parishioner who does not have an email account, ask Fr. Michael for a paper ballot to be returned today.

Last Day--Special collection—Retired Religious: Today (Sunday, Dec. 11) is the last day to make a donation to the retired religious. If writing a check, please make it out to St. Anne B.C. Church and write “RFR” in the memo line.

Nativity Fast, Christmas Eve, and other Traditions: Christmas Traditions and traditions for the Slav Ruthenians (of which St. Anne’s is a part) include an elaborate fasting menu on Christmas eve called the Holy Supper. Here are a few descriptions of this meal and other characteristics and customs of this season:

- http://www.wirnowski.com/Carp/Nat_XmasEve.html
- <http://puluk.com/home/liturgy/christmas-eve-holy-supper/>
- <http://www.carpatho-rusyn.org/crs/christma.htm>
- <https://www.praytellblog.com/index.php/2018/12/29/celebrating-holy-supper/>

Plan ahead for 2023 House Blessings: It’s about that time again. Every year house blessings take place beginning after Theophany (Jan. 6) until just before the Great Fast (Lent) which in 2023 will be February 20. Please fill out the attached house blessing form and **return it no later than Sunday, January 1, 2023** if you’d like to have your house blessed. In our Byzantine Tradition, it is the custom to have our homes blessed by the priest once a year.

Safe Environment Info

The Eparchy, within all its parishes, institutions and programs, is committed to assuring a safe environment in ministry for its children and vulnerable adults that conforms to the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. For additional information regarding the eparchial Safe Environment Program or to report any incidents or concerns, please contact:

Sbdcn Paul Kilroy, Safe Environment Program Coordinator
Cell: (480) 745-0316 -- Office: (602) 861-9778 ext. 203 -- Email: sbdcnkilroy@ephx.org
Den. Michael Hanafin, Victim Assistance Coordinator
Cell: (480) 307-5182 -- Email: vac@ephx.org

2023 House Blessing Sign-Up

Name—household: _____

I/we live in the following region:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Paso Robles/Templeton | <input type="checkbox"/> Avila/Five Cities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Atascadero | <input type="checkbox"/> South Arroyo Grande/Nipomo/Santa Maria |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Los Osos/Morro Bay/Cayucos/Cambria | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SLO/Edna | |

My/our home address (required): _____

Phone number (required): _____

Email address (required if you have one): _____

House blessings typically start about 3pm for a grouped region. On the calendar below, put an X on the dates that **WILL NOT** work for your schedule. (You may also circle desired dates if you wish.) Please be as flexible as possible.

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

| S | M | T | W | TH | F | S | S | M | T | W | TH | F | S |
|----|---|----|---|----|---|---|----|---|----|---|----|---|---|
| | | | | | | | 5 | | 7 | | 9 | | |
| | | 17 | | | | | 12 | | 14 | | | | |
| 22 | | 24 | | 26 | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 31 | | | | | | | | | | | |

I am willing to host a potluck for our group at the end of the evening (usually about 6 or 6:30pm):
Yes___ No___

Limited availability (such as, only available after 4:30pm on certain days): _____

RSVP deadline is January 1, 2023 by handing it to Fr. Michael or sending him a scan of this via email: stanneslo@gmail.com

House Blessing in the Eastern Catholic Tradition

After Theophany every year, parish households are invited to ask the priest to visit their home* and sprinkle it with Holy Water that was blessed during the Feast on January 6. This is a beautiful tradition. House blessing transforms a dwelling into a domestic church. A house blessing drive away evil spirits, repels threats, and brings holiness and peace into the heart of the home.

*The home could be an RV, an apartment, or a house.

What to do during your house blessing

- The head of the household greets the priest with a lighted candle at the door of the home.
- The priest says, “Christ is baptized.” The family replies, “Glorify Him” or “In the Jordan.”
- The person with the lighted candle leads the priest to the main icon corner of the home (see description below) where the priest begins the blessing prayers.
- The priest, led by the person holding the lighted candle, blesses each room of the home with holy water.
- If this is the first time a Byzantine Catholic priest is blessing your home, he will also anoint four walls with blessed olive oil tracing the sign of the cross. These walls should ideally be outside facing walls and one should be facing east, another west, another north, and another south. Traditionally, a small lighted candle such as a tea votive is placed near each spot where the walls were anointed.
- The priest ends with final prayers in front of the icon corner.
- Priest and family talk informally. Sometimes the householder gives him a snack or meal.
- The blessing usually lasts from 15-30 minutes depending on whether it is the first blessing or one of the annual blessings after that first one.

How to create a main “icon corner”

The main “icon corner” is an area in a public part of the house (often the living room) where the family displays its holy images, preferably holy icons that are traditional to Byzantines. It could be the wall or a corner of the room and ideally should be facing east. It is a domestic shrine. The central images are usually icons of Christ, the Holy Theotokos (Mary, the Mother of God), and a crucifix. In addition, people often add other icons of saints and feast days.

How to prepare your icon corner for house blessing

Set up a table, big or small, in front of the holy icons, and put a white cloth on it. This serves as an altar for the priest when he comes into the home. On this table the priest will place his hand cross and other items, and he will lead the prayers while standing in front of that table facing the holy icons.

How to organize a house blessing group

Two to five households that live fairly close to each other can organize a house blessing group – so that the priest blesses each of their houses the same day. Afterwards the group members usually gather with the priest in the final home to share a (potluck) meal. The benefits of a group house blessing are that it’s more convenient for the priest to bless several houses on the same day, and neighboring families get to know each other better.