

ST. MARY'S BY THE SEA

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



321 10th Street ♦ Huntington Beach ♦ CA 92648

PASTOR: Rev. Quang Vinh Chu
WEBSITE: www.StMarysByTheSea.net

PARISH MINISTRIES

ADORATION MINISTRY - THE LIEBLANG FAMILY
BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE - SUSAN SIZLO
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS - MIKE BANNER
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - PAUL BRESTYANSZKY
LECTORS - MIKE BANNER
LEGION OF MARY - JOANNE PETERS
OUR LADY'S COMFORTERS - ANNE LIEBLANG
PRO-LIFE - JACKY ROZA
FAITH FORMATION - SR. CATHERINE NGUYEN
RETREATS - DIANE MILLER
SAFETY MINISTRY - TOM & SUSAN SIZLO
STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE - MARY GILL/DEBBIE RANSOM/GERI DIXON
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY - MIKE PEDUZZI
USHERS - JOE MUNGARI
WELCOME MINISTRY - SHARON TRAN

CONTACT US: (714) 536-6913 ♦ E-MAIL: StMarys.HB@gmail.com

OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Thursday, 9am-12pm & 1pm-5pm

Daily Mass

Monday-Saturday at 8:00am

Saturday Vigil Mass

5:00pm

Sunday Mass

7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am & 12:00pm

Adoration & Benediction

Thursday, 9:00am - 3:00pm

With Divine Mercy, Rosary, Benediction

Every 1st Friday, 9:00am - 9:00pm

With Benediction

Confessions

Saturday, 3:00pm-4:00pm



HAPPY FEAST
OF THE

Holy Family

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH

Reflections of the Week

The words Ben Sira and Saint Paul use sound too good to be possible: honor, reverence, consideration, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience. Yes, these are ideals and sometimes we fall short. Therefore, Paul writes that we must bear with one another and forgive one another, as the Lord has forgiven us again and again. Try as we might, we can become inconsiderate, impatient, or unkind to a family member. Or they may to us. Forgiveness restores our relationships, no matter who's at fault or more to blame. Our love for each other can make forgiveness easier and more desirable, leading to reconciliation more easily. Further, having the peace of Christ in our hearts can give us the serenity we need to accept or request forgiveness without rancor or recriminations.

By recalling the words of Hosea—"Out of Egypt I called my son" (Matthew 2:15)—Matthew connects the Holy Family's departure from Egypt with the Israelites' flight from Egypt centuries before. In both cases, God leads those in danger to safety. God's care over us is a constant, whether in Moses' time, Jesus's time, or our own era. This does not mean that nothing bad will ever happen. Some of the Chosen People did not survive the years in the desert. Many innocent babies died at Herod's hands. But God is there with us always, guiding us, ensuring that our path to salvation is clear.

Think of it: the Holy Family (with Jesus still in his mother's womb) are required to leave their home in Nazareth, in Galilee, to travel to Bethlehem, in Judea, at the orders of the Roman emperor. Then, soon after Jesus was born they need to flee to Egypt in the middle of the night due to the murderous intent of the Judean king. Joseph, Mary and their newborn baby become refugees in a foreign land, owning nothing but the clothes on their back; with no job or money; living among people with a different culture, religion, ethnicity, and language; reliant on God and their new neighbors for food, shelter, and mercy. This is not something they or anyone else would ever choose. But circumstances and political authorities left them no choice. As an adult, Jesus would tell his disciples that those who welcome the stranger will inherit the kingdom of heaven. He knows of what he speaks. When he was an infant, he and his family were the strangers in need of welcome. These are the conditions that God chose to be born into. May God be with us in this reality today.

Question of the Week

As this tumultuous year comes to an end, what can I do for those who are strangers in a strange land?

-GIA Publications

PAPAIAN STUDIOS PRESENTS

The Shroud of Turin

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theshroudexperience.com

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COUPLETALK

Couples learn healthy, research-proven communication and conflict resolution skills! Sessions are fun, interactive, and include lots of practice time together.

THURSDAY NIGHTS
JAN.8-FEB.12
6:30-8:30PM

No Charge
Includes Workbooks
Free Childcare
\$100 Gift Card*
*for qualifying couples who complete the entire class




Diocese of Orange - Pastoral Center
1st Floor - 13280 Chapman Ave.
Garden Grove, CA 92840

 **OFFICE FOR FAMILY LIFE**
DIOCESE OF ORANGE

This project is supported by Federal Grant #90280037 from ACF. Its content is solely the responsibility of BRF and does not necessarily represent the official views of ACF.

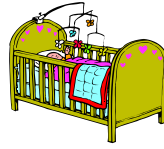
CHURCH ART

CALENDAR 2026



You can now pick up your free copy of the 2026 calendar located at the vestibule of the Church.

Christmas Crib



This is the last Sunday we will be accepting baby gifts for our local crisis pregnancy center. Please consider a Christmas gift for these precious babies. Items will be used in various programs to help young mothers who have chosen life for their babies. A labeled box is in Fr. Johnson Hall for this last Sunday. If you prefer, a monetary donation in an envelope marked "Christmas Crib" would also be helpful; You can drop this off at the Office or in our mail slot. Thank you!

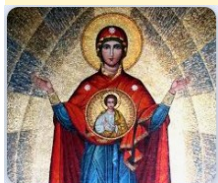


The Christmas Octave

The Church invites us to linger in the joy of Christmas through the Octave—eight sacred days that extend the wonder of Christ's birth. Rather than rushing past the manger, we are called to remain, to contemplate the mystery of God made flesh dwelling among us.

Each day of the Octave unfolds the richness of the Incarnation, revealing a God who chooses nearness, humility, and love. In the quiet light of these days, we learn that Christmas is not only an event to be remembered, but a presence to be welcomed—again and again—into our hearts and homes. May we slow our pace, treasure the gift of Emmanuel, and allow His peace to take deeper root within us.

THE NEW YEAR



In a couple days we will enter a new year, we carry within us hope, longing, and perhaps also uncertainty. Before making plans or resolutions, we are invited to begin with prayer. We place our hopes, dreams, and fears before the Lord, trusting that His great plan for us (cf. CCC 1). In the quiet, we are invited to include God into our plans. If we long for healing, growth, and flourishing, we can be certain *He wants* that for us even more. This newest day of the year is also the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. May she intercede for us. Here are a couple inspirations from the Saints:

"You aspire to great things? Begin with little ones."

-Saint Augustine

"Start by doing what's necessary, then what's possible, and suddenly you are doing the impossible."

-Saint Francis of Assisi



Let Us Pray for the Sick



Natalia Amezueta	Molly Flaherty	Rosalie Ocanas
Tracy Andonian	Nancy Friedman	Derrick Peront
Tony Aragón-Sotelo	Cindy Friendt	Don Quinn
Mike Banner	Rudy Friendt	Debbie Ransom
Frank Barrera	Paul Hayes	Tim Ransom
Ted Beresford	Jim & Paula Keating	Carmela Rugel
Rowyn Bolinger	James Kosai	Susan Rocio
Connie Bowles	Nam Le	Colleen Rowe
Pamela Brown	Arturo Loya	Yvonne Ruiz
Rosie Clouse	Susan Mastroianni	Carol Summerfield
Vicky Derieg	Dan McKelvie	Ernesto Aragón-
Bryan Donnelly	Patricia McKenzie	Trevino
Ann Erwin	Tracy Murray	Roberta Velasquez
Rachel Ferrarie	Erin Nakamoto	Andrea Wall
	Thomas Nester	John Waldron

For Those in the Armed Forces

J. Caico, G. Campbell, D. Coffey, Sgt. R. Colbert, Sgt. L. Donovan & Team, T. Donovan, R. Hanrahan, S. Miller, J. Pendergrass, N. Sanchez, Capt. D. Tierney, T. Pace

This Week at St. Mary's By the Sea

5:00pm Mass for the soul of Gloria Lugo (RIP)

Sunday, December 28

7:30am Mass for the soul of Maria De Silva (RIP)

9:00am Mass for President Donald Trump (L)

10:30am Mass for our Priests and the People of the Parish—Living & Deceased

12:00pm Mass for Patricia Flathers (L)

12:00pm Legion of Mary meeting in Conf. Rm.

Monday, December 29

8:00am Mass for the soul of Linda Larsen (RIP)

Tuesday, December 30

8:00am Mass for Michelle Ponce and Family (L)

Wednesday, December 31

8:00am Mass for Alan Charles Schlaerth (L)

Thursday, January 1, 2026

Mary, the Holy Mother of God (Solemnity)

9:00am Mass for Peace in the World & Our Country

Friday, January 2

8:00am Mass for the soul of Cheryl Cull (RIP)

9:00am 12-Hour Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, exposed until 9:00pm and Benediction

9:00am Cenacles of Life

Saturday, January 3

8:00am Mass for the soul of Myrna Concepcion (RIP)

3:00pm Confessions (til 4:00pm)

5:00pm Mass for Jamie Pagnanelli (L)

Sunday, January 4

7:30am Mass for Ross and Diane Miller & Family (L)

9:00am Mass for the soul of Damien O'Brien (RIP)

10:30am Mass for Nancy Close (L) & the soul of Frederick Close (RIP)

12:00pm Mass for our Priests and the People of the Parish—Living & Deceased

12:00pm Legion of Mary meeting in Conf. Rm.

Join us.....
after Sunday Mass



What is a Christian Steward?

"One who receives God's gifts gratefully, cherishes and tends them in a responsible and accountable manner, shares them in justice and love with others, and returns them with increase to the Lord."

(American Bishops Pastoral Letter).

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

This feast invites us to linger with Jesus, Mary, and Joseph—the Holy Family—whose quiet and faithful love reveals God's design for every family. Their holiness did not arise from extraordinary circumstances, but from their constant attentiveness to God at the center of daily life. In trust and humility, they learned to love through sacrifice, to listen in silence, and to offer themselves completely to the redemptive mission of the Word made flesh.

As Pope St. John Paul II gently reminds us, "*The Redeemer of the world chose the family as the place for his birth and growth, thereby sanctifying this fundamental institution of every society*" (Angelus Message, December 30, 2001). In contemplating the Holy Family, we are invited to allow our own homes—however imperfect—to become sacred places where God dwells, love is nurtured, and grace quietly unfolds. Let us contemplate on the hidden life of the Holy Family through a reflection by Pope Paul VI.

*The hidden life of Nazareth allows every person
to be in communion with Jesus
along the most ordinary paths of everyday life.
Nazareth is the school in which we begin to understand
the life of Jesus, that is, the school of the Gospel...
In the first place, may it teach us silence.
Oh! May an appreciation of this stupendous and indis-
pensable atmosphere for the spirit return to us...
May it teach us the way to live in the family.*

*Nazareth reminds us what the family is,
what communion of love is, its austere and simple beauty,
its sacred and inviolable character...
Finally, let us learn a lesson of work.
Oh! House of Nazareth,
home of the "Carpenter's Son"!
Here, we especially want to understand
how to praise the severe but redeeming law
of human labor...
We want to greet workers throughout the world
and show them their great model,
their Divine Brother.*



Our first class for the 2026-2027 cohort is starting on Monday, January 12 at 7pm. Please pray and invite your friends and family to join our OCIA class if they have not completed all three sacraments of initiation: Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. And congrats to the following for being our first four members of this cohort: Lorin, Jenny, Kaelyn, and Trey



FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Volunteers,

I write to you with a heart full of gratitude for the extraordinary care and dedication you shared at our Annual Concert and Dinner. From members of our Stewardship Committee to our young Confirmation students, each of you played an important role in making these events truly special.

The beauty you brought to our Hall and Courtyard transformed the space and created a welcoming, joyful atmosphere that set the perfect tone for the evening. Your thoughtful touches did far more than enhance the setting—they reflected the love and devotion you have for our church community. Every act of kindness, every smile, and every moment of hospitality spoke volumes. The joy visible on the faces of those who attended was a clear reflection of the care and generosity you shared so freely.

Please know how deeply grateful I am for your commitment to our church family. Your efforts foster unity, fellowship, and celebration, and they continue to inspire me. I am truly blessed to serve alongside such a devoted and loving group of individuals, and I thank God for each of you.

May the love and joy you shared during these events continue to ripple through our church and beyond. Wishing you a blessed, peaceful, and joy-filled Christmas season and Happy New Year!

With sincere appreciation,
Rev. Quang Vinh Chu



WISE MEN STILL SEEK HIM

The ancient magi undertook much trouble to visit baby Jesus. Imitate them by visiting **OUR LORD IN THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** during **12-Hour First Friday Adoration**. It begins at **the conclusion of the 8am Mass on January 2 and concludes at 9pm with the benediction.**

If you are interested in volunteering to attend an hour of First Friday Adoration, please contact the Office.