



Klagetoh, Arizona

SAINT ANNE MISSION

E A S T E R 2 0 2 4

He Is Risen!

Dear Friends,

Northern Arizona saw plenty of snow in January, February and even March. On Palm Sunday only three parishioners were able to make it to church, where we held a Sunday communion service since dangerous road conditions means that Fr. Pio was also unable to attend. The weather had improved dramatically by the end of Holy Week, allowing people to attend the Good Friday service and Easter celebrations in both Ganado and Klagetoh.

As our celebration of one hundred years of Catholic evangelization in the Klagetoh region draws closer, we recall a sadder anniversary this year: 70 years ago a fire nearly wiped out the Catholic Church in Klagetoh. But the determination of the community and the Franciscans resulted in a rapid rebuilding which was documented in the House Chronicle of the time. An excerpt is on the back of this newsletter.

I will be traveling from April 27 through June 5 to attend the General Chapter of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart in Rome. Sr. Monica and Br. David will be expertly managing things at the Mission while I'm away.

Bro. Charles Schilling, SC
Administrator

In the Masthead: Easter decorations in the Saint Anne Church include an empty tomb constructed by student volunteers from St. Stanislaus.

Easter, 2024

Following a snowy Palm Sunday, the Saint Anne community celebrated a traditional Easter Triduum, including the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday and an evening Good Friday service in Klagetoh.

Three catechumens from Saint Anne were welcomed into the Church at the Easter Vigil Mass at All Saints in Ganado on Saturday evening. Easter Sunday morning dawned clear and cold but clouds had started to build near the start of Mass at 9 AM. The weather required that the planned pot-luck luncheon after Mass be moved to the Hogan. Fortunately, the snow held off until the end of the celebration.

As customary, we received a group of student volunteers from Saint Stanislaus College in Bay Saint Louis, Mississippi on Friday afternoon. The boys assisted at the Good Friday service and helped prepare the Hall in Ganado for the Easter Vigil Mass. Several of them also served as readers during that ceremony.

The Saint Anne community is grateful for the opportunity to celebrate together, both by coming together in prayer in the Mission church and by the community meal that followed.



The faces of the faithful are illuminated by the New Light of Easter during the Easter Vigil Mass at All Saints Mission in Ganado.



Father Pio baptizes a young lady during the Easter Vigil celebration.



Saint Anne parishioners gathered in the hogan following the Easter Sunday Mass for a parish "pot luck" luncheon.

Food Pantry

Two recent donations of equipment will help to expand the capacity of the Mission's emergency food pantry to stock and provide food for our community. In January, Sr. Mary Lynn Heiser of Phoenix donated a chest freezer and on April 1 the Mission received a used commercial refrigerator courtesy of Holy Nativity Catholic Church in Payson, Arizona, delivered by Mr. Bill Heath and friends.

In February, the first Mission-sponsored drive-thru food distribution in coordination with Saint Mary's Food Bank Alliance and the Klagetoh Chapter House served over 100 families. A second distribution in March was similarly successful. Future distributions are scheduled for the third Wednesday of each month.



Volunteers & Visitors

Since the start of the New Year Saint Anne Mission has hosted three groups of volunteers and visitors.

During the first week of Lent we were pleased to host a group of school administrators from Catholic high schools in New Jersey and Louisiana who are participants in a leadership formation program sponsored by the Brothers of the Sacred Heart. The middle of March brought us a delegation of young ladies from St. Louis University and in the waning days of March, during the Easter Triduum, we were visited from a group of young men from St. Stanislaus College in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi.



Saint Stanislaus students escort several of the Mission's elders to their vehicles following the Easter Sunday pot-luck luncheon.

Summer

The Summer of 2024 is set to be a busy one for the Mission. Volunteer groups from five different Catholic high schools are scheduled to visit in June and July. While we have reached the difficult decision to suspend the Klagetoh-based Vacation Bible School this summer due to programs provided by the Ganado School District in June, we will be planning and sponsoring a Vacation Bible School at All Saints in Ganado for youth from both Ganado and Klagetoh in July.

from the House Chronicle

The fire which destroyed the small rectory, and almost the entire chapel of St. Anne happened on February 5, 1954.

In April of 1954, the Padre with help from St. Michaels started the arduous task of cleaning up the rubble and repairing the chapel. A new roof was built to keep out the weather, and then the work of repairing the inside walls began. Cold weather and no heat in the ruined building made the task very hard, but finally it was done, and after making an entrance for a door in a wall some 18 inches thick, for entrance to the proposed new friary, the work on the walls was finally finished with the aid of two Navajo Indians, Harvey Joe, and Tom Biggun.



Students from Saint Louis University visited with Miss Navajo Nation at the Navajo Nation Museum in Window Rock, Arizona.