

# SAINT ANNE MISSION

## Klagetoh, Arizona

D E C E M B E R 2 0 1 8

### Advent

Dear Friends,

Advent is here. The Church celebrates the beginning of another year of faith and anticipates the New Light that is born with Christ each Christmas.

Scripture scholars and theologians have long debated about the date of Jesus' birth. The truth is, there are no records that would indicate his birthday: no birth certificates (long or short form), no newspaper announcements, not even an invitation to a baby shower.

In the earliest days of the Christian faith, little thought was given to celebrating Jesus' birthday, the principal celebration of the year being Easter. When the Church finally did get around to celebrating the Nativity, the popular decision was to celebrate it in conjunction with the resurgence of daylight in the Northern Hemisphere that begins soon after the Winter Solstice. The theological message is clear and forthright: Jesus Christ is the new dawn for humanity.



Bro. Charles Schilling, SC  
Administrator

*Masthead: Mission handyman Alex adjusts one of the LED fixtures. • At right: Alex and John Yonushonis install bolts into the concrete foundation form. • Far right: The lights in action.*

## A Light in the Darkness

Saint Anne Mission has strived to be a light of faith among the Navajo people of Klagetoh for over 90 years. This October the Mission installed another form of illumination around the outdoor basketball court.

In August the Fiesta Bowl Charities approved a grant of \$10,000 to Saint Anne Mission to be used to procure and install lighting for the Mission's outdoor recreational spaces. This was in addition to the grant approved the previous year that allowed the purchase and installation of an all-weather playing surface on the basketball court.

In late September Mission staff and volunteers poured the concrete foundations for the 16-foot light poles around the court, giving them

ample time to cure before the freezing weather set in. The poles and LED fixtures arrived in mid-October and were installed on October 24.

The lights have proven popular with the local youth even in the deepening cold that we've experienced of late. We expect even greater enthusiasm when the weather warms in the springtime.

The Mission remains grateful to supporter Mr. John Yonushonis, who not only spearheaded the efforts to revitalize the basketball court but also prepared and submitted grant requests to the Fiesta Bowl and of course to the Fiesta Bowl Charities board which perceived the benefits this project could have for the Navajo people we serve.



## Angels

*Saint Anne Mission is grateful for the many supporters who sustain its works and the people it serves. In addition to a host of generous individuals, the Mission is also blessed to have the support of a number of schools, parishes and other charitable organizations. While the Fall remains a relatively quiet time in terms of school volunteer groups, I want to take this opportunity to recognize and celebrate some of the many other "angel" organizations that generously support the work of the Mission.*

### **Saint Ann and Our Lady of the Assumption**

*Gulf Breeze and Pensacola Beach, Florida*

The Florida panhandle parish annually collects over \$10,000 to assist the Mission with heating expenses through the Winter.

### **Price Chapel Church of God**

*Lavonia, Georgia*

The Price Chapel community ships clothing and toys throughout the year in support of the Mission's weekly Rummage Sale.

### **American Indian Benefit Alliance**

*Amarillo, Texas*

Linda and Lester Crow have formed the AIBA to assist organizations working on Indian Reservations. They visit the Mission at least once each year with gifts of food, clothing, and handmade quilts from the quilting ministry of the First Baptist Church of Canyon, Texas.



*Mrs. Linda Crow distributes bundles of sweetgrass.*

### **Saint Philip the Apostle Parish**

*Payson, Arizona*

The Saint Philip Parish community provides the Mission with regular deliveries of food, clothing, and furniture as well as financial support through regular second collections and the Knights of Columbus.

### **Saint Joseph's Parish Rosary Group**

*Placentia, California*

Their strong prayer ministry is supplemented with periodic financial gifts in support of the Mission.



### **Saint Joan of Arc Catholic Church**

*Phoenix, Arizona*

For the past three years, Saint Joan of Arc has included the Mission as a focal point for their annual Christmas Adopt-a-Family program.

*A St. Joan of Arc parishioner unloads boxes of Christmas gifts from the truck.*

## St. Mary's Volunteers

*For the seventh year, St. Mary's High School in Phoenix has sent a group of their sophomores to help and learn from the people of St. Anne Mission the week before Thanksgiving. Among other tasks, this year's contingent accomplished a great deal of wood splitting to help local families prepare for the cold months ahead.*

