

# BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

**A MODERN TWIST ON A HISTORICAL EVENT**  
Presented by the Old Town San Diego  
State Historic Park Merchants Association.

**Sunday, January 16th. Noon - 3 pm**  
**OLD TOWN'S CENTRAL PLAZA**

Celebrate the animals that make our lives special with  
a blessing ceremony and a day of pet-friendly fun!

All pets are welcome!

**Blessing by Monsignor Mark Campbell of the  
Immaculate Conception Church**

- Rescued wild animals from Chula Vista Nature Center
- Animal Adoptions and Pet Items for Sale
- Animal Bingo and a Scavenger Hunt for the Kids
- Pet Costume Contest
- Vegetarian Mexican Food Treats

Saint Anthony's feast day is traditionally celebrated with a "Benediction of Beasts" where animals are blessed to receive the saint's protection. Here in San Diego, the Blessing of the Animals was observed by the early Spanish and Mexican colonists.

For additional information call (619) 297-3100, ext. 22

