

# St. Anselm Catholic Church

March 10, 2024  
Fourth Sunday of Lent



97 Shady Lane, PO Box 1061, Ross, CA 94957  
Parish Office: (415) 453-2342

**Clergy:** Fr. Gabriel Wankar, Pastor  
ext. 103; wankar.gabriel@sfsarch.org  
Deacon Bernie O'Halloran  
Deacon Ed Cunningham  
Deacon Robert Meave

**Office Manager:** Sissy Ratto ext. 101  
St.anselmoffice@att.net

**Religious Education:** Dan Veto D.R.E ext. 105  
Dre@saintanselm.org

**Music Director:** Michael Mello (415) 453-2342

**St. Anselm School:** Kim Orendorff, Principal  
School Office: (415) 454-8667  
School Fax: (415) 454-4730

**Parish Email:** info@SaintAnselm.org

**Parish Website:** www.SaintAnselm.org

**Parish Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/SaintAnselmChurchRossCalifornia/>

**School Website:** www.StAnselmSchool.com

**Sunday Mass Schedule:** Saturday Vigil 5:00pm,  
Sunday 8:00am, 10:00am, and 5:00pm  
**Weekday Mass:** Monday-Friday 8:30am, Rosary 8:00am

**Holy Day Masses:** 8:30am, 12:00pm, 5:00pm

**Parish Office Hours:** Monday, Wednesday, and  
Friday—8:00am-1:00pm

**Reconciliation:** Saturday 4:00pm-4:45pm or By  
Appointment

**Baptism:** Preparation Class required. Please email  
dre@saintanselm.org or call the Parish Office ext.105

**Sacrament of the Sick:** Anytime upon request.  
Contact Pastor.

**Matrimony:** Six months notification required prior to  
desired date. Contact Pastor.

**St. Vincent de Paul Help Desk:** (415) 454-3303

**Cursillo Information: Cathy Cunningham**  
(415) 453-7174

**Eucharist for Homebound:** (415) 453-2342

**CYO Website:** www.stanselmcyo.org

*St. Anselm's Parish is a Catholic community formed by families, individuals and clergy that worship together, celebrate the sacramental life of the Church, and seek to live the Gospel of Jesus Christ everyday. We welcome, serve, and educate according to the Catechism of the Catholic Church.*

**Fr. Gabriel's Reflection for the 4th Sunday of Lent Yr B**

Beloved Parish Family of St Anselm,

This Fourth Sunday of Lent, traditionally known as "*Laetare* Sunday," is permeated with a joy which, to some extent, attenuates the penitential atmosphere of this holy season: "Rejoice Jerusalem!" the Church says in the Entrance Antiphon. We spontaneously ask ourselves: but why should we rejoice? While the approaching Easter gives us a foretaste of the joy of the encounter with the Risen Christ, the most profound reason lies in the biblical readings, which remind us that despite our unworthiness, God's infinite mercy is destined for us.

To demonstrate this truth, our reading from the book of Chronicles gives us a summary of over seven centuries of infidelities on the part of God's people to their covenant, which led to the destruction of their temple and the people being exiled. However, the Lord, demonstrating the absolute primacy of his initiative over every purely human effort, used a pagan, King Cyrus of Persia, to set Israel free.

Our gospel comes from the third chapter of St. John, beginning with Nicodemus coming to talk with Jesus. We only hear about Nicodemus from St. John about three times. He was a Pharisee and a Jewish religious leader, which means he was one of the 71 members of the Sanhedrin, the supreme ruling council of the Jews. John tells us Nicodemus came to Jesus *at night*: (1) Practically, he was avoiding the possibility of being seen associating with this preacher from Nazareth by any of his peers who were hostile to Jesus (2) John symbolically implies that Nicodemus came from the *darkness* to Jesus, who is the *light*.

John uses light and darkness throughout his gospel to symbolize *truth vs error* and *grace vs sin*. John employs this same symbolism after Judas betrays Jesus. Judas left the upper room at the Last Supper, and John said it was night once he went out. In effect, he left Jesus the light into darkness. Thus, repeatedly, Jesus would tell his disciples, you, and me, to be the light of the world. Lent invites us to bring light into our families. Lent invites us to bring light to the kinds of conversations that go on in our offices, gatherings, and neighborhoods.

Lastly, Jesus goes on to say that his death and resurrection are the basis of the spiritual life to be revealed by him. The word "raised" in John is taken from an event from the book of Numbers, where the Jews encountered a nest of poisonous snakes on their journey through the desert. Many were bitten with a painful bite and died. God, however, told Moses to make a bronze serpent and "raise it" on a pole, and all who looked upon it were healed and saved. Thus, God "raises" his son Jesus for us to look up to in all our pains.

We can, however, choose to approach the "light"- Jesus or remain in the darkness of sin. We can "look up" to Jesus as our guide in our choices or insist on having it our way. Only in the light of Jesus can we "raise" the so many around us who are bitten by the various poisonous conditions of life: Poverty, racism, loneliness, homelessness, abuse, ill health, family crisis, betrayals, and discrimination.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

<b>Mon.</b>	<b>Mar. 11</b>	8:30am	Sissy Ratto & Family (INT)
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>Mar. 12</b>	8:30am	Paul Glischinski (D)
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>Mar. 13</b>	8:30am	Larry Gentilello (INT)
<b>Thurs</b>	<b>Mar. 14</b>	8:30am	Barthelemey Strady (D)
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>Mar. 15</b>	8:30am	Helen Hubal (D)
<b>Sat.</b>	<b>Mar. 16</b>	5:00pm	Elaine Innes (INT) Parish People
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>Mar. 17</b>	8:00am 10:00am 5:00pm	Catherine & Joseph Gill (D) Joe McGarry (D) Marilyn Deeken (D)

**Sick Relatives & Friends**

**As a community we ask God's blessing for the ill:** Jose Larraga, Stan & Donna Pechalonis, Mark Gardner, Steve Leland, Christopher Goward, Terese Marklinger, Allison Chichizola, Karen Poligono, Marilyn Marklinger, Don Orlandi, Fr. Neil Healy, Michael Cavagnetto, Louisa Walker, Jordan Roggenbuck, Catherine Ward, Lori Schimm, Matt Hansen, Natalie Johnson, Jai Hayden, Joan Risch, Jim Sweeney, Bob Hoffman, John Alkazin, Mike Killelea, Lorraine Matteucci, Deidre Carson, Fr. Bill Brown, Bryan Green, Chris Ryan, Duane Hultin, John Sisler, Elaine Innes

**For the Repose of the Soul:** Al Dallar a, Linda Heilmann, Norma Cavagnetto, Norma Baumsteiger

**For Our Military:** Matthew Kerry O'Brien, Robert Gebhardt, Tyler Lopez, Alex Boatwright, Elizabeth Baumsteiger, Christian Miller, Robert Kent, Shane Morgan, Daniel Lowe, and Rob Maniford

**"Our Prayer Petition group will gladly pray for your intentions; simply use the link on our Parish website (<https://saintanselm.org/>) or go to <https://forms.gle/9C3WH4mtng33qLmn7>"**

**Green Tip:** Teach your child to pack a "zero waste" lunch with reusable containers and that avoids items going into the trash. **Pope Francis, LAUDATO SI,' Ch.6 – Ecological Education and Spirituality, II. Educating for the Covenant Between Humanity and the Environment, ¶109:** Many young people, surrounded by extreme consumerism, have developed a new ecological sensitivity; they realize the mere amassing of things does not give meaning or joy to the human heart.



**ONGOING PROGRAMS**

1. **Praying the Rosary**- We pray the Rosary before the daily 8:30am Masses.

2. **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**-We have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament following the 8:30 Mass every First Friday of the month. Fr. Gabriel is available for confessions during the hour of Adoration.

3. **Stations of the Cross**- During Lent, Fr. Gabriel will lead the Stations of the Cross on all Fridays at 7:00pm.

4. **Monday morning (8:30 am) and Friday evening (5:00 pm) prayer with Deacon Bob Meave.** Contact Bob for the Zoom link. [ppc.stanselmross@gmail.com](mailto:ppc.stanselmross@gmail.com). This is a wonderful way to start and end your week!

5. **Wednesday Afternoon Readings Discussion Group.** Every Wednesday from 4:00 to 5:00 pm Deacon Bob will lead a discussion of the upcoming Sunday readings. This is a unique opportunity to explore what you and other parishioners take away from the Readings! All parishioners and lectors are invited to attend. **You may now attend in-person (Centennial Hall) or via Zoom.** Contact Deacon Bob to get a copy of the readings in advance and the Zoom link. [ppc.stanselmross@gmail.com](mailto:ppc.stanselmross@gmail.com)

**Lenten Reflections:** Join Deacon Bob Meave for the five Tuesdays leading up to Holy Week in reflections on the beloved parable of the Prodigal Son. The discussions will be anchored by the acclaimed book, *The Return of the Prodigal Son*, by Henri Nouwen., available at your favorite bookseller. It is recommended, but not required, that participants follow linked chapters in the book. **Tuesdays, 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm, Now –March 19. Join us on Zoom. For more information and to register, contact Deacon Bob at [ppc.stanselmross@gmail.com](mailto:ppc.stanselmross@gmail.com).**

**Save the Date: National Eucharistic Revival Pilgrimage: St. Junipero Serra Route**  
Sunday, May 19, 2024, 11:00am  
St. Mary of the Assumption Cathedral – 1111 Gough St.  
Contact: Sandra Kearney | 415-614-5505 | [kearneys@sfarch.org](mailto:kearneys@sfarch.org)  
More Information: <https://www.sfarch.org/eucharistic-revival/>

**BRINGING HOLY COMMUNION TO HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS:** If you are unable to attend Mass and would like to receive Holy Communion, please contact the Rectory so that arrangements can be made for an Extraordinary Minister to bring you Holy Communion. Homebound includes anyone who is unable to attend Mass on an ongoing basis or anyone who is temporarily unable to go to Mass due to, for instance, a surgery, illness or injury.

**St. Anselm Church Stewardship**  
1st Collection: \$3,416  
(plus \$2,625 through Electronic Donations)  
2nd Collection: St. Anselm School: \$2,491  
**Please visit our church website to sign-up for Electronic Donations, which help us even when you are traveling.**  
Special Collections:  
Catholic Relief Services– March 10  
Building & Maintenance– March 17  
St. Vincent de Paul– March 31

Each year, the Holy Father asks for our prayers for a specific intention each month. Please join the Pope in praying... **For the new martyrs** We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.

*Thank You!*

On March 3rd, at the 10:00am Mass, Fr. Gabriel, was officially installed by Archbishop Cordileone as St. Anselm’s thirteenth Pastor. Fr. Gabriel would like to express his profound appreciation to those

who have placed their trust in him and to the many people who helped prepare for and participated in his Installation Mass and Reception. The overwhelming success of both is proof in itself of how much love and work went into the planning and executing of these amazing events. The team effort of the parish and school helped everything run smoothly. The support of our Deacons, Altar Servers, and Altar Guild added to the sanctity of the Mass, as did the beautiful music and singing of our Choir, led by Michael Mello. The music was personalized for Fr. Gabriel with the choir singing the Recessional Hymn in Tiv, Father’s native language. Father’s fellow priests from Nigeria could be heard singing the hymn as they exited the Church-what a gift!

The Mass was followed by a lovely and inviting reception in the Hall. A HUGE St. Anselm thank you to Joan Thomas, Cathy Cunningham, and Bess Nuzzo. They worked endless hours, not only at the actual affair, but also behind the scenes leading up to it. And many thanks and much appreciation to the thoughtful and energetic crew of volunteers who contributed to the accomplishment of a perfect celebration. A person who travels from parish to parish with the Archbishop commented that it was one the nicest receptions he had ever been to. St. Anselm Parish is truly a gem.

**Our Monthly Food Drive is March 23 & 24**– The Ritter Truck will be in the church parking lot next to the Rectory. Our wonderful volunteers will accept donations before the 5pm Mass Saturday and Sunday from 7:30am until 5:15 pm.

Non-perishable donations such as tuna fish, peanut butter, pasta, chunky soups; and personal sanitary items such as diapers, toothpaste, shampoo are appreciated. Financial contributions for Ritter Center are also welcomed.

Volunteers are the heart of this ministry. If you would like to volunteer for a 2 hour shift visit our parish website: [saintanselm.org](http://saintanselm.org), click on the Give & Serve button to find the Food Drive Volunteer schedule. If you have any questions, contact Pat Langley, [117plangley@gmail.com](mailto:117plangley@gmail.com).



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