

St. Anselm Catholic Church

November 2, 2025
All Soul's Day



Praying for the Souls in Purgatory—Traditional Illustration

97 Shady Lane, PO Box 1061, Ross, CA 94957

Parish office phone: (415) 453-2342

Parish office hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00am--4:00pm

Parish email: Info@SaintAnselm.org

Parish website: www.SaintAnselm.org

Parish Facebook: www.facebook.com/SaintAnselmChurchRossCalifornia

Clergy: Fr. Gabriel Wankar, Pastor
ext. 103; wankar.gabriel@sfarch.org
Fr. Gabriel Achiaga -In Residence
Deacon Ed Cunningham
Deacon Robert Meave

Admin Assist: Mark Wilson
AdminAssistant@saintanselm.org

Religious Education: Dan Veto D.R.E (415) 874-7465
Dre@saintanselm.org

Sacred Music Director: Rebekah Wu
musicdirector@saintanselm.org

Family Life & Outreach: Jessica Gonzalez
jgonzalez@saintanselmschool.com

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

School Website: www.StAnselmSchool.com

Weekend Masses:

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, 11:00am, 5:00pm

Adoration: with Rosary, weekdays from 7:25—8:25 am
and First Fridays from 9 am—12 noon

Eucharist for Homebound: (415) 453-2342

Reconciliation: Before 8:30am weekday Mass, Saturday
4:00pm-4:45pm, during Adoration on First Fridays 9:00am-
12:00pm or by Appointment

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

Anointing 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 ext. 11

Cursillo Information: Cathy Cunningham
(415) 453-7174

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.

Pastor's Reflection: All Souls' Day 2025

In today's Feast of **All Souls**, we pray for the souls of all the faithful departed in Purgatory. Non-Catholics have generally rejected the Catholic teaching on Purgatory, calling it unbiblical. Many Catholics, too, influenced and embarrassed by the protests of non-Catholics, have been led to downplay, question, or even reject this teaching.

What is Purgatory? The Catechism says: *All who die in God's grace and friendship but are still imperfectly purified are indeed assured of their eternal salvation, but after death, they undergo purification to attain the holiness necessary to enter the joy of Heaven. The Church gives the name "Purgatory" to this final purification of the elect, which is entirely different from the punishment of the damned*, which is the experiences of Hell (**Catechism 1030-1031**).

Though the word Purgatory does not appear in the Bible, the teaching does. Jesus declared that we must *be perfect as the heavenly Father is perfect* (Matt 5:48, Rev 3:2). *Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, and make holiness perfect in the fear of God.* (2 Cor 7:1). *Let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.* (James 1:4). *Nothing unclean shall enter Heaven, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those written in the Lamb's book of life* (Rev 21:27). The Church understands from the Word of God that if that perfection is not attained by the time of death, then, before entering Heaven, we must undergo a final purification that brings to completion the good work that God has begun in us (*cf* Phil 1:6). The need for purgation thus flows from the promises of God that we shall one day be perfect.

In Luke's Gospel, Jesus also uses an image for purification as "paying the last penny (Luke 12:56-59). The context of this passage seems clearly to be one of judgment, particularly the judgment we will one day face. After judgment, there must be some place where an individual may be detained for a time and then released after "paying the last penny." Our Catholic Tradition calls this place Purgatory. Thus, not only is there a Biblical basis for the teaching on Purgatory, but the teaching also makes sense based on the promises contained in scripture to those who have been called to be saints.

Premise: Scripture teaches that Heaven is a place of perfect happiness with no more sorrow, pain, death, or tears (*cf* Rev 21:23-24). **Problem:** What happens to those who die in a state of grace and friendship with God but are not yet perfect? **Prescription:** Obviously, we must be purged of any final imperfections, sins, and sorrows before entering Heaven. Every tear must be wiped from our eyes (Rev 21:4), every sorrow left behind, every wound healed. Only then will we be able to experience Heaven. Catholic teaching and Tradition assign the term "Purgatory" to this process of completion and transformation. In the week ahead, let us pray for souls in Purgatory.

A special welcome to any visitors or those worshipping with us for the first time or those returning home. Please know that you are warmly welcomed and deeply valued in this faith community. Kindly take a moment to leave your contact information in the back of the Church or register on our website as a parishioner so we can stay in touch.

We're so glad you're here—Welcome home!

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon	Nov. 3	8:30am	Michael Mello (INT)
Tues	Nov. 4	8:30am	Arlene Hansen (INT)
Wed	Nov. 5	8:30am	Dawn Scannell (D)
Thur	Nov. 6	8:30am	Cindy Livermore (INT)
Fri	Nov. 7	8:30am	Francis Wankar (D) Book of Intentions and Votives
Sat	Nov. 8	5:00pm	Bill Langley (INT)
Sun	Nov. 9	8:00am	Alice Tobin (D)
		10:00am	People of the Parish
		5:00pm	Joshua Henderson (INT)

Sick Relatives & Friends

Note: please call parish office to update names

As a community we ask God's blessing for the ill: Stan & Donna Pechalonis, Mark Gardner, Terese Marklinger, Karen Poligono, Marilyn Marklinger, Don Orlandi, Fr. Neil Healy, Jordan Roggenbuck, Matt Hansen, Jim Sweeney, Bob Hoffman, John Alkazin, Lorraine Matteucci, Deidra Carson, Fr. Bill Brown, Bryan Green, Chris Ryan, Elaine Innes, Arlene Hansen, Rose Michelle D'Haiti, John Peterson, Erin Granucci, Bruce Hubal, Charles Cavagnetto, J.R. Maricich, Isabella O'Brien, Dorothy Laddish, Penny Maioli, Gretchen Libby, Murhal Orendorff, Dennis O'Keefe

For the Repose of the Soul: Pauline O'Brien-DeLury, Susan Catinella, Sal Catinella, Linda Biesheuvel, Pat Daly, Katherine Elizabeth Devcich, Catherine Ward, Theresa Sullivan, Michael Killelea, Gary McPartlin

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 Manifold

The Pope's Monthly Intentions

November— For the prevention of suicide

Let us pray that those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts might find the support, care, and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.

SAVE THE DATE AND COMMUNITY NOTES

- **Friday, November 7** is the first Friday of the month. Spend time in Adoration with Our LORD from **9am to 12pm**. Confessions will also be available.
- **Wine and Cheese Night** returns on **Saturday, November 8** following the **5pm Mass**.
- **Altar Server dinner & training** will be in the Centennial Hall **after the 5pm Mass on Sunday, November 16**.
- **Thanksgiving Day Mass** will be on **November 27 at 9am**.
- **School Children's Advent Confessions** will take place **one class per day from December 9-16**
- Our **Parish Advent Reconciliation Service** will be held on **Wednesday, December 17 from 7pm-8pm**. This service will be facilitated by the Sisters of Charity—the St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta group.
- **Religious Education for Children**
The Religious Education program is still accepting new students. Classes for Pre-K to 7th meet Sunday mornings at 9am and conclude in time to attend the 10am Mass. The Confirmation classes for students in 8th+ grade meet on Sunday evenings and include attending the 5pm Mass. Visit SaintAnselm.org to learn more and sign up.



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Registration

St. Anselm Planned Giving

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steve@meridiancommerical.com

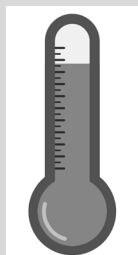
Upcoming second collection on
November 2

St. Patrick's Seminary

2025 Annual Appeal

\$71,409

\$64,688



Praying for the Faithful Departed in November

The practice of praying for the souls of our departed loved ones is not just Catholic; it is biblical. In Scripture, Judah Maccabee and his men were retrieving the bodies of fallen comrades when they discovered the men who had fallen were wearing pagan amulets, and so "they turned to prayer, beseeching that the sin which had been committed might be wholly blotted out" (2 Macc. 12:42). The New Testament also contains a plausible instance of prayer for the dead. After praying for the household of a man named Onesiphorus, Paul goes on to pray, "May the Lord grant him to find mercy from the Lord on that Day" (2 Tim. 1:18). Paul twice mentions "the household of Onesiphorus" (2 Tim. 1:16, 4:19) but does not greet him with the rest of his household and speaks of him only in the past tense. Many scholars have concluded that Onesiphorus had passed away, and thus, Paul was praying for the departed.

When we pray for the dead, whether privately or through Mass intentions, and especially at a funeral Mass, we should be there for two primary reasons: (1) To join in solemn acknowledgment of Christ's sacrifice and resurrection as what provides the pathway for us to enjoy eternal life. (2) To pray for the deceased's soul.

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC), the primary purpose of Catholic funerals is to pray for the deceased because we do not know if they died in a state of grace. Or, if they did, we do not know how much purification they need before they can enter heaven (CCC 1030-1031). In other words, Catholics pray for the dead because we know that they might be in purgatory. Thus, contrary to common assumption, the funeral Mass is not to celebrate the life of the deceased with eulogies but to offer worship to God for Christ's victory over death, to comfort the mourners with prayers, and to pray for the soul of the deceased. It is never an attempt to deny family members their rightful grieving process; instead, it prevents the departed from being denied what they need.

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