

St. Anselm Catholic Church

January 11, 2026
The Baptism of the LORD



Baptism of Christ—Pietro Perugino and his workshop, 1482

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, & 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
& 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 & clergy that worship together, celebrate the sacramental life of the Church, & seek to live the Gospel of Jesus Christ everyday. We welcome, serve, & educate according to the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

Pastor's Reflection: Baptism of the LORD 2026

The Sacrament of Baptism is "The washing of regeneration and renewal by the Holy Spirit." The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC 1213) says, "Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit (*vitae spiritualis ianua*), and the door which gives access to the other sacraments. Through Baptism we are freed from sin and reborn as sons of God; we become members of Christ, are incorporated into the Church and made sharers in her mission: 'Baptism is the sacrament of regeneration through water in the word.'"

CCC 1214 This sacrament is called *Baptism*, after the central rite by which it is carried out: to baptize (Greek *baptizein*) means to "plunge" or "immerse"; the "plunge" into the water symbolizes the catechumen's burial into Christ's death, from which he rises up by resurrection with him, as "a new creature."

CCC 1215 This sacrament is also called "*the washing of regeneration and renewal by the Holy Spirit*," for it signifies and actually brings about the birth of water and the Spirit without which no one "can enter the kingdom of God."

CCC 1216 "This bath is called *enlightenment*, because those who receive this [catechetical] instruction are enlightened in their understanding . . ." Having received in Baptism the Word, "the true light that enlightens every man," the person baptized has been "enlightened," he becomes a "son of light," indeed, he becomes "light" himself:

Baptism is God's most beautiful and magnificent gift. . . . We call it gift, grace, anointing, enlightenment, garment of immortality, bath of rebirth, seal, and most precious gift. It is called *gift* because it is conferred on those who bring nothing of their own; *grace* since it is given even to the guilty; *Baptism* because sin is buried in the water; *anointing* for it is priestly and royal as are those who are anointed; *enlightenment* because it radiates light; *clothing* since it veils our shame; *bath* because it washes; and *seal* as it is our guard and the sign of God's Lordship.

At our Baptism, Christians make a commitment to let the light of Christ increase in the world through their lives, and to help diminish the darkness of evil, as we heard in the readings. Hence, the priest asks us, '**Do you believe in God?**' and we answer, '**Yes.**' **Do you reject Satan**, and we also answer **YES**.

John's ambition was simply to get out of the way so that Jesus could become first in the hearts of his own disciples. The ambition of every Christian should be to let the light of Christ be seen through us and the darkness of sin to be diminished. That is what happens to us at Baptism. We take on a new name as Children of God who reject Satan and all his empty promises. May we renew our promises of Holy Baptism to accept God and reject Satan in all we do, promoting the will of God, not our own ideas, Amen.

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 & deeply valued in this faith community. Kindly take a moment to leave your contact information in the back of the Church or register at www.saintanselm.org/register so we can stay in touch.

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon	Jan. 12	8:30am	Dcn. David Previtali (INT)
Tues	Jan. 13	8:30am	Larry Gentilello (INT)
Wed	Jan. 14	8:30am	Larry Deats (INT)
Thur	Jan. 15	8:00am	Homebound Parishioners (INT)
Fri	Jan. 16	8:30am	Fr. Neal Healy (D)
Sat	Jan. 17	5:00pm	Joe McGarry (D)
Sun	Jan. 18	8:00am 10:00am 5:00pm	Bell Tower Restoration Project Nelly Benevidez Goldstein (D) St. Anselm Parishioners

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, 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, Fr. Neil Healy

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

The Pope's Monthly Intentions

January—For prayer with the Word of God.
Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

Annual Parish Financial Statement

Dear Parishioners, I am deeply grateful for your faithful financial support and generosity. Thanks to you, about three million dollars have been raised for the Bell Tower restoration, which is scheduled to begin in April. Our goal for the 2025 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal has been met, and weekly offertory giving has remained steady. As we continue to invest in new ministries—particularly Sacred Music and Family and Relationship Health—while also addressing significant ongoing maintenance needs, I thank you for your continued support and ask that you prayerfully support these new ministries that enrich the life of our parish.

	Actual Jul 2024 Jun 2025	Budget Jul 2024 Jun 2025	Last year Jul 2023 Jun 2024
Revenue			
Collections	\$339,230	\$311,100	\$309,237
Christmas	\$33,090	\$35,000	\$28,518
Easter	\$17,793	\$22,000	\$22,062
Sacramental	\$9,150	\$11,500	\$14,600
Religious Ed	\$13,501	\$18,000	\$17,178
Gifts/Donations	\$7,957	\$36,000	\$37,186
Other (interest, parking rental, and restricted donations used)	\$165,057	\$143,035	\$145,872
Total Revenue	\$585,778	\$576,635	\$574,653
Expenses			
Expenses	\$560,133	\$549,900	\$526,016
Church/Rectory Repairs	\$12,259	\$10,000	\$8,301
Total Expenses	\$572,392	\$559,900	\$534,317
Total Operating Income	\$13,386	\$16,735	\$40,337
Additionally, the Parish received \$723k in Bell Tower donation and earned \$80k of interest from July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025. Total donation & interest received from campaign inception through June 30, 2025 was \$3M.			

SAVE THE DATE & COMMUNITY NOTES

- Our Adopt a Family ministry would like to thank all parishioners for their generous Christmas donations!
- After the 5pm Vigil Mass on Saturday, January 17, **our parish will hold an evening to celebrate the New Year and welcome all new families & individuals who have joined our parish recently.** It will not just be for the new members, but for all of us—the old parishioners welcoming the new.
- **On Saturday, February 14, 2026, we'll hold a Healing Mass for Divorced/Separated Catholics here in our Church at 9:00 a.m.**

Catechesis on Parish Vision and The Eucharist

Beloved parishioners, in this New Year 2026, I am humbly inviting you, to pray with me over the passage of **Habakkuk 2:2-3** towards a vision of evangelization in our parish. Our Family Life and Relationship Ministry and the Children's Choir will be initial channels of evangelization to invite people into the life of our parish, while deepening our meditation on the Eucharist through catechesis and the sacred liturgy to nourish our daily lives. The Vatican Council II document, *Lumen Gentium* #11 and the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC1407) teach that "The Eucharist is the heart and the summit of the Church's life" The Eucharist nourishes the souls of the faithful and perfectly signifies and admirably realizes the unity of the People of God.

Here are a few apparent reminders regarding Catholic belief in the Eucharist: Canon 912 of the Code of Canon Law rightly states that **"any baptized person not prohibited by law can and must be admitted to holy communion."** Canon 916: "A person who is conscious of grave sin is not to celebrate Mass or receive the body of the Lord without previous sacramental confession unless there is a grave reason and there is no opportunity to confess; in this case, the person is to remember the obligation to make an act of perfect contrition which includes the resolution of confessing as soon as possible" (Cf. CCC 1415). In his first letter to the Corinthians, Saint Paul also said, "Therefore whoever eats the bread and drinks the cup of the Lord unworthily will have to answer for the body and blood of the Lord...For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body, eats and drinks judgment on himself" (1 Cor. 11:27, 29).

The Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist is a central dogma of the Catholic faith: "The power of the words and the action of Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit, make sacramentally present under the species of bread and wine Christ's body and blood, his sacrifice offered on the cross once for all" (CCC 1353). Because the Roman Catholic Church believes and teaches that when we receive Communion, we participate in the body and blood of Christ, **not just symbols of them**, the faithful must profess this faith each time they receive the sacrament with an "Amen." The Priest says, "The Body of Christ, to which we respond Amen." By this Amen (which every Catholic who receives the Eucharist knows), *we espouse publicly the faith and moral teachings of the Catholic Church* and desire to live accordingly. **It is the reason why non-Catholics aren't permitted to receive Holy Communion at Mass.**