

# St. Anselm Catholic Church

May 17, 2026  
Ascension Sunday



*Jesus' Ascension to Heaven—John Singleton Copley, 1775*

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

Parish office phone: (415) 453-2342

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

Lunch: 12:00pm-1:00pm

Parish email: [Info@SaintAnselm.org](mailto:Info@SaintAnselm.org)

Parish website: [www.SaintAnselm.org](http://www.SaintAnselm.org)

Parish Facebook: [www.facebook.com/SaintAnselmChurchRossCalifornia](http://www.facebook.com/SaintAnselmChurchRossCalifornia)

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

Admin Assist: Mark Wilson  
[AdminAssistant@saintanselm.org](mailto:AdminAssistant@saintanselm.org)

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

Sacred Music Director: Rebekah Wu  
[musicdirector@saintanselm.org](mailto:musicdirector@saintanselm.org)

Family Life & Outreach: Jessica Gonzalez  
[jgonzalez@stanselmschool.com](mailto:jgonzalez@stanselmschool.com)

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

School Website: [www.StAnselmSchool.com](http://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—8:25am & 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](mailto: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: Ascension Sunday Year A

The book of the Acts of the Apostles recounts that Jesus, after His Resurrection, appeared to the disciples for 40 days and then “was lifted up, and a cloud took Him out of their sight” (Acts 1: 9). In many countries, this mystery is celebrated on Thursday. The Ascension of the Lord marks the fulfillment of salvation that started with the Incarnation. After He had instructed His disciples for the last time, Jesus was taken up into Heaven (cf. Mt 28:16). He, however, “was not separated from our condition” (cf. Preface); indeed, in His humanity, He took man with Him into the intimacy of the Father and thus revealed the destination of our earthly pilgrimage.

**The meaning** of this final gesture of Jesus is twofold. In the first place, ascending to the heights, he clearly reveals his divinity: he returns to where he came from, that is, to God, after having fulfilled his mission on earth. Moreover, Christ ascends into Heaven with the humanity he has assumed and which he has resurrected from the dead: that humanity is ours, transfigured, divinized, made eternal. Though ascended, the Lord remains within the framework of human history; he is near to each of us and guides our Christian journey: he is the companion of those persecuted for the faith, he is in the heart of those who are marginalized, he is present in those whose right to life is denied, and those who suffer the pangs of war. We can hear, see, and touch our Lord Jesus in the Church, especially through the word and the sacraments. In this regard, I call on children who have recently received First Holy Communion and young people who are receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation, to remain faithful to the Word of God and to the doctrine learned, and to assiduously approach Confession and the Eucharist, conscious of having been chosen and constituted to witness to the Truth.

**The Catechism** of the Catholic Church 660 notes regarding the nature of Christ's Ascension: “*The veiled character of the glory of the Risen One during this time is intimated in His mysterious words to Mary Magdalene: ‘I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brethren and say to them, I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’ This indicates a difference in manifestation between the glory of the risen Christ and that of the Christ exalted to the Father's right hand, a transition marked by the historical and transcendent event of the Ascension.*”

In number 661, the Catechism continues: “*No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man.*” *Left to its own natural powers, humanity does not have access to the “Father's house”, to God's life and happiness. Only Christ can open to man such access that we, his members, might have confidence that we too shall go where he, our Head and our Source, has preceded us.*

**Make a joyful noise!** The Saint Anselm choir wants YOU! Be a part of a caring and supportive group of parishioners who love to lift their voices to the LORD. Two Sunday choirs to choose from: 10:00AM or 5:00PM. Those who sing pray twice!

Contact Rebekah Wu, Sacred Music Director, for more details. Email: [musicdirector@saintanselm.org](mailto:musicdirector@saintanselm.org)

### MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Mon</b>	<b>May 18</b>	8:30am	Edwin Paul (D)
<b>Tues</b>	<b>May 19</b>	8:30am	Maria Guadalupe Cooper (D)
<b>Wed</b>	<b>May 20</b>	8:30am	Joan Meltzer (D)
<b>Thur</b>	<b>May 21</b>	8:30am	Mike Hansen (D)
<b>Fri</b>	<b>May 22</b>	8:30am	Paul Mojica (D)
<b>Sat</b>	<b>May 23</b>	5:00pm	John McInerney (D)
<b>Sun</b>	<b>May 24</b>	8:00am	Emilia Capino (D)
		10:00am	Baby Logan (D)
		5:00pm	Tonda Galvez (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, Matt Hansen, Jim Sweeney, Bob Hoffman, John Alkazin, Lorraine Matteucci, Deidra Carson, Fr. Bill Brown, Bryan Green, Chris Ryan, Elaine Innes, 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, Martha Yasar, Claire Muller, Ellie Boldrick, Maria Tan, Renee Reyes, Pam King, Lois Markovich, Maria Bail

**For the Repose of the Soul:** Pauline O'Brien-DeLury, Susan Catinella, Sal Catinella, Linda Biesheuvel, Pat Daly, Katherine Elizabeth Devcich, Catherine Ward, Michael Killelea, Gary McPartlin, Emile Hedouin, Georges Haudiquet, Patricia Ann Sahl, Fr. Neil Healy, Jim Davenport, Michael Mello, Klaus Binz, Ian Dillon, Isabella Welch, Jim Wagner, Jerd Formichi, Georgia Addington, Craig Caracozza

**For Our Active Duty 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

#### May—That everyone might have food

Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

SAVE THE DATE & COMMUNITY NOTES

- We are continuing a **Novena to the Holy Spirit** before Pentecost (May 24). You can follow along on Facebook or on our website.
- Our Confirmandi will be receiving Confirmation this upcoming Friday, May 22. Please pray for them and their families.

**Saint Anselm Summer Date Night Challenge**



Our Family Life and Outreach Ministry will be starting a **Date Night Challenge** for married couples or couples intending to marry beginning in June and continuing to August. Marriage grows through small, intentional moments. This summer, commit to **one date per month for three months** and watch how simple connection can renew your marriage. Each date you submit = **one entry towards winning a prize!** See the website or scan the QR code to learn more and sign up.



One time donation



Recurring donation

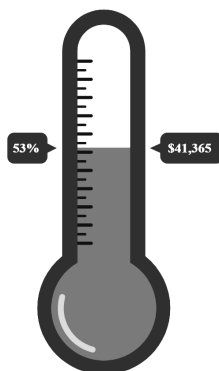


Registration

**St. Anselm Planned Giving**  
 Consider listing St. Anselm's as beneficiary in your Will (advisable to have one).  
 Contact Steve Easley for more information:  
 415-272-6147  
 steve@meridiancommercial.com

**UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTION**  
 May 31 | St. Vincent de Paul Society  
 June 7 | St. Anselm School

2026 AAA  
GOAL: \$78,763



**A Journey Through the Catechism 7: The Blessed Mother (CCC, 484-511, 721-726, 963-975)**

The months of May & October are special Marian months in our Catholic faith. Throughout May, the Church invites us to draw close to Our Blessed Mother by praying the Rosary daily, meditating on the mysteries of our salvation, and entrusting our families, parish, and the world to her loving intercession. Fr. Mahan outlines five teachings about Mary that are essential for Catholics to believe:

**1. Mary was predestined to be the mother of Jesus.**

Mary was chosen by God from all eternity to be the mother of his Son. Through Mary, God keeps His promise made through the prophet Isaiah that "the virgin shall be with child and bear a son" (Is 7:14, Mt 1:24 cf. Lk 1:26ff cf. CCC, 488-499). God chose and prepared Mary with special graces, and he foresaw her cooperation with these graces to give her fiat, her consent to be the mother of Jesus.

**2. Mary was conceived without sin in her mother's womb – The Immaculate Conception.**

The doctrine teaches that Mary was preserved immune "from all stain of original sin" from the moment of her conception (CCC, 491 Lk 1:28). This was a singular grace and privilege, by virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ, Savior of humanity.

**3. According to Christ's human nature, Mary is called *Theotokos*, the Mother of God.**

The doctrine on the divine motherhood of Mary is rooted in Scripture when her kinswoman Elizabeth asks Mary, "How does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?" (Lk 1:43). Mary is called *Theotokos*, a term meaning "God bearer" or "Mother of God." We are called to be God-bearers, following the example of the Blessed Mother.

**4. Mary remained a virgin before, during, and after the birth of Jesus.**

Catholics believe in the perpetual virginity of Mary. "Christ's birth did not diminish Mary's virginity but sanctified it" (CCC, 499).

**5. At the end of her life, Mary was Assumed body and soul into heaven – The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.**

Christians have taught that at the end of her life, Mary was assumed into heaven body and soul, corresponding with the fact that, unlike other figures of the New Testament such as St. Peter and St. Paul, there has never been a claim to relics of the body of the Blessed Mother, nor of a tomb containing her body. The Church has recognized in the Book of Revelation a stunning image of the Blessed Mother in heaven: "A great sign appeared in the sky, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars" (Rv 12:1).