

St. Anselm Catholic Church

August 16, 2026

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time



The Woman of Canaan, Michael Angelo Immenraet, c. 1673-1678

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

Parish office phone: (415) 453-2342

Parish office hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30am—4:00pm
Lunch: 12:00pm-1:00pm

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

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@stanselmschool.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 7:30—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 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 welcoming Church and School Community whose mission is the salvation of souls. We joyfully journey with people wherever they are in their faith, to build a culture of love and connection where every family grows in faith, strengthens their relationships, and becomes a living witness to God's love, rooted in the Sacraments and grounded in the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

Pastor's Reflection: 20th Sunday Ordinary Time A

As we continue our journey as a Church seeking to foster healing and reconciliation for the wounds of our past, this Sunday's Gospel text invites us to persevere in prayer to the Lord, even when the results are discouraging. Let's look at this Gospel in five stages.

TRAVELS – *We are told that Jesus withdrew to the region of Tire and Sidon.* Jesus goes north of Israel into the territory now known as Lebanon. By entering pagan territory, He was preparing the Church for a mission to all the nations. This introductory note about Jesus' location is essential to appreciate that some of the harsh tone Jesus exhibits later can likely be understood as a rhetorical means of questioning racial and national divisions rather than affirming them. In so doing, He also calls out the Canaanite woman as one who is willing to set aside these racist notions for the greater good.

TORMENT – Canaanites were despised by Jews, and Jews were despised by Canaanites. What is it that would make a Canaanite woman reach out to a Jewish Messiah? In a word, desperation. She looks past her racial hatred and, risking terrible rebuke, calls on Jesus. Her torment enables her to cross boundaries. The only enemy she cares about is the demon afflicting her daughter.

TEST – *"It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs."* Jesus takes up the voice of sin, oppression, racism, and nationalism, calling out the woman's faith and, through her, summoning His disciples to repentance. The disciples want the Lord to dismiss her. In effect, He takes up their voices and the voice of all oppression and utters the hateful sayings of the world. We are tested as well. At times, God seems strangely silent; we may feel as if we are no children of God at all. Will we give way during the test or hold out until our change comes?

TENACITY – The woman is not put off. Whatever anger, grief, or discouragement she may feel, she perseveres. In a sense, she will not take no for an answer. She is like the widow who never stopped pestering the judge for a favorable ruling (Lk 18:1-8). No matter how politically incorrect her request appears, no matter how much hostility she encounters from the disciples, the crowds, or even Jesus Himself. She will hold out. Here is a woman with tenacity! How about you?

TRIUMPH – *Jesus said to her in reply, 'O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.' And the woman's daughter was healed from that hour.* Here is the victory. Jesus now removes the veil of His role and reveals His true self—the merciful, wonder-working Messiah and Lord. In the week ahead, let us trust even as we wonder at God's delays, at His seeming disinterest, or even at His anger, knowing that in the end, He is up to something good, very good.

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon	Aug. 17	8:30am	Joe McGarry (D)
Tues	Aug. 18	8:30am	Donor's Private Intentions
Wed	Aug. 19	8:30am	Carrie Angela (INT)
Thur	Aug. 20	8:30am	Johannes Meave-Ohrt (INT)
Fri	Aug. 21	8:30am	Lori Cappa (D) Archbishop Cordileone (INT)
Sat	Aug. 22	5:00pm	Bill Buckingham (D)
Sun	Aug. 23	8:00am	Angelo Domitri (D)
		10:00am	John Barsoli (D)
		5:00pm	Bill Buckingham (D)

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, 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, Martha Yasar, Maria Tan, Renee Reyes, Pam King, Lois Markovich, Maria Bail, Joe Burke, Gavin Saysette, Didine Uwamahoro, Peter Jizrawi, Areme Szemanski

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, Dennis O'Keefe, Lorraine Matteucci, Shawn Crossley, Claire Muller, Ellie Boldrick

For Our Active Duty Military: Matthew Kerry O'Brien, Robert Gebhardt, Tyler Lopez, Alex Boatwright, Elizabeth Baumsteiger, Christian Miller, Robert Kent, Shane Morgan,

The Pope's Monthly Intentions

August—For evangelization in the city

Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

Welcoming Our Young Families: A Sign of Hope

Beloved Parishioners, one of the greatest blessings I have witnessed at St. Anselm is the growing presence of young families with children at our Sunday Masses. The sight of parents carrying infants, holding little hands, or gently comforting a restless child during Mass is not a distraction—it is a profound sign of hope. It is a visible reminder that our parish is blessed with new life. The Lord Himself said, *“Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them; for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven”* (Matthew 19:14).

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our young parents. In a society where many competing voices seek to draw families away from God, your decision to bring your children faithfully to Holy Mass is a courageous and demanding witness of faith. Yet your efforts are invaluable, for as the Catechism reminds us, *“Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children in the faith”* (CCC 2223). The entire parish shares in supporting that beautiful vocation through prayer, encouragement, and practical care.

For this reason, I ask every parishioner to continue making St. Anselm a place where families always feel welcomed, loved, and understood. The occasional sounds of little children should never diminish our joy. Rather, they remind us that the Church is alive. As St. Paul encourages us, *“Bear with one another through love”* (Ephesians 4:2). A smile, a word of encouragement, or a patient heart can reassure a young parent far more than we may ever realize.

Since our current cry room can comfortably accommodate only one family at a time, I am considering, as a first step, extending the Church’s audio system into the Centennial Hall. This would provide an overflow space, especially for families with children under two years of age for the 8:00am Mass, allowing parents to remain fully united with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass while caring for their little ones. It will require furnishing the space with stackable children’s tables and chairs, along with a few simple items like those already available in our cry room. The intention is to make the space attractive, comfortable, easy to prepare before Mass, and easy to restore afterward.

We will evaluate this arrangement by the end of the 2026 calendar year. If it proves successful, we will begin planning toward introducing Children’s Liturgy of the Word during the 10:00 a.m. Mass in 2027, also in the Centennial Hall, providing another

opportunity to nourish our children’s faith while preserving the reverence of the Sacred Liturgy. This is very much a parish journey. I would appreciate your suggestions, insights, ideas, and volunteers as together we discern how best to accompany our young families. May the Holy Spirit help us, that St. Anselm may always be a parish where every person encounters the welcoming love of Christ. - *Fr. Wankar*

SAVE THE DATE & COMMUNITY NOTES

• **Religious Education and Faith Formation News**

Thinking about become Catholic? The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) is the process through which individuals become Catholic and receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Communion.

Who should come to OCIA?

- 1) Persons in need of Baptism
- 2) Baptized Christians who wish to become Catholic
- 3) Baptized Catholics who never received First Holy Communion or Confirmation

If you are interested, contact Fr. Wankar (Wankar.Gabriel@sfarch.org) or Dan (dre@saintanselm.org)

- Religious Education (Sunday School) registration is now open and available on our website. To adhere to Archdiocesan guidelines, all sacramental preparation programs are moving to be two years long. **All first graders** should register for First Holy Communion Year 1 if they wish to make their First Holy Communion during second grade. **All seventh graders** should register for Confirmation Year 1 if they wish to make their Confirmation during eighth grade. Contact Dan (dre@saintanselm.org) if you have any questions.



One time donation



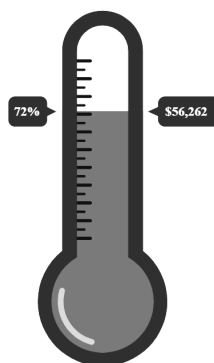
Recurring donation



Registration

2026 AAA

GOAL: \$78,673



St. Anselm Planned Giving

Consider listing St. Anselm’s as beneficiary in your Will (advisable to have one).
Contact Steve Easley for more info:
415-272-6147
steve@meridiancommerical.com

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTION

August 30 | Saint Vincent de Paul
September 6 | Saint Anselm School

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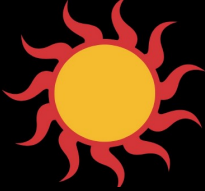
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