

St. Anselm Catholic Church

August 23, 2026

Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time



Keys of Heaven, Pietro Perugino, 1482

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: 21st Sunday Ordinary Time A

Although the exercise of leadership in our Catholic Church has not been anything near perfect throughout our Church's history, the Gospel sets forth the biblical basis for the Papacy. The word "pope" is simply an English version of the word "papa" in Italian and Spanish as an affectionate indication that he is the father of the family, the Church. Let's look at the basic establishment of the Office of Peter in three steps.

I. The Inquiry that Illustrates – By asking: Who do people say that the Son of Man is? And, Who do you say that I am? Jesus is using these questions as a vehicle to teach the apostles (and us) the inadequacy of two common methods in establishing revealed truth: **1. The Poll** – In modern times, some people think that if a poll says more than 50% of Catholics believe something, then it must be true; and therefore, the Church should change its teaching. As the Gospel makes clear, all the crowd's assertions were wrong. Jesus is not John the Baptist, Elijah, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets. **2. The Panel** – Jesus then asks the twelve, "Who do you say that I am?" Jesus is met with silence. The politics on the panel lead not to truth, but to a kind of self-serving, politically correct silence. Peter finally speaks up, not because he is a member of the panel, but for another reason entirely. Polls and panels are not adequate for yielding the firm truth about Jesus' identity. All we have are opinions, or politically correct silence.

II. The Individual that is Inspired – Jesus is very clear: Peter spoke rightly because God the Father revealed it to him. The Catechism says this of Peter and his successors, the popes: *The Pope, Bishop of Rome and Peter's successor, is the perpetual and visible source and foundation of the unity both of the bishops and of the whole company of the faithful.* (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 880-884). We are to assent to the Pope's teaching and leadership not because he is smarter or has superpowers, but because, by faith, we believe he is inspired by God.

III. The Installation that is Initiated – Jesus declares that He will build His very Church upon Simon, whom He names Peter (rock). In giving him the keys, He is establishing an office. In Luke's Gospel Jesus says more of this: *Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, all that he might sift you all like wheat, but I have prayed for thee, Peter, that thy faith may not fail; and when thou hast turned again, strengthen thy brethren* (Luke 22:31). Without a visible head, there is no principle on earth for unity in the Church. The Protestant experiment tried to replace the Pope with Scripture. Yet Protestants cannot agree on what Scripture says and have no earthly way to resolve their conflicts. May the Pope continue to be a true sign of unity in the world. Amen.

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. 24	8:30am	Angelina & Sandro (INT)
Tues	Aug. 25	8:30am	Francis Wankar (D)
Wed	Aug. 26	8:30am	The Safety of our Bell Tower Workers
Thur	Aug. 27	8:30am	Cecilia Adi Ayabam, LSM (D)
Fri	Aug. 28	8:30am	Cesina Tredicine (D)
Sat	Aug. 29	5:00pm	Greg & Marilyn Peters (INT)
Sun	Aug. 30	8:00am	A Successful School Year for All our School Families
		10:00am	Donna & Stan Peccalonis (INT)
		5:00pm	Claire Muller (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 Biesheuvell, 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

- As we head into a new school year, all families are invited, especially our school families, to our Back-to-School Family Picnic on Sunday, August 30, following the 5pm Mass in the Centennial Hall. We’ll have food, games for the kids, and a chance to connect with other families before the year gets busy. We’ll close with a blessing over our students, our teachers, and our marriages. Come as you are — this is simply a chance to belong.

- 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

Contact Fr. Wankar (Wankar.Gabriel@sfarch.org) or Dan (dre@saintanselm.org) for more information

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.



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Registration

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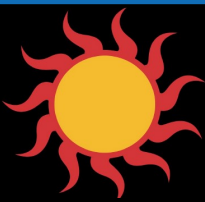
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