

St. Anselm Catholic Church

September 7, 2025
Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



Luke 14:25-33

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 Bernie O'Halloran
Deacon Ed Cunningham
Deacon Robert Meave

Admin Assist: Mark Wilson
AdminAssistant@saintanselm.org

Religious Education: Dan Veto D.R.E ext. 105
Dre@saintanselm.org

Director of Sacred Music: Rebekah Wu

St. Anselm School: Kim Orendorff, Principal
School Office: (415) 454-8667
School Fax: (415) 454-4730

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

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: 23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus defines four demands of discipleship:

I. The **CONTEXT** of discipleship –Often the mention of a large crowd in the Bible is followed by a hard teaching of Jesus: *If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters—yes, even his own life—he cannot be my disciple* (Luke 14:26-27). *Enter by the narrow gate* (Matt 7:13). *For many are called, but few are chosen* (Matt 22:14). So, the *context* of discipleship is with the few rather than the many. Though all are called—few make the cut and become true disciples. As a gathering of the disciples of Jesus today, the role of the Church then is not to conform to the views of society to be appealing to many. Instead, it should reflect the views of its Founder, Jesus Christ, contained in the Bible and the Catechism, even when unpopular (Wisdom 9:13-16).

II. The **CENTRALITY** of discipleship –The use of the word "hate" in the Gospel does not imply contempt or to nourish unrighteous anger toward family or others. Instead, this is a Jewish idiom. If one preferred vanilla ice cream to chocolate, one would say (in ancient Hebrew), "I love vanilla but hate chocolate." This would mean that I prefer vanilla to chocolate, not that I hate chocolate. So, Jesus means anyone who keeps you away from God has too much power. If your spouse calls you away from teaching your children the ways of faith, tell him/her, "Sorry, Honey." Too many human relationships often cause us to compromise our walk with Jesus.

III. The **CROSS** of Discipleship – Jesus says that *whoever does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple*. It is a simple rule: No cross, no crown. It is tempting to demand a gospel stripped of its moral imperatives or an updated faith that tickles our ears and affirms our way of life. Jesus' wisdom of the cross is already evident if we consider that even in this world, all of what we value most (family, career, achievements) comes at the cost of sacrifice. Jesus is not into pain for its own sake but because sacrifice brings blessings.

IV. The **COST** of discipleship –Jesus' examples of someone building a tower and a king going into battle may seem distant to us, so Jesus "brings it home" by saying *anyone who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple*. The Greek word ἀποτάσσω (apotasso), translated here as "renounce," also means "to say farewell." The Lord is reminding us that Heaven costs everything. Ultimately, we must say farewell to everyone and everything we consider precious to inherit Heaven. This is not something that happens all at once when we die. On one level, we give back everything to God gradually through life. On another level, the Lord says we must be willing to part *now* with anything hindering discipleship. In the week ahead, let us take time to meditate on the context, centrality, cross, and cost of discipleship, Amen.

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon.	Sep. 8	8:30am	Eric & Regina Hallquist (D)
Tues.	Sep. 9	8:30am	Dcn Bob & Gail Meave (INT)
Wed.	Sep. 10	8:30am	Bill & Pat Langley (INT)
Thur.	Sep. 11	8:30am	Martin Carroll (D)
Fri.	Sep. 12	8:30am	Cecilia Adi Ayabam, LSM (D)
Sat.	Sep. 13	5:00pm	Larry Gentilello (INT)
Sun.	Sep. 14	8:00am	Jim Carroll (D)
		10:00am	Jerry Melin (D)
		5:00pm	John Ward (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, 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

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, Mike Killelea

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

September— For our relationship with all of creation
Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.

The 2025 Church Restoration Campaign
Our remaining goal is \$700,000

This campaign requires all of us to consider a contribution from our hearts.

Questions: call/email, Steve Easley, Chairman of the Parish Finance Council

415-272-6147/ steve@meridiancommercial.com

SAVE THE DATE AND COMMUNITY NOTES

- **Religious Education for Children**
The St. Anselm Religious Education program will begin later this month. Classes for Pre-K to 7th grade meet Sunday mornings at 9 am and conclude in time to attend the 10 am Mass. The Confirmation preparation classes for students in 8th+ grade meet on Sunday evenings and include attending the 5 pm Mass. Visit SaintAnselm.org to learn more and sign up.
- Dear Parents, Rebekah Wu, our Director of Sacred Music has announced the formation of the **St. Anselm Children's Choir** for the 2025–2026 school year. **Regular Rehearsals** Thursdays, 3:30–5:00 PM Beginning September 4, 2025. **Liturgical Participation One 10:00 AM Sunday Mass per month** from September 28, 2025 through May 31, 2026. If your child is interested in joining (including those who do not attend St Anselm School), please contact her at musicdirector@saintanselm.org
- ♦ **An Evening of Reflection** on in Centennial Hall on **Wednesday, September 10 at 7pm** *Theme: "Peace Within, Peace Around: An Evening of Reflection on Inner Peace in a World That Never Stops."* Presentation by Sr. Karol Augustine, OP from the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist teaching at Marin Catholic High. **Wine and cheese before at 6:30pm**
- ♦ Wine and Cheese Night will now happen every 2nd Saturday of the month following the 5pm Mass! The next one will be on **September 13**.
- ♦ The Ritter Center Food Drives will resume this month, **September 27-28**. Thank you for your support for this important ministry.
- ♦ **PARKING LOT NOTICE**—With the start of a new school year, we have allowed Branson High School use of our Bolinas parking lot during the week. We ask that daily Mass attendees find parking in the rectory lot or on the street along Bolinas Ave.



One time donation Recurring donation Registration

St. Anselm Planned Giving

Consider listing St. Anselm's as beneficiary in your Will (advisable to have one). It preserves the mission and values of the church in its ministry.

Contact Steve Easley for information
steve@meridiancommerical.com | 415-272-6147

Upcoming second collection on September 7
St. Anselm's School

2025 Annual Appeal: \$49,544 collected; goal of \$71,409
2025 Church Restoration Goal—\$ 3,500,000

Singing and Music – An Essential Part of the Catholic Liturgy.

The origins of singing in the Roman Catholic liturgy are deeply rooted in Jewish worship, especially the synagogue tradition, where psalms, Scripture, and prayers were chanted. The Gospels tell us that after the Last Supper, Jesus and His disciples “sang a hymn” before going out to the Mount of Olives (cf. Matthew 26:30).

Early Christians continued this practice, and by the 4th century, communal singing had become a structured part of the Mass. This eventually gave rise to Gregorian Chant, named after Pope St. Gregory the Great (6th century), which formed the foundation of Roman Rite music.

The tradition of singing psalms and hymns has never been about performance but about giving glory to God and fostering the unity of the Church in prayer. As the Church's tradition reminds us: “*He who sings prays twice*” (often attributed to St. Augustine).

The Second Vatican Council teaches that sacred music is an “*integral part of the liturgy*” because it expresses the soul of the Church's prayer (*Sacrosanctum Concilium*, 112). It calls all the faithful to participate actively through “*acclamations, responses, psalmody, antiphons, and songs*” (30), reminding us that “*liturgical services are not private functions but celebrations of the Church*” (7).

According to *Musicam Sacram* (#4), the aim of liturgical music is “*the glory of God and the sanctification of the faithful.*” When music is treated as a performance, the congregation often falls silent. But when the choir sings with the assembly and for the Church's prayer, something sacred and unifying takes place (cf. *Why Catholics Can't Sing*).

In the Roman Catholic tradition, songs for each Mass are prayerfully chosen to reflect the readings, season, and liturgical theme, forming one seamless act of worship. Special care is given to selecting music that the whole congregation can sing with ease and confidence. This includes keeping the pitch accessible—not just for the cantor or choir, but for the entire assembly.

We are all called to sing at Mass—not as spectators, but as full participants in the Church's prayer. Let us not remain silent when the Church is at prayer. Let us sing *to the Lord*, for He is good!

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