

# *St. Anselm Catholic Church*

**November 30, 2025**  
**First Sunday of Advent**



*The Annunciation—Leonardo da Vinci , 1476*

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](mailto:Info@SaintAnselm.org)

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

Parish Facebook: [www.facebook.com/SaintAnselmChurchRossCalifornia](https://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@saintanselmschool.com](mailto:jgonzalez@saintanselmschool.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, 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](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 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: First Sunday of Advent 2025

While the gospel for this First Sunday of Advent clearly states that we must always be prepared, the second reading from Romans 13:11-14 gives us a basic **recipe for readiness**. We can distinguish five fundamental instructions in Paul's recipe.

**Wake up** – The text says, ... *you know the time; it is the hour now for you to awake from sleep...* This text, which tells us to wake up, refers to the moral and mindful sense of sleep. St. Paul insists we must be morally awake and responsible for our actions: *Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may prove what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect* (Rom 12:2).

**Clean up** – The text says, ... *not in orgies ... not in promiscuity and lust ... and make no provision for the desires of the flesh*. The emphasis in this passage is on sexuality because the pagan world at the time of Paul was sexually confused and immature. Promiscuity, adultery, fornication, homosexual activity, divorce, abortion, and infanticide were all rampant. Sound familiar? By telling us it is time to clean up, God is not out to limit our fun; He is trying to protect us. He is also trying to protect marriage and children.

**Sober up** – The text says, ... *not in drunkenness* ... Physically, to be drunk means to have our mind confused due to the influence of alcohol. Conversely, to be sober is to have a clear mind that can make sound judgments. There are many crazy, and just plain wrong notions today that emerge from the haze of unsound thinking and a drunken and confused world: *Be sober, be watchful. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, solid in your faith* (1 Peter 5:8).

**Lighten up** – The text says, ... *not in rivalry and jealousy* ... An awful lot of our sins revolve around our sensitive egos. In Galatians, Paul warns of other things that flow from this source: *enmity, strife, anger, selfishness, dissension, factions, and envy* (Gal 5:20). Our biggest sin is pride; along with all its minions: envy, jealousy, greed, hatred, fear, bitterness, a hard and unforgiving heart, and just plain old meanness. The Lord wants to give us a heart that is loving and open to others, a less egocentric heart.

**Dress up** – The text says, *But put on the Lord Jesus Christ* ... The moral life of the New Testament is not achieved; it is received. St. Paul says, *I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live but Christ lives in me* (Gal 2:20). Jesus says, *I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. Apart from me, you can do nothing* (John 15:5). If we really hope to wake up, clean up, sober up, and lighten up, it must be a work of His grace.

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 and 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](http://www.saintanselm.org/register) so we can stay in touch.

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

## MASS INTENTIONS

|      |        |                             |  |
|------|--------|-----------------------------|--|
| Mon  | Dec. 1 | 8:30am                      | Ed & Audrey Thiery (D)   |
| Tues | Dec. 2 | 8:30am                      | Camille Wilson (INT)   |
| Wed  | Dec. 3 | 8:30am                      | Homebound Parishioners of St. Anselm   |
| Thur | Dec. 4 | 8:30am                      | John & Dinka Velcich (D)   |
| Fri  | Dec. 5 | 8:30am                      | Willy & Susie Lukach (INT)<br>Book of Intentions and Votives                       |
| Sat  | Dec. 6 | 5:00pm                      | Judith O'Connell-Allen (D)   |
| Sun  | Dec. 7 | 8:00am<br>10:00am<br>5:00pm | Gabriel, Mary & Ignatius Kellady (D)<br>Molly Madden (INT)<br>Corazon Asuncion (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, 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

**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

**November— For the prevention of suicide**

Let us pray that those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts might find the support, care, and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.

## SAVE THE DATE AND COMMUNITY NOTES

- **Monday, December 8 is a Holy Day of Obligation.** Mass will be available at 8:30, 11:00, and 5:00
- **Adopt-a-Family** have set up their annual Christmas Giving Tree in the back of the Church. Please take a tag and help bring joy to the children of our community. Return wrapped gifts with tags attached to the church by 12/6-7 and no later than 12/15-16. THANK YOU for your generous support. Questions? Call Paulette (415)-453-9596
- Our parish is embracing a relationship ministry to support family life and healthy relationships. We will be hosting an evening for divorced and separated people focused on healing on **12/3 from 7-8:30pm**. This will be a hybrid presentation, on Zoom or in-person.
- Branson will be occupying the parking lot on **Saturday, 12/6 from 5pm-11pm**. Please plan accordingly.
- The Gingerbread House Workshop will follow the **10am Mass on 12/7 in the Centennial Hall**. Kits are available for purchase ahead of time at <https://payit.nelnet.net/form/TtZE5XtP>. All proceeds benefit the teacher gift fund and church restoration.
- **School Children's Advent Confessions** will take place **one class per day from December 9-16**.
- Our **Parish Advent Reconciliation Service** will be held on **Wednesday, 12/17 from 7pm-8pm**. This service will be facilitated by the Sisters of Charity—the St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta group.



One time donation



Recurring donation



Registration

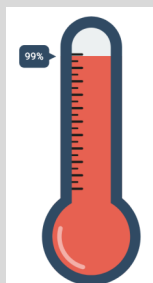
### St. Anselm Planned Giving

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  
415-272-6147

Upcoming second collection  
12/7—St. Anselm School

### 2025 Annual Appeal



\$71,409  
\$70,508

99%

## The Family Ministry at St. Anselm

Beloved St. Anselm Family,

Our Church and School Community is starting a new ministry focused on relationships and family health. This is in sync with my original pastoral plan, which continues to focus on the Eucharist as the fulfillment of all the sacraments, including the sacraments of healing (Anointing of the Sick, and Reconciliation). As we strive for the salvation of our souls, we will direct our efforts to enhance a fundamental unity of society: the family.

Our new family outreach ministry will be supported by *Communio*, a nonprofit ministry that trains and equips churches to share the Gospel through the renewal of healthy relationships, marriages, and the family.

This initiative is not exclusive to marriages or troubled families. It will help single men and women to establish healthy dating habits and discern when to consider marriage. Those preparing to be married will work with mentors before and after their wedding. Married couples will learn skills to strengthen their relationship. Couples facing challenges will have access to coaching resources to help them get back on track.

Early next month, we will administer a short, anonymous survey developed by Harvard's Human Flourishing Program to better understand and appreciate our parish family's marriage, family, and relationship needs. The results of this effort will be to highlight our Church and School community's strengths as well as identify areas for encouragement and support.

Please, keep this initiative in your prayers, and stay tuned!



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