

# *St. Anselm Catholic Church*

**December 28, 2025**  
**Feast of the Holy Family**



*Behold the Lamb of God—Walter Rane*

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  
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[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: Feast of the Holy Family 2025

We celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family just five days after celebrating Jesus' birth. Oddly, we read a Gospel in which He is 12 years old. And then, next week, we have the Feast of Epiphany, during which Jesus is once again an infant. Nevertheless, here we are. Perhaps it is a good time to reflect on family life, as families often gather during the Christmas season. Moreover, as a Parish, we are embracing a Ministry Focus on Relationship and Marriage Health. Let us consider family and marriage along three lines: structure, struggles, and strategy.

**I. Structure** – All through the readings for today's Mass, we are instructed on the basic form, the basic structure of the family: a man who loves his wife and a woman who loves her husband. Within this stable, lasting, and faithful union of mutual support and love, they conceive and raise their children in the holy fear of the Lord (Sirach 3:2; Psalm 128:3; Colossians 3:20-21; Luke 2:45, 51; Luke 2:51-52). Add to this the principal description of the book of Genesis, which describes how God sets forth marriage: *A man shall leave his father and mother, cling to his wife, and the two of them shall become one flesh* (Genesis 2:24). To this first couple, God gave the mandate, *Be fruitful and multiply* (Genesis 1:22). Thus, we have set forth biblically the basic structure of the family: Children both need and deserve the stable and lasting union of a father and a mother, the complementary influences of the two sexes. This is the best environment in which to raise and form children. To intentionally deprive a child of this environment is both unwise and unjust to children.

**II. Struggles** – Yet what should be obvious seems to be strangely absent from the minds of many. The rebellion of adults against the plan and order of God has caused endless grief and hardship and created a culture that is poisonous to the family, the dignity of the individual, and the proper raising and blessing of children. Instead of thinking of the good of children, we indulge our pleasures as adults and promote the lie that there is no necessary connection between children and sexual relations. Marriage is ordered to the good of the spouses and the procreation and education of children.

**III. Strategy** – We must unambiguously re-propose the wisdom of God's Word to our children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Even if we have fallen short personally, we cannot hesitate to announce God's plan for sexuality, marriage, and family. Neither homosexual unions nor any such unions are an alternative to biblical marriage. To allow children to be subjected to such environments for the sake of political correctness does them a grave injustice. In God's vision of marriage, the needs of children far outweigh the preferences, "rights," and needs of adults. God has a plan, and it must be our strategy, our way out of our struggles and back to His structure for our families.

**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

<b>Mon</b>	<b>Dec. 29</b>	8:30am	Fr. Gabriel Wankar (Thanksgiving)
<b>Tues</b>	<b>Dec. 30</b>	8:30am	Phil Decken (D)
<b>Wed</b>	<b>Dec. 31</b>	8:30am	Janis & John Parante (INT)
<b>Thur</b>	<b>Jan. 1</b>	8:00am 10:00am	Lois Lucas (INT) St. Anselm Parishioners
<b>Fri</b>	<b>Jan. 2</b>	8:30am	Parish & School Staff & Volunteers
<b>Sat</b>	<b>Jan. 3</b>	5:00pm	Dr. Joe Previtali (INT)
<b>Sun</b>	<b>Jan. 4</b>	8:00am 10:00am 5:00pm	Gabriel, Mary, & Ignatius Kellady (D) St. Anselm Parish New Families in the Parish

## 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

### December—For Christians in areas of conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

## SAVE THE DATE AND COMMUNITY NOTES

- We wish all our beloved parishioners a **wonderful Christmas season and blessings for the New Year.** To our wonderful Parish Council, Church and School Staff, volunteers, the adult and children's choirs, lectors, altar servers, ushers, flower ladies, our benefactors, thank you and may God bless you.
- **January 1** is the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, and is a **Holy Day of Obligation.** Mass times are **8:00am and 10:00am**
- **Friday, January 2** is the first Friday of the month. Spend time in Adoration with Our LORD from **9am to 12pm.** Confessions will also be available.
- **By mid-January,** our parish will hold and evening to celebrate the New Year and welcome all new families and individuals who have joined our parish recently. It will not just be for the new members, but for all of us—the old parishioners welcoming the new. Please, look out for the date in next week's bulletin.
- **On Saturday, February 14, 2026, we'll hold a Healing Mass for Divorced/Separated Catholics here in our Church at 9:00 a.m.**



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

### **End of Year Donation**

Please consider making an end of year donation to St. Anselm Church to enhance our parish ministries!

Thank you for your generosity!

## **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.

We recently administered 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 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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