

St. Anselm Catholic Church



August 24, 2025
Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time



To Pass Through the Narrow Gate by Jan Luyken

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: 21st Sunday of Ordinary Time

While the readings this Sunday describe God's divine desire to save us, there is also a need for a discipline that delivers us. Let's take a detailed look at the readings.

I. A Danger Described – “Lord, will only a few people be saved?” He answered them, “Strive to enter through the narrow gate” (Lk 13:22-30). While a kind of universalism today presumes that the vast majority, if not everyone will go to Heaven, Scripture says quite the opposite. Yes, God is an affirmer, an enricher, a facilitator, and a loving one who cares for us. No one loves us more than Jesus Christ, yet no one spoke of judgment and Hell more than He did. In dozens of passages and parables, Jesus warns of punishment and exclusion from the Kingdom for unrepentant sin and refusal to be ready. Here are several examples: (Matt 7:13-14), (Mat 13:41-42), (Matt 24:41-42, 46), (Matt 24:36-39; 42-44), (Mk 9:45-46), (Mk 13:35-37), (Mark 16:15-16), (Luke 21:34-36), (John 8:21, 24), (John 12:48), (Rev 22:14-16). The goal in all these appeals, is never to make us scared *per se*, but to encourage us to be sober, develop a sense of urgency in following God's call, and summon others to have faith.

II. The Divine Desire – The first reading (from Isaiah) assures us that God wants to save us all. If there is resistance to Heaven and being in relationship with God forever, it comes from us, not God: *I come to gather nations of every language* (Is 66:18-21). Other texts in Scripture also speak of God's desire to save us all and of His extending the offer of saving love to all: (Ez. 33:11), (1 Tim 2:3-7), (2 Peter 3:9-10), (Isaiah 55:6-7). God is not our adversary in salvation; He is our only way. He wants to save us, but He respects our choice.

III. The Discipline that Delivers –The first step towards attaining God's salvation is to accept the Lord's offer of His Son Jesus, who alone can save us. We do this through faith and baptism and through God's grace, daily renewal of our yes. The second reading (from Hebrews) also spells out for us a way in which God, by His grace, works to draw us deeper into His saving love and path: *My son, do not disdain the discipline of the Lord or lose heart when reproved by him; for whom the Lord loves, he disciplines; he scourges every son he acknowledges. Endure your trials as "discipline"; God treats you as sons. For what "son" is there whom his father does not discipline? At the time, discipline seemed a cause not for joy but pain, yet later, it brought the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those trained in it* (Heb 12:5-7).

In the week ahead, let make the Eucharist the center of our lives, realizing that ... *for whom the Lord loves, he disciplines; he scourges every son he acknowledges.* ... While God's divine desire is to save us, there is also a need for a discipline that delivers us.

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon.	Aug. 25	8:30am	Francis Wankar (D)
Tues.	Aug. 26	8:30am	Bill Powers (D)
Wed.	Aug. 27	8:30am	John Rivera (D)
Thur.	Aug. 28	8:30am	Linda Gill (D)
Fri.	Aug. 29	8:30am	Ben and Furn Johnson (D)
Sat.	Aug. 30	5:00pm	Janie Whitehouse (INT)
Sun.	Aug. 31	8:00am	Spencer Greene (D)
		10:00am	Tommy DeVoto (D)
		5:00pm	Lenore Heffernan (INT)

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, Mike Killelea, 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, Linda Biesheuvel, Pat Daly, Katherine Elizabeth Devcich, Catherine Ward, Theresa Sullivan

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

August—For mutual coexistence

Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious, or ideological reasons.

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

Notice on Father Neal Healy

Please pray for the health of Father Neal Healy who is currently residing in a convalescent home in San Mateo. If you would like more information on visiting him, please contact the parish office.

SAVE THE DATE AND COMMUNITY NOTES

- ♦ 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.
- ♦ **An Evening of Recollection on Wednesday, September 10 at 7pm** Theme: *"Peace Within, Peace Around: An Evening of Reflection on Inner Peace in a World That Never Stops."* [Led by the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist teaching at Marin Catholic High.]
- ♦ There will be no Ritter Center Food Drives until September due to low volunteer recruitment during the summertime. Thank you for your support for this important ministry. We look forward to resuming in the Fall.
- ♦ Every Wednesday from 4:00 to 5:00 pm Deacon Bob will lead a discussion of the upcoming Sunday readings. This is a unique opportunity to explore what you and other parishioners take away from the Readings! **You may attend in-person (Centennial Hall) or via Zoom.** Contact Deacon Bob to get a copy of the readings in advance and the Zoom link. ppc.stanselmross@gmail.com



One time donation



Recurring donation

St. Anselm Church Stewardship

Visit church website to sign-up for Electronic Donations

Upcoming second collection on August 31
Saint Vincent de Paul

2025 Annual Appeal: \$43,532 collected; goal of \$71,409

2025 Church Restoration Goal—\$ 3,500,000

Catechesis on 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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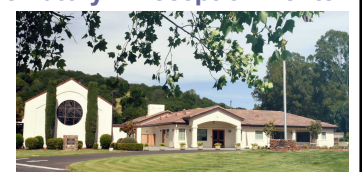
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