

St. Anselm Catholic Church

February 22, 2026
1st Sunday of Lent



The Temptation of Christ—Ludwig Ferdinand Schnorr von Carolsfeld, 1847

97 Shady Lane, PO Box 1061, Ross, CA 94957

Parish office phone: (415) 453-2342

Parish office hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00am—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
Deacon Robert Meave

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@stanselm.school.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 7:25—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 Catholic community formed by families, individuals & clergy that worship together, celebrate the sacramental life of the Church, & seek to live the Gospel of Jesus Christ everyday. We welcome, serve, & educate according to the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

Pastor's Reflection: 1st Sunday of Lent

The Gospel today says that Jesus was tempted by the devil in the desert. Let us learn a few general aspects of what the Lord teaches us when we choose to endure temptation. **1. Temptation and Sin** –Experiencing temptation is not simply to be equated with sin, as the devil often tries to discourage us, making us think that temptation is already sin. Rather than to feel shame and run from God, we ought to run to him with confidence and seek his help. **2. Temptation and Scripture** – Notice how, to every temptation, Jesus responds with Scripture. Jesus was deeply rooted in the wisdom of the Biblical vision. To the degree that we are deeply rooted in the wisdom of God's truth through Scripture and the teachings of the Church, we can strongly rebuke ambivalent, ideological teachings. **3. Temptation and Strength** – Notice that Jesus is tempted three times, after which the Devil leaves him. After repeatedly lifting weights, our physical strength and endurance increase. It is the same with spiritual life. The battle against temptation is not a "one-and-you're-done" scenario, but an ongoing struggle wherein each victory makes us stronger and discourages the devil.

Let's look at the three temptation scenes.**I: The Temptation of Passions.** Hunger, as a desire, is a passion. Food is not evil *per se*, for without it we would perish. The same is true with other natural desires for things like life, drink, and propagation (sexuality). Other passions also exist in us, such as anger and love, joy, aversion, hatred, hope, despair, and fear. In and of themselves, these passions are neither good nor bad, but become so only in relation to their object, or insofar as we allow them to become inordinate. The Devil tries to draw Jesus into sin by yielding to his hunger and rejecting his call to fast. He is tempted to serve himself. We, too, have passions. Can we, like Jesus, say that God's Word is more to me than my desires for satisfaction, affirmation, power, or possessions?

II. The Temptation of Presumption – There is a value in trusting God, but this is not an invitation to presumption. A time comes when Jesus throws himself down on the Cross in complete assurance that the Father will raise Him. But now, He must act to preserve His life to accomplish His entire mission. For us, too, there is no sin in trusting in God's care for us. But presuming that everything will be fine is a snare of the Devil, who seeks to cloud our minds with false hope and unreasonable expectations.

III. The Temptation of Possessions – EVERYTHING is offered by Satan to Jesus in exchange for a bit of worship of the Devil. It is not wrong to desire what we really need to live, but it is our wants that get us into trouble. In the end, temptations are real, and we either accept God's grace to fight them or risk ruination (by Satan's "ministrations").

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 & 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 so we can stay in touch.

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

MASS INTENTIONS

| | | | |
|-------------|----------------|---------|--|
| Mon | Feb. 23 | 8:30am | Pete Hansen (D) |
| Tues | Feb. 24 | 8:30am | Mary Mulvaney (D) |
| Wed | Feb. 25 | 8:30am | Phil Riopel (D) |
| Thur | Feb. 26 | 8:00am | Homebound Parishioners and their Caretakers |
| Fri | Feb. 27 | 8:30am | Bishop Wang (INT) |
| Sat | Feb. 28 | 5:00pm | Success for our Bell Tower Restoration Project |
| Sun | Mar. 1 | 8:00am | Gabriel, Ignatius & Mary Kellady (D) |
| | | 10:00am | Manwel Shuwayhat (D) |
| | | 5:00pm | Ruth Olsen (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, , 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, Martha Yasar, Claire Muller

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, Fr. Neil Healy, Michael Mello

For Our Military: Matthew Kerry O'Brien, Robert Gebhardt, Tyler Lopez, Alex Boatwright, Elizabeth Baumsteiger, Christian Miller, Robert Kent, Shane Morgan, Daniel Lowe, & Rob Manifold

The Pope's Monthly Intentions

February—For children with incurable diseases
Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

SAVE THE DATE & COMMUNITY NOTES

- Each Friday of Lent, there will be **Stations of the Cross** in the Church at 7pm.
- As Lent begins, we are introducing a **parish-wide sign-up for Eucharistic Adoration**. We invite every parishioner to **commit to at least one hour each week before the Blessed Sacrament**—bringing the burdens we cannot carry alone and placing them before the Lord. The miracle of Adoration is not that life becomes easier, but that the soul becomes anchored in God. It is not an escape from the world; it is preparation to return to it changed. Please, sign up. Keep watch with Jesus this Lent.
- The Ritter Center will be accepting the usual food donations for this weekend of 2/21-22. Thank you for your support for this important ministry.
- Catholic speaker, Astrid Bennett, will give a talk on how God calls parents & grandparents to protect their families and transform our culture. **Astrid will speak on Saturday, February 28 at 10:00am at Our Lady of Loretto Parish, Novato**
- A baby changing station for your convenience is located in the courtyard restroom out the left side of the Church.



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 & values of the Church in its ministry.

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

HELPING THE UNSEEN FEEL SEEN DURING LENT

February 18 marks the beginning of Lent with the celebration of Ash Wednesday. Every year, during this sacred season, something quiet but significant happens in parishes like ours.

- A visitor slips into a pew after being away for many years.
- A young family comes for the first time, unsure where to sit or how their children will be received.
- A parent from our school quietly attends Mass, hoping to reconnect.
- Someone searching online wonders if this parish might finally feel like home.

They come quietly—and often, they leave quietly, without ever being noticed.

Lent is a season of return, renewal, and encounter. It is a time when hearts are more open, when wounds surface, and when many feel a gentle pull back toward the Eucharist—the source of our unity and life. For this reason, Lent may be one of the most critical moments in the year for helping people move from simply showing up to truly belonging.

Often, what makes the difference is not a program, but a person:

- A smile that feels genuine.
- A simple “Good morning, we’re glad you’re here.”
- An invitation to sit together.
- Patience with children.
- A willingness to notice someone standing alone.

These small, tangible gestures quietly communicate something powerful: *You are seen. You belong here.*

As a parish and school community, I invite us to take on a kind of *Lenten warmth*—a realistic obligation of accompaniment:

- At Sunday and daily Mass, notice someone unfamiliar and offer a brief word of welcome.
- During Eucharistic Adoration or the Stations of the Cross, be attentive to those who seem unsure or new.
- Long-time parishioners can make space for conversation outside the Church following Mass rather than leaving immediately.

We all can model a spirit of calm, reverence, and approachability.

My prayer and hope for this Lenten season is that, through these ordinary acts of faithfulness, we foster a culture of welcome that is both deeply Gospel-rooted and realistic for parish life. Genuine hospitality is not about doing more—it is about drawing others into the life of the Body of Christ.

This Lent, I invite and urge every member of our Church and School community to notice who God is placing in our midst, and to walk with them—quietly and faithfully—toward deeper communion, lasting belonging, and life in the Eucharist.

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