

St. Anselm Catholic Church

December 7, 2025
Second Sunday of Advent



Saint John Baptizing in the River Jordan—Nicolas Poussin, 1630s

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 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@saintanselmschool.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, 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 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: Second Sunday of Advent 2025

The Second Sunday of Advent typically features the Ministry of St. John the Baptist, who prepared the people of his time for the coming of Jesus by summoning them to repentance and opening them to the fullness of the Kingdom of God. Like John the Baptist, the Church, which Christ founded, continues this mission: *[the baptized] must profess before men the faith they have received from God through the Church and participate in the apostolic and missionary activity of the People of God.* (CCC, 1270). The ministry of St. John the Baptist in today's Gospel provides four principles for prophets and all the Baptized who prepare:

I. Poise. The content of John's preaching is twofold. He first says, "Repent!" And then adds, "For the Kingdom of God is at hand." While the preacher and the prophet must speak frankly about sin and call people to repentance, they must also discuss the grace available to conquer that sin and the Good News that the Kingdom of Heaven is now open and accessible. St. John joyfully announced the in-breaking of the Kingdom of God and the coming of the Messiah, but he spoke of repentance as the door of access. Do we have this balance, or do we preach mercy without repentance?

II. Product – The text says, *At that time Jerusalem, all Judea, and the whole region around the Jordan were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins.* Prophets seek to prepare people. To repent, to come to a new mind and heart by God's grace, is to be prepared. The central work of the prophet is to call people to repentance unto salvation. Good preaching produces repentance unto salvation. It may cause some to be mad or sad, but if it is a proper prophecy, it will produce a godly sorrow, and the anger gives way to gladness. The expected product of proper preaching: repentance unto salvation.

III. Purity – John the Baptist's preaching had purity because he had no fear of people's opinion and would not compromise the message based on his audience. He did not have the need to flatter others. Fear is a great enemy of powerful prophecies, for by it many remain silent when they should speak. The fear of what other people may think causes us to compromise the truth and even sin against it. This sort of fear must be eliminated if our prophecy is to have the purity necessary to reach its goal.

IV. Person – John's audience and disciples were fascinated by him and drawn by his charisma. But the more they sought to know about him, John spoke instead about Jesus. A genuine prophet's message has got to be about Jesus, about God's agenda, not his ideology. In the week ahead, let us take a moment to thank God for someone who brought us to Christ, remembering that we, too, are called to be John the Baptist for others.

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 so we can stay in touch.

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon	Dec. 8	8:30am	Steven Siegel (D)
		11:00am	Shawn Crossley (INT)
		5:00pm	Anthony & Sarah Zeitz (INT)
Tues	Dec. 9	8:30am	Nancy Hays (INT)
Wed	Dec. 10	8:30am	Sr. Mary Kellady (INT)
Thur	Dec. 11	8:30am	Parish Volunteers (INT)
Fri	Dec. 12	8:30am	Claire Muller (INT)
Sat	Dec. 13	5:00pm	Larry Gentilello (INT)
Sun	Dec. 14	8:00am	Claude Wundrow (D)
		10:00am	Bill Langley (INT)
		5:00pm	Stacy Spaniolo (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

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

- **Monday, December 8 is a Holy Day of Obligation.** Mass will be available at 8:30am, 11:00am, and 5:00pm
- **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
- Wine and Cheese night returns on **Saturday, 12/13** following the 5pm Vigil Mass.
- **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.
- Within the Mass on **Wednesday, Dec. 24 at 8:30am,** school children will be receiving Baptisms and First Holy Communion.
- **Religious Education for Children**
The Religious Education program is still accepting new students. Classes for Pre-K to 7th meet Sunday mornings at 9am and conclude in time to attend the 10am Mass. The Confirmation classes for 8th+ grade meet on Sunday evenings and include attending the 5pm Mass. Visit SaintAnselm.org to learn more.



One time donation



Recurring donation



Registration

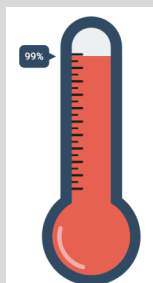
St. Anselm Planned Giving

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
12/14—**Retired Religious**
12/21—**Building and Maintenance**

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.

We are currently administering a short, anonymous survey developed by Harvard's Human Flourishing Program to better understand and appreciate our parish community'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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