

St. Anselm Catholic Church

February 8, 2026
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time



A City Set on a Hill—Layne Haacke, 2025

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@stanselmschool.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—8:25 am
& 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: 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time A

In the Gospel today, the Lord describes what a Christian is and what He expects of us in a metaphorical sense. Note five things about what God says:

I. The Definitiveness of His Proclamation—First, the Lord says, “You.” *You* are salt. *You* are light. It's you, not others! Second, the Lord is definitive in saying that *both* images depend on us; if we are not salt and light (a faithful Christian), then no one else will be. Also, the Lord says that you are *the* light of the world, not merely *a* light. If we don't shine by living our faith and proclaiming it, the world is in darkness.

II The Dynamics of Salt: 1. *Salt seasons*. Christians are called to add spice to life, to bring beauty, joy, and hope to the world. 2. *Salt preserves*. Before the advent of refrigeration, people often used salt to cure or preserve meat. Christians are called to prevent and preserve people from the decay of sin and overindulgence. 3. *Salt heals*. In the ancient world, salt was used on wounds to stop bleeding, kill bacteria, and prevent further infection. So, too, through our faith, and our living of it, we are called to bring healing to this world, which is wounded by sin, war, unfaithfulness, and greed. 4. *Salt burns*. Yes, salt stings and often elicits loud protests when applied to wounds. The truth of the Gospel can be irritating to a world that is wounded by sin. But despite the protests of the world, the sting is a healing one. In fact, protests often show that we are doing precisely what we must.

III. The Destination of Salt—For salt to be effective, *it must get out of the shaker!* Too many Christians only speak of faith in the relative security of the Church and among certain friends. But to preach to our spouse, co-worker, or even our children, that's too scary. When the priest or deacon says, "The Mass is ended, go in peace," he holds up a salt shaker and shakes it, sending us out into the world.

IV. The Details of Light: 1. *The CAUSE of the light*—Let your light shine. Notice that little word: “Let.” We are to yield to Christ, to allow Him to shine through us. 2. *The COST of the light*—Shining means sacrifice. It means not always sleeping when you want to. It means not just sitting at home but getting out and getting involved. There is no shining without burning. 3. *The CONCRETENESS of the light*—Our light shines when we tell the truth instead of lying. It shines when we respect life, drive safely, shun reckless and risky behavior, and speak the truth in love, without compromise. 4. *The CONSEQUENCE of the light*—We are light to glorify God. It is not about always having our way; it is about God shining and being glorified. OK, now pass the salt and turn on the light!

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. 9	8:30am	Roger Offenbach (D)
Tues	Feb. 10	8:30am	St. Anselm Children's Choir
Wed	Feb. 11	8:30am	Parishioners experiencing separation or divorce
Thur	Feb. 12	8:00am	Lois Lucas (INT)
Fri	Feb. 13	8:30am	Larry Gentilello (INT)
Sat	Feb. 14	5:00pm	Christopher Allen Cook (D)
Sun	Feb. 15	8:00am	Fr. Neil Healy (D)
		10:00am	Martha Yasar (Healing)
		5:00pm	The Clark Family (Thanksgiving)

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

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

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

- **On Saturday, February 14, 2026, we will hold a Healing Mass for Divorced/Separated Catholics here in our Church at 9:00a.m.**
- **Wine and Cheese Night** will return after the 5pm Vigil Mass on Saturday, February 14
- **Lent begins on February 18.** Ash Wednesday Masses will be at 8:30am, 11:00am, and 5:00pm.
- **Join the Ninth Annual Retreat for Women on Saturday, February 21 at St. Dominic's Parish, San Francisco.** Learn how to grow closer to Jesus, change the way you think about certain circumstances, and watch miracles happen. Cost is \$60. For more detailed information and to register, visit <https://stdominics.org/retreat-for-women/>
- **On Saturday, February 21 at 10:00am , all sacramentally married couples in the Archdiocese are invited to St. Mary's Cathedral for a Mass** celebrated by Archbishop Cordileone, followed by a reception. Couples celebrating "five-year anniversaries" (5, 10, 15, 20...) will receive special recognition. Donation requested is \$20/couple. Register at <https://sfarch.org/event/2026-wedding-anniversary-celebration/>



One time donation



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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

Upcoming Collection:
February 15—Building and Maintenance

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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