The earth shall be filled with knowledge of the LORD, as water covers the sea. -- Isaiah 11:9
Dear Parishioners,

The most common news these days is about protests. The Gospel reading of this Sunday presents us with John the Baptist who had a message, who lived the message and whose entire life was a protest. People listened to his message. Today, many preach a message that they themselves deny by their lives. That includes people from every walk of life and even priests and religious. There are people who preach the virtues of detachment and selfless giving from comfortable homes. Their preaching never touches their lives or life style. But John was different. He lived his message. He himself was the message. John invites us today to live our convictions and beliefs in our daily lives.

On December 8, Thursday, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. On December 8, the Masses will be at 8:00am, 9:00am (School Mass), 11:00am, and the evening 5:30 pm Mass.

On Tuesday, December 20th, at 7:00, we will have our Advent Penance Service.

Yours Sincerely,
Fr. Jose Shaji, Pastor

The Serenity Prayer

God grant me the serenity
To accept the things I cannot change;
Courage to change the things I can;
And wisdom to know the difference.

Living one day at a time;
Enjoying one moment at a time;
Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace;
Taking, as He did, this sinful world
As it is, not as I would have it;
Trusting that He will make all things right
If I surrender to His Will;
So that I may be reasonably happy in this life
And supremely happy with Him
Forever and ever in the next.
Amen.

As a community we ask God’s blessing for the ill:
Mark Gardner, Garth Stanton, Nancy Hall, Steve Leland, Christopher Goward, Margaret Formichi, Richard Green, Barbara Gilligan, Irene Lorente, Louisa Espinosa, Chris Spada, Terese Marklinger, Vincent Boyle, Joan Madden, Jeanie Paganetti, Al Dallara, Antoinette Hanna, Rita Wardner, Bess Nuzzo, Jonathon Scott, Erik Week Allison Chichizola

For the repose of the soul of: Mark Fernandez, Brendan Travers

For those serving in the military: Adam Dear, Robert Ernest Gebhardt, Tyler Lopez, Alex Boatwright, Sean Courtz, Elizabeth Baumsteiger, Christian Miller

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
Monday: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13; Mt 18:12-14
Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 6; Mt 11:28-30
Thursday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19
Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11
ST. ANSELM SCHOOL NEWS

Our Kindergarten Offers:
- A values Based Education in a Caring Parish School Environment
- Thematic Teaching
- A Multi-Sensory Approach to Reading Readiness
- Differentiated Instruction
- Hands-on, Child-centered Math & Science Instruction
- Developmental Motor Skills Program
- Art, Music, Spanish, & Integrated Technology Instruction
- Multi-faceted Extended Care
- 10:1 Student to Teacher Ratio

The dates for the Kindergarten Information Sessions are:
December 7, 2016 and January 12, 2017 - 9:00AM

Bring your Christmas list and come shop at the second annual St. Anselm Holiday Bazaar sponsored by the PTG on Monday, December 5, from 2:30-5:30 at the Church Hall. We have a great group of vendors this year including Ulla Thomsen Jewelry, Toss, Rodan + Fields, India Hicks, Stella & Dot, Vacay Style, and The Tipsy Cake. This is a great way to get in the Christmas spirit and check some of those presents off your list!

ADOPT-A-FAMILY CHRISTMAS TREE

This weekend, Dec. 3rd-4th, select a gift request ornament from the Christmas Tree in the vestibule of Church. Return wrapped gifts, with the name tag attached, to the church by Dec. 10th-11th and no later than December 17th-18th. Help spread Christmas Cheer to others in need.

Looking For Positive Next Steps?

Do the election results leave you wondering what positive steps you can take to make our community more responsive to the needs of all our members in Marin? You are invited to join clergy and lay people from St. Anselm and other congregations at the Dominican Sisters Gathering Space, this Tues, Dec 6th, 6:30-8PM. We will reflect and interpret the events of the last few weeks and chart a course of actions starting in January, 2017. The Dominican Sisters Gathering Space is at 1520 Grand Ave, San Rafael. There is adequate street and lot parking. This event is sponsored by Marin Organizing Committee* (St. Anselm is a member). If you have questions, please contact Deacon Bernie O'Halloran, (st.anselm_bernie@yahoo.com) or Pat Langley, (plangley@att.net).

R/Dn. Bernie
Pat Langley

*Marin Organizing Committee is non-partisan and does not endorse candidates or elected officials.

Christmas & New Year Eves

St. Anselm’s is the host for the homeless REST dinners on both Christmas and New Year Eve. We need additional volunteers to prepare and share the meal. Dinner is served at the First Presbyterian Church in San Anselmo; we arrive at 5 pm and leave by 8 pm. If you are able to share your holidays with those who are spending their holidays on the hall floor, please email stanselm.restdinners@yahoo.com. You will then receive a link to the online schedule. Thank you.

RCIA Rite of Welcoming and Acceptance

- On December 11, 2016, at the 10:00am Mass, we will have the Rite of Welcoming and Acceptance. It is the first of the “threshold rites” of RCIA, and the first public ritual. In the Rite of Acceptance, a change of identity takes place: those previously known as inquirers (those who are unbaptized) become catechumens. During the Rite of Welcoming, those who have already been baptized, but have not received the rest of the sacraments, are now acknowledged as Candidates. Please come and join in welcoming and accepting our catechumen and candidate.
St. Anselm Church Calendar of Events

SAVE THE DATE
December 4– Gingerbread House Decorating-Hall
December 5– St. Anselm School– Christmas Bazaar– 2:30-5:30- Hall
December 11– Wine & Cheese following the 5:00 Mass-Hall
December 18-Christmas Pageant-10:00am Mass
December 20– Advent Penance Service-7:00pm

Events Near St. Anselm Parish

Join us!
Marin Catholic’s
Holiday Boutique
Sunday, December 11
12:00pm to 4:00pm
Marin Catholic Freitas Memorial Gym
675 Sir Francis Drake, Kentfield
Admission is FREE & open to the public!
Jewelry, Handbags, Designer Clothing, Unique Gifts ,
And so much more!
Proceeds benefit MC’s Safe & Sober Grad Night

Christmas Volunteer Opportunities with Catholic Charities– Embrace the Christmas season by taking time to serve others and spread holiday joy throughout our community! There are several ways to get involved:
-Decorate, wrap gifts, or prepare food at any of the program holiday parties and luncheons.
-Donate gift cards to Target, Safeway, or Walgreens to help families in need buy gifts. Visit our website at CatholicCharitiesSF.org/All-Opportunities to see the full list of opportunities. To volunteer with Catholic Charities, or for more information, please contact Diane Contreras at volunteer@CatholicCharitiesSF.org or 415-972-1297.

Advent Speaker Series
St. Patrick Church
114 King Street
Larkspur, CA
God welcomes you to spend one hour each week during Advent to wait for the One who can dramatically change your life for the better. Will you come and join us so we can await His arrival together?

Candlelit prayer time: 6:30 – 7:00p.m.
Guest speaker: 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
December 7
Fr. David Pettingill
“Discovering the One who is Always Present”
December 14
Fr. Paul Warren
“Waiting in Joyful Hope”
December 21
Sr. Patricia Bruno, O.P.
“Wisdom Stands at the Door and Waits”
Wine & Cheese Reception
Please RSVP: 415-924-0600
An update on Nick Case, our former Director of Religious Education

Nick is currently studying at St. Patrick Seminary in Menlo Park. His days are filled with classes and prayer—to say the least. His class curriculum consists of Liturgy, Fundamental Theology, Pentateuch, Patristics, Monastic Spirituality and Greek. When he is not in the classroom, he ministers to children from low income families at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in east Palo Alto. He does Faith Formation at Good Shepherd in Pacifica which is where our former Parochial Vicar, Fr. Lue Palacpac, is Pastor. Nick also helps Archbishop Cordileone with special masses at St. Mary Cathedral.

Although there is very little “spare” time in his life, Nick does acknowledge a strong fraternity among his fellow Seminarians and they find time to go out and share meals together. He is a part of a Jesu Caritas Group which is priestly support group.

On November 17th, Nick was Installed into the Lectorship by Bishop Tom Daly of Spokane, Washington.

Fr. Mark Mazza, our former Parochial Vicar, who is now at Church of the Nativity in Menlo Park, was one of the Con-celebrants of the Lectorship Ceremony.

Nick wants the parishioners of St. Anselm to know how incredibly grateful he is for your prayers, support, and visits. He feels blessed knowing that our community is still an important part of his journey to Priesthood.
Bulletin Number: 513520

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Software  
  MS Publisher 2016  
  Windows 10  
  Adobe Acrobat DC

Transmission Time:  
  9:30am Tuesday

Number of Pages sent:  
  6 (including information page)