February 19, 2017
Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Be holy, for I, the LORD, your God, am holy.
-- Leviticus 19:2b
Dear Parishioners,

What differentiates the Disciples of Christ from the others is their willingness to love as God loves. God places no conditions when he loves his people. God shows equal love to the good and the bad, not because he is indifferent to injustice or immorality but because he loves without limit. God’s love is unconditional. Jesus tells us, “love your enemies.” Our enemies are not those who hate us, but those whom we hate or do not love. We can love our enemies only when we can forgive them. The Gospel reading of this Sunday ends with these words, “be perfect as your heavenly father is perfect.” Jesus is asking us to love and forgive like the heavenly Father. He is asking us to move from conditional love to unconditional love and unconditional forgiveness. And, that is holiness!

Yours sincerely,
Fr. Jose Shaji, Pastor

BRINGING HOLY COMMUNION TO HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS: If you know of a parishioner who is unable to attend Mass but would like to receive Holy Communion, please contact the Rectory so that arrangements can be made for a Eucharistic Minister to bring the parishioner Holy Communion. Homebound includes anyone who is unable to attend Mass on an ongoing basis or anyone who is temporarily unable to go to Mass due to, for instance, a surgery, illness or injury.

MARTYRDOM
Live as though today you may die a martyr's death.
--Charles de Foucauld

St. Anselm Church Stewardship
Registered Parishioner Families 2017= 1675
Last Sunday Collection (Envelope & Loose): $4,218

*Please log onto Parish Pay and update your CC expiration date!

Second Collections:
Centennial Building & Maintenance– February 19
St. Anselm School– March 5
Centennial Building & Maintenance– March 19
Catholic Relief Services-March 26

As a community we ask God’s blessing for the ill:

For the repose of the soul of:
Delia Comolli, Seamus Cowley, Rita Beroni

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
Monday: Sir 1:1-10; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Mk 9:14-29
Tuesday: Sir 2:1-11; Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40; Mk 9:30-37
Wednesday: 1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19
Thursday: Sir 5:1-8; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mk 9:41-50
Friday: Sir 6:5-17; Ps 119:12, 16, 18, 27, 34, 35; Mk 10:1-12
Saturday: Sir 17:1-15; Ps 103:13-18; Mk 10:13-16
Sunday: Is 49:14-15; Ps 62:2-3, 6-9; 1 Cor 4:1-5; Mt 6:24-34

THE HEAVIEST LOAD
A chip on the shoulder is the heaviest load anyone can carry.
--Anonymous
Lent Begins on March 1st -
Ash Wednesday is March 1, and Easter is April 16. Our Ash Wednesday Masses will be at 8:00am, 9:00am (School Mass-all are welcome), 12:00pm, and 5:30pm. Our weekday Mass schedule during Lent is Monday-Friday 8:00am and 5:30pm.

As we approach Lent, be aware of the following:

- **Lenten Regulations:** As in the past, the following regulations are in place for Abstaining and Fasting during Lent:
  - **Abstinence:** Everyone fourteen years of age and older is bound to abstain from meat on **ASH WEDNESDAY**, the **FRIDAYS** of Lent, and **GOOD FRIDAY**.
  - **Fast:** Everyone eighteen years of age and older but under the age of sixty is also bound to fast on **ASH WEDNESDAY** and **GOOD FRIDAY**. On these two days, the law of fast allows only one full meal a day, but does not prohibit taking some food during the day, so long as this does not constitute another full meal. Drinking liquids during the day is permitted. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige. In doubt concerning fast or abstinence, a priest should be consulted. In the spirit of penance, the faithful should not lightly excuse themselves from this obligation.

**Wonderful St. Anselm Volunteers**
Every Saturday night St. Anselm volunteers prepare, serve, share a meal with homeless men and then they do the clean-up! It is part of the Rotating Emergency Shelter Team where congregations and non-profits host the homeless every night from Nov. 1st till April 30th. New Year’s Eve volunteers included: leader Daniel Shimabuku; Jody Gustke; Laura Oheidhin; Jody Gustke; Tina Hunerberg; Kevin, Laurie Joyce, Jackie, Katrina, Caroline Lozaw. On January 7th, volunteers included: leader Liz Amini, John & Pat Cahill; Seamus and Michelle Cunningham; Kathleen, Eric, Anya and Daemon Cutter; Dawson Gordon; Joe McGarry (son); Pat Langley and Connie, Hasan, Zach and Sienna Sume; Tod, MM, Annie, Hack & Peter Tornega. The January 14th team were led by Ellen Boesner Snell and Gail Pierce; the team included Patti, Frank, Morgan & Francis Conway; Caroline & Ron Foster; Ann Hibler, Ned Mollis, Sallie Rowe, Pascale Soumoy, Tara Ticknor and Ciara Tran. Thank you to all who have been so generous with their time and multiple skills. If you would like to know more about REST, including volunteering for a future dinner, email: StAnselm.RESTDinners@yahoo.com.

**DIVINE WISDOM**
- The Lord's message, through Moses, was to "take no revenge and cherish no grudge . . . love your neighbor as yourself" (Leviticus 19:18). We might think, "Great in theory, but not always realistic!"
- Then Jesus in today's Gospel goes even further. Take a slap in the face and then turn the other cheek? Treat enemies the same as friends? Again, we're tempted to think that those are nice ideals, but not very practical in the "real world."
- Paul echoes Jesus when he tells the Corinthians that what passes for human wisdom is absurdity to God. Divine wisdom casts sunshine on the good and the bad, showers rain on the honest and the dishonest--without distinction.
- We must examine our wisdom and common sense to see how they compare to the wisdom of God, and make adjustments accordingly.

**ST. ANSELM VALENTINE TEA PARTY:** (New Date)
Due to Mother Nature’s Water Show, we had to reschedule our Valentine Tea Party.

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23rd**
3:00-4:30
**CENTENNIAL HALL**

- Wear your favorite hat
- & bring your special teacup, if you wish

$5 DONATION SUGGESTED
St. Anselm Church Calendar of Events

February 18-19– Wine & Cheese-following the 5:00pm Mass-Hall
February 20– Parish Office Closed
February 23– Tea Party 3:00-4:30– Hall
February 28–Go Green! Listen to Irish Tales!
Presenter and expert story-teller, Cathryn Fairlee, brings humor, song and legend from Celtic tradition

Events Near St. Anselm Parish

Thursday, February 23, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. - An evening with Dominican University Psychology Professor Dr. Veronica Fruht and Executive Director of Catholic Charities-San Francisco Jeff Bialik. **Hope: A Practice and a Gift.** Together they will offer information, inspiration and practical insight in how hope can grow in each of us.

Thursday, March 2, 7:00-8:30 p.m. - An evening with social activist, author and speaker, Father Thomas Massaro, SJ from the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University. **Addressing Economic Inequality in the Era of Pope Francis.** Come prepared to have your world vision expanded. Father Massaro is currently working on a new book on the social justice teachings of Pope Francis.

These presentations are part of the Dominican Sisters' ongoing **Gather@Grand** series. All are welcome to a relaxed evening with light refreshments and time for your questions. **The Gathering Space - Dominican Sisters Center, 1520 Grand Avenue, San Rafael between Aca-cia and Locust Streets. Be sure to RSVP CommunityRelations@sanrafaelop.org or call 415 453-8303.

Carmelite Monastery: Novena to St. Joseph:
The Discalced Carmelite Nuns cordially invite you to attend their annual Novena to St. Joseph from **March 11th to March 19th**, with Mass and Vespers celebrated at 4:00pm each afternoon, in the Monastery Chapel.
This year’s Novena will be conducted by Rev. Jose Luis Ferroni, OCD, a Carmelite Friar of the California/Arizona Province of St. Joseph. Father is an outstanding homilist and will share with us his great love for St. Joseph. We hope you will join us for these nine days of prayer and reflection.
Carmelite Monastery of the Mother of God
530 Blackstone Drive, San Rafael, 94903.

Come And See Days– Cloistered Dominican Nuns:
For Catholic single woman ages 18-38. July 15, & October 21. Contact Sr. Joseph Marie at vocations@nunsmenlo.org for more information and to register.
Congratulations to St. Anselm’s Newest Confirmandi!

On Saturday, February 11th 2017 at 2:30pm, 34 of our youth received the Sacrament of Confirmation by His Eminence Cardinal Levada. May the 7 gifts of the Holy Spirit keep them strong in their faith and be the foundation for many great works.

After the Confirmation Ceremony, His Eminence Cardinal Levada, along with his Master of Ceremonies, Alvin Yu, shared a meal, laughter, and stories with some of St. Anselm’s staff and clergy. Wonderful memories were made that night.

RCIA NEWS

On Sunday, February 12th 2017 at the 10am mass, our two RCIA participants, Robb Miller and Ernesto Barrera, had their Rite of Welcoming. Here they are captured receiving the sign of the cross over their hearts, so that Christ may dwell there by faith.
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