St. Anselm Catholic Church

December 17, 2017
Third Sunday of Advent

Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing.
- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-17

Mass Schedule:
Saturday Vigil 5:00pm,
Sunday 8:00am, 10:00am, and 5:00pm

Weekday Mass:
Monday through Friday 8:00am
(Tuesday 8:00am is a Communion Service)
Tuesday & Thursday 5:30pm

Parish Office Hours:
8:30am-1:00pm, 2:00pm-5:00pm

Holy Day Masses:
8:00am, 12:00pm, 5:30pm

Reconciliation:
Saturdays 4:00pm-4:45pm
or by appointment

Baptism:
Preparation Class required.
Call parish office

Sacrament 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) 454-0366

Helping Hands:
(415) 453-2342

Eucharist for Homebound:
(415) 453-2342

97 Shady Lane, PO Box 1061, Ross, CA 94957
Parish Office: (415) 453-2342
Office Fax: (415) 453-8713

Clergy:
Fr. Jose Shaji, Pastor ext. 15
Email: Fr.Shaji@saintanselm.org
Deacon Bernie O’Halloran
Deacon Ed Cunningham
Deacon Robert Meave

Parish Secretary:
Sissy Ratto ext. 10
St.anselmoffice@att.net

Religious Education:
Natalie Larraga D.R.E. ext. 20
Dre@saintanselm.org

Health-Senior Ministry:
Rose Shadduck
(415) 453- 6533

Music Director:
Michael Mello (415) 453-2342

St. Anselm School:
Kim Orendorff, Principal
School Office: (415) 454-8667
School Fax: (415) 454-4730

Parish Email:
info@SaintAnselm.org
Parish Website:
www.SaintAnselm.org
School Website:
www.StAnselmSchool.com
CYO Website:
www.stanselm CHO.org

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.
Dear Parishioners,

The gospel reading of this Sunday is about John the Baptist, who had a role to play in the coming of the messiah. John’s mission was to “testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.” John was a courageous witness to Christ. Christ still needs witnesses today to witness to the light. If we live in darkness, we cannot be a witness for the light. Christ invites us to live in his light so that we can be effective witnesses to him in the world.

Yours Sincerely,
Fr. Jose Shaji, Pastor

Christmas Schedule

Christmas Eve:
Sunday, December 24th:
4:00pm– Children’s Mass (very crowded) 6:00pm, 9:00pm

Christmas Day:
Monday, December 25th:
8:00am, 10:00am, 11:30am

St. Anselm Church Stewardship
Registered Parishioner Families 2017-1675
1st Collection: refer to next week’s bulletin
2nd Collection– Retired Religious:
Electronic Weekly Donations-$2,755.75
Please visit our church website to sign-up for Electronic Donations
*Please log onto Parish Pay and update your CC expiration date!
Second Collections:
Centennial Building & Maintenance– December 17
St. Vincent de Paul– December 31

MASS INTENTIONS

| Mon. | Dec 18 | 8:00am | Steve Thompson (INT) |
| Tues. | Dec 19 | 8:00am | Communion Service |
| | | 5:30pm | Special Intentions |
| Wed. | Dec 20 | 8:00am | Mamoud Zarrahparvar (D) |
| Thurs | Dec 21 | 8:00am | William Broderick (D) |
| | | 5:30pm | Richard Tilles (INT) |
| Fri. | Dec 22 | 8:00am | Michael “Buck” Murray (D) |
| Sat. | Dec 23 | 5:00pm | Mr. Rourke (D) |
| Sun. | Dec 24 | 8:00am | Erin Thompson (D) |
| | | 10:00am | Parish People |
| | | 4:00pm | Joe McGarry (D) |
| | | 6:00pm | Linda Gill (D) |
| | | 9:00pm | Michelle Larro (D) |

Sick Relatives & Friends

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

For the Repose of the Soul: Louis Gene DiPerna

For our military: Robert Gebhardt, Tyler Lopez, Alex Boatwright, Sean Courtz, Elizabeth Baumsteiger, Christian Miller, Robert Kent, Shane Morgan

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
Monday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19;
Mt 1:18-25
Tuesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17;
Lk 1:5-25
Wednesday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
Thursday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a;
Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
Friday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abced;
Lk 1:46-56
Saturday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14;
Lk 1:57-66
Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29;
Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38
2017 Christmas Pageants
This year we have two Christmas Pageants! Each pageant is performed after the homily. Our Children and youth are so excited to reenact the memory of Our Lord’s Nativity. So mark your calendars and experience the gift of Christ!

Performed by Religious Education & First Communion Children
Date: Sunday, December 17th
Time: 10:00am Mass

Performed by Youth Ministry & Confirmation Youth
Date: Sunday, December 17th
Time: 5:00pm Mass

GREEN TIPS FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON

Shop at a winter farmer’s market. The growing popularity of winter farmer’s markets means that much of your holiday meal can be found locally and in season. Buying locally not only puts money back into your region’s economy but it also reduces your carbon footprint because the food doesn't have as far to travel.

Decorate with deliberation. Make garlands and wreaths from leftover construction paper, wild berries, fruits and nuts. Craft homemade centerpieces from boughs, pinecones, and holly gathered in your yard or a local park. Brighten up doors and hallways with holiday greeting cards from previous years (a great reason to save them!). Trade decorations with friends or family to add a "new" flair to your home without having to buy new products. For lighting, use unscented candles -- have you checked out soy wax candles? -- and high-efficiency LED lights.

Cut down on waste. Opt for durable goods you can use season after season rather than throwaway plates, cups, flatware and napkins. Also consider providing clearly marked composting and recycling receptacles for guests.

Choose Green Spirits. A growing number of breweries and wineries are adhering to organic, environmentally-conscious practices and are working toward operating with 100% sustainable energy. Many parts of the country have local wineries that produce delicious, organic products each season. If local varieties aren’t available to you, check out a green wine guide to help you make some tasty, healthy picks.

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.

PROPER UNDERTAKING
Never undertake anything for which you wouldn’t have the courage to ask the blessings of heaven.
--Georg C. Lichtenberg

St Anselm’s Adopt-A-Family
27th Annual Christmas Appeal
The tags have been taken from the Giving Tree; thank you for your wonderful support. If you did not bring your gift last week-end, please bring it this week-end, December 16th-17th at the latest.

We are still accepting checks or gift card donations for the 24 families from St. Eugene's School in Santa Rosa who were impacted by the wild fires. Make checks out to St. Anselm's Adopt-A-Family and note Fire Victims. The staff at St. Eugene’s is touched and deeply moved by our offer to help. A very special thank you to those who have already donated.

We try to help our families year round so donations to our Adopt-A-Family program are also welcome. There are envelopes in the vestibule of the Church.

On behalf of all those we help, we wish you a Blessed Advent and a most Holy Christmas. Thank you for your ongoing support.
Colleen, Paulette, Linda, Dorothy and Mary
Questions - Dorothy- 415 215 1242
St. Anselm Church Calendar of Events

December 17– 10:00 & 5:00 Masses– Christmas Pageant
Christmas Eve Masses-4:00pm, 6:00pm, 9:00pm
Christmas Day Masses-8:00am, 10:00am, 11:30am
December 26- Church Office Closed
January 1- Office Closed

Events At/Near St. Anselm Parish

A couple of weeks ago, my son David, a science teacher at Fairfield High School, opened his classroom at lunch time for students interested in playing the ukulele. Ten students showed up with ukuleles and fifteen more showed up the next time without ukuleles- they shared. My son set a web sight for gofundme and in three weeks he reached his goal to buy ukuleles for students who could not buy one. A very generous person in our church donated her ukulele to my son. That gave me the idea that there are probably more people who have a ukulele they do not use, and maybe they would like to donate it to a child at Fairfield High. The numbers of students showing interest to play is growing. You can contact me, Rose Shadduck at 415-453-6533.
God Bless, Rose

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. Donate twin-size bed sets, wool socks, and warm blankets. 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 Regina O’Connor, Volunteer Manager, at volunteer@CatholicCharitiesSF.org or (415) 972 -1297.

St. Vincent de Paul Society Vehicle Program
St. Vincent de Paul of Marin has launched a new vehicle donation program in collaboration with SVDP National’s vehicle vendor, CARS. If you have a car that you would like to donate for a tax deduction, you can call 800-322-8284 or go online and fill out the donation form at http://vinnies.careasy.org/HOME.html. Your gift supports the SVDP Free Dining Room in San Rafael which serves over 500 meals daily.
Advent Wreath Workshop

Advent is one of our Liturgical Seasons and marks the Catholic New Year. It consists of the four Sundays before Christmas Day. This year it began Sunday, December 3rd, and will end Sunday, December 24th. During Advent, our readings are filled of hope and preparation for the coming of Christ. We prepare our hearts and homes for the celebration of Christ's Nativity and we prepare for the promise of Christ's Second Coming.

In order to support our parish families and help prepare them for this Liturgical Season, we hosted an Advent Wreath Workshop on the first Sunday of Advent, December 3rd, inviting Religious Education and First Communion families to learn about Advent and make a family advent wreath together. Over 70 families came together. Some families had three generations present.

This workshop was free, and each family took home a newly decorated Advent Wreath with candles, along with knowledge of the meaning of Advent and the symbolism behind the wreath and candles.

- Four candles represent the four Sundays of Advent.
- The evergreens symbolize God's unchanging nature.
- The circle of the wreath symbolizes God's eternity.

On the first Sunday of Advent one purple candle is lit which represents the HOPE of Israel and the promise Messiah. On the second Sunday another purple candle is lit which represents the PEACE God has brought to us through Christ. On the third Sunday the pink candle is lit to represent the JOY we receive through God, and on the fourth Sunday the last purple one is lit representing God's LOVE. A fifth white candle, CHRIST CANDLE, can be added to the center of the wreath and lit on Christmas Day.

May this season fill your homes with God's HOPE, PEACE, JOY, and Love.
Bulletin Number: 513520

Church Name and Address: St. Anselm
97 Shady Lane
PO Box 1061
Ross, CA 94957-1061

Telephone: 415-453-2342

Contact Person: Sissy Ratto

Email: st.anselmoffice@att.net

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