The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst, you have no further misfortune to fear.

-- Zephaniah 3:15b
Dear Parishioners,

The world is moving with ever increasing speed. Nobody has time and nobody wants to wait. Our needs and our wants are also ever increasing. And, we want it all and immediately. This is expressed well in the song from the band Queen, “I want it all, I want it all and I want it now.” The message of Advent and Christmas is just the opposite. Advent is an invitation to wait. The world had to wait for a long time for God to act in history, sending his son to save the world. The message of advent is also an invitation to wait, wait for good things to happen and wait for God to act in our lives.

Yours Sincerely,
Fr. Jose Shaji, Pastor

Mass Intentions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon.</th>
<th>Dec. 17</th>
<th>8:00am</th>
<th>Taylor Ryan (D)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues.</td>
<td>Dec. 18</td>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Communion Service Sylvia McCrea (D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5:30pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed.</td>
<td>Dec. 19</td>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Kenneth Morris (D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs</td>
<td>Dec. 20</td>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Mary Fahy (D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5:30pm</td>
<td>Phil (D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri.</td>
<td>Dec. 21</td>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Special Intention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat.</td>
<td>Dec. 22</td>
<td>5:00pm</td>
<td>Special Intention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun.</td>
<td>Dec. 23</td>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Parish People</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Ray Whitehouse (D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5:00pm</td>
<td>Catherine &amp; Joseph Gill (D)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sick Relatives & Friends

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

For the Repose of the Soul of:
Gail Pierce, Edward Wynne, Mary F. Kennedy

For Our Military:
Robert Gebhardt, Tyler Lopez, Alex Boatwright, Sean Courtz, Elizabeth Baumsteiger, Christian Miller, Robert Kent, Shane Morgan, John Loughran, William Ghiringhelli

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Lk 1:26-38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8bcd; Lk 1:46-56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WITNESSES

Our actions are the best witnesses of our thoughts.
--Anonymous
St. Anselm Christmas Pageants THIS SUNDAY-
Christmas is coming and the children and youth of our parish are rehearsing and giving their all to put together a wonderful reenactment of the birth of our Savior.

**Sunday, December 16th at the 10am Mass-** Reenactment by Religious Education & First Communion program

**Sunday, December 16th at the 5pm Mass-** Reenactment by Youth Ministry & Confirmation Program

**Rite of Welcoming**

RCIA Candidate Kimberly Lockett was formally welcomed into our community on Sunday, December 9th at the 10am mass. Kimberly has been attending faith formation classes once a week under the direction of our DRE in order to prepare herself for reception of Confirmation and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil. Kimberly expressed her desire to continue her faith formation and the community expressed their support as Fr. Jose welcomed her to our community. May Kimberly’s relationship with God continue to grow and may our community be a place of welcome and acceptance for all those that enter our doors.

**Adopt A Family Thanks**

Many thanks to everyone who took a gift tag from our Giving Tree.

If you have not already brought your gifts to church, be sure to bring them to the Rectory M-F 8:30-1:00, 2:00-4:30 as soon as possible-wrapped and with the tag attached. We hope to deliver the gifts on December 19th. Call Dorothy, 415-215-1242 if there is any problem. May God Bless You for keeping this tradition alive here at St. Anselm’s. This is our 28th Year!!

Financial donations are always appreciated and can be made by picking up an Adopt a Family envelope from the vestibule of the Church. Help spread Christmas Cheer to others in need. THANK YOU very much.

"Teammwork divides the task and multiplies the success."

Get into the festive Christmas Spirit– Join fellow parishioners to help decorate our Church for our Christmas Masses. If you would like to be on the decorating team, please join us in the church on **Friday, December 21st, at 10:00am**. Please call/email the Rectory to let us know that you would like to help. 415-453-2342, info@saintanselm.org

**Not Ready? No Problem!**

We often get so caught up in all the things we do to prepare for Christmas that we forget Advent all together. The readings remind us that in spite of the stress we may feel thinking about how close Christmas is, we are called to rejoice for the Lord is near. The stress we feel may be from fear. But did you ever notice how much easier it is when you have someone to shop with you, or write the Christmas cards, or decorate the tree? "Shout for joy...fear not!" says the prophet Zephaniah in the first reading. (Zeph 3:14) He tells us the Lord is not coming to punish us for waiting till the last minute to put up the tree. The prophet says the Lord is in our midst, we are not alone. "He has turned away your enemies." (Zeph 3:15)

And as if that wasn't good enough, he says that the Lord rejoices over us! How many times have you wondered if you could ask the Lord for help? Zephaniah reminds us that the Lord is happy to help. And St. Paul says the same thing in the second reading: "Have no anxiety at all...make your requests known to God." (Phil 4:6) That is where Advent comes in. We can look forward to the Lord's presence in our lives. That is why faith and hope are central to the theme of Advent. Our faith in God's love for us gives us hope that he will support us in our weakness and fill us with the joy he has over us.

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**St. Anselm Church Calendar of Events**

December 16-Christmas Pageant– 10:00am & 5:00pm Masses
December 21– Decorate the Church-10:00am

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**Events Near St. Anselm Parish**

**St. Anselm Church Calendar of Events**

December 16-Christmas Pageant– 10:00am & 5:00pm Masses
December 21– Decorate the Church-10:00am

**Advent Resources on Archdiocesan Website sfarchdiocese.org/advent.** Advent began on Sunday, December 2. Advent begins a new liturgical year. This initial season of the Church’s calendar of worship is four weeks long. And it is a time of preparation for the incarnation of God in Christ. As Pope Benedict XVI has written, "Advent’s intention is to awaken the most profound and basic emotional memory within us, namely, the memory of the God who became a child. This is a healing memory; it brings hope…. It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope." Visit the Advent webpage (above) for an array of Advent resources (prayers, reflections, devotions, activities, projects, and traditions) for yourself, your family, and your community.

**NEW YEAR’S EVE RETREAT** “For all that has been — Thanks-For all that will be — Yes!”
Dag Hammarskjold
**Monday December 31, 2018** NEW TIME for this retreat! 7:00pm - 10:30pm Reflection Eucharist
Festive Dessert (provided by the Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose)
Free will offering
Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose Chapel 43326 Mission Circle (of Mission Tierra) Fremont, CA 94539

**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.

**The Catholic Adult Singles Association of Marin** is a group of 50+ single or single again Catholics who are interested in making new friends, taking part in social activities, sharing opportunities for spiritual growth and becoming involved in volunteer projects that will benefit our parishes, our community, and one another. We welcome those who are interested. For Membership & Event information, please call Bob at 415 897-0639
Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe - The St. Anselm Community came together on Sunday, December 9th to celebrate Our Lady of Guadalupe. During the 10am mass parishioners presented Our Lady with roses. After, the community gathered in the parish hall, which was decorated in honor of Our Lady, to share a Mexican inspired meal. Special thank you to our Youth Ministry and Confirmation Class for their help in hosting this event. We raised $200 for their ministry. May we all grow in our relationship with the Blessed Virgin so that she can help bring us closer to Her and Her Son.
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