Those whom the LORD has ransomed will return and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy.

— Isaiah 35:10a

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
Dear Parishioners,

John the Baptist comes to us as an uncompromising, fearless, tough and demanding man. He lived on the edge of society. The clothes he wore, the place where he lived and the food he ate tell us that. Jesus, like John, came from the desert and appeared at the edge of society. But unlike John, he came in and sat down with the rich, the poor, the sinners and the outcasts. He created a new kind of society where everyone was wanted, everyone was accepted and everyone was a member of the family of God. If John were alive during Jesus’ public ministry, he would have been part of that society. He would have been an ardent follower of Christ, and unlike the disciples, would not have run away when Jesus was arrested because he did not live in fear. His raging fire would long since have been transformed into intense love, his judgments into compassion. As we approach Christmas and as we are preparing ourselves for Christmas, let our inner passion be transformed into love and our judgments transformed into compassion.

Yours Sincerely,
Fr. Jose Shaji, Pastor

REASON TO REJOICE

Dark violet is used throughout Advent to express its character as a season of spiritual preparation for Christmas and “the coming of the Lord.” But on the Third Sunday of Advent, formerly known as Gaudete (Latin for “rejoice”) Sunday, rose may be added to the liturgical environment. The entire liturgy is infused with a spirit of rejoicing.

Today’s first reading and Gospel proclaim the reality of God’s saving work in our midst. Isaiah exuberantly describes the idyllic transformation of all creation as a result of God’s presence in the midst of the people. In the Gospel, Jesus connects Isaiah’s prophecy with what is happening in his own ministry. In addition to the list of healings from Isaiah (the blind, the lame, lepers, and the deaf), Jesus’ presence brings two other reasons for rejoicing: “The dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them” (Matthew 11:5).

St. Anselm Church Stewardship
Registered Parishioner Families 2019-1568
1st Collection: $4,551
2nd Collection-Retired Religious: $1,569
Electronic Weekly Donations-$2,625

Please visit our church website to sign-up for Electronic Donations

Second Collections:
December 15– Building & Maintenance
December 29– St. Vincent de Paul

MASS INTENTIONS

| Mon. Dec. 16 | 8:00am | Chris Gomez (D) |
| Tues. Dec. 17 | 8:00am 5:30pm | Communion Service Special Intention |
| Wed. Dec. 18 | 8:00am | Olivia Jo Gentilello (INT) |
| Thurs Dec. 19 | 8:00am 5:30pm | Nuala Naughton (D) Fr. Peter McDonald (D) |
| Fri. Dec. 20 | 8:00am | Special Intention |
| Sat. Dec. 21 | 5:00pm | Norma & Charles Cavagnetto (INT) 66th Wedding Anniversary |
| Sun. Dec. 22 | 8:00am 10:00am 5:00pm | Claude Wundrow (D) Parish People Youth of our Parish |

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

For the Repose of the Soul: Jeanne Lynch, Vivian Felton, Joseph Cross, Richard McDonald, Tess McDonald

For Our Military: Robert Gebhardt, Tyler Lopez, Alex Boatwright, Sean Courtz, Elizabeth Baumsteiger, Christian Miller, Robert Kent, Shane Morgan, William Ghiringhelli, Daniel Lowe, and Rob Manifold

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9; Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
Wednesday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
Thursday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
Friday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
Saturday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
Sunday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-2
Many thanks to everyone who took a tag from our giving tree. All the tags were taken so seven families with a total of seventeen children will have a very blessed Christmas. There will be several gifts for each child, including toys, clothing and gift cards for shoes. Also, there will be gift cards for food for a nice Christmas dinner. May God bless you, as only He can, for your generosity to these families. Please return the tag attached to the wrapped gift to the church no later than December 14th & 15th. Questions? Please call: Paulette 415 453-9596 We wish you all a very Blessed Advent leading to a Happy and Holy Christmas. Colleen, Linda, Paulette, Mary and Dorothy

The parish Spiritual Growth Committee is forming a Prayer Petition Group, which will pray each evening for the intentions of anyone who requests our prayers. If you normally set aside time each evening to pray or would like to establish a routine of evening prayer, this is the perfect opportunity for you to begin, continue, or enhance your prayer life while providing a meaningful and comforting service for all those asking for our prayers. There will be no meetings; you’ll simply access a website where the requested intentions will be posted. Your task is to remember those intentions in your prayers. Requestors will not have your email address, so your participation will be anonymous but definitely appreciated by those who need our prayers. Deacon Bob will acknowledge our praying for the requestors’ intentions, should they choose to receive such an acknowledgement. If this role appeals to you and you’d like to participate, please email Deacon Bob at robt88@gmail.com. He will be in-touch as the group takes shape and will send brief instructions on how to practice this beautiful ministry of prayer.

Individual Confessions Saturday, December 21st -3:45pm-4:45pm Christmas Eve Masses: Tuesday, December 24th
*4:00pm Children’s Choir
6:00pm Cantor
8:30pm Concert of Carols String Quartet
9:00pm Adult Choir/String Quartet, Organ & Harpsichord Christmas Day Masses: Wednesday, December 25th
8:00am Cantor, Organ & Harpsichord
9:30am Concert of Carols String Quartet
10:00am Adult Choir/String Quartet, Organ & Harpsichord
11:30am Cantor, Organ & Harpsichord

New Year’s Eve Mass: Tuesday, December 31st
8:00am

New Year’s Day Masses: Wednesday, January 1st
8:00am, 12:00pm, 5:30pm

* This Mass is considered our Family Mass and is very crowded

PERSPECTIVE
We must often draw the comparison of time and eternity. This is the remedy of all our troubles. How small will the present moment appear when we enter that great ocean!
--St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
St. Anselm Church Calendar of Events
And “Save The Date”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 15</td>
<td>Christmas Pageant-10:00am, 5:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Masses</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 17</td>
<td>Teachings on Tap-CANCELLED</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 18</td>
<td>Advent Vespers Program-7:30pm-Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 19</td>
<td>Centering Prayer– 9:30am– 10:30am-Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 22</td>
<td>Christmas Caroling &amp; Refreshments– following 10:00am Mass– Hall</td>
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The Carmelite Nuns invite you to their **Annual Jam Sale**. The Sales go **until 2/14**. We hope you will enjoy the fruits of our labor: Apricot, Peach, Strawberry, Plum-Pear & Bumbleberry Jam And Pear-Apple sauce. (The proceeds are used for the purpose of supporting the Sister’s life of prayer. Questions? call 415-847-3381-530 Blackstone Dr. San Rafael, 94903. Thank you. God Bless You!

- **Share Your Heart, Spirit & Blessings with Catholic Charities Families**
  With the holiday season upon us, there are ample ways to share your **blessings and hope** with vulnerable children, individuals, and families in need in our community:
  - **Family Sharing** – we will match you with families hoping for the joy of gifts for the holidays.
  - **Catholic Charities Toy Drive** – we are collecting new, unwrapped toys for children aged 4-12; new preschool through 5th grade books, and family-friendly board games for struggling families.
  - **Adult Gift Card Drive** – bring holiday cheer with a gift card for families and individuals in our homelessness and housing programs.

- **Family Sharing with Catholic Charities**: You can have a big impact on the families Catholic Charities serves by giving individually or gathering members of your church or workplace, friends, family, or neighbors to give collectively. Catholic Charities will match you with families hoping for the joy of the holidays. If you decide to participate, we will send you a list of the individuals in your family, their ages, and wishes for the holidays. With the list in hand, you shop for the family and bring the unwrapped gifts to the address we provide.

- **Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Volunteering with Catholic Charities**: Help bring cheer to our formerly homeless Leland House Community residents who have disabling HIV/AIDS. Volunteer to help set-up, clean-up and join in the fun for our **Christmas Eve Party, December 24th**, 6-8 PM; or our **Christmas Day Party, December 25th**, 8:30–11:30 AM. Must be 21 or older to volunteer at Leland.

- **Bring in the New Year with Brunch with Catholic Charities Families**: Help serve brunch and mingle with Catholic Charities families and seniors at our 10th and Mission Family Housing and Edith Witt Community on December 31st from 10 AM – 1 PM.

To volunteer and for more information, contact Carol Laughlin at CLaughlin@CatholicCharitiesSF.org or visit us at www.catholiccharitiessf.org
Our Lady of Guadalupe - On Sunday, December 8th, our parish celebrated Our Lady of Guadalupe at the 10am mass by inviting children to present a rose to her altar and attend a reception in her honor. Thank you to all the youth who helped make this special day possible by volunteering to setup the hall and serve at the reception. May all of us be comforted by the image of our Blessed Mother.

Youth Mass - We had our second Sunday youth inspired mass at the 5pm mass on 12/8. The teens from our Confirmation class and from our community helped with the mass as they took active roles as: greeters, ushers, gift bearer, and reader. Our uplifting band delighted parishioners with their faith filled contemporary music. Fr. Jose gave a wonderfully inspiring homily about repentance as he asked two of our youth to help illustrate how when a person repents it actually brings them closer to God. Following the mass, the youth had a Christmas inspired Youth Ministry night in the parish hall. May our St. Anselm community continue to support the youth of our Parish as they continue to grow in their relationship with God.
Bulletin Number: 513520

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