

# ST. ANSELM'S PARISH

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## PARISH STAFF

Fr. Thomas Moore, Pastor

Barrig Hayward, Administrative Assistant

Goody Cabral, Music Director & Cantor  
Aloysius Chan, Organist



*Feast of the Holy Family*

^^^ THIS IS A TWO-WEEK BULLETIN ^^^

Mass  for Intentions  Week

Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>, 8:15 a.m.

Freeman D'Silva

Requested by Chris, Aubrey & Melanie D'Silva

Wednesday, January 1<sup>st</sup> – NO 8:15 a.m. Mass

Thursday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8:15 a.m.

For the Deceased Members of the Vander Floet & Meeuwsen Families

Friday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 8:15 a.m.

Special Intention – Eileen Tomidy

Requested by Theresa Ryan

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Tuesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, 8:15 a.m.

Marijan Perkovic

Requested by Margaret Langero

Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 8:15 a.m.

Chang Joon Yu

Requested by Brian & Angela Oh & Family

Thursday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 8:15 a.m.

Maura & John Dickson

Requested by Theresa Ryan

Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, 8:15 a.m.

Salvatore & Rosaria Buffa

Requested by the Filippi Family

✱ MARY, MOTHER OF GOD ✱

**Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**

**Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>**

**Mass**

**5:00 p.m.**

**Wednesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Mass**

**11:00 a.m.**

*With best wishes for the coming year*

**May your  
NEW YEAR  
be  
Joyous & Fruitful**



**Guide for an Eco-Christmas  
“New Year New Attitudes”**

In committing to resolutions for 2020, turn your focus to planet sustainability. Discern ways to better answer the call of Pope Francis to ‘Care for Creation’.

Implement practical, impactful strategies e.g. conduct personal, family & business ‘waste audits’; assess how much single-use plastics are included.

Commit to conserving water. Reduce shower time; turn the tap OFF when washing dishes or brushing your teeth.

When not in use, turn electrical devices OFF (lights, TVs, computers) & UNPLUG small appliances (toasters, hair driers).

Switch to rechargeable batteries (billions of batteries are thrown away annually)

**Repair, reuse, recycle, DONATE**

items you no longer want or need.

Be an eco-protective consumer. Some shopping may be more expensive; *when possible*, invest in a sustainable future.

Use washable dishcloths and cloth napkins instead of paper towels/disposable napkins. Volunteer at food banks or shelters.

Caring for Creation includes an intentional commitment to learning more about the effects of the current Climate Crisis.

Read ‘**Laudato Si**’, the personal letter Pope Francis addressed to each person on earth.

Commit to writing ONE letter or making ONE phone call to a politician of your choice to encourage better care of our resources.

Learn why First Nations children continue to be without clean water and express your care that something be done to correct this. **SPEAK OUT:**

Advocate care for each other, care for our planet, care for the poor, care for all wildlife, ‘CARE for CREATION’.



**SUPPORTING YOUR PARISH  
THROUGH OFFERTORY  
DONATIONS**

Assigned boxed sets of envelopes for 2020 are in the Millwood lobby. If you currently have a boxed set, please note the envelopes will be displayed in alphabetical order by SURNAME.

**The deadline for contributions to be credited to 2019 is 4:00pm on Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>. Donations received in the collection basket during the New Year's Eve Mass on December 31<sup>st</sup> will be credited toward your 2020 contributions.**

Thank you for supporting St. Anselm's.

**CONFIRMATION**  
GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

**Candidates for Confirmation – please note the second preparation session is coming up on Saturday, January 11<sup>th</sup>. Please arrive in the parish hall by 9:45 a.m. to check in.**



**GOOD SHEPHERD REFUGE  
PROVIDE-A-MEAL-PROGRAM  
2020 CASSEROLE DATES**

Thank you to our casserole chefs for your commitment to prepare a casserole every other month to feed the hungry. Your valued participation means that 10 hungry individuals will be fed by each casserole. For your convenience, please note that casseroles for each group (A or B) are always due the THIRD FULL WEEKEND of the month.

The schedule for 2020 is as follows:

**GROUP A**

- January 18/19
- March 21/22
- May 16/17
- July 18/19
- September 19/20
- November 21/22

**GROUP B**

- February 15/16
- April 18/19
- June 20/21
- August 15/16
- October 17/18
- December 19/20

***The Newness of Christ***



The section from Matthew on the infancy of Jesus echoes Moses' liberation of Israel. Jesus survives an assassination attempt as a baby, as did Moses. Jesus goes to Egypt, as his people once did, and comes out again, as his people also did. Jesus is hunted by Herod, as Moses was hunted by Pharaoh. Thus, for Matthew, Jesus is a fitting messiah, one who embodies

the history of his people and will lead by liberating them for a new relationship with God, and each other. Matthew gives us nothing in this reading about nuclear family life or interactions, neither between Joseph and Mary nor between the two and the newborn Jesus. We don't see either parent holding the child. We don't hear the child make his first timid sounds. We are instead thrust into the politics of the day and asked to consider our social responsibilities as a people, a family, in Christ. An angel tells Joseph to flee into Egypt, a traditional place of refuge, because Herod wants to destroy the child just as Pharaoh sought to slay Moses. The exile also sets the stage for the later reference from Hosea: "Out of Egypt I have called my son". . This is all about the Exodus and Jesus, the new Moses, liberating the new Israel. Then, so soon after the anticipation of Advent and the joy of Christmas, Matthew leads us into one of the most gruesome stories of the liturgical year, the slaughter of all male children 2 years old and younger in the region. What is Matthew doing here? Herod's reputation was well known in antiquity. He killed two of his own sons and ordered several massacres when he felt his power threatened. But there is no record of the massacre Matthew describes. It is not mentioned in other accounts of Herod's cruelty, or by Josephus in his history of the period. Did Matthew create this story, or think it historical? It seems rather an echo of the execution of Jewish male infants by Pharaoh, who feared the child Moses might someday undermine the order of the world. Via Herod, Matthew has created a humanly inescapable situation for Jesus by ordering the murder of the children. There was physically no way out. Just like Moses, Jesus should not have survived. But he did. The God of Moses and Jesus Christ liberates us. The Holy Family would have spent four years in Egypt if they did not return from there until after the death of Herod, in 4 B.C.E. But that is not the issue. The episode parallels Exodus 4:19, where God instructs Moses to go back to Egypt, "for all those who are seeking your life are dead." A narrative of threefold threats on Jesus' life reminds us that tyranny was commonplace then, as it was for Moses, and as it is now. And so Matthew's message of trusting in God's providence — which has been proven already in the life of Israel — emerges from a faith that expects God to reign in a world where the dominance of the powerful seems unchangeable. What faith-light do these readings shed on today's cultural and religious questions? Who is and who is not family, and how do we treat each other, even in and through our differences? Paul reminds us that we are to live, in our attitudes, choices and decisions, the newness of Christ: his way of valuing, his compassion, kindness, forbearance, forgiveness, and above all, his love. Why? Because first we are loved, and then asked only to let the peace that love brings dwell in our hearts. The author defines this newness by leaving us with a very meaningful choice: Do we continue in subservience or move toward mutuality? Serious questions for us to ponder as we prepare to enter into a brand new year.

***As we come to the end of this year, let us ask God for what we need to be the holy people he asks us to be...We pray...***

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