



St. Anthony Mary Claret Roman Catholic Church

6150 Roft Road • San Antonio, Texas 78253

Office: 210-688-9033 • Fax: 210-688-3575

Visit us at www.samcsa.com

Send comments or questions to saclaret@saclaret.com

December 2, 2018

First Sunday of Advent

Pastor:

Rev. Dr. Jan P. Klak, Ph.L.,
S.T.L., Ph.D.

Parochial Vicar:

Rev. Brian Garcia

Deacons:

Jerome (Jerry) Kozar, M.S.
Jerry Campa, ChFC®, CRPC®
Angel Rondon
Benito Morales

Parish Administrator:

Luis E. Astorga, MBA

Bookkeeper:

Juan Estrada, BBA

Secretary:

Elaine Wolf-Gentry, BS

Director of Religious Education:

Michelle Reynolds, MTS

Coordinator of Religious Education:

Odilia Piña

RCIA Director:

Jennifer Rupert, C.Th.

Youth Ministry Coordinator:

Martie Kokotajlo

Music Director:

Paul Rauschhuber, BM, ME, MME

Bulletin Editor:

Sandy Salinas, BA

Sacristans:

Teresa Revilla, Rita Valdez

Grounds & Maintenance:

Ruben Villanueva
Charlie Sievers

GOSPEL MEDITATION: LK 21:25-28, 34-36

Tribulation. Wildfires. Tsunamis. Moral corruption. Disease. War. We tend to associate these things with the end times, and perhaps for good reason! In today's Gospel, Jesus says: "People will die of fright in anticipation of what is coming upon the world." Not exactly putting us in the Christmas spirit, is it? During Advent, we anticipate a celebration of Christ's first coming. There is a quiet stillness about our waiting, or at least we try to encourage that in ourselves. Perhaps we have an Advent devotional or we take time to pray together as a family around the Advent wreath.

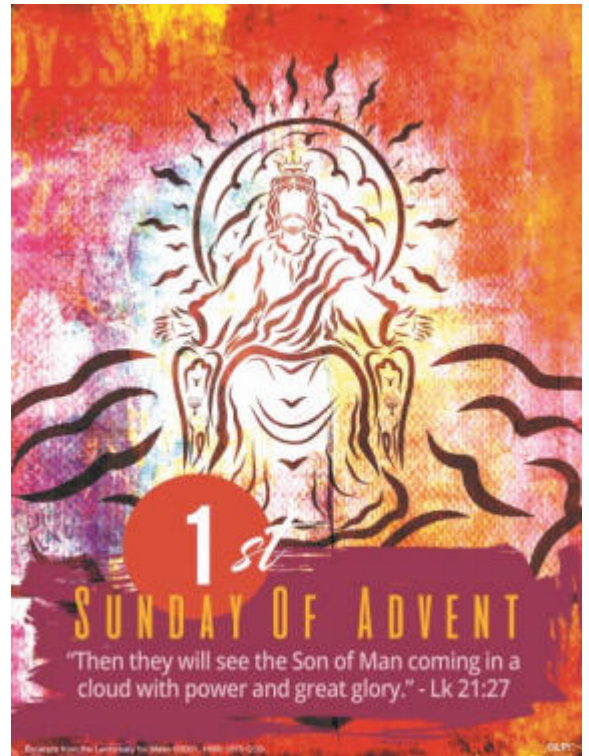
But Jesus did not come only once into history. During Advent, we remember that he will come again. You may remember the rapture craze in the early 2000s, when a series of books and movies envisioned a future where Jesus was coming soon and all the true believers had been whisked away. Everyone else had one more chance to repent before things really went to hell...literally, in this case!

But is that what Jesus is talking about here? The truth is, we don't know what Jesus' Second Coming will be like. The actual return of Christ - though sudden and perhaps frightening to some - should not frighten us. Despite all the stories we may have heard about the apocalypse, the advice of Jesus is not to hang our heads or cower in fear. "Stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand." In a certain sense, we are already living in the end times. We already encounter great tribulation. We all find it easy to get distracted or discouraged in the grind of daily life. Today's Gospel reminds us that vigilance for God's presence is needed now.

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

As we begin our Advent journey in preparation for the celebration of Christ's birth and in anticipation of his coming again in glory, we are reminded of our need to be vigilant and prepared. This short season of Advent can be a mini-retreat for us who find ourselves living in a world that is often counterproductive to developing mature, focused, and meaningful relationships with God. Being a Christian and standing firm in our faith requires a strength that can only come from prayer. These four short preparatory weeks can help us look back to what God has done in history, to what God continues to do in our lives today, and to what God promises for the future. May we use this Advent time wisely, calling us to greater holiness.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



MASS SCHEDULE

Monday.....8 am, 7:30 pm
Monday Holy Hour.....6:30 pm
Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri.8 am
Saturday.....5 pm
Sunday..... 8 am, 10 am, 12 pm, 3 pm (Spanish), 6 pm

Holy Days of Obligation.....8 am & 7 pm

Every first Monday of the month we celebrate a Healing Mass and administer the Sacrament of the Sick.

IN OUR PARISH



Parish Mission Statement

We, the people of St. Anthony Mary Claret Parish, have as our mission to open our hearts and doors to those from all walks of life so that they, too, may share in the everlasting presence of God. Together we strive to grow closer to Jesus Christ through the Holy Eucharist. We work to foster the development of the parish, not only to strengthen our own spiritual awareness, but to impact the community as a whole.

WELCOME!

As pastor of St. Anthony Mary Claret Catholic Church, I want to express welcome from all of us to you for choosing to become a member of our parish family. We hope you will always feel at home here and that our worship and other parochial services will fulfill your spiritual needs.



Please complete an online registration form at samcsa.com or a printed one which you can find near the entrance of our church in the narthex. Return it to the parish office or drop it in the collection basket at your convenience.

I hope you feel welcome here!

Sincerely in Christ,

Reverend Jan P. Klak

ATTENDANCE & COLLECTION TOTALS

Nov. 17/18

Attendance	3,513
Regular Collection	\$ 25,022.40
Debt Reduction	\$ 7,953.50
Capital Campaign	\$ 730.00
SAMC Pantry	\$ 545.00
Candles	\$ 358.00
Retirement Fund	\$ 25.00
Gabriel Project	\$ 5.00
Mission Sunday	\$ 2.00

Nov. 21/22 Attendance 963

Nov. 24/25

Attendance	3,917
Regular Collection	\$ 24,124.08
Debt Reduction	\$ 6,527.00
Candles	\$ 429.27
Capital Campaign	\$ 95.00
Gabriel Project	\$ 50.00
SAMC Pantry	\$ 10.00

SACRAMENT SCHEDULE

Reconciliation (Confession)

Weekdays: 7:30 a.m.; Saturdays: 4 p.m.—last in line
Sundays: 9 a.m.-12 p.m. (or last in line), 4 p.m. – last in line

Baptism—Required Classes:

First Tues. & Thurs. of the month, 7:30 p.m. Call parish office to register.

Visitation of the Sick:

Call parish office to schedule visit.

Funerals:

Contact parish office prior to making arrangements.

Advent

Reconciliation



Sunday, Dec. 16 at 7:15 p.m. in the church

MONDAY EUCHARISTIC HOLY HOUR 6:30 P.M. HEALING MASS - 7:30P.M.

A Holy Day of Obligation



Mass Times:

Friday, Dec. 7 at 8 a.m. & 7 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 8 at 8 a.m.

Immaculate Conception

OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday, Dec. 1
5 P.M. **NO FIRST SATURDAY MORNING MASS**
Birthday Blessings for Pearl Rodriguez by Rodriguez Family

Sunday, Dec. 2
8 A.M. Leticia Menchaca † by Family
10 A.M. Special Intention for Alan J. Ponce †; Margaret † & Albert Suarez † by Alma Ponce
12 P.M. Frank Zertuche, Jr. † by Wife Olivia Zertuche
3 P.M. For the Parish
6 P.M. Birthday Blessings for Monica Gibbs by Family

Monday, Dec. 3
8 A.M. Adolfo De Luna † by Darlene Belanger
6:30 P.M. Holy Hour
7:30 P.M. For the Sick of the Parish

Tuesday, Dec. 4
8 A.M. Bill Fiedler † & Jim Keeton † by St. Anthony Claret Cleaning Angels

Wednesday, Dec. 5
8 A.M. Special Intention for Spanish Men's ACTS Team by Members of St. Anthony Claret

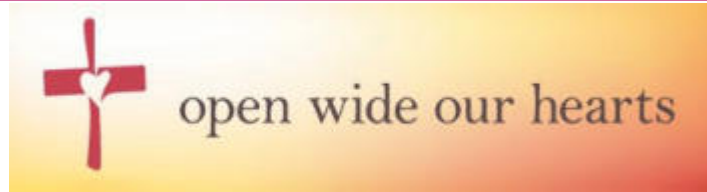
Thursday, Dec. 6
9 A.M. Special Intention for James & Henry Pawelek & Alois & Florence Olenick by Olenick Family

Friday, Dec. 7
7 P.M. **NO 8 A.M. MORNING MASS**
Daniel R. † & Manuela M. Gonzales †; Poor Souls in Purgatory †; Spiritual Healing & Strength for Priests; Marco Roman; Patrick Zuberbueller; RCIA & Confirmation Students by M. Gonzales

Saturday, Dec. 8
8 A.M. Deceased Members of Our Parish † by St. Anthony Claret Cleaning Angels
5 P.M. Sill † & Koerner † Families by Cheryl Koerner

Sunday, Dec. 9
8 A.M. Francesco †, Carmela †, Sebastiano †, Corrado † & Giovanni † by Sal Spataro
10 A.M. Rudy † & Selia Garcia †; Manuel † & Concepcion Espinoza † by Espinoza Family
For the Parish
12 P.M. Maria Lopez † by Darlene Belanger
3 P.M. Agnese Manera † & Adelia Pelosin † by Mayra Finlay
6 P.M.

OPEN WIDE OUR HEARTS: THE ENDURING CALL TO LOVE — A Pastoral Letter Against Racism



The Call to Address Racism in Our Hearts and Communities

"But racism still profoundly affects our culture, and it has no place in the Christian heart. This evil causes great harm to its victims, and it corrupts the souls of those who harbor racist or prejudicial thoughts. The persistence of the evil of racism is why we are writing this letter now."

—Open Wide our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love, Nov. 15, 2018

In their new pastoral letter against racism, *Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love*, the Catholic bishops of the United States invite conversion of hearts, minds, and institutions in order to address the evil of racism that still exists in our communities.

By our baptism, we are members of Christ's body and sharers in his mission. Imitating Christ, we must care for all members of our communities, honoring each person as unique, sacred, and created in the image of God. We know that the evil of racism cuts to the core of God's plan for humanity, devaluing the diversity God created within the human family. As followers of Christ, we seek to reclaim the God-given sanctity of each person's inviolable human dignity. The bishops remind us, "The command of love requires us to make room for others in our hearts. It means that we are indeed our brother's keeper (see Gn 4:9)."

Some among us may want to believe that our country has moved beyond the reality of racism that has so profoundly stained its past, or that racism does not involve us. Almost every day, news headlines demonstrate that our country's "original sin" of racism continues to impact the lives of many Americans, many of them Catholic—particularly those who belong to the African American, Hispanic/Latino, or Native American communities.

There are signs that racism's legacies remain prevalent in many systemic inequalities that have deep impact on people of color. The bishops write, "Racism can only end if we contend with the policies and institutional barriers that perpetuate and preserve the inequality—economic and social—that we still see all around us."

Within the walls of the Church, many people of color have experienced discrimination and outright racism. Leadership has been lacking. The bishops write, "All too often, leaders of the Church have remained silent about the horrific violence and other racial injustices perpetuated against African Americans and others." Reflecting on these realities, the bishops implore us to find ways to actively work against the evil of racism. We must seek racial justice within our Church and in our country. Let us all allow the Holy Spirit to convert our hearts to do the work of healing, so we may live authentically in true relationship to one another. Let the fruit of this conversion be evident in our full celebration and integration of ethnic and cultural diversity, which is truly a gift from God.

Copyright © 2018, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Used with permission. *For more information, read the new pastoral letter, Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love and then talk with others about how your community can respond to the bishops' invitation in the pastoral letter. USCCB resources against racism are at usccb.org/racism.*

RESPECT LIFE

Intercessions for Life

*For all members of the Church: may our witness that every life is worth living help others to encounter the outstretched hands of God's mercy.
We pray to the Lord.*

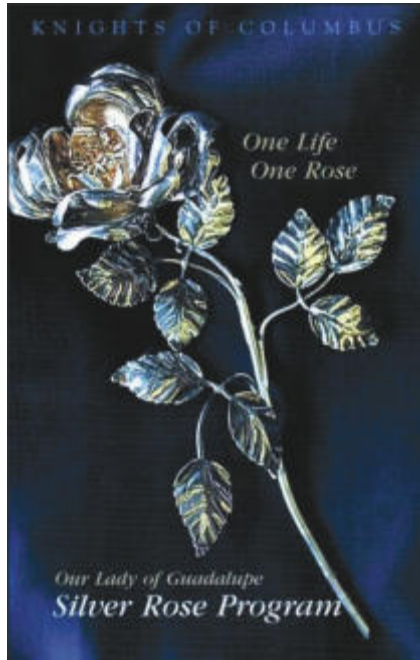
Intercesiones por la Vida

Por todos los miembros de la Iglesia: que nuestro testimonio de que cada vida merece vivir ayude a los demás a encontrar las manos extendidas de la misericordia de Dios. Roguemos al Señor.

PARISH NEWS

*St. Anthony Mary Claret
Knights of Columbus Council 10090
Our Lady of Guadalupe Silver Rose Service
Wednesday, Dec. 5, 8 p.m. in the church*

The purpose of the Silver Rose is to share the message of Our Lady of Guadalupe and promote respect for life by participating in this meaningful pilgrimage. The Silver Rose program demonstrates the unity between Knights of Columbus in Canada, the United States and Mexico, through a series of prayer services promoting the dignity of all human life and honoring Our Lady. Each year, from early March through mid-December, Silver Roses are stewarded by Knights of Columbus councils along routes from Canada to Mexico. Every stop the Silver Rose makes throughout the pilgrimage is a rosary-centered occasion for Knights, parishioners and community members to pray for respect for life, for the spiritual renewal of each nation, and for the advancement of the message of Our Lady of Guadalupe. And now the Silver Rose makes its way to our parish for this special evening.



All are welcome!

St. Anthony Mary Claret MOMs (Ministry of Motherhood)

helping mothers find encouragement, instruction, prayer time & caring friends



Cookie Exchange

Thursday, Dec. 6, 7 p.m.
Meeting and free childcare: RE building, 2nd floor

Bring 4 dozen of your favorite cookies plus an empty container so that you can take an assortment of cookies home with you.

For more info, contact Sonia Cantu 210-204-2319

Meetings are now held in the evening on the **1st Thursday each month.***

* Please note this change from the previous announcement.

Traveling Priest Program Signup Weekend: Dec. 1 & 2

St. John Vianney is the patron saint of priests. To assist families in praying for vocations in our parish, a statue of this beloved saint is available to host in their homes for a one-week period.



We've made some changes to the program:

1. You can now select the week you wish to host.
2. You decide at which Mass you will receive the statue.
3. You may choose to have the statue presented to your family during Mass or you may pick it up from the sacristy before or after Mass.

Look for the sign-up sheet in the narthex after all Masses THIS weekend!

St. Anthony Claret Knights of Columbus Council #10090



*Annual
Breakfast
with Santa*

*Saturday, Dec. 15, 8:30-11:30 a.m.
Msgr. Hubertus Hall
Santa, fun activities & shows!
Tickets: \$8/child.*

St. Anthony Claret Silver Seniors Social

Wednesday, Dec. 12,
12 – 3 p.m., Msgr. Hubertus Hall



Come to an afternoon of fun that includes a gift exchange, a visit from Santa, Christmas caroling, and a Christmas dinner. Bring a dish to share and an unwrapped gift for St. Peter-St. Joseph Children's Home. For info, contact Larry Lucido at (210) 473-4813. Ages 55 +. New members welcome!

THE SUNDAY FUNNIES



The Notre Dame fan was complaining to his friend about his wife. He said, "My wife thinks I put the Fighting Irish ahead of our marriage. I disagree. We just celebrated our fourth season together!"



Save the Date!
**Next Women's ACTS
Retreat: Feb. 21-24, 2019**

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION / YOUTH GROUP



Calendar

- Sun., Dec. 2 & Wed., Dec. 5 **Classes in session**
- Wed., Dec. 5, 6:45 p.m. in the church 5th grade MANDATORY Sanctity of Life talk for all students EXCEPT those in First Communion preparation. **This replaces your regular RE class this week.** Parents encouraged to attend.
- Sun., Dec. 9 & Wed., Dec. 12* **Classes in session**
- * Students who attend 7 p.m. Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass should **sign in at classroom FIRST!**
- Sun. Dec. 9 Parent Class for ALL parents with a child in final year of sacramental preparation. This will be the only parent class this month. ALL parents should try to attend one of the Sunday class sessions at 8:45 a.m., 10:45 a.m., or 4:45 p.m.
- Sun., Dec. 16 & Wed., Dec. 19 **Classes in session**
- Sun., Jan. 6 & Wed., Jan. 9 **Classes in session: Epiphany Party**

MANDATORY Meeting for ALL 3rd Year Confirmation Parents

Thursday, Dec. 13, 7 p.m., RE Bldg., Rm 3002

Confirmation date will be announced and other important information will be shared.



LIFE TEEN (high school):

- Sun., Dec. 2 LIFE Night Youth Group
6 pm Mass/ 7-10 Life Night
- Sat., Dec. 15 **SERVICE OPPORTUNITY**
Breakfast with Santa, Msgr. Hubertus Hall, TBA
- Sat., Dec 15 **SERVICE OPPORTUNITY**
SAFD Gift Wrapping, 8 am- 12 pm,
SA Fire Academy
- Sun., Dec 16 LIFE Night Youth Group
6 pm Mass/ 7-10 Life Night



EDGE (middle school):

- Sun., Dec 9 EDGE Youth Group
NOTE time change 7 - 8:30 pm
- Sat., Dec 15 **SERVICE OPPORTUNITY**
Breakfast with Santa, Msgr. Hubertus Hall, TBA

Now taking registration for Life Teen Events Steubenville Lone Star 2019 & Wild Sky 2019!

For info, contact Youth Director Martie Kokotajlo at 210) 688-9033, x209 or youthgroup@saclaret.com.

PARISH NEWS

**4th Annual St. Anthony Claret Christmas Posadas
Saturday, Dec. 15 — Sunday Dec. 24**

The Posadas are a tradition brought to Mexico from Spain in the 1500s by Catholic missionaries and commemorate Mary and Joseph's difficult journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem in search of a place for the Christ child to be born.

In Spanish, the word *posada* means dwelling or lodging. During the procession parishioners sing along—one group asking for shelter and another group inside the dwelling denying it—until the first group arrives to the shelter that joyfully and humbly receives them.

They are a means to prepare our hearts with joy and prayer for the arrival of Jesus Christ and to remember and relive the moments that Joseph and Mary experienced before the birth of Jesus. They are held on nine consecutive evenings. These represent Mary's nine months of pregnancy.



La tradición de las Posadas fue traída a México de España en 1500s por misioneros católicos y es una conmemoración de María y de José y su difícil viaje de Nazaret a Belén en busca de un lugar para el nacimiento del niño Jesús.

La palabra *posada* significa vivienda o alojamiento. Durante la procesión, la gente canta junto al primer grupo de peregrinos pidiendo un lugar donde llegar, y el otro grupo de peregrinos están adentro negando la entrada. Hasta que al final, el primer grupo de peregrinos encuentra un lugar donde llegar y felizmente y humildemente los reciben.

Son un medio para preparar con alegría y oración nuestro corazón para la llegada de Jesucristo, y para recordar y vivir los momentos que pasaron José y María antes del nacimiento de Jesús. Las posadas continúan durante nueve días consecutivos. Estos días representan nueve meses del embarazo de María.

**To continue last year's newest tradition of in-home hosting, we are seeking 8 volunteers who would welcome a small group into their home to pray a rosary and fellowship.
For more info or to volunteer, contact Claudia Delgado at (210) 410-6906.**

FAITH & PRAYER

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS!

Join the St. Anthony Mary Claret Vocations Committee this month as they pray for local seminarians and for an increase in vocations to religious life.

These seminarians will be the recipients of your prayers this month:



Paul Melgarejo



Thomas Lyons

The committee also commends to your intercession a group committed to the consecrated life: **Disalced Carmelites.**

Lord, Jesus,
we ask you to send more servants to your people. Choose from our parishes, from our homes, from our schools and colleges, an abundant harvest of apostles for your Kingdom: priests, sisters, brothers, deacons and lay ministers. We pray that those you call may never lose awareness of the dignity and need of their vocation.

O Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, teach to all those the Master calls to say a joyful "yes" as you did at the Annunciation. Amen.

PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH FAMILY

Please take 90 seconds out of your busy schedule and offer one Our Father, one Hail Mary, and one Glory Be for these sick members of our parish family:

- Rudy Jimenez
- Judy Gomez
- Mike Churchman
- Brianna, Jacob, & Oscar Pena
- Dave Whitney
- Carolyn Cole
- Romana Garcia
- Yareli Mendoza
- Jenna & Landon Ondrusek
- Fernando Mascorro
- Ana Galinski
- Sophia Hampton
- S.T.
- Eloise Salazar
- Maria Morales
- Rosa Huerta
- Johnny Reyes
- Richard Keller
- Barbara Vanegas
- Jack & Jeanette Donohue

- Rudy Navarro
- A.C. Garza
- Olga & Rudy Faz
- Dee Hancock
- Grace Heinze
- Adrian & Erika Huerter
- Bill Jennings
- Robyn Marcum
- Margie Morones
- Tracy Oviedo
- Alyson Victoria Oviedo
- Linda Santos
- Mary Sledden
- Nancy Souhrada
- Bertha Trevino
- Roberto Trevino
- Gabby Truly
- Bishop Yanta
- Anthony Trevino

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

- Sunday 2: Jer 33:14-16/1 Thes 3:12—4:2/Lk 21:25-28, 34-36
- Monday 3: Is 2:1-5/Mt 8:5-11
- Tuesday 4: Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24
- Wednesday 5: Is 25:6-10a/Mt 15:29-37
- Thursday 6: Is 26:1-6/Mt 7:21, 24-27
- Friday 7: Is 29:17-24/Mt 9:27-31
- Saturday 8: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
- Sunday 9: Bar 5:1-9/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN NEWS



Thank you for sharing your time, talent, and treasure! To date we have raised 52.2% of our \$1.7M goal. If you are ready to make a commitment or still need more information, visit <https://www.archsa.org/ontheway-andale>.

Recent Sunday readings are in stark contrast to the joy of the holiday season that is upon us, warning us instead of dark times ahead and our inevitable judgment day.

The November 18 first reading from the prophet Daniel describes a time “unsurpassed in distress since nations began” and warns that “many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake; some shall live forever, and others shall be an everlasting horror and disgrace.” The second reading, from Hebrews, speaks of Christ who “waits until his enemies are made his footstool.”

However, when we firmly establish for ourselves as individuals — as a family and as a parish that we will give to God the first and best portion of our **Time, Talent, and Treasure** — the warnings we read in the Scriptures should be no cause for alarm. In fact, we can view these words as encouragement — “Keep Calm and Steward On,” no matter what comes our way.

One of the blessings of a stewardship way of life is that in challenging times, whether in our homes or work-places or even our beloved Church itself, we can take great comfort in knowing we have a concrete plan to keep our priorities in right order. And, when we put God first in all aspects of our lives, we will experience the peace that He gives that surpasses all understanding.



Debra Bachleda
CPA, PC, Parishioner
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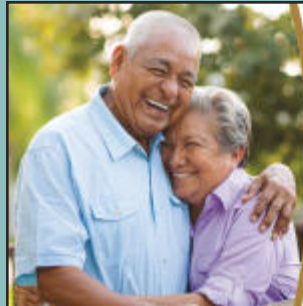
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