

St. Anthony Mary Claret

Roman Catholic Church

6150 Roft Road • San Antonio, Texas 78253 Office 210/688-9033 • Fax 210/688-3575

Visit our website at www.saclaret.com

E-mail your comments or questions to saclaret@saclaret.com

Pastor:

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

Parochial Vicars:

Rev. James Seiwert Rev. Brian Garcia

Deacons:

Jerome (Jerry) Kozar, M.S. Mark Harden Jerry Campa, ChFC®, CRPC® Angel Rondon

Parish Staff:

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:** Amy Zuberbueler, MME

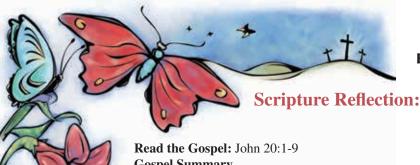
> > **Bulletin Editor:** Sandy Salinas, BA

Sacristans:

Teresa Revilla, Rita Valdez

Grounds and Maintenance:

Ruben Villanueva Charlie Sievers



Gospel Summary

Upon seeing that the stone had been removed from the tomb, Mary of Magdala ran to Simon Peter and the disciple whom Jesus loved. She told them that the Lord had been taken from the tomb. Peter and the other disciple ran to see for themselves. The burial cloths were there, but the body of Jesus was gone. The disciple whom Jesus loved believed, even though neither Peter nor he understood the Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.

April 1, 2018

Easter Sunday

Reflection for Parents

Things aren't always as they seem. A spilled bottle of laundry detergent wasn't mischievous behavior-it was your child's attempt to surprise you by doing his or her own laundry. Secrets whispered behind your back weren't an attempt to hide a wrongdoing. They were an effort to plan a surprise for you. In today's Gospel reading, Mary of Magdala's discovery of the empty tomb did not mean that Jesus' body had been stolen—it was evidence that Jesus had risen from the dead! As Christians, we are invited to look beyond the surface, beyond the obvious, and to search for the deeper meaning—the deeper truth—that God is trying to reveal in the everyday occurrences of life.

Bringing the Gospel into Your Family

Gather your family together to decorate your family prayer table for the Easter season. Place upon the table a white cloth, a candle, a Bible, a cross, and signs of the Easter season such as fresh flowers, an Easter egg, a butterfly, and anything that symbolizes new life to family members. Talk about ways you can be signs of new life to each other and to neighbors and friends throughout the Easter season. Even the smallest signs of thoughtfulness and caring can be Good News to those in need of Easter joy.

Discussion Starters

- My favorite Easter symbol is... because...
- Mary Magdalene recognized Jesus' voice when he called her name. One time I know Jesus called my name when...
- Someone I will share the Good News of Easter with is... because...

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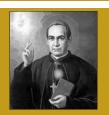
unday8:00 am, 10:00 am, Noon, 3:00 pm (Spanish), 6:00

Holy Days of Obligation 8:00 am and 7:00 pm

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

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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 parish, not only to strengthen our own spiritual awareness, but to impact the community as a

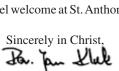
WELCOME

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

Please complete either an online registration form at saclaret. com or you can find a printed one

near the entrance of our church in the Narthex. You may return it to the parish office or drop it in the collection basket at your convenience.

I hope we are making you feel welcome at St. Anthony Mary Claret!



CONGRATULATIONS! WEDDINGS

John Becerra & Sara Zorola

WEEKLY READINGS

SUN: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Colossians 3:1-4/John 20:1-9 MON: Isaiah 42:1-7/John 12:1-11

TUE: Isaiah 49:1-6/John 13:21-33, 36-38 WED: Isaiah 50:4-9a/Matthew 26:14-25

THU: Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14/1 Corinthians 11:23-26/ John 13:1-15

FRI: Isaiah 52:13 — 53:12/Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9/ John 18:1 - 19:42

SAT: Genesis 1:1 — 2:2/ Genesis 22:1-18/ Exodus 14:15 — 15:1/ Isaiah 54:5-14/ Isaiah 55:1-11/ Baruch 3:9-15, 32 — 4:4/Ezekiel 36:16-17a, 18-28/ Romans 6:3-11/Mark 16:1-7

SUN: Acts 4:32-35/1 Jn 5:1-6/Jn 20:19-31

Weekly Attendance and Collection Totals

MAR. 24/25 attendance and collection totals unavailable at press time.



St. Anthony Mary Claret First Saturday Mass & Devotions (as requested by Our Lady of Fatima)

Saturday, April 7 Confession: 7:30 a.m.

Mass: 8 a.m.

Followed by exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, rosary and consecration prayer



Monday Eucharistic Holy Hour & Mass 6:30 p.m. Holy Hour 7:30 p.m. Mass

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

SATURDAY, MAR. 31

**** *HOLY SATURDAY* ****

8:10 P.M. Divine Mercy Chaplet **EASTER VIGIL MASS -**8:30 P.M.

For RCIA Candidates & Teachers

SUNDAY, APR. 1

**** EASTER SUNDAY ****

6:30 A.M. Healing for Tina Saxon by Family

Joseph † & Ella Kopech †; Robert † & Floranna Stein †; 8 A.M.

Richard Caldwell, Jr. †; Joseph L. Stein †

by Blanchard Family

10 A.M. Delise N. Means †; Descheenie N. Dotson †

by Rodriguez & Semas Families

Spiritual Healing & Strength for Current & Future Priests 12 P.M.

by a Mom

3 P.M. For the Parish

6 P.M. Angelo Lopez †; Maria Lopez † by Darlene Belanger

MONDAY, APR. 2

8 A.M. Bert Bednarz † by Martha Bednarz

8:30 A.M. Divine Mercy Chaplet

6:30 P.M. Holy Hour

7:30 P.M. Healing Mass - For the Sick of the Parish

8:30 P.M. Divine Mercy Chaplet

TUESDAY, APR. 3

8 A.M. Justin Acap by Mom 8:30 A.M. Divine Mercy Chaplet

WEDNESDAY, APR. 4

8 A.M. Special Intention for Elvira Gonzales by Louis Gonzales

8:30 A.M. Divine Mercy Chaplet

THURSDAY, APR. 5

8 A.M. Special Intention for Therese Anderson by Sally Anderson

8:30 A.M. Divine Mercy Chaplet

FRIDAY, APR. 6

8 A.M. Special Intention for James & Henry Pawelek &

Alois & Florence Olenick by Olenick Family

8:30 A.M. Divine Mercy Chaplet

SATURDAY, APR. 7

Angelo Lopez † & Maria Lopez † by Darlene Belanger 8 A.M.

9 A.M. Divine Mercy Chaplet 4:40 P.M. Divine Mercy Chaplet

5 P.M. Santos Serna, Jr. † by Family

SUNDAY, APR. 8

8 A.M. Henrietta Kempf † by Mary Kossaeth 10 A.M. Danilo Taliman † by Wife & Family

12 P.M. Spiritual Healing & Strength for Humanity by a Mom

2 P.M. Benediction: Divine Mercy Novena Ends

3 P.M. Lucia Lopez De Jimenez † by Son Miguel Jimenez 6 P.M. Birthday Blessings for Barbara Winn & Fran Helner;

Mary Ann Feuge †; Mary Boisvert † by Bea Peterson

Easter Sunday Page 3

RESPECT LIFE



Words of Life

"Even among terminally ill patients, a request to die is nearly always a cry for help ... [and] is often associated with a potentially treatable mental disorder such as depression or anxiety."

— "Every Suicide is Tragic" brochure, USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, 2016-17 Respect Life Program

Palabras De Vida

"Incluso entre pacientes con enfermedades terminales, solicitar la muerte es casi siempre un grito pidiendo ayuda... [y] a menudo se asocia con un trastorno mental potencialmente tratable como la depresión o la ansiedad".

— "Cada suicidio es trágico" folleto, Secretariado de Actividades Pro-Vida de la USCCB, Programa Respetemos la Vida 2016-2017

Intercessions for Life

For those who struggle to find meaning in life: through the grace of the Resurrection, may Christ fill them with hope and the assurance their lives are worth living. We pray to the Lord...

Intercesiones por la Vida

Por los que luchan por encontrarle sentido a la vida: para que por la gracia de la Resurrección, Cristo los colme de esperanza y de seguridad de que su vida vale la pena. Roguemos al Señor...

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION / YOUTH GROUPS

Religious Education Calendar

0	
Sun., Apr. 1 & Wed., Apr. 4	No Classes
Sun., Apr. 8 & Wed., Apr. 11	Classes in session
Sun., Apr. 15 & Wed., Apr. 18	Classes in session
Sun., Apr. 22 & Wed., Apr. 25	Classes in session
Sun., Apr. 29 & Wed., May 2	Final class of the year

Reconciliation Retreat for First Communion 2nd year Students: Saturday, Apr. 21

For info, contact Michelle Reynolds, Director of Religious Education at 210-688-9033, x204.

Confirmation Mass: Thursday, Apr. 26, 7 p.m.

For info, contact Michelle Reynolds, Director of Religious Education at 210-688-9033, x204. You are invited to pray for the confirmandi.

April Youth Group Schedule

EDGE NIGHTS for Middle School Youth: Saturdays, Apr. 7 & 21, 6-8 p.m.

LIFE TEEN NIGHTS for high school youth: Sundays, Apr. 8 & 22, 7-9 p.m.



Get connected! Like us on Facebook and Instagram.



2018 Life Teen Steubenville Lone Star We still have a few spots open!

June 22-24 in Irving, TX

For high school teens 18 & younger (incl. incoming freshmen through just graduated seniors) \$50 reserves your spot; (estimated cost \$390.00) For info or to register, contact Martie Kokotajlo at youthgroup@saclaret.com or 210-688-9033 ext.209.



St. Anthony Claret Respect Life Ministry

REMINDER

Respect Life Sanctity of Life Talk: "Called to a Life of Holiness"

for all 9th-12th Grade Religious Education Classes

Wednesday, April 11 6:45 –7:45 p.m. in the church

Parents are encouraged to attend.

This talk will replace your regular religious education class this week.

PARISH NEWS

ST. ANTHONY CLARET CHURCH CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD OF:

	Actual MTD	Actual YTD
	02-01-2018	07-01-17
	to	to
	02-28-2018	02-28-2018
Cash Available		
Beginning Balance	\$369,449.92	\$265,152.63

Cash In-flow from:

Sunday Collection	\$107,311.75	\$974,389.73
Debt Reduction	\$23,276.45	
Mass Intentions/Stipends	\$825.00	\$11,519.00
Candles	\$1,564.38	\$14,383.61
Interest Income	\$22.62	\$247.77
Capital Campaign-New Building	\$2,789.56	\$84,484.08
Insurance Proceeds	\$0.00	\$40,200.00
Fund Raising -Festival	\$0.00	\$0.00
Religious Education	\$2,120.00	\$46,640.88
Music & Liturgy	\$0.00	\$0.00
CYO	\$18,978.00	\$85,099.03
Other Parish Organizations	\$21,540.64	\$177,171.12
Special Programs	\$5,103.91	\$18,647.55
Draws from Bank	\$0.00	\$0.00
Transfers from Assets, Trusts, Savings	\$4,048.76	\$115,731.07
Total Cash In-Flow	\$187,581.07	\$1,786,976.02

Cash Out-flow from:

Salaries	\$23,277.99	\$200,117.09
Contracted Services	. ,	. ,
	\$7,254.06	\$60,303.35
Insurance	\$3,359.19	\$23,514.18
Employee Benefits	\$7,726.34	\$63,032.18
Supplies	\$7,276.82	\$55,310.77
Postage	\$417.64	\$6,097.90
Repairs & Maintenance	\$7,268.60	\$70,007.85
Utilities	\$6,343.74	\$56,783.74
Vehicle	\$1,474.61	\$8,841.21
Food/Groceries/Hospitality	\$1,645.89	\$19,541.70
Promotion	\$1,019.74	\$10,947.86
Donations	\$150.00	\$1,200.00
Bank Charges Interest	\$6,598.36	\$84,317.39
Miscellaneous Exp-Capital Campaign	\$0.00	\$0.00
Archdiocesan Service Fund	\$17,734.00	\$141,872.00
Religious Education	\$10,715.76	\$149,053.60
Music & Liturgy	\$3,025.32	\$22,797.81
CYO	\$5,338.43	\$70,853.07
Parish Organizations	\$12,564.25	\$85,803.44
Special Programs	\$2,391.06	\$17,985.54
Bank Note Payments	\$0.00	\$153,337.71
Transfers to Assets, Trust and Savings	\$50,636.41	\$369,597.48
Total Cash Out-Flow	\$176,218.21	\$1,671,315.87

Cash Available

Ending Balance	\$380,812.78	\$380,812.78

Savings Accounts

Beginning Balance	\$874,314.36	\$704,474.07
Interest	\$22.62	\$252.15
Deposits	\$49,696.55	\$306,281.06
Withdrawals/Progress Payments	\$4,048.76	\$91,022.51
Ending Balance	\$919,984.77	\$919,984.77

Bank Loans

ank Edulid					
	Beginning Balance	\$2,287,918.50	\$2,441,256.21		
	Principal Payments Made on Loan	\$0.00	\$153,337.71		
ſ	Ending Balance	\$2,287,918.50	\$2,287,918.50		

Free college money for high school seniors!

Three St. Anthony Claret organizations—the Men's Club, the Knights of Columbus and the Ladies of St. Anthony—are ready to help. They will offer a few scholarships to deserving high school seniors. Pick up your application in the narthex. Applications must be MAILED into the parish office and postmarked no later than April 21, 2018.



St. Anthony Mary Claret Men's ACTS Retreat

April 12-15

Cordi Marian Retreat Center, 11624 Culebra Cost: \$180; \$60 Deposit For info contact John Pena at penatimes4@msn.com or 210-316-8195.

"When I call answer me, O my just God, you who relieve me when I am in distress;

have pity on me and hear my prayer. - Ps 4:1



Calling all Vacation Bible School (VBS) Volunteers!

Planning meeting, Thursday, Apr. 5, 7 p.m.,
RE building room 1002
Bring your ideas to help our children
learn about Mary this summer.
VBS will take place in late June.
For info, contact Michelle Reynolds, Director of Religious
Education at 210-688-9033, x204.



Please make a note of the new contact information for St. Anthony Claret's Pantry:

• Phone: 210 474-6888

• Email: sacpantry@outlook.com

Easter Sunday Page 5

LOVE, MARRIAGE & FAMILY

God's Plan for Love and Sexuality - Part 1

od's plan for human love and sexuality is good news! "The joy of love experienced by families is also the joy of the Church" (*Amoris Laetitia*, no. 1). All that the Catholic Church teaches about human love and sexuality comes from this truth: that God, who is love, created all people in his image—male and female he created them—to share his love and therefore to reflect his love in the world and in their lives. Jesus Christ fully reveals who God is as a Triune communion of love—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He shows us the face of God, and shows us who we are, and who we are called to be. Love and sexuality are bound up in this noble truth!

Catholic teachings on love and sexuality are founded on God's revelation of himself in Christ Jesus—as handed on through Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition (see CCC, nos. 74-100), accessible to the light of faith; and, on the nature of the human person and the natural moral law, accessible to right reason and illuminated by faith. Here we will consider what it means to be made in God's image, why male and female are foundational to God's design, the gift of love, the nature of marriage, and why chastity is essential to love rightly.

Made in God's Image

Then God said: Let us make human beings in our image, after our likeness. ... Male and female he created them. (Gn 1:26-27)

In the Book of Genesis, we read that man and woman are the unique crown of God's creation, made in God's image. In his image, men and women have received the capacity to be in relationship with God and with each other. "The mystery of the Christian family can be fully understood only in the light of the Father's infinite love revealed in Christ, who gave himself up for our sake and who continues to dwell in our midst" (Amoris Laetitia, no. 59). We are made for relationship, for communion, and called to love like God with faithfulness, trustfulness, responsibility, forgiveness, mercy, and generosity. Every person is created in the image of God and therefore has great dignity. Every life is of value. God has also given us power to cooperate with him to create new life—procreation. Given we are a unity of body and soul, our human bodies and sexuality, male and female, are an integral part of God's design and essential to being made in the *imago Dei*. The human body, therefore, has great dignity, and human sexuality is a great good (see CCC, nos. 355-373). "Learning to accept our body, to care for it and to respect its fullest meaning, is an essential element of any genuine human ecology" (Laudato si, no. 155).

Male and Female He Created Them: The Gift of Sexual Difference

Male and female he created them. (Gn 1:27)

Male and female is the twofold expression of human nature. Like human life itself, sexual difference is not arbitrary but is willed by God. Men and women are equal in dignity and yet are different from one another in important ways, including in their bodies and how they relate to each other and to the world. Sexuality affects every aspect of who we are (see CCC, no. 2332). Through sexual difference, we see that men and women are created for each other. As male or female, our differences complement each other and allow us to relate to one another in profoundly personal ways. "Valuing one's body in its femininity or masculinity is necessary if I am going to be able to recognize myself in an encounter with someone who is different. In this way we can joyfully accept the specific gifts of another man or woman, the work of God the Creator, and find mutual enrichment. It is not a healthy attitude which would seek 'to cancel out sexual difference because it no longer knows how to confront it" (Laudato si, no. 155).

Through masculinity and femininity, God has written into the human person a mutuality of one to the other. This points to the "spousal meaning" of the body, whereby the human body is seen to be a gift (see **Theology of the Body**). St. John Paul II explains this as man and woman existing not merely "side by side' or 'together,' but [also as] called *to exist mutually 'one for the other'*" (*Mulieris dignitatem*, no. 7; see also CCC, nos. 371-372). Men and women are created to give of themselves to each other. They manifest God's image both from their common humanity and their *communio* with each other (Ibid.).

Human sexuality is woven into the fabric of each man and woman. It carries within it the powers of love and life and is the human source of our most basic relationships as members of a family. Human sexuality indicates the capacity of persons to love one another and be united with others in friendship and community. Sexual difference is a sign of our call to love, to communion, inscribed within who we are, including our very bodies. As Pope Francis notes, "It needs to be emphasized that 'biological sex and the socio-cultural role of sex (gender) can be distinguished but not separated'" (*Amoris Laetitia*, no. 56).

...to be continued...

From www.usccb.org, site of the
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Used with permission.

SACRAMENT SCHEDULE

Reconciliation (Confession):

Weekdays: 7:30 a.m.
Saturdays: 4-6 p.m. or last in line
Sundays: 9 a.m.-12 p.m. (or last in line),
2-2:50 p.m., 4 p.m. - last in line

Baptism: Required Classes

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

Visitation of the Sick:

Call the parish office to schedule visit.

Funeral Arrangements:

Contact the office prior to making funeral home arrangements.

FAITH AND PRAYER

Pray with the Vocations Committee!

Each month the St. Anthony Mary Claret Vocations Committee requests that you join them in praying for a few local seminarians and for an increase in vocations to religious life.

They also commend to your intercession a group committed to the consecrated life:

Salesians Sisters of St. John Bosco

Below are the seminarians who will be the recipients of your prayers this month:



Robert Shelton



Jesus Alonso

O God, Who wish all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of Your truth: send, we beg You, laborers into Your harvest, and grant them grace to speak Your word with all boldness; so that Your word may spread and be glorified, and all nations may know You, the only God, and Him Whom You have sent, Jesus Christ Your Son, Our Lord, Who lives and reigns world without end. Amen.

Pray for the Sick of Our Parish Family

Father of goodness and love, hear our prayers for the sick members of our community and for all who are in need. Amid mental and physical suffering may they find consolation in your healing presence. Show your mercy as you close wounds, cure illness, make broken bodies whole and free downcast spirits. May these special people find lasting health and deliverance, and so join us in thanking you for all your gifts. We ask this through the Lord Jesus who healed those who believed. Amen.

Rosalie Cerna	Mary Palomino	Virginia Donnelly	Jack & Jeanette	A.C. Garza	Linda Santos
Daniel Martinez	Silas Blaylock	Andrea Obledo &	Donohue	Olga & Rudy Faz	Mary Sledden
Dr. George Flores	Gloria Bolick	Gloria De Leon	Eloise Salazar	Dee Hancock	Nancy Souhrada
Anita Flores	Elizabeth Mehdi	Edward Majchrowicz	Beverly Fetter	Grace Heinze	Bertha Trevino
Nylvia Flores	Laura Garcia-Mehdi	T.C.P.	Rosa Huerta	Adrian & Erika Huerter	Roberto Trevino
Teresa Flores	Guadalupe Martinez	Robert Garcia	Lillie McWilliams	Bill Jennings	Gabby Truly
John Flores	Vivian and	S.S.	Maria Morales	Robyn Marcum	Bishop Yanta
Beatrice Flores	David Stoltz	Bill Tricksey	Rudy Navarro	Margie Morones	Anthony Trevino
Kat Flores	C.J. Renfro &	Eloise Salazar	Johnny Reyes	Tracy Oviedo	Dan Calderon
David Cantu	Natalia Guhit	Richard Keller	Tomas Calderon	Alyson Victoria Oviedo	Barbara Vanegas
	Zulema Martinez			•	

(Prayer list is reserved for parishioners and their families only. Names will run for 2-3 weeks, space permitting.)

Easter Sunday Page 7

caminos o rutas.

este mes.

FAITH AND PRAYER

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention - April

For Those who have Responsibility in Economic Matters - That economists may have the courage to reject any economy of exclusion and know how to open new paths.

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer You my prayers, works, joys, and sufferings of this day in union with the Holy

Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world. I offer them for all the intentions of Your Sacred Heart: the salvation of souls, reparation for sin, and the reunion of all Christians. I offer them for the intentions of our bishops and of all Apostles of Prayer, and in particular for those recommended by our Holy Father this month.



COMMUNITY NEWS

Intención del Santo Padre Francisco - Abril

Por aquellos que tienen una responsabilidad en la economía - Para que

los responsables del pensamiento y de la gestión de la economía tengan

el coraje de refutar una economía de la exclusión y sepan abrir nuevos

pensamientos, afectos y deseos, palabras, obras, alegrías y sufrimientos

en unión con el Corazón de tu Hijo Jesucristo que sigue ofreciéndose a

Ti en la Eucaristía para la salvación del mundo. Que el Espíritu Santo,

que guió a Jesús, sea mi guía y mi fuerza en este día para que pueda ser

testigo de tu amor. Con María, la madre del Señor y de la Iglesia, pido

especialmente por las intenciones del Papa y de nuestros obispos para

Dios, Padre nuestro, yo te ofrezco toda mi jornada, mis oraciones,

A Woman's Haven Catholic Pregnancy Crisis Center Benefit Dinner

Thursday, Apr. 12, doors open at 6 p.m.; dinner & program begin at 6:30 p.m. Holy Trinity Catholic Church Banquet Hall; 20523 Huebner Rd. Keynote speaker: Abby Johnson

> Register at <u>www.awomanshaven.eventbrite.com</u>. You must bring your FREE ticket to attend.



Our mission is to serve women who are facing a crisis pregnancy and their unborn babies.

We do this by encouraging alternatives to abortion through education,
free and confidential counseling, and community referrals and material assistance.
This fundraiser will help us raise funds needed to operate and expand our agency.

Sponsor of the Week: DC A/C Service, LLC - David Hiller, Owner

Be a bulletin sponsor! Our bulletin ads defray the expense of printing to our parish. It is a great way to support our parish and advertise your business. If you have thought about putting an ad in the bulletin or know someone that owns a business, contact LPi at 1-800-950-9952 X 2536.

SUNDAY FUNNIES

An old preacher was dying. He sent a message for his doctor and his lawyer, both church members, to come to his home. When they arrived, they were ushered up to his bedroom. As they entered the room the preacher held out his hands and motioned for them to sit, one on each side of his bed. The preacher grasped their hands, sighed contentedly, smiled and stared at the ceiling.

For a time, no one said anything. Both the doctor and lawyer were touched and flattered that the preacher would ask them to be with him during his final moments. They were also puzzled; the preacher had never given them any indication that he particularly liked either of them. They both remembered his many long, uncomfortable sermons about greed, covetousness and avaricious behavior that made them squirm in their seats.

Finally, the doctor said, "Preacher, why did you ask us to come?" The old preacher mustered up his strength, then said weakly, "Jesus died between two thieves and that's how I want to go."



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