

St. Anthony Mary Claret

Roman Catholic Church

6150 Roft Road • San Antonio, Texas 78253

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

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Send comments or questions to saclaret@saclaret.com



December 8, 2019

Second Sunday of Advent

Pastor:

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

Parochial Vicars:

Rev. Brian Garcia

Rev. Tu Nguyen

Deacons:

Jerome (Jerry) Kozar, M.S.

Angel Rondon

Arnaldo J. Figueroa

Gene Festa

Tom Elms

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Bookkeeper:

Rose Ann Villafranca, BBA, MBA

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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

Maurice Flores

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.

GOSPEL MEDITATION: MT 3:1-12

What does it mean to be worthy? There are a few different ways to approach this question. Today's Gospel highlights two: the way of the Pharisees and the way of John the Baptist. Our faith values good works and discipleship. Perhaps, then, we "earn" our worth by adhering to the right doctrines and following the right pious practice. The Pharisees thought they were worthy. Due to their religious pedigree and proper procedures, they were self-satisfied. John the Baptist's words to them are strong. "Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.'" Of course, Jesus (and John) don't omit the responsibility for moral behavior. John gives the Pharisees quite a strong warning in that regard. "Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance...every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire."

It's a question of attitude. Of disposition. It's a matter of the heart. If anyone would be worthy in this scenario, it's John the Baptist. Jesus himself will name him the

Cont'd on page 2 →



2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

John wore clothing made of camel's hair and had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. - Mt 3:4

Celebration of the Mass

Monday 8 a.m., 7:30 p.m. preceded by Holy Hour at 6:30 p.m.
Every first Monday of the month 7:30 p.m. Healing Mass
& administering of the Sacrament of the Sick
Tuesday - Friday 8 a.m.
Saturday 5 p.m.
Sunday 8 a.m., 10 a.m., 12 p.m., 3 p.m. (Spanish), & 6 p.m.
Holy Days of Obligations: Check inside bulletin for times.

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.
No confessions on holy days of obligation or Fridays of Lent.

Baptism - Required Classes:

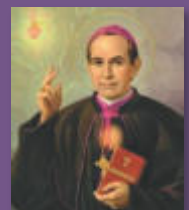
First Tuesday & Thursday of the month, 7:30 p.m. Call parish office to register.

Visitation of the Sick: Call parish office to schedule visit.

Funerals: Call parish office prior to making arrangements.

Marriage Prep: Call parish office at least six months to one year prior to wedding. Must attend mandatory orientation session the third Thursday of March or September at 7 p.m.

Quinceañera Prep: Call parish office at least six months to one year prior to date of celebration. Child must be enrolled in religious education for at least one year. Must attend mandatory orientation session the fourth Thursday of March or September at 7 p.m.



IN OUR PARISH



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, Rev. Jan P. Klak

Attendance/collection totals can be found on page 4 of this issue.

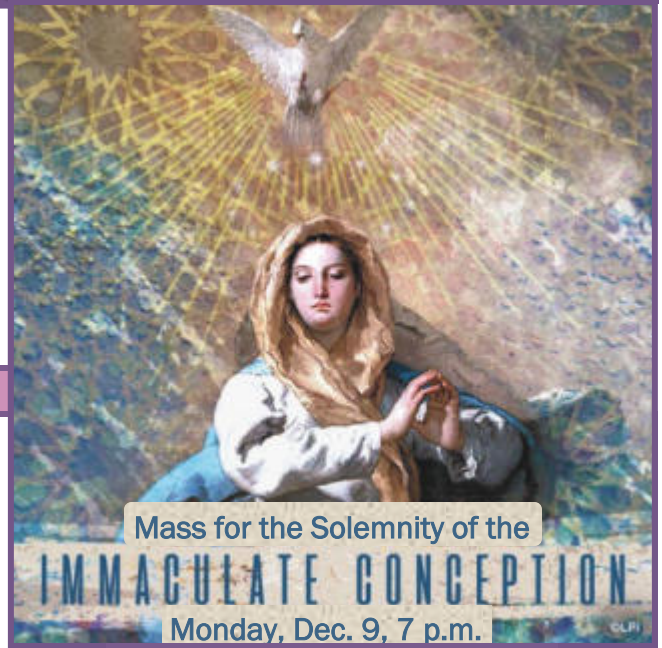
GOSPEL MEDITATION, *Cont'd from page 1*

greatest of prophets and a great man. John, however, recognizes his own lowly place in the grand scheme of things. "The one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals." The Pharisees take pride in being "better" than others. John embraces humility in Christ being "better" than him. We don't self-generate our own worthiness. We receive it as a gift from God.

In a few short weeks, we'll celebrate the birth of Christ. Bishop Ven. Fulton Sheen wrote about the Nativity in his "Life of Christ": "Because [Jesus] was born in a cave, all who wish to see Him must stoop. To stoop is the mark of humility. The proud refuse to stoop and, therefore, they miss divinity." God invites us to prepare our hearts this Advent. When you consider your own life, where are you looking for your worth? This Christmas, are you prepared to stoop?

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

World, church, and local events continue to challenge our faith. This is all the more reason to continue to come together and find encouragement and hope in God's word, sacraments, and our faith community. We are people of hope who are called to persevere, even in the midst of confusion and darkness, as we wait for what is to come. We are asked to repent, especially from our tendency to fall into doubt and despair. We are asked to repent and place our trust in Isaiah's words that God's world of innocence will be restored. We need to hear John the Baptist's words today more than ever: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" Rather than being disappointed by what human beings and the world cannot give, let us commit anew to what God can and will provide. ©LPi




ADVENT RECONCILIATION: SUNDAY, DEC. 22, 7:15 P.M. IN THE CHURCH

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday, Dec. 7

8 A.M. William Sill†; Ronald Koerner†; Robert Remm† by Cheryl Koerner
5 P.M. Edward Benningfield† by Benningfield Family

Sunday, Dec. 8

8 A.M. Tila Vasquez† by Daughter, Teresa
10 A.M. Rudy† & Selia Garcia†; Manuel† & Concepcion Espinoza† by Espinoza Family
12 P.M. Birthday Blessings for Nate Olech by Family
3 P.M. Chalmer Martin†; Rolando Oviatt† by Priscilla Velasquez
6 P.M. Spiritual Healing/Strength for Current & Future Descendants of Daniel R. † & Manuela M. Gonzales† by Y. Gonzales

Monday, Dec. 9 *Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception*

8 A.M. Birthday Blessings for Alexis Macias by Grandma Macias
7 P.M. Ella Leyendecker† by Jesse & Family

Tuesday, Dec. 10

8 A.M. Birthday Blessings for Alexis Macias by Grandma

Wednesday, Dec. 11

8 A.M. For the Parish

Thursday, Dec. 12

8 A.M. Billie Sievers† by Charlie Sievers & Family
7 P.M. Spiritual Healing & Strength for Humanity; Souls in Purgatory†; by M. Gonzales
Jesus Sanchez† by Martha Sanchez

Friday, Dec. 13

8 A.M. Raymond Bendelet†; Birthday Blessings for Dennis Friedrichs by Bea Peterson
Maj. Blanca Reyes by Pete Reyes & Family

Saturday, Dec. 14

5 P.M. Birthday Blessings for Alana Smith by Jeanette Erickson

Sunday, Dec. 15

8 A.M. Dr. Sara Lynch† by Lynch Family
10 A.M. Georgina Cantu† by Grandfather Leonel Cantu
12 P.M. Mr./Mrs. Jesus Elizondo† by Alcantar Family
3 P.M. Gonzalo Landa†; Ricardo Figueroa†; Deceased Members of Velasco & Huicochea Families by Family
6 P.M. Birthday Blessings for Anissa Sanchez by Family

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

The Immaculate Conception, 1862, Artist: Guido Reni, Italian, Metropolitan Collection.



Prayer from St. John Paul II

Immaculate Virgin!

Your spotless spiritual beauty
is for us a living source of
confidence and hope.
To have you as Mother, Holy Virgin,
reassures us on the path of life
as a pledge of eternal salvation.
Because of this, O Mary,
we have recourse to you
with confidence.
Help us to build a world
where human life is always
cherished and defended,
every form of violence banished,
the peace of all tenaciously sought.

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

While traditionally recognized on December 8, this year the Church recognizes the feast on Monday, Dec. 9.* (See note below.)

An essential part of God's plan for the mother of his Son was that she be conceived free from Original Sin. "Through the centuries the Church became ever more aware that Mary, 'full of grace' through God, was redeemed from the moment of her conception" (CCC, no. 491).

In anticipation that she was to bear the Son of God, Mary was preserved from the time of her conception from Original Sin. We call this the Immaculate Conception. No sin would touch her, so that she would be a fitting and worthy vessel of the Son of God. The Immaculate Conception does not refer to the virginal conception and birth of Christ, but rather to Mary's being conceived without inheriting Original Sin. In the course of time, the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception became more precisely enunciated, as its truth—long supported by the universal popular devotion of the faithful—was better understood by deepening theological inquiry.

In 1854, Pope Pius IX proclaimed this dogma infallibly: that is, in his role as supreme teacher of the Church, he declared that this doctrine is divinely revealed and must be accepted with faith by the entire Church.



Prayer from Saint John Paul II, copyright © 2004, Libraria Editrice Vaticana, Vatican City State. All rights reserved. Used with permission. The article about the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is an excerpt from the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults (Washington, DC: USCCB, 2006) 141–143, 146. Copyright © 2006, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, DC. All rights reserved.

* Usually a Holy Day of Obligation but is not in 2019. The USCCB explains, "Since December 8, 2019, is the Second Sunday of Advent, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is transferred to Monday, December 9, 2019. The obligation to attend Mass, however, does not transfer."

PARISH NEWS

WE JUST WANT TO SAY... THANK YOU!

SAC Pantry assisted 77 families this Thanksgiving. We distributed a total of 120 bags of groceries. In addition to groceries, each family received a Thanksgiving gift card and cake mix. This was possible only because of parishioners' generous donations of money and food. Thank you for your continued support!



Nov. 23/24 Attendance & Collection Totals

Attendance	3,190
Regular Collection	\$ 22,572.44
Capital Campaign	\$ 4,007.00
Debt Reduction	\$ 3,762.00
Campaign for Human Dev.	\$ 494.00
Candles	\$ 472.95
Gabriel Project	\$ 300.00
Retired Religious Fund	\$ 50.00
SAMC Pantry	\$ 30.00
Hope for the Future	\$ 20.00
Rosary Makers	\$ 14.00

Nov. 27/28 Thanksgiving Attendance Total

Attendance 470

Nov. 30/Dec. 1 Attendance & Collection Totals

Attendance	3,743
Regular Collection	\$ 27,102.90
Debt Reduction	\$ 9,043.00
SAMC Pantry	\$ 860.00
Candles	\$ 441.80
Retired Religious Fund	\$ 150.00
Gabriel Project	\$ 90.00
Capital Campaign	\$ 57.00
Rosary Makers	\$ 39.00



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #10090 BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

SATURDAY, DEC. 21

9 AM - 12 PM

\$8/PERSON

PANCAKES, SAUSAGE & DRINK

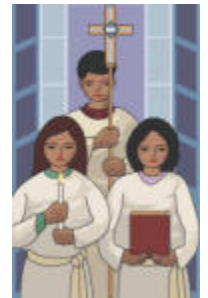
ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS
12 & UNDER

SANTA ARRIVES AT 9:30 AM!

TICKETS ON SALE AFTER WEEKEND MASSES NOW
THROUGH DEC. 14/15 OR AT THE DOOR.

CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT AT ALL TIMES.

Training for New Altar Servers Saturday, Dec. 14 9:30 a.m. in the church



**This Week in Our Parish
Weddings:**
Christopher Garcia
& Sandra Antillon



St. Anthony Claret Silver Seniors Christmas Party

Wednesday, Dec. 18, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.,
Msgr. Hubertus Hall

Lunch, desserts & drinks provided.

Enjoy an Advent reflection, Christmas
Carols, and an appearance by Santa!

Bring the following: an unwrapped toy for a
child, a secret Santa gift for the white elephant gift exchange,
and canned food donations for St. Anthony Claret's Pantry.

For info, contact Larry Lucido at (210) 473-4813.

New members welcome!

THE SUNDAY FUNNIES

A poodle and a collie are hanging out when the poodle suddenly unloads on his friend. "My life is a mess," he says. "My owner is mean, my girlfriend ran away with a schnauzer, and I'm as jittery as a chihuahua."

"Why don't you go see a psychiatrist" suggests the collie.

"I can't," responds the poodle, "I'm not allowed on the couch."



Help our parish Knights of Columbus Council 10090 to keep kids warm this winter!

Some families lack the
resources to adequately
meet this need. A warm
winter coat means
mobility. Our goal is to
make life a little easier
for them.



**Drop off your donations in the
narthex now through January.**

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Religious Education Calendar

Sunday, Dec. 8 & Wednesday, Dec. 11: Classes in session
 Sunday, Dec. 15 & Wednesday, Dec. 18: Classes in session*

* Parent classes at the same time in Msgr. Hubertus Hall for parents of students in final year of sacramental preparation (2nd year First Communion & 3rd year Confirmation).

Dec. 22 - Jan. 1 *** NO CLASSES - Christmas Break ***

Sunday, Jan. 5 & Wednesday, Jan. 8: Classes in session

YOUTH GROUP

Upcoming Youth Group Meetings



EDGE (middle school):

Sunday, Dec. 8, 7-8:30 p.m., Msgr. Hubertus Hall*

Sunday, Dec. 22, 4-5:45 p.m., Msgr. Hubertus Hall

* NOTE: Time change is for this date only.



LIFE TEEN (high school):

Sunday, Dec. 15, 7:10-9 p.m., Msgr. Hubertus Hall



Need Service Hours?

Help wrap Christmas gift for children across the city!

Saturday, Dec 14, 8 a.m.- 12 p.m., San Antonio Fire Academy

Contact Martie Kokotajlo for permission slip and details.

We have a youth choir that leads our assembly in song during the 6 p.m. Mass on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. If you are in 6th-12th grades or a young adult interested in joining this music ministry, contact Martie Kokotajlo.



Martie Kokotajlo: youthgroup@saclaret.com or 210-688-9033 ext. 209

PARISH NEWS

A HUGE THANK YOU...

...from The Gabriel Project to all who support and donate items to them. Your generosity enables them to assist many families with small children. Donations are always accepted. The need is great for these items:

- Boys winter clothes, 2T to 5T
- Quilts & burp cloths
- Strollers, bouncy chairs, walkers

Leave donations in the storage box outside the Gabriel Project building.

Hours: Thursdays, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. & 5:30-7p.m.
 & 4th Saturdays of the month, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.



COMMUNITY NEWS



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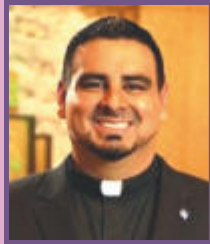
CMCSanAntonio.com

or call Pilgrim Center of Hope: 210-521-3377

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:



Michael Coronado



Blayne Riley

Father, we're your people, the work of your hands. So precious are we in your sight that you sent your Son, Jesus. Jesus calls us to heal the broken-hearted, to dry the tears of those who mourn, to give hope to those who despair, and to rejoice in your steadfast love. We, the baptized, realize our call to serve. Help us to know how. Call forth from among us priests, sisters, brothers and lay ministers. With our hearts you continue to love your people. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

Our Lady, Queen of Peace, pray for us!

The committee also commends to your intercession this order committed to the consecrated life:
Daughters of Mary Mother of Mercy.



PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH FAMILY

Sid Wall
Judith Wall
Mary Lee Sloan
Linda Izaguirre
Harold Shields
Javier Calderon
Ray & Carolyn Cole
George Aldaya
Sandy Salinas
Ana Galinski
S.T.
Jack & Jeanette Donohue
Eloise Salazar
Maria Morales
Rosa Huerta
Richard Keller
Barbara Vanegas
A.C. Garza
Olga & Rudy Faz
Rudy Navarro



Bishop Yanta
Nancy Souhrada
Bill Jennings
Dee Hancock
*Grace Heinze**
*Paul Allen**
*Dave Whitney**
*Romana Garcia**
*Fernando Mascorro**
*Adrian & Erika Huerter**
*Robyn Marcum**
*Margie Morones**
*Tracy Oviedo**
*Alyson Victoria Oviedo**
*Linda Santos**
*Mary Sledden**
*Bertha Trevino**
*Gabby Truly**
Anthony Trevino

Italicized names with an asterisk () on the list above need to be **updated**. In order for those names to REMAIN on this list, you must contact us or the names will be removed in January! Email the parish office at saclaret@saclaret.com or call 210-688-9033 no later than Monday, Dec. 30. Updated list will begin January 2020. IMPORTANT REMINDER: Due to space limitations, list is reserved for names of parishioners and their immediate family only. Names usually run 4 weeks.*

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Sunday 8: Is 11:1-10/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12
Monday 9: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
Tuesday 10: Is 40:1-11/Mt 18:12-14
Wednesday 11: Is 40:25-31/Mt 11:28-30
Thursday 12: Sir 24:1-2, 3-4, 8-12, 18-21/Lk 1:39-47
Friday 13: Is 48:17-19/Mt 11:16-19
Saturday 14: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Sunday 15: Is 35:1-6a, 10/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention - December

The Future of the Very Young: That every country take the measures necessary to prioritize the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering.

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 in particular for those recommended by our Holy Father this month. Amen.

Intención del Santo Padre Francisco - Diciembre

El futuro de los más jóvenes: Para que todos los países decidan tomar las medidas necesarias para hacer que el futuro de los más jóvenes sea una prioridad, especialmente de aquellos que están sufriendo.

Dios, Padre nuestro, yo te ofrezco toda mi jornada, mis oraciones, 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 este mes. Amen.





DEBRA BACHLEDA
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