

# 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](http://www.samcsa.com).

Send comments or questions to [saclaret@saclaret.com](mailto:saclaret@saclaret.com).



November 29, 2020

First Sunday of Advent

**Pastor:**

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

**Parochial Vicar**

Rev. Tu Nguyen

**Deacons:**

Jerome (Jerry) Kozar, M.S.

Arnaldo J. Figueroa

Gene Festa

Tom Elms

**Parish Administrator:**

Luis E. Astorga, MBA

**Bookkeeper:**

Rose Ann Villafranca, BBA, MBA

**Secretary:**

Elaine Wolf-Gentry, BS

**Coordinator of Religious Education:**

Odilia Piña

**Director of Religious Education  
& Evangelization:**

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 & Tony Valdez

**Grounds & Maintenance:**

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.

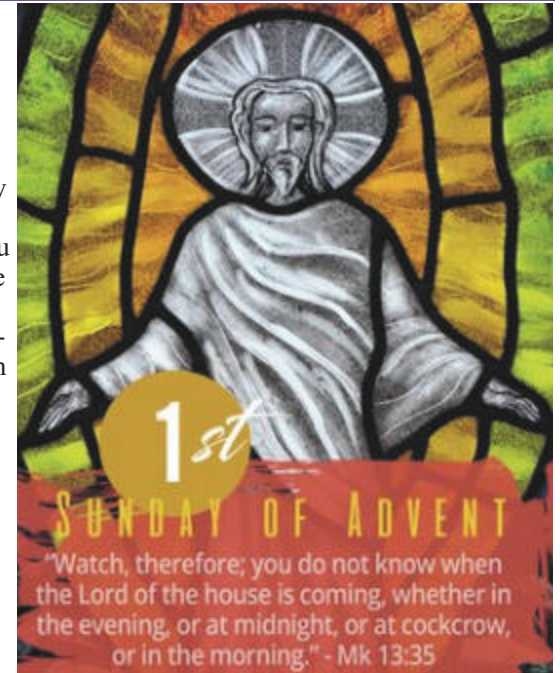
Together we strive to grow closer to Jesus Christ through the Holy Eucharist. We work to foster the development of the parish, not only to strengthen our own spiritual awareness, but to impact the community as a whole.

## GOSPEL MEDITATION: MT 25:31-46

You are at the eye doctor and it's time for the peripheral vision test. You know the one. It's where you put your head up to a contraption and have to click a switch every time you see a squiggly line. If you don't concentrate and maintain optimal focus, you will miss them and skew the outcome of the test. You can easily find yourself with a diagnosis that really isn't accurate! Concentration and focus are key to succeeding with this evaluation. They are also key to developing a healthy, vibrant spiritual life. If we do not bring our full consciousness to the task, concentrate with all our might, be watchful and vigilant, we are not going to see God's loving presence flashing before our eyes!

That's why we need Advent. Let's face it. We can easily get distracted, focus on non-essential and superficial things and lose touch with what really matters. Our attentions wander. We daydream and even become a bit overwhelmed and tired. All of the stresses and demands of life consume us and we find ourselves constantly trying to play catch up rather than relishing the moment of the now.

"Now" moments are so fleeting. They flash before us like those squiggly lines on a screen. Present moments go as quickly as they come but it is important to discover them and rest in them as often as we can. Though gone in a flash, these now moments of encounter with God teach powerful lessons and offer a grounding in truth that can be found nowhere else. It's the grace of Advent to become watchful and attentive because we are never sure when God  
(Cont'd on p. 2 →)



## Celebration of the Mass

Monday: 8 a.m.; 7:30 p.m.; Holy Hour 6:30 p.m.

First Monday of the month: 7:30 p.m. Healing Mass and administering of the Sacrament of the Sick

Tuesday - Friday: 8 a.m.; Saturday Vigil Mass: 5 p.m.

Sunday: 8 a.m., 10 a.m., 12 p.m., 3 p.m. (Spanish), & 6 p.m.

Holy Days of Obligation: Check inside bulletin for times.

## Reconciliation (Confession)

Wednesday and Thursday evenings only, 5 - 7 p.m.

## Baptism - Required Classes:

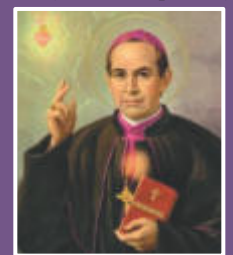
First Tuesday of the month, 7:30 p.m. Call parish office to register.

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

**Funerals:** Call parish office prior to making arrangements.

**Marriage Prep:** Call parish office six months to one year prior to wedding. Must attend mandatory orientation session 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 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](http://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

### Nov. 15/16 attendance & collection totals

Attendance	1,414
Regular Collection	\$ 20,260.60
Debt Reduction	\$ 4,540.00
SAMC Pantry	\$ 615.00
Candles	\$ 361.00
Capital Campaign	\$ 300.00
Gabriel Project	\$ 140.00
Rosary Makers	\$ 30.00
Retired Religious	\$ 25.00
Hope for the Future	\$ 15.00

Nov. 22/23 totals unavailable at press time.

### GOSPEL MEDITATION, *Cont'd* from page 1

will surprise us.

God loves surprises and love thrives on them! God's now moments of surprises come as tender instants of intimate connection where I find profound peace, experience joy, and rest in love. These are Advent times reflective of the now moments when Christ first was born, when God surprises us during every time we care to watch and when the great surprise of Christ's second coming dawns upon us all. But, to discover the grandeur and experience the awe of these now times, we have to be ready. We have to want to be there. We have to believe. And, we have to have the desire to soak in as much as we can in the time we have before us. ©LPi



### St. Anthony Mary Claret First Saturday Mass & Devotions

Saturday, Dec. 5, Mass: 8 a.m.  
followed by exposition of  
the Blessed Sacrament,  
rosary & consecration prayer



## MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

**Saturday, Nov. 28**  
**5 P.M.**      **Birthday Blessings for Merle Belisario**  
 by Family

**Sunday, Nov. 29**  
**8 A.M.**      **Good Health for Alberto Blanco**  
 by Delia Dominguez  
**10 A.M.**     **Henry Radecki†** by Ranalli Family  
**12 P.M.**     **Souls in Purgatory†** by Mary Macias  
**3 P.M.**      **Irene Rodriguez† & Manuel De La Cruz†**  
 by Family  
**6 P.M.**      **Corando Hinojosa†** by Adelina H. Fritz  
**Pete Hernandez†** by Priscilla Hernandez

**Monday, Nov. 30**  
**8 A.M.**      **Birthday Blessings for Joaquin Rodriguez**  
 by Family  
**6:30 P.M.**    Holy Hour  
**7 P.M.**      **For an End to Abortion**

**Tuesday, Dec. 1**  
**8 A.M.**      **Birthday Blessings for Pearl Rodriguez**  
 by Family

**Wednesday, Dec. 2**  
**8 A.M.**      **Birthday Blessings for Monica Gibbs**  
 by Family

**Thursday, Dec. 3**  
**8 A.M.**      **For the Parish**  
**7 P.M.**      **Bilingual Holy Hour**

**Friday, Dec. 4**  
**8 A.M.**      **Good Health for Victor Somrak**  
 by Doucette Family

**Saturday, Dec. 5**  
**8 A.M.**      **Javier Mendez†, Roberto Garcia† & Isabel Stahl†** by Teresa Revilla  
**5 P.M.**      **Arturo Rios†** by Lydia Reynolds & Family  
**Blas L. Alvarado†** by Debra Cameron

**Sunday, Dec. 6**  
**8 A.M.**      **Vincent Carvalho†** by Jeremias & Clarissa Fernandez  
**10 A.M.**     **Francesco†, Maria†, Carmela†, Corrado†, Sebastiano†, & Giovanni†** by Sal Spataro  
**12 P.M.**     **Special Intention: James & Henry Pawelek; Alois & Florence Olenick** by Olenick Family  
**3 P.M.**      **For the Parish**  
**6 P.M.**      **In Thanksgiving: Darrelyn Kunding**  
 by Kunding Family

## MARRIAGE & FAMILY

### Here's the Thing About Kids at Mass

by Josh and Stacey Noem

South Bend, Indiana is a Catholic town, and we attend a parish full of young professionals who have growing families. Our Sunday morning 10 a.m. Mass sounds like a zoo. I say that in the best possible way because it's a beautiful ruckus—if you're ready for it. If you're looking for a quiet, contemplative experience of the Eucharist, you're better off at the 8 a.m. liturgy.

There are no quiet moments in the church at the 10 a.m. Mass. Every so often, a toddler escapes and makes a break for the sanctuary. Our priests have grown accustomed to preaching over squealing voices. The kids who are dismissed for a children's Liturgy of the Word return to the assembly like a herd of puppies.

The last few weeks, we've been surrounded by parents who have spent a considerable portion of the liturgy wrestling with their children. Several times, both parents have had to leave with a fussy child in tow at the same time, leaving behind an empty pew full of winter coats and diaper bag detritus.

At such times, I know the parents are weighing the cost of the effort to be at Mass at all. I know mom is looking at dad in the entryway with desperation in her eyes as they both try to keep a grip on a thrashing child and their sanity. They could be sleeping in, they're thinking. Or pretending to sleep in.

Every Sunday, the vestibule transforms into a refugee camp of parents and restless children living in liturgical exile. I get it. I've been there, too. It's hard to get up early to wrangle small kids into uncomfortable clothes and figure out a nice way to put them in a submission hold in front of a hundred holy people.

But we need you there.

You remind us that the Gospel is meant to be lived in homes and neighborhoods, not just in a church building. You remind us that waking in the middle of the night to change diapers, using dessert as leverage for the consuming of asparagus, brushing hair, folding socks, and buying science fair display boards are all corporal works of mercy.

So, if you are a parent of a small child, relax. Don't sweat the noise or the Twister game your kid thinks they are playing during the psalm. Give us a little credit—we are adults. We know how to focus. If we want holy silence, we'll visit the church when it's empty. We are there to approach the Lord in community, and you're an indispensable, vital part of that. And what's more, so is your child.

And most of us have been in the same shoes. You are probably inspiring prayers of thanksgiving in 40% of the congregation. (If you are one of those giving thanks, take a moment after dismissal and thank a parent for coming with their loud, sniffling kid. The encouragement will mean more than you know.)

I remember Sundays when I was only able to scrap together enough attention for about 30 seconds of an hour-long liturgy. I remember leaving Mass more exhausted than when I arrived. I remember wondering if my kids would ever grow older. Or even just go to sleep—like, ever. And guess what? They did—and all too soon. It's a phase, a season of life. Blink and it's over. Hang in there. Don't give up. Keep at it.

A new season will come. We are in the phase now where our kids are altar servers and readers, but just because they can sit still doesn't mean we're an image of the Holy Family. I still throw elbows to nudge them out of a daydream. I am still waiting for them to wake up to the miracle transpiring on the altar. We want them to be saints. Right now they are kids. Beyond the attention our kids give or don't give a homily, or whether or not I can enter into contemplative prayer after receiving Holy Communion, it forms us to anchor our week around Sunday Mass. It's who we are, it's what we do.

We learned to play the long game here. The short game is won by staying at home, hands down. Pancakes at home on Sunday morning contribute more immediately to family harmony than gag orders in a pew—it's not even close. But the long game is more important. Attending Mass every Sunday as a family teaches our kids about a commitment that they learn in their bones. And if we seek faithfulness outside of the church building, they'll come to understand that our lives don't make sense without what happens inside the church building: the Eucharist. That's how I learned it. That's how faith is passed on. Mass doesn't make us perfect, nor do we have to be perfect at Mass—it's not about us at all, in fact. It's about the Body of Christ, and joining that body once a week moves us towards generosity and thanksgiving.

When we go to Mass ready to give instead of looking to get, we encounter that body. When we bring our whole messy lives in tow, kicking and screaming, and offer it up along with bread and wine, we'll find that the Lord receives those gifts, blesses them, and then gives them back to us transformed so that they feed us.

Josh and Stacey Noem have been married for almost 20 years and have three children in middle school and high school.

They blog about parenting and their adventures as a family.

From [www.ForYourMarriage.org](http://www.ForYourMarriage.org), an initiative of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Used with permission.



### PARISH NEWS



To aid mothers in need during this pandemic Donate new diapers through December. Leave donations in the large plastic bin outside the Gabriel House the

1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday or 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month.

St. Gerard Majella, patron and protector of expectant mothers, pray for us.



### St. Anthony Mary Claret CYO Winter Basketball Registration

Sunday, Dec. 6 after 8 & 10 a.m. & 12 p.m. Masses

Sunday, Dec. 13 after 8 & 10 a.m. & 12 p.m. Masses



### Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest

Celebrate the true meaning of Christmas through artwork!



- Open to kids ages 5-14.
  - Pick up entry form at the parish office. Turn in form with poster to the parish office **no later than Nov. 30.**
  - Contestants will compete in their age group:
    - Ages 5-7 (grades K-2)
    - Ages 8-10 grades 3-5)
    - Ages 11-14 (grades 6-8)
  - 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> place certificates will be awarded. Some winners may go on to compete for monetary awards at a regional competition.
- Rules:**
- Poster must reflect theme of Keep Christ in Christmas.
  - Poster must be original work of a single person.
  - Poster dimensions should be approximately 11x17 inches.
- All entries become property of Knights of Columbus Supreme Council.**

### Baptism Classes

First Tuesday of the month  
Next class: Tuesday, Dec. 1  
7:30 p.m.; RE Bldg., 1st floor



### SUPER SENIORS NEWS!

Lawrence Lucido of our parish's Super Seniors recently organized a virtual 8-week walking class sponsored by Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service. The group completed the "Walk N Talk" class from the "Walk Across Texas" program. Their main goal was to walk 832 miles, the width of Texas from El Paso to Orange, Texas. They walked each week, calculating their miles. During the weekly Zoom class, instructor Mary Masterson provided exercises and recipe videos for various fruit and vegetables. The total distance walked by the six people attending was 743.55 miles, an averaging 92.94 miles/week. Participants were truly super! Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service will offer more fun classes soon. For info, visit their Facebook page at Agrilife Bexar County or call 210-631-0400.

### SUNDAY FUNNIES

Little Philip was walking home in the rain with his mother after Sunday Mass. It stopped raining as they rounded the corner and to their surprise and delight there appeared a vivid rainbow in the sky.

"It looks like an artist painted the rainbow!" his mother exclaimed. "I bet God painted this just for you!"

"Yes," replied Philip, "God did it left-handed."



His confused mother asked, "What makes you say that?"

"Well," said Philip, "we learned in religious education class that Jesus sits on God's right hand."

## YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

The St. Anthony Mary Claret middle and high school youth groups are meeting on Zoom!

### LIFE TEEN

High Schoolers (grades 9-12) meet via ZOOM  
the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month, 7-8:30 p.m.

Next meetings: Dec. 6 & 20

To get connected and stay informed go to the links listed below.

High Schoolers remind101: [remind.com/join/8fb2b](https://remind.com/join/8fb2b)

High School parents remind101: [remind.com/join/6akb4e](https://remind.com/join/6akb4e)



### EDGE

Middle Schoolers (grades 6-8) meet via ZOOM  
the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Next Meetings: Dec. 6 & 20

To get connected and stay informed go to the link listed below.

Middle school parents and youth remind101: [remind.com/join/783gfeK](https://remind.com/join/783gfeK)

Stay connected: like our SAMC Youth Ministry Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/SAMCYouth/Questions/concerns?> Contact Martie Kokotajlo, Youth Ministry Coordinator: [youthgroup@saclaret.com](mailto:youthgroup@saclaret.com).

## MASS ATTENDANCE GUIDELINES\*

*Archbishop Gustavo's dispensation of Catholics from the obligation to participate in Sunday and Holy Days of Obligation Masses within the Archdiocese of San Antonio granted on March 13, 2020 is in effect until repealed. At-risk people or those with symptoms of the common cold, flu or Covid-19 should stay home.*

### Mass Participation, attendance & seating

- Masks will be required for all persons over age 10.
- There will be no exchange of peace by handshake or hug.
- Attendance will be limited to 50% of our normal capacity.
- Mass will be held in the main sanctuary. Overflow livestreamed in Msgr. Hubertus Hall.
- Hospitality ministers will seat you at least 6 feet apart from others. Families may sit together.
- Hospitality ministers will escort you from church immediately after Mass.

### Communion

- The Sacred Body of Christ will be distributed in the hand only.
- After the Eucharistic Minister has placed the Sacred Body of Christ in your hand, lower your mask and consume the Body of Christ, re-mask and return to your seat.
- The Precious Blood of Christ will not be distributed.

\*Subject to change without notice. Visit the parish website at <http://samcsa.com/> for a more detailed list.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

**RCIA** Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults



Our parish RCIA program needs sponsors for those going through the RCIA process. A sponsor shares the beauty of their faith by giving encouragement, guidance, and prayer to those preparing to enter the Catholic faith. They must be able to participate at the rites leading up to and including Easter Vigil. If this is something you feel called to do, contact Jennifer Rupert: 210-688-9033, x204 or [reoffice@saclaret.com](mailto:reoffice@saclaret.com).

### PARISH NEWS



**WARNING:** Some parishioners have received emails requesting help/donations and falsely claiming to be from Fr. Jan.  
**DO NOT RESPOND OR SEND DONATIONS!**

**FAITH & PRAYER**

**PRAY FOR VOCATIONS!**

We invite you and your family to pray for local seminarians and for an increase in vocations to religious life. These seminarians will be the recipients of your prayers this month.



**Jordan Milligan**



**Michael Coronado**

Padre Nuestro, te damos gracias por llamar a hombres y mujeres a servir en el Reino de tu Hijo como sacerdotes, diáconos y personas consagradas. Manda tu Santo Espíritu para ayudar a que otros respondan con generosidad y valentía a tu llamado. Que nuestra comunidad de fe apoye las vocaciones de amor sacrificial en nuestros jóvenes y jóvenes adultos. Por nuestro Señor Jesucristo quien vive y reina contigo en la unidad del Espíritu Santo, un solo Dios, por los siglos de los siglos. Amen.

The committee also commends to your intercession this order committed to the consecrated life:  
***Society of St. Teresa of Jesus (Teresians)***

**Your Generosity is Appreciated!**

- ◆ Online giving: <http://samcsa.com/> For help: 210-688-9033.
- ◆ Mail: 6150 Roft Rd., San Antonio, TX 78253
- ◆ During Mass or drop off at parish office

**Su Generosidad es Apreciada!**

- ◆ Dando en línea: <http://samcsa.com/>
- ◆ Para ayuda: 210-688-9033.
- ◆ Correo: 6150 Roft Road San Antonio, TX 78253
- ◆ Durante misa o dejándolo en la oficina parroquia

**PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH FAMILY**

- |                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Evangeline Vasquez      | Sandy Salinas           |
| Eufemia Castillo        | Eloise Salazar          |
| Connie Coignet          | Maria Morales           |
| Paul Rubio IV           | Richard Keller          |
| Alma Davila             | Rosa Huerta             |
| Philomena Ubajaka       | Barbara Vanegas         |
| Natalia Guhit           | Jack & Jeanette Donohue |
| Stoltz Family           | Ray & Carolyn Cole      |
| Leo Cantu               | A.C. Garza              |
| Deacon Arnaldo Figueroa | Olga Faz                |
| Diego Garduno           | Rudy Navarro            |
| Mary Helen Peterson     | Bishop Yanta            |
| Michelle Reynolds       | Nancy Souhrada          |
| Karina Hernandez        | Bill Jennings           |
| Kelton Sweet, Jr.       | Dee Hancock             |
| Joanna Sweet            | Alyson Oviedo           |
| Mark Finley             | Fernando Mascorro       |
| Harold Shields          | Linda Santos            |
| Javier Calderon         | Tom Calderon Jr.        |
| George Aldaya           | Tracy Oviedo            |

**IMPORTANT:** Due to space limitations, list is reserved for names of parishioners and their immediate family only.  
**You may submit up to FOUR names at a time.**  
Names usually run for four weeks.

**THIS WEEK'S READINGS**

- Sunday 29: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/1 Cor 1:3-9/ Mk 13:33-37
- Monday 30: Rom 10:9-18/Mt 4:18-22
- Tuesday 1: Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24
- Wednesday 2: Is 25:6-10a/Mt 15:29-37
- Thursday 3: Is 26:1-6/Mt 7:21, 24-27
- Friday 4: Is 29:17-24/Mt 9:27-31
- Saturday 5: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8
- Sunday 6: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8



**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES**

**THURSDAY, DEC. 24:**  
1 P.M., 3 P.M. (SPANISH), 5 P.M.,  
7 P.M., 9 P.M., 12 MIDNIGHT

**FRIDAY, DEC. 25:**  
10 A.M., 12 NOON,  
3 P.M. (SPANISH), 6 P.M.

This year additional Christmas Masses will be offered to allow more people to attend while maintaining their safety and comfort. Capacity at each Mass is limited to 350 people. Preregistration not required. If capacity is reached, we request you attend one of the other Mass times. Historically, the 5 p.m., 7 p.m. and midnight Masses have the largest attendance. Please consider attending a different Mass this year to allow everyone to participate safely. Questions? Call the parish office at 210-688-9033.



**DEBRA BACHLEDA**  
CPA, PC, Parishioner

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EA, NTPF Fellow Parishioner

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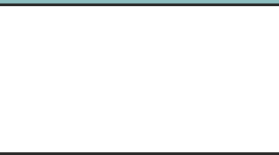
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