

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.



January 3, 2021

Epiphany of the Lord

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: LK 2:1-12

“Where is that thing?” mumbled Bob as he searched frantically on his dimly lit desk for the current electric bill. “I know I put it right on top of these papers this morning!” Growing in frustration and bordering on anger, he flies stuff around, moves books and opines why simple tasks need to be so hard. Enter his wife, who calmly says, “Maybe it would help if you put the light on, dear.” The desk light goes on and lo and behold, there is the electric bill right where Bob left it earlier. All it took was a little light!

We stubbornly refuse to turn on the lights! Either we are distracted, determined, disinterested, preoccupied, stubborn, apprehensive, or all of the above. Or perhaps, we fail to do the obvious. We would rather live our lives with the dimmest of lights or even in total darkness. Why are we afraid to do something so that we can actually see? It might help us to find quicker and better answers to problems, the meaning of life, relationships, happiness, and what is ultimate truth. Yet, we stumble along, moving things from one side to the other, getting angry, feeling cheated, being unsettled, resigning ourselves to the agony of defeat once again.

“And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was.” The light has come into the (Cont'd on p. 2 →)



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

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:

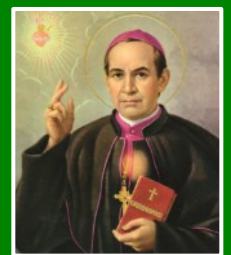
First Tuesday of the month, 7:30 p.m. Call parish office to register.

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 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

GOSPEL MEDITATION, *Cont'd from page 1*

world in the person of Jesus Christ! We no longer have to fumble in the darkness. We have been gifted with the illumination we need to see our way through things and find what we really are looking for. All these years later, however, so many are still reluctant to accept him. Perhaps they are unconvinced, disinterested, preoccupied, stubborn, apprehensive, or all of the above. Everyone has their own reason for not wanting to turn on the switch.

But there are so many answers to so many of our problems in this humble Child of Nazareth. A simple birth teaches us about God's tender wedded relationship with humanity. It speaks to the expanse of God's salvation across the globe, and the incarnate Divine wonders and blessings that are a part of our life moment to moment. It calls us to understand the design of world order God intended as found in the Beatitudes, the sacredness of every human life and all of creation and the meaning of things we struggle with most, like suffering and death. We have a lot of Good News to share, not just with a privileged few but with all the world. All races and creeds can receive God's healing word. God continues to manifest himself even now! Use the light to find what you are really looking for! ©LPi

Dec. 19/20 attendance & collection totals	
Attendance	1,284
Regular Collection	\$ 22,347.40
RE Bldg. Debt Reduction	\$ 10,920.00
SAMC Pantry	\$ 980.00
Gabriel Project	\$ 590.00
Christmas	\$ 210.00
Capital Campaign	\$ 200.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 150.00
Retired Religious	\$ 145.00
Rosary Makers	\$ 30.00
Candles	\$ 25.00
Hope for the Future	\$ 10.00
World Missions	\$ 10.00

Dec. 26/27 attendance & collection totals unavailable at press time.



MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, Jan. 2**
 8 A.M. **Healing for Marilu Merlo** by Anne Merlo
 5 P.M. **Armand & Charlotte Toutaint†** by Harold & Claire Shields
- Sunday, Jan. 3**
 8 A.M. **Elvira Sanchez†** by Bianca Valenzuela
 10 A.M. **Souls in Purgatory†** by Mary Macias
 12 P.M. **Alfred Elizondo†** by Family
 3 P.M. **Marce Martinez†** by Family Friend
Rosario Huemer† by Family
 6 P.M. **Charles Kozar†** by Rich & Rosemarie Kopanic
- Monday, Jan. 4**
 8 A.M. **For the Parish**
 6:30 P.M. Holy Hour
 7:30 P.M. **For the Sick of the Parish**
- Tuesday, Jan. 5**
 8 A.M. **Eva Valdez†** by Daughter & Family
Alejandro Davila† by Family
- Wednesday, Jan. 6**
 8 A.M. **Special Intention: James & Henry Pawelek; Alois & Florence Olenick** by Olenick Family

- Thursday, Jan. 7**
 8 A.M. **Birthday Blessings for Lily Olech** by Olech Family
- Friday, Jan. 8**
 8 A.M. **Spiritual Healing & Strength for Current & Future Descendants of Daniel R. † & Manuela M. Gonzales†** by Y. Gonzales
Fermin Chevez†, Ismael Chevez† & Juan Carlos Monterosa† by Mejia Family
- Saturday, Jan. 9**
 5 P.M. **Joseph† & Ella Kopech†; Joseph L. Stein†; Robert† & Floranna Stein†; Richard Caldwell, Jr.†** by Blanchard Family
- Sunday, Jan. 10**
 8 A.M. **George Anthony Merlo†** by Anne Merlo
Celia Rodriguez† by Rick & Sandy Salinas & Family
 10 A.M. **Alan J. Ponce†; Margaret† & Albert Suarez†** by Alma Ponce
 12 P.M. **Souls in Purgatory†** by Mary Macias
 3 P.M. **Alfred Elizondo†** by Family
 6 P.M. **Jordan Lozano†** by Santana Family

LOVE AND MARRIAGE

Between Man and Woman: Questions and Answers About Marriage and Same-Sex Unions—Part 1

INTRODUCTION

A growing movement today favors making those relationships commonly called same-sex unions the legal equivalent of marriage. This situation challenges Catholics—and all who seek the truth—to think deeply about the meaning of marriage, its purposes, and its value to individuals, families, and society. This kind of reflection, using reason and faith, is an appropriate starting point and framework for the current debate.



We, the Catholic bishops of the United States, offer here some basic truths to assist people in understanding Catholic teaching about marriage and to enable them to promote marriage and its sacredness.

1. What is marriage?

Marriage, as instituted by God, is a faithful, exclusive, lifelong union of a man and a woman joined in an intimate community of life and love. They commit themselves completely to each other and to the wondrous responsibility of bringing children into the world and caring for them. The call to marriage is woven deeply into the human spirit. Man and woman are equal. However, as created, they are different from, but made for, each other. This complementarity, including sexual difference, draws them together in a mutually loving union that should be always open to the procreation of children (see *Catechism of the Catholic Church* [CCC], nos. 1602-1605). These truths about marriage are present in the order of nature and can be perceived by the light of human reason. They have been confirmed by divine Revelation in Sacred Scripture.

2. What does our faith tell us about marriage?

Marriage comes from the loving hand of God, who fashioned both male and female in the divine image (see Gn 1:27). A man "leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife, and the two of them become one body" (Gn 2:24). The man recognizes the woman as "bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh" (Gn 2:23). God blesses the man and woman and commands them to "be fertile and multiply" (Gn 1:28). Jesus reiterates these teachings from Genesis, saying, "But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female. For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother [and be joined to his wife], and the two shall become one flesh'" (Mk 10: 6-8).

These biblical passages help us to appreciate God's plan for marriage. It is an intimate union in which the spouses give themselves, as equal persons, completely and lovingly to one another. By their mutual gift of self, they cooperate with God in bringing children to life and in caring for them.

Marriage is both a natural institution and a sacred union because it is rooted in the divine plan for creation. In addition, the Church teaches that the valid marriage of baptized Christians is a sacrament—a saving reality. Jesus Christ made marriage a symbol of his love for his Church (see Eph 5:25-33). This means that a sacramental marriage lets the world see, in human terms, something of the faithful, creative, abundant, and self-emptying love of Christ. A true marriage in the Lord with his grace will bring the spouses to holiness. Their love, manifested in fidelity, passion, fertility, generosity, sacrifice, forgiveness, and healing, makes known God's love in their family, communities, and society. This Christian meaning confirms and strengthens the human value of a marital union (see CCC, nos. 1612-1617; 1641-1642).

(...to be continued...)

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Between Man and Woman: Questions and Answers About Marriage and Same-Sex Unions was developed by the Committee on Marriage and Family Life of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). It was approved for publication by the full body of bishops at their November 2003 General Meeting and has been authorized for publication by the undersigned: *Msgr. William P. Fay, General Secretary, USCCB*

PARISH NEWS



Bible Study VIRTUAL Classes Available This Winter

Journey Through Scripture Series: "The Bible and The Church Fathers" (online, English)*

Fifth in the series, this 12-session Bible study is based on the Mike Aquilina's The Fathers of the Church: An Introduction to the First Christian Teachers (3rd ed.). Our Church is shaped by our fathers and mothers in faith, the earliest Christians. Our understanding of the liturgy is shaped by what Jesus' followers in the first centuries of the Church believed and practiced. Participants will meet weekly via Zoom for viewing DVDs, group discussion and fellowship.

Two ONLINE times offered:

- English evening class begins Sunday, Jan. 3, 7:30 p.m.
English morning class begins Tuesday, Jan. 5, 10 a.m.

To learn more, visit: www.JourneyThroughScripture.com or download the new, free St. Paul Center of Biblical Theology app in the App Store. Open to ages 15 and older.

Journey Through Scripture Series (Spanish): online via Zoom; contact Felipe Forero at (210) 833-8552.

Ascension Press Bible Study - Jesus: The Way, the Truth, and the Life (online, English)*

Jesus is our savior, our redeemer, our Lord, and our God. Our belief in Jesus is what makes us who we are as Catholics, and as Christians; but do we really know him as we should? This 10-session class explores the entirety of Jesus' life and what his life means for us as Catholics today. Participants will meet weekly via Zoom to view an engaging video presentation by Marcellino D'Ambrosio, Jeff Cavins, and Edward Sri followed by discussion and fellowship. Class begins in January.

*For info or to register, contact Charolette J. (CJ) Garcia-Aboytes at (210) 843-1198 or cjaboytes@gmail.com.

St. Anthony Mary Claret Super Seniors & the Cooperative Extension Program-Bexar County present an online series

IDENTIFYING MEMORY ISSUES: WHAT IS REALLY HAPPENING

Via Zoom @12 p.m. on Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25

For info, contact Lawrence Lucido at 210-473-4813 or mrlaredo33@aol.com; or, Grace Guerra-Gonzalez at 210-631-0400 or gguerra@pvamu.edu.



PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN SCIENCES



Cooperative Extension Program

WARNING:

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



THE SUNDAY FUNNIES

Madge: What's your New Year's resolution?
Gail: To read more.
Madge: "That's a great goal, but I think it'll be hard to follow through."
Gail: "Nah. It's easy. I'll just turn on the subtitles when I watch TV!"



COMMUNITY NEWS

Loved One in Jail or Prison? Let Us Help You



Criminal Justice Ministry Archdiocesan Office (210) 734-1980

www.archsa.org/criminal-justice

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



PARISH NEWS

Knights of Columbus Free Throw Competition Saturday, Jan. 16, 11 a.m.

St. Paul Basketball Court
350 Sutton Dr.
San Antonio, TX 78228



Winners advance to district,
regional & state tournaments.

Free for boys & girls in the following brackets:

- Ages 9 – 11 (boys & girls competition)
- Ages 12 – 14 (girls competition)
- Ages 12 – 14 (boys competition)

Participants will need the following:

- Completed "Free Throw Championship Entry Form" (Pick up in the parish office.)
- A copy of birth certificate

Learn more at <https://www.kofc.org/en/programs/community/free-throw-championship.html#/>
Questions? Email: council10090@gmail.com

All precautionary safety measures are in place; hand sanitization provided.

Learn Natural Family Planning (NFP) as taught by The Couple to Couple League.*

NFP is not the old Calendar Rhythm method!

Learn about the beauty of fertility through the eyes of JP2's Theology of the Body. Couples will learn to track their natural cycle without harmful artificial hormones. It's 99% effective!

New class series begins Sunday, Jan. 10.

You must register prior to the first class at ccli.org. For more info, email Chris or Nicole Glowe at nfpglowe@yahoo.com.

* A required course for all couples marrying in our parish.



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.
- Sit at least 6 ft. from others. Families may sit together.
- Leave 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, 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.

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.



Dalton Moy



Luis Gómez

O, God, You have asked us to pray for vocations; that there might be young men and women willing to give their lives for the sake of souls.

Hear our prayer and the prayers of your Church and send us good and holy priests and religious. We offer you this day, all we shall think, do or say for this intention, through Christ, Our Lord, Amen.

The committee also commends to your intercession this order committed to the consecrated life:
Order of Discalced Carmelites

PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH FAMILY

- Dennis Bergkamp
- Jennifer Longoria
- Irene Cruz
- Alma Davila
- Philomena Ubajaka
- Gloria Bolick
- Stoltz Family
- Carol Sweet
- Jo Ann Niedenthal
- Rolf Smith
- Cesar & Patricia Calderon
- Bridget Dunlap
- Diego Garduno
- Michelle Reynolds
- Karina Hernandez
- Kelton Sweet, Jr.
- Joanna Sweet
- Javier Calderon
- George Aldaya
- Sandy Salinas

- Eloise Salazar
- Maria Morales
- Richard Keller
- Rosa Huerta
- Barbara Vanegas
- A.C. Garza
- Olga Faz
- Bishop Yanta
- Nancy Souhrada
- Bill Jennings
- Dee Hancock
- Linda Santos
- Tom Calderon Jr.
- Jack & Jeanette Donohue**
- Ray & Carolyn Cole**
- Rudy Navarro**
- Alyson Oviedo**
- Fernando Mascorro**
- Mary Helen Peterson**
- Tracy Oviedo**

Italicized names with an asterisk () need to be updated now. In order for these names to REMAIN on this list, contact us at saclaret@saclaret.com or call 210-688-9033 no later than Friday, Jan. 22. Updated list begins last weekend of January.*

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.



Your Generosity is Appreciated!

- ◆ Online giving: <http://samcsa.com/> For help: 210-688-9033.
- ◆ Mail: 6150 Roff 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 Roff Road San Antonio, TX 78253
- ◆ Durante misa o dejándolo en la oficina parroquia

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

- Sunday 3: Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12
- Monday 4: 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
- Tuesday 5: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Mk 6:34-44
- Wednesday 6: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Mk 6:45-52
- Thursday 7: 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Lk 4:14-22a
- Friday 8: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Lk 5:12-16
- Saturday 9: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Jn 3:22-30
- Sunday 10: Is 55:1-11/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention - January
Human fraternity.

May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

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 de Oración del Santo Padre Francisco - Enero
La fraternidad humana.

Que el Señor nos dé la gracia de vivir en plena fraternidad con hermanos y hermanas de otras religiones, rezando unos por otros, abriéndonos a todos.

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.