

St. Anthony Mary Claret

Roman Catholic Church

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Send comments or questions to saclaret@saclaret.com.



December 25, 2022

Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord

Pastor:

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

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Arul Francis Arputham,
M.A., B.Ed. MSFS

Deacons:

Jerome (Jerry) Kozar, M.S.
Gene Festa Tom Elms
Tony Valdez Jose Bermea

Parish Administrator:

Luis E. Astorga, MBA

Bookkeeper:

Rose Ann Villafranca, BBA, MBA

Secretary:

Elaine Wolf-Gentry, BS

**Director of Religious Education
& Evangelization:**

Jennifer Rupert, C.Th.

Coordinator of Religious Education:

Odilia Piña

Youth Ministry Coordinator:

Kimberle Keneally, BA, M. Ed.

Music Director:

Paul Rauschhuber, BM, ME, MME

Bulletin Editor:

Sandy Salinas, BA

Sacristans:

Teresa Revilla
Rita Valdez John Pena

Grounds & Maintenance:

Charlie Sievers
Rafael Olmos Roger Ruiz

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.



of Christmas is not found in twinkling lights, beautifully adorned trees, perfectly set tables or exchanged gifts. We are being called to something deeper and more authentic.

Christmas reminds us to look for God along the way of our lives and not get distracted by the illusions around us. Our world's complexity can leave us feeling displaced, desperate, alone, neglected, and unimportant. Joseph and Mary felt that way too. In the midst of all that captures and intrigues us in our self-created virtual worlds, is this longing for the anchor of faith to keep us grounded and make sense of it all. Only faith can give us the perspective to see what truly matters in life. We discover our divinely blessed humanity. The uncertain and challenging journey to Bethlehem gives way to the tender moments of birth and its embrace. Christmas softens us and slows us down a bit. It shows us Jesus as the light who enlightens everyone. It shows us the truth.

The faith that comes from Christmas calms our fears and allows us to go into the nighttime of our lives courageously. We are never lost or alone. We need to stop and savor more of life's moments before they slip away in time. God is with us, loving us, and leading us where we need to be. God is born again and again in every soul willing to give birth to His presence. God connects us and provides us with a place where we feel safe and welcome: home. Merry Christmas!

©LPI

GOSPEL MEDITATION:

JN 1:1-18

As we age, time seems to pass more quickly. Years seemingly fly by as one holiday flows into the next, January quickly becomes December and life maintains its hectic pace. What do we accomplish in all of that busyness? Perhaps technology is responsible for some of the frenzy, keeping us isolated in our social media worlds, communicating through texts rather than in person, and always connected to world events. We're over stimulated in many ways by information, noise, opinions, and ideologies. Yet, we still find the time to decorate our homes, purchase gifts, and plan Christmas gatherings. We know, however, that the true meaning

Celebration of the Mass

Monday: 8 am; 7:30 pm; Holy Hour 6:30 pm

Tuesday - Friday: 8 am; Saturday Vigil Mass: 5 pm

Sunday: 8 & 10 am; 12, 3 (Spanish), & 6 pm

Holy Days of Obligation: Check inside bulletin for times.

Reconciliation (Confession)

Saturdays: 4 pm; Sundays: 4 pm

Baptism - Required Class:

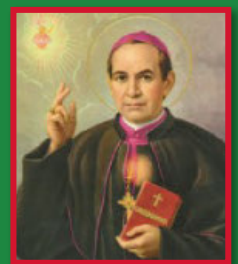
First Tuesday of the month, 7:30 pm. Call parish office to register.

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 one year prior to wedding. Attend mandatory orientation third Thursday of March or September at 7 pm.

Quinceañera Prep: Call parish office at least one year prior to date of celebration. Child must be enrolled in religious education for at least one year. Attend mandatory orientation fourth Thursday of March or August at 7 pm.



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 church entrance 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

Dec. 7/8 attendance total: 1,063

Dec. 10/11 attendance & collection totals

Attendance	2,936
Regular Collection	\$ 26,723.22
RE Bldg. Debt Reduction	\$ 5,804.00
Retired Men & Women Religious	\$ 3,274.00
SAMC Pantry	\$ 465.00
Candles	\$ 371.00
Gabriel Project	\$ 160.00
Christmas Offering	\$ 100.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 25.00

Dec. 17/18 attendance & collection totals unavailable at press time.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, Dec. 24:
5 PM, 7 PM, 12 midnight

Sunday, Dec. 25*:
10 AM, 12 PM, & 3 PM (Spanish)

* NOTE: NO 8 AM OR 6 PM Masses this Sunday.



MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday, Dec. 24

- 5 PM Santos & Olga Vasquez†
by Frank & Cindy Gonzalez
- 7 PM Joseph† & Ella Kopech†; Joseph L. Stein†;
Robert† & Floranna Stein†; Richard
Caldwell, Jr.† by Blanchard Family
- 12 AM BB* for Terry Armendariz
by Teresa Revilla

Sunday, Dec. 25

- *** NO 8 AM OR 6 PM MASSES TODAY
- 10 AM For the Parish
- 12 PM Pedro Roque, Jr.† by Daughter Joan Fojas
- 3 PM Julia†, Padre Domingo†, Andres Vicente†,
Emelia†, Celia†, & Ebodio†
by Velasco Family

Monday, Dec. 26 *** PARISH OFFICE CLOSED ***

- 8 AM Larry Joe Hartman† by Bea Peterson
- Bill Tricksey† by Etta Tricksey
- 6:30 PM Holy Hour
- 7:30 PM For an End to Abortion

Tuesday, Dec. 27

- 8 AM BB* for Andy Wessel by Bea Peterson

Wednesday, Dec. 28

- 8 AM Blessings for Fr. Jan by Alice Lopez

Thursday, Dec. 29 *PARISH OFFICE CLOSING AT NOON*

- 8 AM Souls in Purgatory† by Mary Macias

Friday, Dec. 30 *** PARISH OFFICE CLOSED ***

- 8 AM BB* for Seth Peterson by Bea Peterson
- Dolores Cain† by Patricia Smalley

Saturday, Dec. 31

- 5 PM Living & Deceased† Members of Houston
& Karpovage Families by Houston Family

Sunday, Jan. 1

- 8 AM 50th Anniversary Blessings for Derek &
Sylvia Rumsey by Donna Crary
- 10 AM Robert Kunding† by Bill & Darrelyn
Kunding
- 12 PM Deceased Members of St. Anthony Claret
Pantry† by St. Anthony Claret Pantry
- 3 PM For the Parish
- 6 PM Living & Deceased† Members of Menchaca
& Villegas Families by Family

*BB = Birthday Blessings

RESPECT LIFE

St. Joseph, defender of life, pray for us!



Word of Life

God is the Savior; we are those who are in peril. He is the physician; we are the infirm. To realize this is the first step towards salvation, towards emerging from the maze in which we have been locked by our pride. To lift our eyes to heaven, to stretch out our hands and call for help is our means of escape, provided that there is Someone who hears us and can come to our assistance. Jesus Christ is the proof that God has heard our cry. And not only this! God's love for us is so strong that he cannot remain aloof; he comes out of himself to enter into our midst and to share fully in our human condition (cf. Ex 3:7-12). ... Only the God who is love, and the love which is God, could choose to save us in this way, which is certainly the lengthiest way, yet the way which respects the truth about him and about us: the way of reconciliation, dialogue and cooperation.

— Pope Benedict XVI, *Urbi et Orbi* Christmas Message, 2011

Palabra De Vida

Dios es el Salvador, nosotros, los que estamos en peligro. Él es el médico, nosotros, los enfermos. Reconocerlo es el primer paso hacia la salvación, hacia la salida del laberinto en el que nosotros mismos nos encerramos con nuestro orgullo. Levantar los ojos al cielo, extender las manos e invocar ayuda, es la vía de salida, siempre y cuando haya Alguien que escuche y que pueda venir en nuestro auxilio. Jesucristo es la prueba de que Dios ha escuchado nuestro clamor. Y, no sólo. Dios tiene un amor tan fuerte por nosotros, que no puede permanecer en sí mismo, que sale de sí mismo y viene entre nosotros, compartiendo nuestra condición hasta el final (cf. Ex 3,7-12). ... Sólo el Dios que es amor y el amor que es Dios podía optar por salvarnos por esta vía, que es sin duda la más larga, pero es la que respeta su verdad y la nuestra: la vía de la reconciliación, el diálogo y la colaboración.

— Papa Benedicto XVI, Mensaje *Urbi et Orbi* para Navidad, 2011

Intercessions for Life

For all Christians: may the birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ awaken in our hearts wonder at the precious gift of every child. We pray to the Lord.

Intercesiones por la Vida

Por todos los cristianos: que el nacimiento de Nuestro Señor Jesucristo nos mueva a maravillarnos ante el preciado don de cada niño. Roguemos al Señor.

PARISH NEWS



St. Anthony Mary Claret
First Friday Mass
dedicated to the
Sacred Heart of Jesus
Friday, Jan. 6, 8 AM



St. Anthony Mary Claret
First Saturday Mass dedicated to
the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Saturday, Jan. 7
Mass: 8 AM followed by
exposition of the Blessed Sacrament,
rosary & consecration prayers

PARISH NEWS

**Hora Santa Bilingüe
para Las Vocaciones**
el jueves, 1 de diciembre, 6:30 PM
**Bilingual Holy Hour
for Vocations**
Thursday, Jan. 5, 6:30 PM
Misa/Mass: 7:30 PM



**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 JPPII's Theology of the Body. Couples will learn to track their natural cycle without harmful artificial hormones. 99% effective!
New class series begins Sunday, Jan. 15.
You must register prior to the first class at ccli.org.
For more info, email Chris or Nicole Glowe at nfpglowe@yahoo.com.

* Required course for all couples marrying in our parish.

*The perfect gift for the special woman in your life:
a God-filled weekend.*

Women's ACTS Retreat

Jan 12-15, 2023

Cordi Marian Retreat Center

For more info or to register, contact
Sonia Garcia at 210-391-1728,
Cynthia Luna at 210-415-1399 or
Valerie Galindo at 210-508-0485.



Or, scan this QR code to register!

*Here am I, Lord;
I come to do
your will.*

Psalm 40:8-9



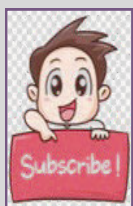
St. Anthony Claret Knights of Columbus Council #10090



THE GABRIEL PROJECT Diaper Drive

Starting in December you can donate
diapers to aid families in need. Drop them in
the large plastic bin in the narthex.

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



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website: <http://samcsa.com/> or have it
emailed directly to your inbox.
Go to parishesonline.com,
locate our parish with the search tool
and click on "subscribe."



WHERE ARE MY ENVELOPES?



Our envelope company sent the December envelopes on Nov. 1. Many were scanned at the post office on Nov. 12. January envelopes were sent on Nov. 23. If you have not yet received yours, you may want to consider contacting the post office as that is where they may be.

In the meantime, you can use any envelope (include your envelope number), our welcome envelopes (available in the narthex) or donate online at www.samca.com.

We apologize for any inconvenience.

ST. JOSEPH: FAITHFUL PROTECTOR OF MOTHER AND CHILD



The infant Christ “came into our world in a state of great vulnerability. He needed to be defended, protected, cared for and raised by Joseph” (PC 5*). The humble and often hidden carpenter of Nazareth accompanied Mary in her pregnancy, assisted at the birth of the Messiah in a stable, presented Jesus in the Temple, fled with his family far from their homeland to protect them, and lovingly raised Jesus as his own son in the years to come.

While the angel of the Lord appeared to Mary to announce that she would bring forth the Savior of the world, it was revealed to *Joseph in a series of dreams how God’s plans would be brought to fulfillment. As Pope Francis highlights, “God trusted Joseph, as did Mary, who found in him someone who would not*

only save her life, but would always provide for her and her child” (PC 5).

Like every other human family, the Holy Family had to confront real and concrete challenges. Yet, “in every situation, Joseph declared his own ‘fiat’” (PC 3). His “yes” to the Lord meant that regardless of the hardship and personal sacrifice to himself, he consistently chose to put the needs of Mary and Jesus before his own. Joseph’s devotion helps reveal to us our own call to show special care for the lives of those whom God has entrusted to us.

Each of us can find in him “an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble” (PC, Intro). Joseph shows us how to say “yes” to life, despite our own fears, frailties, and weaknesses. For it is Joseph who was “chosen by God to guide the beginnings of the history of redemption. He was the true ‘miracle’ by which God saves the child and his mother” (PC 5).

May we, too, be miracles in the lives of those who are most in need, especially at the beginning and end of life. *Dear St. Joseph, you who were “able to turn a problem into a possibility by trusting always in divine providence” (PC 5), help us to imitate your faithful trust and courage.*

*PC: Excerpts from *Patris corde*, © 2020, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved. Copyright © 2021, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, D.C. All rights reserved.

THE SUNDAY FUNNIES



A man was coming out of church Christmas morning. The pastor was standing at the door greeting parishioners. He grabbed the man by the hand and pulled him aside saying, “Son, we need you to join the Army of the Lord!”

The man replied, “I’m already in the Army of the Lord, Father.”

“Then why is it I only see you at Christmas and Easter?” the pastor questioned. He whispered back, “I’m in the secret service.”

COMMUNITY NEWS

Pilgrim Center of Hope Catholic Men’s Conference (CMC)

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Saturday, Apr. 29; Half-day event

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Featuring Auxiliary Bishop Gary Janak
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CMCSanAntonio.com or
call 210-521-3377.



FAITH & PRAYER

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS!

Pray for our local seminarians and for an increase in vocations to religious life. This month we especially pray for these two seminarians:



Robert Shelton



Joseph Duque

St. John Vianney's Prayer for Priests

God, please give to your Church today many more priests after your own heart. May they be worthy representatives of Christ the Good Shepherd. May they wholeheartedly devote themselves to prayer and penance; be examples of humility and poverty; shining models of holiness; tireless and powerful preachers of the Word of God; zealous dispensers of your grace in the sacraments. May their loving devotion to your Son Jesus in the Eucharist and to Mary his Mother be the twin fountains of fruitfulness for their ministry. Amen.

We also commend to your intercession this order committed to the consecrated life: Congregation of the Congregation of Maronite Lebanese Missionaries



PRAY FOR THE SICK

REMEMBER
in your prayers

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Rudy Barrera | Karina Hernandez |
| Minerva Bridges | Kelton Sweet, Jr. |
| Nellie Coronado | Joanna Sweet |
| Vanessa Mehdi | Javier Calderon |
| Stoltz Family | George Aldaya |
| Diego Garduno | Mary Helen Peterson |
| Josephine Thornton | Maria Morales |
| Marge Lucido | Rosa Huerta |
| Dennis Bergkamp | Barbara Vanegas |
| Bill Phinizy | A.C. Garza |
| Catherine Smith | Manuel Salazar |
| Tony & Rachel Delgado | Javier & Mary Bautista |
| Maurice Flores | SJS |
| Tracey Kollmansberger | Olga Faz |
| Tony Salinas | Jim Souhrada |
| Alejandro De Luna | Bill Jennings |
| Deacon Jerry Kozar | Dee Hancock |
| Maggie Reyna | Linda Santos |
| Fr. Patrick Martin | Tom Calderon Jr. |

List is reserved for names of parishioners and immediate family only. You may submit up to FOUR names at a time. Names usually run for four weeks.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

- Sunday 25: Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18
 Monday 26: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Mt 10:17-22
 Tuesday 27: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
 Wednesday 28: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Mt 2:13-18
 Thursday 29: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35
 Friday 30: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23
 Saturday 31: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Jn 1:1-18
 Sunday 1: Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Prayer to the Holy Family

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in you we contemplate the splendor of true love; to you we turn with trust. Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that our families too may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic churches. Holy Family of Nazareth, may families never again experience violence, rejection and division; may all who have been hurt or scandalized find ready comfort and healing. Holy Family of Nazareth, make us once more mindful of the sacredness and inviolability of the family, and its beauty in God's plan. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, graciously hear our prayer. Amen.

— Pope Francis, *Amoris Laetitia*, 325



LA NATIVIDAD DEL SEÑOR

El ángel les dijo: "No teman. Les traigo una buena noticia, que causará gran alegría a todo el pueblo: hoy les ha nacido, en la ciudad de David, un salvador, que es el Mesías, el Señor". - Lc 2, 10-11



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Gary Carpenter

EA, NTPF Fellow
Parishioner



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