### 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.



December 17, 2023

Third Sunday of Advent

#### **Pastor**

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

### **Parochial Vicars**

Rev. C. Arockiasamy, BA, B.Ph, B.Th., M.S.F.S. Rev. Thomas Olikkunnel, Ph.D., H.G.N.

#### Deacons:

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### Bookkeeper

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### Assistant Bookkeeper

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Elaine Wolf-Gentry, BS

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Religious Education Administrative Assistant

Brenda Gonzalez, BS

### Coordinators of Religious Education Odilia Piña Bea Peterson

RCIA/RCIC Coordinator Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry

Nita Feliciano

#### Music Director

Paul Rauschhuber, BM, ME, MME

### **Bulletin Editor**

Sandy Salinas, BA

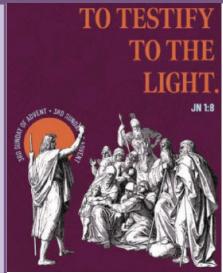
#### **Sacristans**

Teresa Revilla Rita Valdez - John Pena

#### Grounds & Maintenance

Charlie Sievers

Rafael Olmos Roger Ruiz



### **GOSPEL MEDITATION: JN 1:6-8, 19-28**

Why do we believe in Jesus and the Catholic Church? Why should we continue to do so? We've never seen him face-to-face (at least not most of us, I assume). Most of us have never had mystical visions of angels or saints. We live in the same world as our atheist and secularists friends. Why do we believe in Christ if we've never seen him?

The simple, symbolic answer the Gospel presents to us this week might surprise us: we believe because of John the Baptist. Early in John's Gospel we hear: "There was a man sent from God, his name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him." The Baptist power-

fully announces Jesus. This is a historical fact, and it is also now a pattern at work in our lives.

John the Baptist stands for the entirety of the old covenant, everything entrusted to the Jewish people. And yet he prophetically opens the door to something entirely new in Jesus, to the revival and fulfillment of God's promises. In every generation, and in every human life, God continues to do this. He has done it through people named Augustine, Francis, Catherine, Theresa, and countless others. In my life, the Baptist's spirit has come through persons named Eric, Paul, Mary, and Ron. I challenge you to name at least three people through whom God has announced the coming of Jesus in your life. Consciously thank God for their testimony. And let's commit ourselves to listening to the spirit of John the Baptist testify again this week so that we might more strongly believe in the light.— Father John Muir ©LPi

### **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)**

Weekdays: 7:30 AM; 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.

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### **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 samesa.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

### Your Generosity is Appreciated!

- ♦ Online giving: samcsa.com/home/welcome/donate/
- ◆ Mail: 6150 Roft Road San Antonio, Texas 78253
- In person: during Mass or at parish office

### Su Generosidad es Apreciada!

- ◆ Dando en línea: samcsa.com/home/welcome/donate/
- ◆ Correo: 6150 Roft Road San Antonio, Texas 78253
- En persona: durante la misa o en la oficina parroquia

Saturday, Dec. 16

**8 AM** 

Wednesday, Dec. 20

### Dec. 9/10 attendance & collection totals unavailable at press time.

Next second collection: Dec. 25 for Assumption Seminary Envelopes marked for these collections may be turned in then or at any time.



### 3ER DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

"Yo bautizo con agua, pero en medio de ustedes hay uno, al que ustedes no conocen, alguien que viene detrás de mí, a quien yo no soy digno de desatarle las correas de sus sandalias". - Jn 1, 26-27

Nancy Otto† by Steve & Sylvia Helbing

**Ascension Jacques**† by Niece: Mary Hergert

### **MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK**

**8 AM** 

2 PM

Saturany, D	cc. 10
5 PM	Arnulfo & Reyes Farias† by Adelina Fritz
Sunday, Dec	e. 17
8 AM	Marichuy Munoz† by Renfro Family
10 AM	Francesco†, Maria†, Carmela†, Corrado
	Sebastiano†, & Giovanni† by Sal Spataro
12 PM	Members of Zaiontz, Moravits & Lyssy
	Families; Souls in Purgatory† by Family
3 PM	For the Parish
6 PM	BB* for Marie Garcia by Luna Family
Monday, De	ec. 18
8 AM	Artemio Casiwa† by Family
6:30 PM	Holy Hour
7:30 PM	BB* for Irma Rodriguez by Gibbs Family
Tuesday, De	ec. 19

Friday, Dec. 22 8 AM Living & Deceased† Members of Houston & Karpovage Families by Bernice Houston Saturday, Dec. 23 Robert Reynolds† by Wife: Lydia Reynolds 5 PM Sunday, Dec. 24: 4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT MASSES\* 8 AM Nancy Otto† by Kenneth Echtle 10 AM Larry & Margaret Lucido: **In Thanksgiving** by Family Carmen Celia Landin† by Her Children **12 PM** 

Sunday, Dec. 24: CHRISTMAS MASSES\*

5 PM Juliet Dogoldogel† by Priscilla Velasquez

**7 PM** For the Parish

**12 AM Spiritual Healing for Jacelyn Carpenter &** 

Julie Carlton

\*\*Refer to graphic on page 3 for more details on your Advent & Christmas Mass attendance obligations.

**8 AM** Msgr. Lucian Bradley† by Bea Alvarez

by Jeanette Erickson

**BB\* for August Adderholdt** 

BB\* for Rowell, Miggy & Mia Dumanjog

Thursday, Dec. 21

by Family

\*BB = Birthday Blessings

### **HOW TO PRAY**

### How do I pray?

Various forms of prayer are presented in the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC 2623-2649). These various forms include prayer of blessing or adoration, prayer of petition, prayer of intercession, prayer of thanksgiving, and prayer of praise.

### What is meditation?

Meditation is a Christian practice of prayer dating back to the early Church. As the Caterism states: "Meditation is above all a quest. The mind seeks to understand the why an

echism states: "Meditation is above all a quest. The mind seeks to understand the why and how of the Christian life, in order to adhere and respond to what the Lord is asking." By meditating on the Gospels, holy icons, liturgical texts, spiritual writings, or "the great book of creation," we come to make our own that which is God's. "To the extent that we are humble and faithful, we discover in meditation the movements that stir the heart and we are able to discern them. It is a question of acting truthfully in order to come into the light: "Lord, what do you want me to do?" (CCC 2705-2706). *Meditation is above all a quest.* 

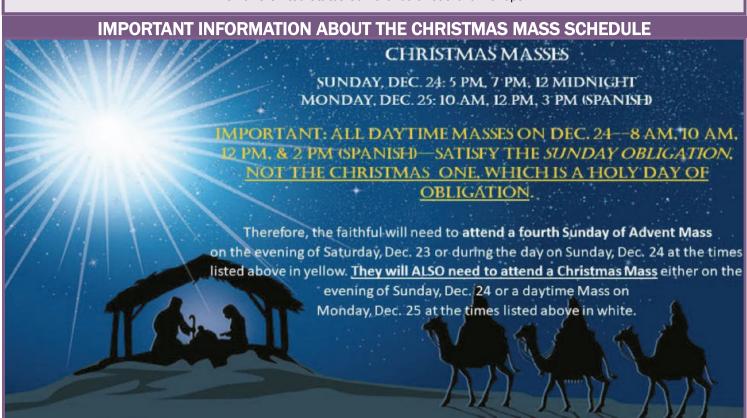
Meditation is an essential form of Christian prayer, especially for those who are seeking to answer the vocational question, "Lord, what do you want me to do?"

### How do we pray with Sacred Scripture?

Spiritual reading of Sacred Scripture, especially the Gospels, is an important form of meditation. This spiritual reading is traditionally called *lectio divina* or divine reading. *Lectio divina* is prayer over the Scriptures.

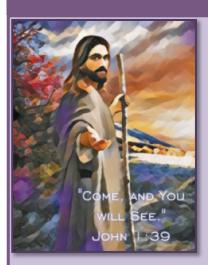
- 1. The first element of this type of prayer is reading (*lectio*): you take a short passage from the Bible, preferably a Gospel passage and read it carefully, perhaps three or more times. Let it really soak-in.
- 2. The second element is meditation (*meditatio*). By using your imagination enter into the Biblical scene in order to "see" the setting, the people, and the unfolding action. It is through this meditation that you encounter the text and discover its meaning for your life.
- 3. The next element is prayer *(oratio)* or your personal response to the text: asking for graces, offering praise or thanksgiving, seeking healing or forgiveness. In this prayerful engagement with the text, you open yourself up to the possibility of contemplation.
- 4. Contemplation (contemplatio) is a gaze turned toward Christ and the things of God. By God's action of grace, you may be raised above meditation to a state of seeing or experiencing the text as mystery and reality. In contemplation, you come into an experiential contact with the One behind and beyond the text.

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### **PARISH NEWS**



### 2024 Women's English ACTS Retreat

Jan 11, 6 PM – Jan 14, 12 PM Mass Cordi Marian Retreat Center Cost: \$225



For info or to register, scan this QR code above or contact Cynthia Luna at 210-415-1399, Marie Garcia at 210-389-8996 or Catherine Esquivel at 210-317-8418.



St. Anthony Claret Knights of Columbus #10090 & The Gabriel Project Diaper Drive During December you may donate new diapers to aid families in need. Drop them in the large plastic bin in the narthex.

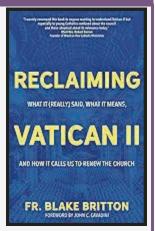
St. Gerard Majella, patron and protector of expectant mothers, pray for us.





# Do you wonder what Vatican Council II taught —or didn't teach?

Join our upcoming study using Fr. Blake Britton's book Reclaiming Vatican II and the accompanying study guide. Both books may be ordered from Ave Maria Press or Amazon. Order no later than the last week of December to allow time to receive books and prepare for first class.



Four main Council documents will be studied: Sacrosanctum Concilium, Lumen Gentium, Dei Verbum, and Gaudium et Spes. All available free on the Vatican's website: www.vatican.va.

Classes meet via Zoom for 11 Sundays, 6-7 PM, Jan. 7- Mar. 24. Email Marie DeGennaro at <a href="maileog@hotmail.com">mariedeg@hotmail.com</a> when you have ordered your books or if you have any questions.

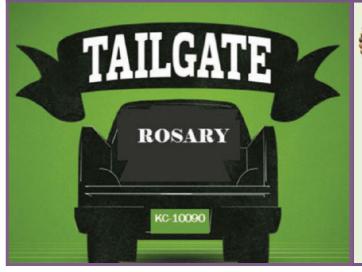
# This Week in Our Parish Weddings:





Important: Religious education classes will be held Sunday, Dec. 17 and Wednesday, Dec. 20.







Presented by SAC Knights of Columbus Council 10090

### Tuesday, Dec. 19 7 PM followed by fellowship hour

Parking lot by the pavilion Bring your family, rosaries & lawn chairs.

We'll bring the hot dogs!



### **PARISH NEWS**

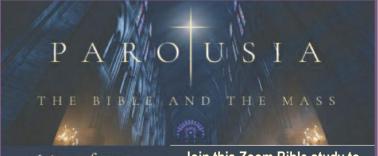
### Lector Training/ Formación Lector

for anyone interested in becoming a lector/para cualquier persona interesada en convertirse en un lector

Wednesday, Dec. 20 7 PM in the church narthex Miércoles, 20 de diciembre 7 PM en el nártex de la iglesia



For info, contact/para información póngase en contacto con Scott Kollmansberger: 210-273-2297.



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Same lesson offered 3 times per week

Sundays: 7:30-9 PM Tuesdays: 9:30-11 AM Thursdays: 7:30-9 PM

Start dates: Sunday, Jan. 8; Tuesday, Jan. 9 &Thursday, Jan. 11 End dates:

Sunday, Feb. 11, Tuesday , Feb. 13 & Thursday, Feb. 15

To register, contact CJ Aboytes at 210-843-1198 or CJaboytes@gmail.com.

BROUGHT YOU BY THE ST. PAUL CENTER
JOURNEY THROUGH SCRIPTURE

## In-person Bible Study Opportunity: Genesis to Jesus

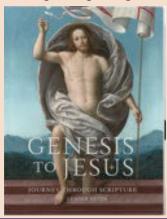
What is the Bible, where does it come from, and what is its purpose? How are Catholics supposed to read the Bible and what story does it tell? These are the ever-important questions answered in this class which is part of the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology's dynamic Journey Through Scripture Bible study series designed to help ordinary Catholics grow in their knowledge of the Scriptures while deepening their understanding of the riches of our faith. Journey through Scripture takes a holistic approach, looking at the entire Bible and how all of its parts work together.

Basic level for RCIA candidates, parents and anyone interested in a Catholic Bible study. Classes run same time as Wednesday night religious education classes.

Jan 10-Feb 28, 6:30-8 PM, RE building Cost: FREE (up to \$30 if you choose to order workbook & video streaming from St. Paul Center)

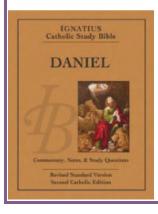
To register, contact CJ Aboytes at 210-843-1198 or CJaboytes@gmail.com.

Order materials here: <a href="https://stpaulcenter.com/studies-tools/journey-through-scripture/genesis-to-jesus/">https://stpaulcenter.com/studies-tools/journey-through-scripture/genesis-to-jesus/</a>.



### HROUGHSCRIPTURE.COM

In-person Bible Study Opportunity:
The Book of Daniel followed by New Testament The Revelation to St. John

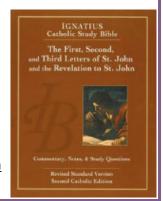


This course is for level 2 students who have some Bible study background. Purchase books on your own from Ignatius Press at Ignatius.com or any other book seller.

Classes begin Jan. 28 meeting twice a month in Msgr. Hubertus Hall on Sundays following 6 PM Mass. You are asked to attend the Daniel class as a preparation for the Revelation class.

For info or to register, contact

Jaime Carrillo at 210-849-3166 or <a href="mailto:fishbread5000@yahoo.com">fishbread5000@yahoo.com</a>
or CJ Aboytes at 210-843-1198 or CJaboytes@amail.com.

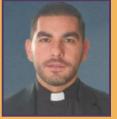


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### **FAITH & PRAYER**

### **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.







**Hong Nguyen** 

Lord Jesus, Good Shepherd, may young people in our parish hear your call and follow your voice as they discern their vocations. Lead your people to heaven through the ministry of holy priests and consecrated men and women. Jesus, we trust in you! Amen.

We also commend to your intercession this order committed to the consecrated life: Daughters of Mary Help of Christians (Salesian Sisters)

### **COMMUNITY NEWS**



# ROSARY DONATIONS NEEDED

Please bring donations to 202 W. French Place 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM, Monday – Friday or e-mail lleal2eccaosa.org



THE SUNDAY FUNNIES

We brought gold and frankincense for you, Jesus. But wait—there's myrrh!



## ST.

### PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH FAMILY



Mary Lou & Baby Lopez Anita Ramirez Joe B. Cruz Claire Shields Delfino (Sonny) Ramirez Mary Lee Sloan Diana Martinez Gilbert Niedenthal Rodolfo Salinas San Juana de Lerma Annette D. Navarro Roz Voss Marge Lucido Bill Phinizy Catherine Smith Tony & Rachel Delgado Maurice Flores Tracey Kollmansberger **Tony Salinas** Alejandro De Luna

Deacon Jerry Kozar Maggie Reyna Fr. Patrick Martin Karina Hernandez Kelton Sweet, Jr. Joanna Sweet **Javier Calderon** George Aldaya Mary Helen Peterson . Rosa Huerta Barbara Vanegas A.C. Garza Gilbert Niedenthal Javier & Mary Bautista SJS Olga Faz Jim Šouhrada Bill Jennings Dee Hancock Tom Calderon Jr.

NOTE: All names that have been running for longer than 4 weeks will run through the end of December 2023 and then be removed. If there is a need tor them to run longer, contact the parish office.

Please remember this list is reserved for names of parishioners and immediate family only. You may submit up to TWO names at a time which will usually run for four weeks.

### THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Sunday 17: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/1 Thes 5:16-24/ Jn 1:6-8, 19-28 Monday 18: Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25 Tuesday 19: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25 Wednesday 20: Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38 Thursday 21: Sg 2:8-14/Lk 1:39-45 Friday 22: 1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56 Saturday 23: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk 1:57-66 Sunday 24: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/ Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

### **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.

### **NEVER MISS A BULLETIN!**

View the bulletin anytime on our website: <a href="http://samcsa.com/">http://samcsa.com/</a> or have it emailed directly to you. Go to <a href="parishesonline.com">parishesonline.com</a>, locate our parish with the search tool and click on subscribe."



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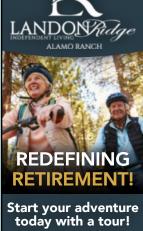
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From a CatholicPerspective Annie Coffey, LPC



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