

# 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).



December 22, 2024

Fourth 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:

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

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Luis E. Astorga, MBA

## Bookkeeper

Rose Ann Villafranca, BBA, MBA

## Assistant Bookkeeper

Sabrina Martinez

## Secretary

Elaine Wolf-Gentry, BS

## Director of Religious Education & Evangelization

Jennifer Rupert, C.Th.

## Religious Education Admin. 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

## 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 1:39-45

The Blessed Virgin teaches us the secret to being blessed, happy, and full of joy. When Elizabeth, her cousin, greets her, she calls Mary “blessed” for two reasons, her motherhood of Jesus, and Our Lady’s belief that **“there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord”** (Luke 1:45). Mary is “blessed” entirely because of her relationship to the Incarnation of God in Jesus, and for no other. This of course makes perfect sense, because as the Lord, as God-in-the-flesh, her son is the source of all blessedness, life, and joy. Mary is blessed because of her contact with Jesus, and by her faith in him.

So, it is with us, too. We become blessed by our “motherly” contact with Christ in our souls through baptism. He lives in us and grows to maturity within us. We bear him to the world. This requires unshakeable faith that his promises to us will be fulfilled, despite all the problems and difficulties that plague us. We become blessed, happy, and joyful in the measure that we are in contact with Jesus and trust in him.

Advent challenges: 1.) This week go to someone who has borne the love of Jesus to you and tell her or him how they have been a blessing to you. 2.) Name someone in your life now to whom God has sent you to bring Jesus’ presence. Pray: “Lord, thank you for the blessing of sending me to bring your presence to this person. Help me bear you faithfully to him/her.

— *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

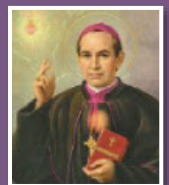
First Tuesday of the month: 7 PM. Call parish office to register.

**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](http://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!

**Dec. 7/8 attendance & collection totals**

Attendance	3,663
Regular Collection	\$ 36,221.14
Retired Religious	\$ 7,150.99
RE Bldg. Debt Reduction	\$ 2,095.00
SAMC Pantry	\$ 1,039.98
Candles	\$ 506.00
Gabriel Project	\$ 75.00
Christmas	\$ 45.00
Stephen Ministry	\$ 20.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 10.00
Misc. Other Donations	\$ 10.00

Dec. 14/15 attendance & collection totals unavailable at press time. The 2nd collection Dec. 24/25 will benefit Assumption Seminary. Please be generous in your support of vocations.

**Christmas Masses**

**TUESDAY, DEC. 24:**  
**5 PM, 7 PM, 12 MIDNIGHT**

**WEDNESDAY, DEC. 25:**  
**10 AM, 12 PM, 3 PM (SPANISH)**

*Prepare your soul for Jesus' arrival!*

**ADVENT**

**RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)**  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 7:15 PM**

**THIS WEEK'S MASS INTENTIONS**

<b>Saturday, Dec. 21</b>	<b>12 PM</b>	<b>BB* for Ashley Salazar</b> by Teresa Revilla
<b>5 PM</b>	<b>3 PM</b>	<b>Jessica Ann Liberty†</b> by Mark & Nancy Janysek
<b>Sunday, Dec. 22</b>	<b>Thursday, Dec. 26</b>	
<b>8 AM</b>	<b>8 AM</b>	<b>Larry Joe Hartman†</b> by Bea Peterson
<b>10 AM</b>		<b>Edward Sheals† &amp; Maria Lopez†</b> by Alice Lopez
<b>12 PM</b>	<b>Friday, Dec. 27</b>	
<b>3 PM</b>	<b>8 AM</b>	<b>Gage Lopez†</b> by Family
<b>6 PM</b>		<b>BB* for Andy Wessel</b> by Bea Peterson
<b>7:15 PM</b>	<b>Saturday, Dec. 28</b>	
<b>Monday, Dec. 23</b>	<b>5 PM</b>	<b>Cynthia Vasquez†</b> by Alaniz, Pizana & Vasquez Families
<b>8 AM</b>	<b>Sunday, Dec. 29</b>	
<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>8 AM</b>	<b>Sp. Int. for SAC Pantry Volunteers</b> by Harold Shields
<b>7:30 PM</b>	<b>10 AM</b>	<b>Yolanda Mate Moy†</b> by Genco Family
<b>Tuesday, Dec. 24 *** PARISH OFFICE CLOSED ***</b>	<b>12 PM</b>	<b>BB* for Mia Dumanjog</b> by Mom & Dad
<b>5 PM</b>	<b>3 PM</b>	<b>For the Parish</b>
<b>7 PM</b>	<b>6 PM</b>	<b>Poor Sinners</b> by Family
<b>MIDNIGHT</b>		
<b>Wednesday, Dec. 25 *** PARISH OFFICE CLOSED ***</b>		
<b>10 AM</b>		

\*BB = Birthday Blessings

**RESPECT LIFE****Word of Life**

“O Blessed Mother, at the angel’s word you went in haste to the aid of your cousin Elizabeth. Although pregnant yourself, you placed her needs before your own. By your example of radical solidarity, teach us to reverence and protect those in need, without conditions or expectations... Obtain for us the grace to bring Christ to any expectant mother who is alone and afraid.”

— USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities: Prayer for Radical Solidarity ([www.respectlife.org/prayer-for-radical-solidarity](http://www.respectlife.org/prayer-for-radical-solidarity))

**Palabra De Vida**

“Oh, Santísima Madre, al anuncio del ángel acudiste de prisa a socorrer a tu prima Isabel. Aunque estabas embarazada, antepusiste sus necesidades a las tuyas. Por medio de tu ejemplo de solidaridad radical, enséñanos a amparar y proteger a los necesitados, sin condiciones ni expectativas... Concédenos la gracia de llevar a Cristo a cualquier futura madre que se encuentre sola y temerosa”.

— Secretariado de Actividades Pro-Vida de la USCCB:  
Oración por la solidaridad radical ([es.respectlife.org/prayer-for-radical-solidarity](http://es.respectlife.org/prayer-for-radical-solidarity))

**Intercessions for Life**

For all parents awaiting the birth of their child: may they look to the Blessed Mother and Saint Joseph and follow their example of cherishing and protecting human life . We pray to the Lord.

**Intercesiones por la Vida**

Por todos los padres que esperan el nacimiento de sus hijos: que miren hacia la Santísima Madre y San José y sigan su ejemplo de atesorar y proteger la vida humana. Roguemos al Señor.

**HOPE: an excerpt from Pope Francis’ Dec. 11 weekly general audience**

For Christians, he said, "hope is not an empty word, or a vague desire of ours that things may turn out for the best; it is a certainty, because it is founded on God's fidelity to his promises. This is why it is called a theological virtue: because it is infused by God and has God as its guarantor."

Hope also is not "a passive virtue, which merely waits for things to happen," the pope said. Rather, "it is a supremely active virtue that helps make them happen."

Pope Francis cited an unnamed writer who explained that the Holy Spirit, bearer of hope, "is the strength given to those who have no strength. He leads the struggle for the emancipation and full realization of the people of the oppressed."

At the same time, the pope said, Christian hope should be shared "with gentleness and reverence," as the First Letter of Peter says, "because it is not so much the strength of the arguments that will convince people, but rather the love that we know how to put in them. This is the first and most effective form of evangelization."

—Posted on the USCCB Website, from an article by Cindy Wooden, Catholic New Service, Vatican City



PARISH NEWS



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 your donations in the large plastic bin in the narthex.

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



La Legión de Maria les invita al grupo nuevo en español.

Las reuniones son los jueves a las 9 AM en edificio E.

Si tiene preguntas puede llamar a Maria de Lourdes: 281-507-4822.



This Week in Our Parish Wedding:

David Enriquez Aróstegui & Miriam Graciela Gonzalez Martinez

Your Generosity is Appreciated!

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- ◆ During Mass or drop off at parish office

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- ◆ Durante la misa o dejándolo en la oficina parroquia



WARNING: Some parishioners have recently received emails requesting help or donations and falsely claiming to be from Fr. Jan or our deacons.

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

THE SUNDAY FUNNIES

Where do snowwomen like to dance? At snowballs.



How do snowmen travel around? By riding an icicle.

What do snowmen like to eat for breakfast? Frosted flakes!



PARISH NEWS



**LINE DANCING!**

Tuesdays  
10-11:30 AM  
Msgr. Hubertus Hall

No line dancing Dec. 24.  
Yes, we will have line dancing Dec. 31  
Questions? Contact Helen 210-865-1214.



**A Special Invitation from the St. Anthony Claret Two Hearts Charismatic Prayer Group**

*Need a New Years resolution? Join the Two Hearts Charismatic Prayer Group!*

A charismatic prayer group is a witness to the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives. It operates in the power that was unleashed at Pentecost when God poured out His Spirit upon the Apostles and disciples in the upper room. We as believers have this same power.

Learn how to use the gifts, fruits, and charisms offered through the Holy Spirit. Enter the presence of God through praise and worship, grow in knowledge of our faith by listening to various teachings, make scripture and the sacraments come alive, and evangelize and serve others with love.

Come together in prayer with a community of believers using the gifts God has given us.

**NEXT MEETING: Wed., Jan. 8 in the pavilion.**

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

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Learn about the beauty of fertility through the eyes of St. JP II's *Theology of the Body* while building intimacy and increasing communication in your marriage. Couples will learn to track their natural cycle without harmful artificial hormones. This method is equally effective for couples who want to avoid or achieve pregnancy. Share the responsibility for your family planning using this scientifically based, medically safe and only method morally accepted by the Catholic Church.

**Next live class at our parish: Sunday, Jan. 12.**

You must register prior to class at [ccli.org](http://ccli.org).

For more info, email Chris or Nicole Glowe at [nfpglowe@yahoo.com](mailto:nfpglowe@yahoo.com).



\* Required course for all couples marrying in our parish.



The Spirit of the Lord is upon me... He hath sent me to heal the contrite of heart. Luke 4:18

JOIN US ON A PATH WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

**Women's English ACTS Retreat**

JANUARY 23- 26, 2025

PLEASE SEE QR CODE FOR MORE INFO.



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**JANUARY BAPTISM CLASS**

Tuesday, Jan. 7  
7 PM, RE Bldg., 1st floor



**EARLY BIRD PRICING**

*for Saturday, Feb. 15, 2025  
Sweetheart Mass & Reception  
(Mass & renewal of wedding vows followed by a reception/dance in Msgr. Hubertus Hall)*

\$100/couple if you purchase online  
Now through Dec. 31 at the parish website: [www.samcsa.com](http://www.samcsa.com). In the "description" field, type "Sweetheart Mass/Reception."  
After Dec. 31, price increases to \$120.

FAITH & PRAYER

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS!

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



Daniel Delgado-Acosta



Javier Ramos

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: Congregation of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word.

ST. STEPHEN | FEAST DAY: DECEMBER 26



The Acts of the Apostles tells the story of St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr. A man filled with grace and power, he worked great wonders among the people. Some Jews debated with St. Stephen but could not match his wisdom and spirit. Eventually, a charge of blasphemy was brought up against him, and the local population demanded that he be tried and sentenced. He was seized and carried before the Sanhedrin. Despite the danger he faced, in front of the Sanhedrin and his accusers, St. Stephen gave a long speech about the history of Israel and the blessings that God had given upon His chosen people. He talked about how Israel had become disobedient despite God's abundant mercy. This enraged his accusers, and eventually the crowd dragged him out of the city and stoned him to death.

Even in his final moments, St. Stephen displayed great forgiveness and even asked God not to hold the sins of his attackers against them. Hundreds of years after his death, he is still a role model for us to follow. ©LPi



PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH FAMILY



- Virginia Keller, Jo Ann Garza, Deacon Jerry Kozar, John Fischer, Gilbert Tobias, David Curry, Alejandro De Luna, Tracey Kollmansberger, Al Mares, Marylen Dunk, Diana & Juan Martinez, Rodolfo Salinas, San Juana de Lerma, Annette D. Navarro, Maurice Flores, Tony Salinas, Fr. Patrick Martin, George Aldaya, Mary Helen Peterson, Barbara Vanegas, A.C. Garza, Gilbert Niedenthal, Javier & Mary Bautista, SJS, Jim Souhrada, Tom Calderon Jr.

NOTE: All names that have been running for longer than 4 weeks will run through the end of December 2024 and then be removed. If there is a need for them to run longer, contact the parish office.

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 22: Mi 5:1-4a/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45
Monday 23: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk 1:57-66
Tuesday 24: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/ Mt 1:1-25
Night: Is 9:1-6/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
Wednesday 25: Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18
Thursday 26: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Mt 10:17-22
Friday 27: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Saturday 28: 1 Jn 1:5-2:2/Mt 2:13-18
Sunday 29: 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/ Lk 2:41-52

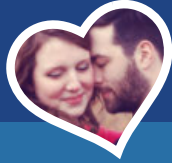


4° DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

En cuanto [Isabel] oyó el saludo de María, la criatura saltó en su seno. Entonces Isabel quedó llena del Espíritu Santo, y levantando la voz, exclamó: "¡Bendita tú entre las mujeres y bendito el fruto de tu vientre!" - Lc 1, 41-42

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