

**Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**January 31, 2016**

**Salesian Perspective**

St. Francis de Sales reminds us that God's words to Jeremiah are words said to us: "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you."

God loves us immensely, and he has a plan for each of us. God gave us a share in Jesus' ministry as prophet in our baptism. We have been appointed to remind those around us that God loves all of us and has redeemed us for himself through the blood of Jesus. Because we are baptized, we are called to live in a prophetic way.

We Oblates, as professed religious, have accepted an additional prophetic role. By living faithfully as poor, chaste and obedient men in community, we are to remind our brothers and sisters that God's great desire for union with us extends beyond our earthly life into eternal life. Letting Jesus live in us each day keeps us focused on God's loving presence and his desire to be one with us. We Oblates are called to live in a prophetic way.

St. Paul reminds us that love – God's love within us – is the foundation of our prophetic way of living. When we allow ourselves to be fully embraced by God's love, then God's love can overflow into the world around us.

God's love within us will show itself in our willingness to be patient and kind, our willingness to put others' interests before our own, our willingness to put up with the faults and failings of others. We will be better able to control our anger and choose not to brood over injuries real or imagined. Because we believe that God is present and working in all the events of our day, we are better able to see the possibilities for good and better able to accept the challenges and disappointments of life with a peaceful heart.

Jesus warns us that prophets are not always welcomed and accepted, so we shouldn't be surprised when we aren't. We must learn each day to choose to focus again on God's ever-present, unconditional love and ask for the grace to respond

faithfully by loving.

Whenever we feel a little discouraged in our efforts to be faithful prophets, let us place confident hope in the words of St. Paul: "**At present**, we see indistinctly, as in a mirror, but **then** face to face. **At present** we know partially; **then** we shall know fully, as we are fully known" by our God. Let us ask for the grace to be a gentle and humble prophet today.

Rev. Michael S. Murray, OSFS, is the Executive Director of the De Sales Spirituality Center.

*Rev. Michael S. Murray, OSFS, is the Executive Director of the De Sales Spirituality Center.*

**Music for the Liturgy at 9:00 am**

**Processional:** # 612 For You Are My God  
Glory to God (Mass of Creation)

**Psalm Response:** "I will sing of your salvation."

**Gospel Acclamation:** Celtic Alleluia

**Offertory:** # 585 All That Is Hidden  
# 550 Servant Song

**Communion:** # 602 Be Not Afraid

**Recessional:** # 668 I Sing the Mighty Power of  
God

**Reading for today's Mass are found in the  
Glory & Praise at number 811**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading** ~ Jeremiah 1:4 – 5, 17 – 19

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** ~ 1 Corinthians 12:31 – 13:13

**Gospel Reading** ~ Luke 4:21 – 30

**Explaining the Catholic Faith**

Starting up again TODAY... Fr Fred will continue with the program of **Explaining the Catholic Faith**. It will take place at the rectory following the 9 am Mass. There will be a CD presentation followed by a discussion. **All are welcomed** even if you did not participate in any of the last episodes.

**No one is esteemed before God for having lived long--but only for having lived well.**

**- St. Francis de Sales**

**Altar  
Servers**

**Altar Servers**

We need **volunteers for our Masses**. If you know you can help to assist at the Mass please step up. Thank you.

## The Color Green

The Christmas Season is over, and the Lenten Season begins soon (Feb. 10). The period in between those two seasons and after Pentecost is called "Ordinary Time", a season focused on the Lord's three-year public ministry, His teachings and miracles. The traditional liturgical color of Ordinary Time is green to symbolize hope, life, and growth. The priest's green vestments, the altar cloth, and the vessel covers in the sanctuary help to remind us to share the hope and life of Christ with the world as we, ourselves grow in faith.

## Bishops Annual Appeal (BAA) 2016



Our parish is called to support the Churches good works throughout eastern North Carolina. The Diocesan agencies and programs supported by the BAA help with both spiritual and physical needs and go beyond what an individual parish can accomplish alone. The BAA is a family effort. When we open our door of faith for others to know and love God, we are becoming joy-filled witnesses who help bring others to Christ through Evangelization. Reaching out to those in need physically and spiritually is our call to live as Jesus Christ lived.

Please plan to make your pledge to the Bishop's Annual Appeal, be it small, large or prayerful support. We would love to surpass our goal and increase our parish participation. Pledge cards are being mailed out from the Diocese of Raleigh. Thank you for your generosity!

## WHAT IS THE YEAR OF MERCY!!!

*Seeing the great need for mercy and healing in the world, Pope Francis called for the Year of Mercy-a special period, also known as a Holy Year or Jubilee Year, for the Catholic Church. It is a time for the Church across the world to take approximately a year to focus on forgiveness and healing in a special way.*

*Pope Francis has asked us as individuals and as a Church "to be a witness of mercy" by reflecting on and practicing the spiritual and corporal works of mercy (Pope Francis' Announcement of the Year of Mercy). Beginning December 8, 2015, the Holy Year of Mercy will focus on studying and reflecting on mercy, receiving mercy, and being merciful towards others.*

*The Jubilee Year was inaugurated 700 years ago. Today is the 29<sup>th</sup> time that we celebrate the jubilee, "Jubilee with the Year of Mercy". WITH THE JUBILEE COMES THE DOOR!*

## GIVING TREE MEMORIALS



*Do you want to share in the GIVING TREE? A donation of \$500 will purchase a leaf which has 4 lines to list an inscription. It is quite fitting that the new "GIVING TREE" has taken root in the vestibule of our church.*

*Any questions please contact Dave Kelmer 252-986-2719.*

## ~ Mass Schedule ~

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 8:30 am

Friday 4:00 pm (Ocracoke)

Saturday 6:00 pm

Sunday 9:00 am

Sunday 6:00 pm (Spanish)

MASS ON OCRACOKE MAY TEMPORARILY BE SUSPENDED DURING THE WINTER MONTHS DUE TO WEATHER. PLEASE CALL 252.995.6370

## YELLOW HOUSE MINISTRY

**WHEN:** Monday's

**TIME:** 6:30-8:30 pm

**LOCATION:** OLS Social Hall

Our Women's Bible Study meet at Our Lady of the Seas Social Hall @ 6:30pm

to 8:30 pm. The study for this session will be the Armor of God... We hope this study will challenge you, comfort you, and help you know Him better and love Him more.



## RAFFLE 2016



IN SPRING we are going to have a raffle, which will start sometime around Easter. We hope to have the same electronics as we did last year. We are looking for sponsors to donate these prizes and ask for your help.

If anyone would like to be a sponsor, donate a prize, or if you know any business that would like to donate a prize, please let Bill know. The tickets will be \$5 each or 5 for \$20. For more information Bill Vancura can be reached at 252-995-3181. Thank you...