

First Sunday in Lent
February 22, 2015

Salesian Sunday Reflection

In today's Gospel, Jesus offers us a pattern that can enable us to get the most out of our Lent this year.

We're told that the "Spirit sent Jesus out toward the desert where he stayed forty days, put to the test by Satan." What did he do for forty days in the desert? He did what many holy men and women have done in the desert. He listened to God, his Father. As he listened, he also heard the alluring voice of Satan - a voice that challenged him to be someone else than his Father wanted him to be. But Jesus spent a long enough time listening in prayer that he gradually knew who he was and what he had to do. And he returns to the countryside, a powerful man with a powerful message: "It's time! The reign of God is at hand. Reform your lives and believe in the good news!"

That can be the pattern of Lent for us this year. Jesus invites us into the desert, the quiet of our hearts, and he asks us to listen. He knows that our Father will speak to us about who we are and what we are to do. He also knows that Satan will also speak to us - alluring us with all kinds of contradictory messages. And he asks us to stay in the quiet of our hearts long enough to come to know and believe his Father's words of love and mercy.

Our willingness to listen will prepare us well to come back to our countryside and announce our recognition that the reign of God is at hand. We will be prepared at Easter to renew our baptismal commitment to reform our lives and live more deeply the good news.

The real temptation of our Lent will be to leave our desert too quickly. If we fall for Satan's trickery ("You don't really need all that quiet time!"), then our Lent may be like many other times in our lives - just another time period we lived through.

If we're willing to stay in our desert and listen, we will be rewarded for our patience and we will be renewed.

What choice will you - will I - make this Lent? Will we dare to enter the desert and stay to listen, or will we leave too quickly? Our choice can make all the difference to our lives!

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

"Be who you are and be that well."

~ St. Francis de Sales

Our Stewardship (2/8/2015 Weekend)		
	<u>Buxton</u>	<u>Ocracoke</u>
Offertory	\$696.00	\$101.00
Debt Reduction	\$687.00	
Attendance	88	20

Bilingual Stations of the Cross
Estaciones de la Cruz



Fr Fred will hold the **BI-LINGUAL STATIONS OF THE CROSS** FOLLOWED with a Communion Service starting this **Wednesday, February 25th at 5:30 pm.**

Lenten Norms for Fasting & Abstinence

Ash Wednesday, February 17, & Good Friday, April 3, are days of fasting and abstinence. Fridays of Lent are also days of abstinence.

Fasting is to be observed by all 18 years of age and older, who have not yet celebrated their 59th birthday. On a fast day one full meal is allowed. Two other meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and juices, are allowed.

Abstinence is observed by all 14 years of age and older. On days of abstinence, no meat is allowed. Note that when health or ability to work would be seriously affected, Church law does not oblige. When in doubt concerning fast and abstinence, the Parish Priest should be consulted.

Fasting, almsgiving, and prayer are the three traditional disciplines of Lent. The faithful and Catechumens should undertake these practices seriously in a spirit of penance and of preparation for Initiation into the Church or the renewal of Baptism Promises at Easter.

The Reading for today's Mass are found in the **Glory & Praise** at number **756**

1st Reading ~ Genesis 9:8 - 15

2nd Reading ~ 1 Peter 3:18 - 22

Gospel Reading ~ Mark 1:12 - 15

~ COMMUNITY LENTEN DINNERS ~



Following the Stations of the Cross on **Wednesday evenings everyone on Hatteras Island is invited to "OLS LENTED SUPPERS"** We are serving soups & bread. **Starting**

at 6:00 pm thru 7:30 pm. Come together as "one community" where we can share our cultural soups & fellowship. **It is Open to ALL of our Hatteras Island Community & it's FREE-** Come join us. Interested in making one of your homemade soups, please contact Claudia @ 995-6662

Healing Mass for ALL Parishioners

Healing service with administration of the Anointing of the Sick by Fr Fred will be held right after the Gospel. This sacrament celebrates and carries out the healing ministry of Jesus. If you are in need of the grace that this sacrament offers, then please plan to **STEP FORWARD AT MASS.**



The "Little Black Book"

Once again this year, we have available copies of the Lenten seasonal prayer reflection booklet entitled, "The Little Black Book." We have them for adults and children in English and for adults in Spanish. These are published by the Diocese of Saginaw and contain helpful daily entries to serve as an aid to prayer. Anyone interested in a copy of "The Little Black Book" (Lent 2015 edition) will be available after Mass in the vestibule today. **Limited supply available.**

Lenten Food Drive



As you prepare your Friday meals or fast on holy days, pray for the poor among us. Pray that we may help and advocate for them. Eating simple meals meets our Lenten obligations and shows our solidarity with the poor. Use funds that would have purchased meat or elaborate meals to purchase items for our local food pantry. Children can help pick out food. If "shopping" from home, please check expiration dates. If you don't have time to shop, make a financial contribution to the Food Pantry. United Methodist Men, PO Box 159, Buxton, NC 27920
Food can be dropped off in the 24 hour drop box on the Social Hall porch.

~ Thank you for your generosity!~

Lenten Mass Schedule 2015

2/17/2015 thru 3/26/2015

Tuesday & Thursday Mass ~ 8:30 am
Wednesday ~ 5:30 pm ~ Stations of the Cross w/Communion Service
1st Friday ~ 8:30 am w/one hour Devotion
Saturday Mass ~ 5:30 pm
Sunday Mass ~ 9:00 am
Misa en Español ~ 5:30 pm

March 18th ~ Wednesday 5:30 pm Examination of Conscience & General Absolution

Best Lent Ever / Dynamic Catholic

Matthew Kelly author of Rediscover Catholicism is offering a free on-line daily short videos & inspiration to empower each of us to be our best version of ourselves. Simply sign up to receive daily e-mails through the season of Lent at:

<http://dynamiccatholic.com/bestlentever/>



Please let Fr. Fred know when a parishioner or family member is in the hospital or homebound. He would appreciate the opportunity to visit and offer his services. Also if you would like a Eucharistic

Minister to visit you at home during an illness or when unable to attend Mass, please call Fr. Fred 252-995-6613 or Anita 252-995-7892.



2015 Bishop's Annual Appeal

In the Name of Jesus...

The Gospel mandate, and an unwavering emphasis of Pope Francis, is that our love for God must be reflected in our love for one another, especially the weak and vulnerable. In response to that call, our Diocese remains fully committed to increasing our outreach to feed, clothe, educate



and pray with those in most need of assistance.

Again this year, Our Lady of the Seas is actively participating with all the other parishes in the Diocese of Raleigh to raise funds for the Bishop's Annual Appeal (BAA).

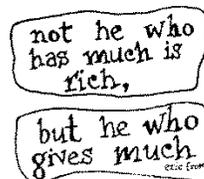
In this stressful time of meeting many needs, including those immediately affecting our own parish and our parishioners, please search your heart for a few dollars or a pocketful of change to support the BAA.

More information and donation envelopes are available on the table at the church entrance. The envelopes can be dropped into one of the collection baskets or mailed to Our Lady of the Seas, PO Box 399, Buxton, NC 27920.

Please help us make the 2015 campaign a success. Thank you.

Emergency Fund Raising

Lent is our Time of Almsgiving



This winter saw a sharp rise in the number of families and individuals in need of emergency help to provide for basic needs, such as food, shelter and medications. The reasons varied,

but our community responded with compassion and support. The two relief organizations dedicated to Hatteras Island residents exclusively, the Cape Hatteras Electric Cooperative Foundation (Operation Round-Up) and the Hatteras Island Methodist Men, now find themselves at significantly lower levels of monies available to help families in the future.

Both organizations are non-profit and have 100% of funds applied to assistance - no administrative overhead. Lent is our time of almsgiving. If you would like to give locally, please consider these organizations amongst your charities.

CHEC Foundation "Operation Roundup"

PO Box 9, Buxton, NC 27920

Hatteras Island United Methodist Men

PO Box 1591, Buxton, NC 27920