

First Sunday of Advent
December 2, 2018

Salesian Perspective

In today's Gospel, Jesus urges us to live a life of holiness so as to experience the glory of His coming. This calls for a conversion of our hearts. St. Francis de Sales notes:

As soon as some people see that you wish to lead a life of holiness, they might speak of your conversion as hypocrisy, bigotry, and trickery. They will say that the world has turned against you, and being rebuffed by it, you have turned to God. Your friends will tell you that you will become depressed, lose your reputation, be unbearable, and that your affairs at home will suffer. All this is mere foolishness. People spend hours in playing games and think nothing of it. Yet if you spend an hour in meditation or get up a little earlier than usual in the morning to pray, everyone thinks there is something the matter with you. So we must be firm in our resolution to live faithfully in God's love.

When we first have a change of heart, things will seem a little strange, as they are new. When we see that the mountain of Christian perfection is very lofty, we tend to say "O God, how shall I be able to climb it?" Have courage. Such feelings will pass, and you will receive countless blessings.

We are like young bees who cannot yet fly out among the flowers, mountains, or nearby hills to gather honey. Little by little, by continuing to eat honey the older bees have prepared, the young bees develop wings and grow strong, so that later they fly all over the country in search of food. At first we cannot fly up high according to our plan, which is to be holy. But as our desires and resolutions begin to take form and our wings start to grow, we hope some day to be able to fly aloft. Let us follow the instructions of holy persons of past times, and pray to God to give us wings, not only to fly upward during the time of our present life but also to find repose in the eternity that is to come.

(Adapted from the Introduction to the Devout Life, St. Francis de Sales.)

Our Lady of the Seas Pastor - Fr Fred Smuda

If you need to reach our Pastor please call (home) 252.995.6613 or please contact Anita Bills, Church Administrator at (home) 252.995.7892 or (cell) 252.202.1412

THEY'RE HERE!!!
THE "LITTLE BLUE BOOKS"

ENGLISH & *Española* Available after Mass in the vestibule. Limited supply.

Principal Balance on our Mortgage ~ \$102,698.36
Thank you for your continuing support...

The Reading for today's Mass are found in the **Glory & Praise** at number **732**

1st Reading ~ Jeremiah 33:14 – 16

2nd Reading ~ 1 Thessalonians 3:12 – 4:2

Gospel Reading ~ Luke 21:25 – 28, 34 – 36

Pope's Intentions December

Intention for Evangelization: In the Service of the Transmission of Faith. That people, who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation



In keeping with the custom of the universal Church a Penitential Service will be held on **Wednesday, December 5th, 6:00 to 8:00 pm.** *The Sacrament of Reconciliation and*

examination of conscious is available in English & SPANISH. Fr Fred & Fr John Brown

What is CCD

Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD): Today its usage is for religious education designed for children, also known as catechism.

What is RCIA

Designed for children & adults entering the Catholic Faith.

1st Communion, Confirmation & RCIA Classes

- **1st COMMUNION**- will meet right after the 9:00 am Mass today. **Please have your parents pick you up at the Hall at 12:30 pm**
- **CCD Class**- will meet tomorrow, Monday at 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm. **Please have your parents pick you up at the Hall at 4:30 pm**
- **YOUTH RCIA** - Thursday, from 3:30 to 4:30 pm. **Please have your parents pick you up at the Social Hall at 4:30 pm.**

Religious Education News



RCIA ADULT CLASS IS DESIGNED FOR PEOPLE COMING INTO THE CATHOLIC FAITH. SHOULD YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE SPEAK TO FR. FRED.

Rebuild, Renew and Rejoice in God's Service

"God does not measure our perfection by the many things we do for Him, but by how we do them."

~St. Francis de Sales

MASS SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

- 12/4 Tuesday 8:30 am
12/5 Penitential Service 6:00 to 8:00 pm
12/6 Thursday 8:30 am
12/7 1st Friday 8:30 am with 1 hour devotion following the Mass
12/8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception 8:30 am
12/8 Saturday Evening 5:30 pm
12/9 Sunday Morning 9:00 am
12/9 Domingo 5:00 pm (Lengua Española)

Ladies, Don't Miss the Fellowship and Fun!

The Martha & Mary Ministry is adding contacts to our email list. If you want to be a part of this OLOTS' Ladies' Group, please send your name and email to janesgrimm@aol.com. All are welcome.



TAIZÉ PRAYER SERVICE

AN ECUMENICAL AND CONTEMPLATIVE WORSHIP CONSISTING OF MEDITATIVE SINGING, LITURGICAL READING AND PERIODS OF SILENCE.

"NOTHING IS MORE CONDUCIVE TO A COMMUNION WITH THE LIVING GOD THAN A MEDITATIVE COMMON PRAYER WITH, AS IT'S HIGH POINT, SINGING THAT NEVER ENDS AND THAT CONTINUES IN THE SILENCE OF ONE'S HEART WHEN ONE IS ALONE AGAIN"

~Brother Roger of TAIZÉ

JOIN US, FOR A PEACEFUL HOUR OF PRAYER, ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14 AT 6:00 PM

Oblates on Facebook

Please like and join the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales **NEW** Facebook page. Continue to get you daily prayers and inspiration <https://www.facebook.com/DeSalesOblates/> on our new page. We look forward to continue sharing our Salesian Spirituality with you!

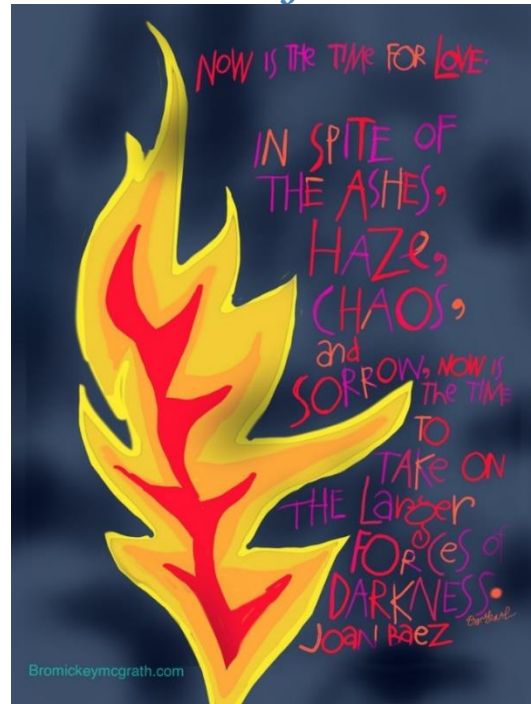


OBLATES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES
Wilmington-Philadelphia Province



Our Lady of the Seas MASS CARDS
MASS INTENTIONS to be said at OLS.
Please speak with Fr. Fred to specify the date for the Mass. Donations would be accepted.

I cried reading the San Francisco Sunday paper last week over the heartbreaking stories of the fire. These words are from Joan Baez's farewell SF concert last evening. I am leaving CA tomorrow with my mask and powerful reflections of the 79 dead, 1,276 people still missing, and 10,000 homes destroyed. ~Brother Mickey



Inspirational artwork by Brother Mickey McGrath, an Oblate of St. Francis de Sales. You can learn more at bromickeymcgrath.com

The 26th Annual Island-Wide Food Drive

Here are this year's convenient drop-off locations:

1. Our parish's social hall in Buxton (24-hr. drop box on porch - that's the hall, NOT the church)
2. Hatteras Realty in Avon (daily 9 am-5 pm)
3. Frisco Shopping Center in Frisco (daily 6 am-9 pm)
4. Surf-or-Sound Realty in Avon and Salvo (daily 9 am-5 pm)
5. Midgett Realty in Hatteras, Avon, and Rodanthe (daily 9 am-5 pm)
7. Outer Beaches Realty in Waves, Avon, and Hatteras (daily 9 am-5 pm)
8. Crescom Bank (formerly First South Bank) in Buxton (Mon.- Fri., 9 am-5 pm)
9. Sun Realty in Avon (daily 9 am-5 pm)
10. Frank & Fran's in Avon (daily 6 am-5 pm)



Many thanks to all who supported our Food Drive through the years. Your generosity helps us to help those in need with our Charitable Outreach Programs. God bless.