

**Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God**  
**January 1, 2012**

**Suggested Emphasis**

*“Mary treasured all these things and reflected on them in her heart.”*

**Salesian Perspective**

“Look at Mary in all the circumstances of her life. In her room at Nazareth she shows her modesty in that she is afraid, her candor in wanting to be instructed and in asking a question, her submission, her humility in calling herself a handmaid. Look at her in Bethlehem: she lives simply and in poverty, she listens to the shepherds as though they were learned doctors. Look at her in the company of the kings: she does not try to make any long speeches. Look at her at the time of her purification: she goes to the temple in order to conform to church customs. In going to Egypt and in returning she is simply obeying Joseph. She does not consider she is wasting time when she goes to visit her cousin Elizabeth as an act of loving courtesy. She looks for Our Lord not only in joy but also in tears. She has compassion on the poverty and confusion of those who invited her to the wedding, meeting their needs. She is at the foot of the cross, full of humility, lowliness, virtue, never drawing any attention to herself in the exercise of these qualities.” (Stopp, Selected Letters, page 159)

When Mary agreed to be the mother of Jesus, she got much more than she bargained for. Her “yes” to God’s invitation to be the mother of the Messiah forever changed the course of her life. But as Francis de Sales observed, she constantly reaffirmed that “yes” as she experienced God’s will for her son, God’s will for her husband and God’s will for her. In good times, bad times and all the times in between, she fully embraced the various circumstances in which she found herself.

We, too, are called to give birth to Jesus. While not a physical birthing, this call is no less challenging or demanding to us as it was for Mary.

As we see in the life of Mary, giving birth to Jesus is not a one time event: it is a life-long process. Saying “yes” to giving birth to Jesus is about being faithful to God’s will for us and others, one day, one hour, one moment at a time throughout our lives. Giving birth to Jesus is about fully and deeply embracing the responsibilities, events and circumstances of the state and stage of life in which we find ourselves. It’s about rolling with the punches while remaining convinced of God’s love and care for us.

Mary is a powerful reminder that giving birth to Jesus

brings more than its share of inconveniences, headaches and heartaches. However, Mary is likewise a powerful reminder of how one person’s fidelity to God’s will can change the world for the better.

Forever.

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

The Reading for the weekend Masses are found in the **Glory & Praise** at number **749**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading** ~ Numbers 6:22 – 27

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** ~ Galatians 4:4 – 7

**Gospel Reading** ~ Luke 2:16 – 21

**Music for Sunday's Liturgy:**

**Gathering:** # Sing A New Song - vs. 2 & 3

**Gloria** (Mass of Creation - revised)

**Psalm:** "May God bless us in his mercy." *chant*

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia (Celtic Mass)

**Preparation:** # 432 Sing of Mary

# 430 Immaculate Mary

**Eucharistic Acclamations:**

Holy, Holy, Holy (Mass of Creation - revised)

# 23 Memorial Acclamation C

Great Amen (Mass of Creation)

# 28 Lamb of God

**Communion:** # 656 Christ Be Our Light

**Song of Praise:** # 651 Prayer of St. Francis

**Sending:** # 548 City of God - vs. 1 & 2

*Mass Intentions for the Week*



*So that they and their families may be remembered in prayer by the community.*

✠ **In memory of Cliff Morrow**

*Requested by his family*

**Eucharistic Ministers:**

GaeAnn Gessner, Theresa Smith, and Dolores Scott

**~ January Mass Schedule ~**

- Sunday 9:00 am
- Sunday 5:30 pm (Spanish)

***Confessions before Mass or by Appointment***



*Happy New Year...*

*Feliz Año Nuevo...*



**Reconciliation and First Communion Class**

Reconciliation and First Communion class is now forming. If you would like your child to participate, please contact Terri Mohnal at

[tmohnal1@earthlink.net](mailto:tmohnal1@earthlink.net) or by phone at 995-5447. The first class and informational meeting will be on January 8 in the hall immediately following the 9:00 am Mass.

**A Lovely Memento...**

**"The Welcoming Light of Our Lady of the Seas"**

Our parish's beautiful limited-edition fine art prints that you see on the cover of this bulletin make lovely remembrances of your wedding, anniversary celebration, child's baptism, or vacation. "The Welcoming Light of Our Lady of the Seas" is signed and numbered by the artist - Linda Browning, our guitarist/song leader. Each print comes sleeved, backed, and ready to frame in a 12"x16" mat. Price: \$39.50. Proceeds go towards our debt reduction. Please see Linda after Mass if you would like her to personalize your print for you. Thank you!

**"OLS FUND RAISER RAFFLE"**

**Tickets on Sale Today**

Raffle tickets are on sale before and after all the Masses, this raffle will support our church.

~ 2 tickets for \$5.00 ~

~ 10 tickets for \$20.00 ~

**Drawings will be held every**

**time total ticket sale reaches \$1000.00.**

The winner will take home \$500.00 and the church receives the remaining \$500.00. This raffle will continue throughout the summer. A winner will be notified immediately following the drawing. So buy your tickets today to win.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO MARY & TOM PILESKI FROM FRISCO/OHIO OUR 10TH DRAWING WINNER ON THE 20th OF NOVEMBER.**



✠ **Please remember in your prayers**

**Yunuent de la Rosa** a 16 year old Hispanic girl from our church community and needs dialysis every other day.

**Recovery Learning Circle - Hatteras Island /**



**OBX Wellness City**

Citizen's of Dare County, this is a last minute reminded on our Recovery

Learning Circle support groups that start Tuesday on Hatteras Island. There will be a group at Little Grove United Methodist Church in Frisco from 3:30 – 5:00 pm followed by a group at the Fire Department in Avon from 6:00 – 7:30 pm. The Recovery Learning Circle support groups will be every Tuesday through the Holidays and Winter. Are you dealing with the aftermath of Hurricane Irene, having mental health and/or substance use challenges? We encourage you to come and join us. If you have any questions, feel free to call Jim Harrison at 252.702.2804 or email at [jim.harrison@recoveryinnovations.org](mailto:jim.harrison@recoveryinnovations.org) Thank you for your interest.



**Prayer Requests**

**Ruegue por:**

**Please Remember:** in your prayers all those on our **Parish Prayer List** especially:

Richard Bacik, Angie Balance, Pastor Rodger Barnett, Jean Belcher, Robbie Bendula, Jim Benton, Anna Watson Blair, Jim & Linda Carolan, Shelia Charrette, Yunuent de la Rosa, Stephen & Phyllis Dyer, Carrie Easley, Valerie Faulkner, Joe Gallagher, Keith Gardner, Delores Gilliken, Stephen Hissey, Ethen Hull, Dee Jensen, TQ Lewis, Grey McDowell, Donna Midgett, Elizabeth Moffit, Ella Newmiller, Paul O'Neal, Andy Obringer, Joseph Obringer, Carol Oliver, Little Mackey Peele, Mackey Peele, Pat Rice, Clyde Stowe, Bill Vancura, Megan Vayette, David Wark, also the caregivers, homebound, hospitalized & those in special needs.

*Please let Fr. Bob 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. Bob 252-995-6613.*

*Por favor comuniquese al padre Bob cuando un feligrés o un miembro de su familia está en el hospital o enfermo en casa. El padre Bob querria tener la oportunidad de visitar a los enfermos y de ofrecerles sus servicios.*



“ Almighty God, we stand before You, asking for Your divine mercy and protection. Embrace with Your invincible armor our loved ones in all branches of the service. Give them the courage and strength against all enemies, both spiritual and physical, and hasten their safe journey back to their homes and families. Amen.” *Please, also remember those killed or wounded and their families, friends and acquaintances.*

### **Arlington Burial of Anthony Bisantz**

Tony’s burial at Arlington is at 10:45 am on March 5th. Here is a link to reserve rooms at the Sheraton National where the immediate family will be staying and where the post-burial lunch reception will take place:  
<http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/res?id=1111304200&key=D569D>  
You may also reserve rooms by calling 888-627-8210. Be sure to reference Anthony Bisantz when reserving. Room rates are \$129 per night (2 Dbls or 1 K) and \$189 per night for suites (1K and 1 sofa bed). The dates that are block for rooms reserved are March 2-March 7. You are welcome to reserve as many rooms for as many nights as you want. The deadline is Feb. 8 for this rate.

### **Saltwater Connections Resource Team**

The Saltwater Connections Resource Team will return to Hatteras Island on Tuesday, January 10, 2012, to talk about its community assessment report for Rodanthe, Waves, Salvo, and Avon. Public meetings will be held from 4 pm to 6 pm at the Rodanthe-Waves-Salvo Community Building, and from 7 pm to 9 pm at the Avon Fire Station. The report includes recommendations on ways residents might strengthen the economic, social, and environmental well-being of the villages through community-based projects and programs, and information on how residents might implement those ideas. The 10-member resource team talked to dozens of residents, community leaders, and business owners during a 3-day visit to the villages in May and during a follow-up visit in early October that focused on post-Hurricane Irene redevelopment. More information about Saltwater Connections is available at [www.saltwaterconnections.org](http://www.saltwaterconnections.org).

### **LOOK on the back of the bulletin!**

We are able to provide this bulletin each week, without cost to the parish because of the advertisers. Please patronize our advertisers. ***To advertise your business and support the church please call Dee Printing at (800)292-9020***

## **MARIA, MADRE DE DIOS**

**Enero 1, 2012**

### **Enfasis Sugerido**

*“Maria valoraba todas estas cosas y reflexionaba en ellas en el fondo de su corazón”*

### **Perspectiva Salesiana**

“Mira a Maria en todas las circunstancias de su vida. En su habitación en Nazaret ella muestra su modestia a través de su miedo, su candor al esperar ser instruida y al preguntar, su sumisión y su humildad cuando se llama a si misma una sierva. Mírala en Belén: Ella vive una vida simple y pobre, ella escucha a los pastores como si fueran doctores instruidos. Mírala acompañada de reyes: ella no se atreve a dar discursos. Mírala durante el tiempo de su purificación: ella va al templo para honrar las costumbres de la iglesia. Durante el viaje a Egipto y de regreso ella simplemente obedece a José. Ella no considera que esta desperdiciando su tiempo cuando se va a visitar a su prima Isabel. Ella lo considera un acto de amor y de cortesía. Ella busca a Nuestro Señor no solo cuando siente dicha sino que también cuando llora. Ella siente compasión al ver la pobreza y la confusión de aquellos que la invitaron a la boda. Ella esta parada al pie de la cruz, llena de humildad, llena de virtud, y nunca atrayendo atención hacia si misma cuando expone sus cualidades” (Stopp, Cartas Selectas, Página 159)

Cuando Maria accedió a ser la madre de Jesús, ella recibió más de lo que esperaba en un principio. El haberle dado el “Si” a la invitación de Dios para ser la madre del Mesías cambio su vida para siempre. Pero como observa San Francisco de Sales, ella constantemente reafirmaba ese “Si” al experimentar la voluntad de Dios para con su hijo, la voluntad de Dios para con su esposo y la voluntad de Dios para con ella. En los buenos tiempos, en los malos y en cada otro momento, ella aceptó completamente cada una de las situaciones que tuvo que vivir.

Nosotros también estamos llamados a darle vida a Jesús, y aun cuando no es una llamada a darle una vida física, nuestra llamada es un reto no menos importante o menos exigente que el que Maria tuvo que enfrentar.

Así como podemos observar en la vida de Maria, darle vida a Jesús no es un evento que ocurre una sola vez: es un proceso que dura toda la vida. Decir “Si” para darle vida a Jesús significa tener fe en la voluntad de Dios para con nosotros y para con otros,

un día, una hora, y cada momento a lo largo de nuestras vidas. Darle la vida a Jesús es aceptar, completa y profundamente, las responsabilidades, los eventos y las circunstancias del estado en el que están nuestras vidas. Es aceptar los golpes y mantener la convicción de que Dios nos ama y nos protege.

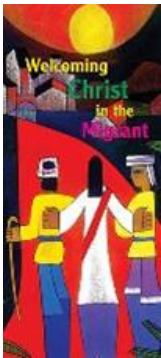
Maria nos recuerda que darle la vida a Jesús nos puede traer más de una inconveniencia, un dolor de cabeza, dolores de corazón. Aun así, la vida de Maria presenta una poderosa forma de recordarnos que la fidelidad de una persona para con Dios puede cambiar el mundo para el bien.

Por Siempre.

El Padre Michael S. Murray, OSFS es el Director Principal del Centro Espiritual De Sales.

### National Migration Week, January 8-14

This year's theme is "Welcoming Christ in the Migrant." As Catholic social teaching on migration developed, three fundamental principles came to inform Church teaching on this issue:



- 1) People have the right to migrate to sustain their lives and the lives of their families.
- 2) A country has the right to regulate its borders and to control migration.
- 3) A country must regulate its borders with justice and mercy.

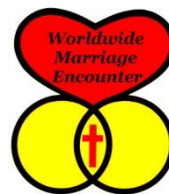
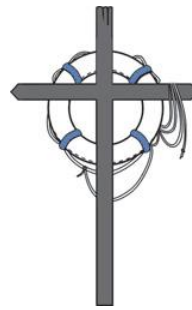
People of faith must seek a way of balancing their valid security needs while at the same time striving to meet the basic human needs of others. Parishes and individual Catholics are called to proclaim the Church's message of hope and welcome; to create a society that acknowledges the vital contributions of migrants, refugees, and other newcomers to the United States; and to seek to gain basic rights and protections for those living and working outside society's mainstream. For more information on our responsibilities and those of migrants go to: <http://uscgb.org/about/migration-and-refugee-services/national-migration-week/> and [www.justiceforimmigrants.org](http://www.justiceforimmigrants.org)



### How much time will you spend with your spouse today?

Some studies say that the average couple spends only 20 minutes a day together. Do you need to increase face time? On your wedding day you promised to love each other for better or for worse. What is a "for better" that your spouse has made in your life? Share it before you go to bed tonight. For more tips and resources to strengthen your marriage, visit [www.foryourmarriage.org](http://www.foryourmarriage.org).

**Marriage Help** – The Retrouvaille Program has helped tens of thousands of couples at all stages of disillusionment or misery in their marriage. It can help you too. For confidential information and to register for the program beginning with a weekend on March 9-11, 2012, call 434-793-0242 or 1-800-470- 2230 or email: [retrouvaille@msn.com](mailto:retrouvaille@msn.com) or visit the web site at [www.retrouvaille.org](http://www.retrouvaille.org).



Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend to renew your marriage. The next **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends** are Feb 3-5, 2012 in Charlotte, NC and Feb 24-26, 2012 in Atlantic Beach, NC.

Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at: <http://NCMarriageDiscovery.org> or contact William & Elizabeth Nickles at 704-469-3866. [applications@NCMarriageDiscovery.org](mailto:applications@NCMarriageDiscovery.org)

### 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Ignited By Truth Catholic Conference Feb 24-25, 2012

NC State Fairgrounds, Raleigh **Raymond Arroyo**, *Host of EWTN's "The World Over Live;"* **Michael Barber, Ph.D.**, *Professor of Theology, Scripture, & Catholic Thought;* **Dr. Philip Mango**, *Catholic Psychotherapist;* **Sister**

**Miriam James Heidland**, *Former Volleyball Star;* **John W. Garcia**, *Founder of Sober for Christ;* **Mario St. Francis**, *Fashion Model on a Mission;* **Bishop Michael F. Burbidge**, *Vigil Mass Celebrant and Homilist.*

**FREE Friday Night** "Discover the Catholic Church" including Praise & Worship Music and talks in English and Spanish. Early Registration Discounts for full program Saturday: Adults \$25 (groups of 5 or more), Individuals \$35, Students(age 10+) \$20, including Lunch! After Feb 5, prices increase to \$45/Adult, \$25/Student. Gift Certificates available! **Who will you invite?** Questions: (919) 789-11BT [www.IgnitedByTruth.com](http://www.IgnitedByTruth.com)

### **¡GRATIS charlas en español durante la Conferencia Católica Ignited By Truth!**

Viernes, 24 de febrero 2012 NC 6-10pm NC State Fairgrounds edificio Jim Graham, Raleigh **Mario St. Francis**, *Modelo de Moda en una Misión*, "La influencia de los medios de comunicación en la vida moderna" **Juan W. Garcia**, *Fundador de Sobrios Por Cristo*, "La lucha espiritual" **¿A quién vas a invitar?** Preguntas: (9