

Fourth Sunday of Advent



St. Francis de Sales wrote in his Introduction to the Devout Life: “*God is in all things and in all places. There is no place or thing in this world where God is not truly present. Just as wherever birds fly they always*

encounter the air, so, too, wherever we go or wherever we are we find God present.” (Part II, Chapter 2)

God is with us. When we are at our best, we know — and act in ways — that proclaim the truth that God is with us indeed: always, and in all ways.

Unfortunately, we are not always at our best. We do not always act in ways that convince others of the ongoing presence of a God who loves us always and in all ways. Francis de Sales observed: “*Everyone knows this truth (that God is always present) but not everyone brings it home to oneself. Blind men do not see a prince who is present among them, and therefore do not show him the respect they do display after being informed of his presence. However, because they do not actually see him they easily forget his presence, and having forgotten it, they still more easily lose respect and reverence owed to the prince. Unfortunately, we often forget about God and behave as if God were far distant from us. We really know that God is present in all things, but because we fail to reflect on this we act as if we did not know it.*” (Ibid)

As they say, ‘out of sight, out of mind’and heart.

In theory it is such a simple thing to take the time to remind ourselves of the presence of the God who is always with us, “*not only in the place where you are but also present, in a most particular way, in your heart and in the very center of your spirit.*” (Ibid) When we more frequently remind ourselves of God’s presence, we more faithfully afford our God the respect and reverence that God deserves.

However, as we know all too well, this is far more challenging in practice.

Still, there is more. Insofar as we remember the presence of a God who is in all things and people, we are more likely to likewise relate to ourselves and one another with this same respect and reverence. When we remember that God is with us, we are more likely to become convincing signs of the ongoing saving and loving activity of Emmanuel...of the God-who-is-with-us.

Still searching for a Christmas gift? Look no further than remembering the presence of the God-who-is-always-with-you and who loves you always...the same God who calls you to be a powerful reminder of God’s presence and love in the lives of others.

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

Music for Sunday's Liturgy:

Entrance: # 423 The King of Glory

Kyrie: # 7 (Celtic Mass)

“Kyrie eleison” (1st time choir; all repeat)

“Christe eleison” (1st time choir; all repeat)

“Kyrie eleison” (1st time choir; all repeat)

Psalm: Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.
(chant)

Preparation: # 550 Servant Song

Communion: # 433 Holy Is His Name

429 Ave Maria

Song of Praise: # 293 O Come, O Come,
Emmanuel

Recessional: # 723 Soon and Very Soon –
vs. 1, 2 & 4

Except for the Kyrie, sung Mass parts are from Mass of Creation

Where's the "Christmas music"?

Our sacred music during Advent is more solemn, quieter, and less festive than in other church seasons. Even the *Gloria* is omitted to heighten our anticipation and longing for the night of Christmas on which the angels’ song rings out anew. During this period of devout yet joyful expectation, we sing of waiting, preparation, hope, and light in order to direct our hearts and minds to the coming of our Savior at Christmas and also at the end of time. "Christmas music" will be sung during the Christmas season, which starts Dec. 25 and ends with the Baptism of the Lord on Jan. 9. Happy Advent, everyone!

The Reading for today’s Mass are found in the **Glory & Praise** at number **739**

1st Reading ~ Isaiah 7:10 – 14

2nd Reading ~ Romans 1:1 – 7

Gospel Reading ~ Matthew 1:18 – 24



Visitors ~ our pews have envelopes in the pockets for your convenience, which you may take with you and mail back to us. Please mark the box if the donation should be for Parish Needs or Debt Reduction. Thank you for being with us.



December Calendar

19th Advent Meditation Group 10:30 am

19th Las Posadas, 7:00 pm

20th Las Posadas, 7:00 pm

21st Las Posadas, 7:00 pm

22nd Las Posadas, 7:00 pm

23rd Las Posadas, 7:00 pm



Holiday Mass Schedule

- 24th Ocracoke ~ Christmas Eve 4:00 pm
- 24th Christmas Mass at Midnight ~ 12:00 am
- 25th Christmas Day ~ 9:00 am
- 25th De la tarde Misa de Navidad en Español ~ 2 pm
- 26th Mass ~ 9:00 am
- 26th Misa en Español ~ 5:30 pm
- 31st NO MORNING MASS



January Calendar

- 1st NO MASS ~ New Years Day. It is **NOT A HOLY DAY**
- 2nd Mass ~ 9:00 am
- 2nd Misa en Español ~ 5:30 pm



Angel Tree 2010

"THANK YOU for honoring Christmas by giving to those in need! Our Lady of the Seas once again joined Hatteras Island churches, businesses and individuals to help more than 50 families enjoy a brighter Christmas. A special thanks for Megan Vayette who organized our shopping and distribution efforts, all while enjoying being a new mom."



We Take Request ~ Book of Prayer Intentions



Our church family can now make prayer requests by way of our Book of Prayer Intentions, which is provided specifically for that purpose. The dark blue book is in back of the nave near the baptismal font. Just write your intentions in it, and they will be remembered during the Prayer of the Faithful at our Sunday Masses. *"Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving make your requests known to God."* -Philippians 4:6

A Lovely Memento...

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!



Ruegue por: **Please Remember:** in your prayers all those on our **Parish Prayer List**, especially Richard Bacik, Robbie Bendula, Jim Benton, Jim & Linda Carolan, Stephen &

Phyllis Dyer, Carrie Easley, Joe Gallagher, Keith Gardner, Delores Gilliken, Stephen Hissey, TQ Lewis, Grey McDowell, Donna Midgett, Elizabeth Moffit, Cliff Morrow, Ella Newmiller, Mackey Peele, Pat Rice, Ann Styron, Mary Van Severen, Megan Vayette, Kelly Willis, 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 or Anita 252-995-7892.

"Almighty God, we stand before You, asking for Your divine mercy and protection. Embrace with Your invincible amour 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.*



Food coupons for the Military



Any manufactures' coupons from the Sunday paper can be sent to the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society. This will help our military families overseas with living expenses. We would appreciate any help from our community family by cutting out coupons you don't use and place them in the basket in the vestibule. GaeAnn Gessner will take on the task of mailing them out weekly. If our visitors are interested in helping, the address is: N.M.C.R.S. 875 N. Randolph Street Suite 225 Arlington, VA 22203. ***Thank you for your support.***

A Very Special Thank You....

The 2010 Raffle drawing took place Thanksgiving weekend. The parish would like to thank ALL who participate. As of 11/29/10 the raffle made approximately \$14,500.00. Excellent job to all the volunteers. Special recognition to Bill Vancura, for his dedication getting the prizes and setting up the raffle. The winners are listed on the next page. You can also go to our website, <http://www.ourladyoftheseas.org>

Raffle Winners

Annie Brennan ~ 7 Day Cruise to the Caribbean
Coral Dickens ~ 2 Kayak trips and 1 Parasail ride
Joe Kelly ~ Two day stay at the Comfort Inn in Buxton
Mike Lacey ~ \$50.00 Gift Certificate to the Askins Creek BP in Avon
Bjerstedt ~ \$50.00 Gift Certificate to the Askins Creek BP in Avon
J. Fabula ~ A weeks stay in an ocean front home in Frisco
Mary Thompson ~ Gift Certificate for Conner's Market
John Dougharty ~ \$50.00 Gift Certificate to The Inn on The Pamlico Sound, Buxton.
Steve Newkirk ~ Dinner for 6 prepared by Father Bob at his house.
Joan Hresko ~ A Picture Donated by Local artist Raphael Robinson
Pat Dalbo ~ Garmin GMR 21/41 closed array radar and GPS Map400 with 10-inch screen. All connections and manuals included.
Mike Klein ~ Rod & Reel ~ Ocean Master OM60 spinning reel 4.6:1 ratio mated to a OM20STB 7-foot Med/Heavy rod.
Chandler Johnson ~ Rod & Reel ~ Ocean Master OM80 spinning reel 4.6:1 ratio mated to a OM20STB 7-foot Med/Heavy rod.
Margarite O'Donald ~ Rod & Reel ~ Okuma Titus TG 15 II Reel w/cover mated to Custom Powerstick 6-foot 20 – 40 pound line with roller tip.
M. White ~ Rod & Reel ~ Okuma Titus TG 15 II Reel w/cover mated to Custom Powerstick 6-foot 20 – 40 pound line with roller tip.
Erin Carter ~ Rod & Reel ~ Okuma Titus TG 15 II Reel w/cover mated to Custom Powerstick 6-foot 20 – 40 pound line with roller tip.
Coyle ~ Penn International 50W Reel
Chris Lynch ~ Penn International 50W Reel
J. Lynch ~ \$100.00 Gift Certificate to Home Port Gifts, Rodanthe
Croushort ~ \$ 50.00 Gift Certificate from B&S, Bathing Suits in Hatteras Landing
Rachael Pall ~ Fine art print of this beautiful church, numbered and sign by local artist Linda Browning
Mary Clark ~ A fishing trip to the Gulf Stream on the Miss Hatteras for one.
Deb Schaible ~ A ½ day fishing trip inshore with Ken Dempsey Guide Service worth \$300.00
Patricia Kendrick ~ North Carolina Basket from Robertson General Store in Hatteras
Gloria Epp ~ A White-Dove Release from Hatteras Doves (\$375.00 value) for your Hatteras Island celebration.
Lisa Prestipino ~ REAL Kites 5 DVD Series & a Slingshot Trainer Kite worth \$300.00

17th Annual Island Wide Food Drive – WE NEED YOU!!



Each year the community gathers in the traditional harvest time to collect items for our Island Food Pantry as we face winter slowdowns. The ongoing and seasonal needs of our Food Pantry continue to exceed previous years.

A list of suggested items is available in the foyer. Please consider purchasing items that make full meals (e.g., peanut butter & jelly, pasta and sauce, etc).

If you are “shopping” at home, check expiration dates on donated items. Please keep in mind that standard sizes are easier to distribute than “family size” packages.

Now until December 31, you may drop off at any of the locations below.

Our Lady of the Seas Social Hall is a year-round drop off location for the Island Food Pantry. The 24 hour drop-off box is located on the porch.

- **Hatteras Realty** in Hatteras Village, Avon, and Waves (Daily 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.)
- **Frisco Shopping Center** in Frisco (Daily 6 a.m. - 9 p.m.)
- **Outer Beaches Realty** in Hatteras Village, Avon, and Waves (Daily 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.)
- **Surf-or-Sound Realty** in Avon and Salvo (Daily 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 a.m.)
- **The Blue Whale** in Salvo (7 a.m. - 8 p.m. through Nov. 30)
- **Hatteras Island Family Medicine** - Frisco (Monday -Thursday, 8-12 noon and 1-4:30)
- **Dancing Turtle Coffee Shop** – Hatteras (daily 7-5)

If you don't have time to shop, tax deductible monetary gifts are appreciated. Make checks payable to United Methodist Men and mail to Hatteras Island Food Pantry, PO Box 1591, Buxton, NC 27920.

Items Commonly Needed by the Food Pantry

- Basic foodstuffs – flour, sugar, coffee, tea, rice, pasta, cooking oil
- Canned vegetables – beets, tomatoes and greens are local favorites
- Peanut butter and dried beans
- Cereals – both hot and cold, including oatmeal and grits
- Personal care items – toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, razors
- Cleaning products, including dish and laundry detergent
- Paper products
- Pet Foods

Thank you for your generosity!

WASHINGTON MARCH FOR LIFE - The Raleigh Respect Life Group is reserving buses for the Annual March for Life on Monday, January 24, 2011. The cost of the trip is \$45.00 per person. Make your reservation through email address: blk4jmj@gmail.com To guarantee your seat, reservations and payments are due no later than Wednesday, December 15, 2010. Reservations after December 15 will be put on a waiting list. If you have any questions, please call Raleigh Deanery Bus Coordinators: Kathy Klein at 815-1369 or Bob Klein at 815-3237. **Other Deaneries:** Buses are also being chartered from some individual parishes, check the bulletin announcement in your local parish for information or contact Kathy to find the bus coordinator most convenient to your parish.

Young Adult Mission Trip to Honduras We are still seeking a medical physician. Young adults 21-39 with no previous mission experience are especially encouraged to apply. Limited financial assistance is available for first-time young adult mission team members. The date of the trip is March 12-19, 2011. For more information, contact Trip Coordinator, Harriet Johnson (harriet@nc.rr.com) or Robert Jones (Rob.Jones@raldioc.org) with the Office of Evangelization - 919-821-9740). Visit the diocesan website to download an application or learn more about the trip: www.dioceseofraleigh.org/how/youngadult/missiontrip/



Bishop Burbidge on Twitter – Bishop

Burbidge is now posting regular reflections, news and updates on Twitter. You are invited to follow him @**bishopburbidge**. Non-Twitter subscribers may receive the Bishop's tweets by cell phone text message (SMS) by texting **follow BishopBurbidge** to **40404**. While the service is free, accessing it through SMS may incur phone service provider fees. Please check with your provider.



Fan the Diocese of Raleigh

The Diocese is now on Facebook! Through this new form of communication, the Diocesan Facebook page is intended to share stories, photos and videos from across Eastern North Carolina. Also, the Diocesan website, www.dioceseofraleigh.org, now allows you to share news stories to your personal Facebook and Twitter pages and to easily email and print news stories.

A Very Special Request

Attendees please take your bulletin home with you or you may leave it in the vestibule when you leave after Mass. We greatly appreciate your cooperation with helping us keep the church clean.

Save the Date! The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, invites you to join him on the Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception April 2, 2011. For more information contact your parish promoter or visit the Diocesan website: www.dioceseofraleigh.org.

Get Ignited! 9th Annual IGNITED BY TRUTH



Catholic Conference supported by the Diocese of Raleigh, February 25-26, 2011 at the NC State Fairgrounds. FREE Friday workshop "Discover the Catholic Church" 7-9:30pm. Full program Saturday 8:30am-6:30pm featuring Matthew Kelly, Dr. Brant Pitre, and more! Lunch is included! Early registration discounts through Feb 6. **Gift Certificates are available!** Visit www.IgnitedByTruth.com for complete details

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



Project Rachel

Home Page

Raleigh, NC

Abortion is one of the most common procedures in the US, experienced by millions of women, many of whom are Catholic. Abortion creates a wound in post-abortive woman, (and men) resulting in spiritual and emotional problems. The Project Rachel ministry assists women and men who have been wounded by abortion to find truth and healing. There is a support group beginning in the Triangle area in late January. If you have experienced an abortion and would like more information about the support group, contact Project Rachel at (919) 852-1021 or email projectrachel@nc.rr.com. For more information go to <http://projectrachelnc.org/> (website) Calls and appointments are kept strictly confidential.



When traveling and you need to know where the closes Catholic Church and the times for their masses please check out masstimes.org