



HE IS NOT HERE,  
FOR HE HAS BEEN

*raised*

JUST AS HE SAID.  
COME AND SEE THE  
PLACE WHERE HE LAY.

MATTHEW 28:6 | EASTER 2024

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**V+J****Sixth Sunday of Easter****May 5, 2024****Salesian Reflection**

In today's Gospel, we experience Jesus telling us to remain in His love. By remaining in His love, we will learn to love one another. St. Francis de Sales notes:

Love causes us to be like what we love. We are given a natural inclination to love God. Moreover, we are commanded to love God and the things of God above all other things. Alas, we are like the eagles that have greater power of sight than flight. While we see how worthy of love God's goodness is, we have less strength of will for loving it.

Yet, this human heart of ours is capable of producing certain beginnings of love for God. But to advance to the true maturity of love, that is, to love God and all the things of God, we need divine love. Through God's goodness, our spirits are raised up and united with God's love. Overflowing with divine love, we come back to share this pure love with others.

To love God without loving the neighbor is impossible. God has chosen us as children and thus we must show that we are truly God's children by loving one another dearly in all goodness of heart. Our Savior, in coming into the world, raised our nature higher than all the angels and has made us so like Himself, that we can say that we resemble God perfectly. In becoming human, Our Lord has taken on our likeness and has given us His. Oh, how earnestly we ought to summon up our courage to live according to what we are! Imitate as perfectly as possible Him, who came into this world to teach us what we need to do: to preserve in ourselves this divine resemblance.

It is this divine resemblance only that we are called to love and honor in our neighbor. Is this not a powerful motive to have for loving each other?

All nations, which have a union of hearts that reflect the image of God, will surely be filled with joy.

*(Adapted from the writings of St. Francis de Sales).*

**V+J****Sexto Domingo de Pascua****Cinco de Mayo 2024****Salesianos Dominicales**

En el Evangelio de hoy Jesús nos dice que debemos permanecer en Su amor, y que al hacer esto nosotros aprenderemos a amarnos los unos a los otros. Al respecto, San Francisco de Sales hace la siguiente observación:

El amor nos lleva a adoptar la apariencia de todo aquello que amamos. Todos nosotros hemos sido otorgados una inclinación natural a amar a Dios. Sumado a esto los mandamientos nos ordenan amar a Dios, y a las cosas de Dios, por sobre todo lo demás. Desafortunadamente, a veces somos como águilas que poseen una visión bastante aguda pero que demuestran poco poder a la hora de volar. A veces, aún cuando somos conscientes de que la bondad de Dios es digna de nuestro amor, demostramos muy poca fuerza de voluntad para demostrar ese amor. Aún así, nuestro corazón humano posee total capacidad para generar algunas manifestaciones iniciales de amor por Dios. Pero para que podamos alcanzar una verdadera madurez en el amor, ósea, para poder amar a Dios y a todas las cosas Dios, necesitamos del amor divino. Es por obra de la bondad de Dios que nuestro espíritu se eleva y logra unirse al amor de Nuestro Señor. Desbordados por el amor divino, regresamos entonces a compartir ese amor puro con nuestros semejantes. Pretender amar a Dios sin amar a nuestros hermanos es imposible. Dios nos ha escogido como Sus hijos, por lo tanto nosotros estamos en la obligación de demostrar que lo somos amándonos los unos a los otros como hermanos, e invirtiendo en dicho empeño toda la bondad que puedan albergar nuestros corazones. En el momento en que decidió venir al mundo Nuestro Salvador elevó nuestra naturaleza por encima de la de los ángeles, y nos hizo tan a Su imagen y semejanza que podemos decir sin duda que somos un fiel reflejo de Dios. Es esta misma semejanza divina, presente también en nuestros hermanos, es lo que hemos sido comandados a amar y a honrar. ¿No les parece que ese es un motivo más que suficiente para amarnos los unos a los otros? Dichosas serán siempre las naciones cuyos corazones reflejen la imagen de Dios.



## Mass Schedule

*The Mass Intention is for Bob Martini in loving memory  
by his wife Barb Martini*

**Our Pastor is Father Alfred J. Smuda, OSFS,  
an Oblate of St. Francis de Sales.**

*The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** is available from  
4:45pm to 5:15pm Saturdays, after any Mass, and  
by appointment with Fr. Fred.*

**View the Live-Stream Mass**  
[ourladyoftheseas.org](http://ourladyoftheseas.org)

Archives of recorded Masses are found on the  
“Live-Stream Mass” page.

### MASS SCHEDULE

- **Vigil Mass: Saturday 5:30pm**
- **Sunday: 9:00am** - Live streamed  
**5:30pm** - Misa en Espanol
- **Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday:**  
**9:00am** (Rosary to follow Mass on Tuesday)

The Readings for the Mass are found on  
page 786 (Glory & Praise):

***1st Reading*** ~ ACTS 10:25-26,34-35,44-48

***2nd Reading*** ~ I JOHN 4:7-10

***The Gospel*** ~ JOHN 15:9-17

### RECEIVING SACRAMENTS AT HOME

Please let Father Fred know if you would like to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist or Anointing of the Sick. If you would like a Eucharistic Minister to visit at home during an illness, please call  
**Father Fred at (252) 995-6613.**

**Be Silent. Be thoughtful. Be reverent.**  
***This is God's house.***  
**Before Mass, speak to God.**  
**During Mass, let God speak to you.**  
**After Mass, speak to one another.**

***Parishioners and Ministries are welcome to  
submit postings for the bulletin. We ask that  
they be submitted by Friday at least one week  
before the publishing date. Thank you.***



### MASS CARDS - MASS INTENTIONS

To request a Mass card or prayer  
intention for a Mass, contact Terri  
Mohnal at

[events@ourladyoftheseas.org](mailto:events@ourladyoftheseas.org), and specify the name  
and date.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

- **May 4 & 5, 2024** - “**Land of Peace, Holy Land**” Sale after the Masses
- **May 8, 2024** - **RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE** - 11:00am to 4:00pm Parish Hall
- **May 10, 2024** - **1st Communion Rehearsal**  
5:30pm to 7:00pm - Church
- **May 12, 2024** - **Mother's Day, Sacrament of 1st Communion, Crowning of Mary** -  
Breakfast at Parish Hall after 9am Mass



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our Facebook page, “**Our Lady of  
the Seas Catholic Parish**”  
**INSTAGRAM & TWITTER** too!  
“**OurLadyofSeas**”



### PRAYER REQUESTS

*Please pray for these parishioners and all  
those who are dealing with illnesses of  
mind and body.*

**Cathy and Jeff Silk's son, David,**  
healing. **Laurie Campbell's niece,**

**Alexandra Sutherland,** battling Stage 3 breast  
cancer. **Beverly Zervakis' children Zach and  
Suzanna Carraway,** facing health challenges. **Linda  
Browning,** recovering from cardiac ablation.  
**Marcelo Perini's** recovery from shoulder surgery.  
**Prayers for the Oden family** on the loss of  
**Don Oden.** *To be added to the list or to join the Prayer  
Warriors, contact Jane Grimm at [janesgrimm@aol.com](mailto:janesgrimm@aol.com) or  
(703) 629-6081.*



### TRIBUTE PAVERS FOR THE WALKWAY

If you are interested in purchasing a paver, the  
forms are located in the Narthex and on our website.  
Pavers are \$100.00 each, and make a great memorial  
tribute or gift. Please contact Terri Mohnal if you are  
interested at [events@ourladyoftheseas.org](mailto:events@ourladyoftheseas.org).



## **STELLA MARIS CHAPEL, OCRACOKE**

Our Mission Chapel and its beautiful grounds, with gardens and meditation area to Mary, pathways and benches are open to the public daily from 9am to 6pm. Masses are currently celebrated twice a month by our Pastor, Fr. Fred Smuda, OSFS, on Sundays at 3:30pm.

We recommend you check [Masstimes.org](http://Masstimes.org), [ourladyoftheseas.org](http://ourladyoftheseas.org) website (main calendar or OCRACOKE page).

If you are a visitor and are spending time on Ocracoke, ***invite your Parish Priest to vacation with you. He has a beautiful residence to stay in, with our compliments. We ask that he celebrate the Mass while he is here in this holy and beautiful place.***

Contact the Parish Office at (252) 995-6370. Stella Maris is ready to feed your spirit and your soul...

*We thank you very much for your generosity with the collection. Will you please make your check payable to Our Lady of the Seas, and in the memo section, please write Stella Maris Ocracoke.*

## **ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

When circumstances prevent us from attending Mass and receiving Holy Communion, we are invited to receive Communion Spiritually:

*“My Jesus, I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. **Amen.**”*

## **ORACIÓN DE COMUNIÓN ESPIRITUAL**

Existen diferentes motivos por los que no podemos recibir la Eucaristía en la Santa Misa. En estos casos, la Iglesia nos anima a hacer un acto de “comunión espiritual,” donde nos unimos a Dios a través de la oración.

*“Creo, Jesús mío, que estás real y verdaderamente en el cielo y en el Santísimo Sacramento del Altar. Te amo sobre todas las cosas y deseo vivamente recibirte dentro de mi alma, pero no pudiendo hacerlo ahora sacramentalmente, ven al menos espiritualmente a mi corazón. Y como si ya te hubiese recibido, Te abrazo y me uno del todo a Tí. Señor, no permitas que jamás me aparte de Tí. **Amén.**”*

## **DO YOU LOVE TO SING AT MASS?**



If you do, prayerfully consider joining our choir and supporting the sung prayer of the congregation. No auditions are required, or do you need to know how to read music. In addition to receiving the grace from answering God's call, choir members enjoy reserved seating with a great view all year long (even on Easter Sunday!) plus, the bond that forms among the ministry's members. Part-time residents and extended-stay visitors are welcome. Need more information? Please contact our Music Ministry lead, **Linda Browning, at (252) 995-3662** or see her after the 9:00 am Sunday Mass.





## **AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE**

**WHEN- Wednesday, May 8, 2024**  
**Celebrate life!**

Consider making a life-saving donation at the next parish-sponsored **Red Cross Blood Drive** on **Wednesday, May 8, 2024 from 11:00am - 4:00 pm.** The drive will be held at the Our Lady of the Seas Parish Hall.

Donors are especially needed to address a decline in blood donations in late spring, which could begin to impact the blood supply as summer starts. Please visit **RedCrossBlood.org** and enter: **OurLady** to schedule your upcoming appointment on Wednesday, May 8, 2024. Contact **Cathy Silk (252) 489-3922** with questions or volunteer your time at this important blood drive.



## **OUTER BANKS AA**

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. The primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety. If you want to stop drinking, need help finding a meeting go to [aaobx.com](http://aaobx.com) for more information about Alcoholics Anonymous. Call anytime to be connected to an AA member at **(252) 256-0580**.



## **OUTER BANKS AL-ANON MEETING**

Our Parish hosts weekly Al-Anon meetings at **7:30pm** on **Wednesdays** in the Parish Hall. These meetings are in person, anonymous and are confidential. Al-Anon Family Groups, including Alateen, offer understanding and support to families and friends of problem drinkers. All newcomers are welcome.

<https://alanonobx.com/meetings>

- Is someone's drinking affecting you?
- Did you grow up in an alcoholic home?
- Were your parents or caregivers affected by alcoholism?

*Please patronize the local businesses on the back cover of the bulletin.*

*We are Grateful for the Offertory Collections  
 Thank you so much for your generosity.*

## **POPE'S INTENTION FOR MAY**

***For the formation of religious and seminarians***

We pray that religious women and men, and seminarians, grow in their own vocations through their human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, leading them to be credible witnesses to the Gospel.

## **FINANCE NEWS**

**Terri Mohnal** parish staff, has successfully assumed all the day-to-day processes of the church's coffers.

Terri is a very quick-study, extremely capable and an experienced bookkeeper. We are in great hands!

*Thanks go to volunteers,*

**Betty and Dave Greider**, who shouldered the QuickBooks, deposits and many Raleigh reports for over a decade. Thanks to **Pat Weston and all the counters** who assist with the deposits each and every week. Jane Grimm serves as Finance Council Chair.







## **MAY IS...the MONTH OF MARY**

### ***Why do we honor Mary during May?***

The month of May is a special time for Catholics to honor our Blessed Mother Mary.

- During this month Catholics, both in church and at home, offer up to Mary from their hearts prayer and reverence.
- It's the month we honor Blessed Mary as the Mother of Jesus and our Heavenly Mother.

• Mary has an unique role in salvation history as the Mother of God, conceived without Sin, who by her own freewill agreed to bring the "Word made flesh," (John 1:14) our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, into the world.

### ***How do we honor Mary in May?***

Have a Procession and Crowning of Mary with flowers.

- **Make a May altar** with a statue or picture of Mary as a reminder of her special month.
  - **Praying the Hail Mary** - We pray with her and ask her to pray for us and for God's grace to fall on us.
  - **Praying the Rosary**
  - **Praying a Novena**
  - **Reciting the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
- Crowning of Mary Procession***

It's a Catholic tradition to honor Mary during the month of May by crowning her statue with flowers. The reason we crown Mary is best summed up by Pope Paul VI, who wrote in 1965 that May is an occasion for a "moving tribute of faith and love which Catholics in every part of the world pay to the Queen of Heaven." The crown symbol is attributed to Mary because she is the Mother of the Son of God, who is our Heavenly King.



This weekend, (May 4 & 5, 2024), our brothers and sisters representing the Land of Peace mission - a nonprofit organization - will be with us, speaking about the Christian situation in the Holy Land and The Holy Land Pilgrimage, and selling Crucifixes, religious artwork, and rosaries - all made of olive wood, which is native to Israel and Bethlehem. Christian families in the Holy land, who depend on tourists, have been greatly affected. The goal of this mission is to help the poor and needy families in Bethlehem and Jerusalem. Sale of these goods will help them very much and also give you the opportunity to have "something" authentic from the Holy Land. Please browse, and buy some articles for you or your family. It is for a good cause and a help to your personal devotion.

See website: [www.landofpeace.org](http://www.landofpeace.org)

Yours respectfully,  
Director Noel Alshomali,  
Knights of Columbus Brother



Please be advised: We've been alerted to some phishing emails or texts (*Father - Rev - Fred is asking for gift cards or help*) claiming to be sent from Father Fred, or Our Lady of the Seas.

Fr. Fred Smuda and staff will ONLY send emails out from official [olsparish365@gmail.com](mailto:olsparish365@gmail.com) or [fredsmuda@gmail.com](mailto:fredsmuda@gmail.com) accounts.

If you get an email from another email account, saying it is from Father Fred, **report it as phishing to your email provider and then delete the email. Do NOT click on anything in the email and do NOT respond.** If you have any questions, please contact the office at (252)-995-6370.





How can we tell about May as the month dedicated to the Virgin Mary to the youngest ones? Does imposing them to recite the Rosary or other May prayers make any sense? Of course it does, even if we must explain things in a way that makes them easily understandable. Children are always happy and friendly when it comes to learning new things, especially if those things are close to their sensitivity.

First, we'll need to explain that the month of May is dedicated to Mary, mother of Jesus, because it is the month of flowers, when nature awakens to a new life after the rigidity of winter. And Mary, Virgin and Mother, daughter to her own Son, is the most beautiful among flowers, the first one to bloom after Christ's rebirth thanks to His promise of salvation for all humankind. Moreover, the Virgin Mary, freed from the original sin and any other guilt, is a symbol of that promise of forgiveness and love herself, a wonderful flower given by God to the world as a sign of His endless generosity.

We can explain to children how the prayer of the Rosary, symbol of Marian devotion was born. The most characteristic flower of May is the rose, and in ancient times, children used to decorate Mary statues with crowns of roses. Each rose symbolized a prayer, a beautiful and scented prayer, worthy of the Virgin Mary. The beads that compose the Rosary come from those roses.

For the youngest ones, we must remind them that Mary is not only Jesus' mother, but also everyone's mother: the most beautiful, the sweetest and loving of all mothers, always reaching out to all of her children to protect them, comfort them and take care of them even during difficult times.

### The Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace,  
the Lord is with you.  
Blessed are you among women  
and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death.  
Amen.

### The Memorare

REMEMBER, O most gracious Virgin Mary,  
that never was it known that anyone who fled  
to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought  
thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with  
this confidence, I fly to thee, O Virgin of  
virgins, my Mother; to thee do I come; before  
thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of  
the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions,  
but in thy mercy, hear and answer me.  
Amen.



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