



Saint Francis Catholic Community in Cuenca

2nd Sunday of Advent (C), December 8, 2024

In Service to the English-speaking Catholic Community and Visitors of Cuenca

WELCOME TO OUR ENGLISH-SPEAKING CATHOLIC FAMILY IN CUENCA!

OUR PASTORS:

Padre Joffre Astudillo,
Pastor of the Parroquia
de San Francisco



Father Kevin Codd,



Presider
of the English-Speaking
Catholics of Cuenca.
Contact Father Kevin at:
Mobile: 099-726-0770
WhatsApp: +1 509-991-
2411

Email: KACODD@GMAIL.COM

Website: KACODD.COM

REGULAR EVENTS:

Mass in English:

Sunday: 10:00 am

Followed by Coffee & Not Donuts

Iglesia San Francisco
Padre Aguirre y Pdte. Cordova
(Plaza San Francisco)

Weekday Mass: Thursdays, 11:00 am,
Father Kevin's home: Edificio Alqamari,
#502, Calle los Capulíes y los Molles.

Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick: By appointment.

We're on Social Media

- ❖ Our WEBSITE:
CuencaCatholic.org
- ❖ You can find us on FACEBOOK
at [SAINT FRANCIS CATHOLIC
COMMUNITY OF CUENCA, EC](https://www.facebook.com/SaintFrancisCatholicCommunityofCuencaEC)
- ❖ Audio of Father Kevin's recent
homilies and his blog are found
at: KACODD.COM/homilies

Solemnity of The Immaculate Conception

Due to the Solemnity falling on an Advent Sunday, the feast has been transferred to Monday, **December 9th**. We will have Mass in English on **Monday at 10:00 am** in the *Iglesia de San Francisco*. Please join us if you are able!



Wednesday Mass...No, Make That THURSDAY MASS!

Wednesday Mass becomes "Thursday Mass" this week! Join us at 11:00 am on **Thursday, December 12th**, in Father Kevin's new apartment. Coffee, tea, and something to nibble on afterwards, of course! December 12th is also the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe so we will celebrate this great apparition of Mary in Mexico as well. (See the map on the reverse side of this Bulletin.)



Volunteers for the Posada San Francisco

We will have available at Coffee and Not Doughnuts this Sunday the sign-up sheets for any who would like to serve as volunteers in the Posada San Francisco. There are various time slots

available to either help with the children or serve meals in the dining room. Our thanks to those who have already signed up as volunteers in service to the homeless and vulnerable of our city!

Christmas Party in Paute!

William and Tae Suk Harper are again inviting us to join them at their beautiful home outside of Paute for a Christmas gathering; please set aside Wednesday, **December 18th** for some Christmas cheer together! We will catch the 10:00 am bus to Paute that morning. Please RSVP to William at harperwh01@gmail.com.



Faith Formation in 2025?

We are just beginning to plan for further spiritual activities in 2025 so if you have some ideas about what would be helpful to you, please let Gary or Father Kevin know. Some possibilities are another scripture study, more on spiritual growth, a Catholic movie study, or a study of one of Pope Francis' encyclicals.

A Few Words from Father Kevin

Dear Friends,

The liturgical season of Advent tends to get lost under the onslaught of our now deeply commercialized “Christmas season”. Anything we can do to keep Advent in people’s hearts and minds amid these weeks of “Christmas Spirit” is all to the good.

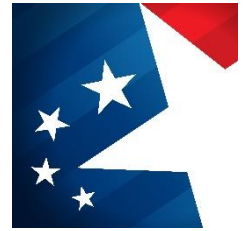
The familiar statue here in Cuenca of Very Pregnant Mary is a good start. It reminds me of my time in Saint Patrick Parish in Walla Walla, Washington. I suggested to a very creative lady in the parish that we hoist a large banner in the side chapel of the parish church of Mary standing in profile. I then asked if there was any way we could change the image week after week so that as the Advent season carried on, her pregnancy would increasingly show. Thelma said she thought it was a great idea and got to work on her sewing machine putting together the pieces of cloth that would become our version of Increasingly Pregnant Mary. Before the First Sunday of Advent, the violet banner went up and many were touched by the pensive Mary looking slightly downward at her barely protruding belly. The next week, the cloth piece in that area was replaced making her belly slightly greater. Few noticed. By the Third Sunday of Advent, her pregnancy was really showing and people caught on and were delighted. On the Fourth Sunday, poor Mary looked like she was carrying twins and the people couldn’t help but comment on how difficult her pregnancy was looking and, especially the mothers in the church, could only feel great compassion for the birth that was soon to follow. On Christmas Eve, before the evening Masses began, the entire banner was changed out, replaced with white background and a resplendent Mary facing forward holding the Christ Child in her loving arms!

It worked! Many parishioners told us often that Advent really felt like an Advent of preparation for the Nativity that year as they joined Mary in preparing for the birth of the Christ child!

Father Kevin

US Consular Officials to be in Cuenca

The U.S. Consulate General will have representatives from the Consulate available to provide notarial and passport services in the City of Cuenca on December 17 and 18, 2024, 10:00 am—4:00 pm, at the Abraham Lincoln Cultural Center, Calle Borrero 518 & Honorato Vasquez. Appointments are required; click; <https://bit.ly/3YRFdIK>



New Address

Father Kevin’s address has changed once again; his new address is: **Edificio Alqamari, Apartment 502, Calle los Capulies y los Molles.**

It is located between Gran Colombia y Paseo 3 de Noviembre. The Gran Colombia and Ordonez Lasso Tranvia stops are just a short walk away. We will be having an open house in January...date yet to be decided.



Prayer As We Light the Second Candle of the Advent

Wreath: *God of power and mercy open our hearts in welcome. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy so that we may share his wisdom and become one with him when he comes in glory, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. AMEN.*

Let Us Pray!

- FOR SUSAN MCBRIDE’S GRANDSON, **KENNY KACZMARSKI**, WHO IS EXPERIENCING DIFFICULT TIMES. SUSAN’S SISTER, **KAREN**, IS ALSO RECOVERING FROM HEART SURGERY.
- FOR ALL WHO ARE OR SOON WILL BE TRAVELLING: **CHRISTAL HOLLEY, RICHARD FRAUMENI, JOHN AND TINA HATZENBUEHLER, AND JEFF TALAGA.**
- FOR YET MORE **RAIN** FOR OUR FIELDS AND RIVERS!
- FOR THOSE WHO ARE HAVING A HARD TIME ECONOMICALLY AND PSYCHOLOGICALLY BECAUSE OF THE ON-GOING BLACKOUTS.
- FOR GREAT SPIRITUAL FRUIT FROM THE **HOLY YEAR 2025** IN ROME, WHICH BEGINS ON CHRISTMAS EVE.
- FOR AN END TO WAR AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF TRUE **PEACE** IN UKRAINE AND THE MIDDLE EAST, AND WHEREVER THERE IS WAR OR CIVIL UNREST.