



Saint Francis Catholic Community in Cuenca

1st Sunday of Advent (C), December 1, 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 5th** in Father Kevin's new apartment. Coffee, tea, and something to nibble on afterwards, of course! (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!

Little Brown Envelopes

Thank you to so many of you who donated last Sunday to our Little Brown Envelope fund in support of the *Fundacion de Santa Maria de la Esperanza* in Chordeleg. Your gifts last week totaled \$226.



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!

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,

Having celebrated Thanksgiving this past Thursday, a couple post-feast thoughts come to mind on this grand *fiesta* of gratitude.

As we all know, “the first Thanksgiving” was a meal shared among first settlers and native peoples to give thanks to God for the blessings of life and food, harvests and daily bread, survival and flourishing. It bode well for a gracious and mutually supportive relationship between both groups, the natives and the immigrants; sadly, over the years, prejudice and racism have marred that relationship in many places. But the heart of the feast has survived those ups and downs; the foundational inspiration of Thanksgiving has always been one of *giving thanks to the God who created the dirt, the seed, the water, and all of us*. There is no giving of thanks without the ONE to whom the thanks is being given. I am not sure to whom our non-believing friends give thanks to...certainly more than the cook in the kitchen or the purveyor of turkeys. The feast is emptied of its deepest meaning if it is only that...grateful as we may be for farmers, good cooks, and those who stay late to wash the dishes. The very feast of Thanksgiving with all its warm and lovely customs and culinary traditions is an evangelizing event because it calls all of us, even our non-believing friends, to consider the Giver from whom all gifts flow.

Giving thanks is a salutary practice. It keeps us from sinking into an internal morass of self-pity. It lifts our eyes beyond ourselves. It binds us together in shared praise of the bounty we are blessed with day in and day out.

And now, we move on from Thanksgiving...not to Christmas yet...but to Advent and our great hope of Christ's coming. *Come, Lord Jesus, come!*

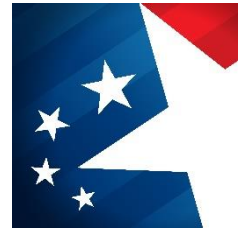
Father Kevin

US Consular Officials to be in Cuenca

Representatives of the Federal Benefits Unit will be in Cuenca to offer services for US Social Security and other federal benefits, on **December 4th & 5th**, 10:00 am—4:00 pm, at the Abraham Lincoln Cultural Center, Calle Borrero 518 & Honorato Vasquez.

To submit a Foreign Enforcement Questionnaire SSA, (“proof of life forms”), no appointment is required. For other services, appointments may be necessary.

The U.S. Consulate General will also have representatives from the Consulate available to provide notarial and passport services in the City of Cuenca on December 17 and 18, 2024. Appointments are required; click; <https://bit.ly/3YRFdIK>



Yet Another Move

Father Kevin's address has changed once again

His new address is: **Edificio Alqamari, Apartment 502, Calle los Capulíes 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.



Let Us Pray!

- FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF **EVELYN ESPINO-BENSON**, WHO RECENTLY PASSED AWAY AND FOR HER FAMILY MEMBERS FROM CALIFORNIA WHO ARE PRESENTLY HERE IN CUENCA, **EMMA AND MARCIAL MAPANAO**.
- 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: **CHRystal HOLLEY, RICHARD FRAUMENI, JOHN AND TINA HATZENBUEHLER, TROY WELCH, AND JEFF TALAGA**.
- FOR MORE **RAIN** FOR OUR FIELDS AND RIVERS!
- 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.