

# Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 13, 2008



## Announced Masses

- Sat 04/12 4:00 pm Henry Miller/Miller & Cunningham Families
- Sun 04/13 10:30 am Anna Rubini/Ted & Betty Balabuch  
12:00 pm Pedro Requena Rodríguez/  
Sonia Q. Zuchowski
- Mon 04/14 8:00 am Mary Kavanagh/Bob & Ellen Healey
- Tue 04/15 8:00 am Joey Belz (1st anniv.)/Fr. Ken Hallahan & the SJOA Parish Family
- Wed 04/16 8:00 am Bayard & Mary Lawrence/Fr. Ken Hallahan & the SJOA Parish Family
- Thu 04/17 8:00 am Frances Shopa/Beverly Alberts
- Fri 04/18 8:00 am George Sweeten/Julia & William Elsasser
- Sat 04/19 4:00 pm Margaret A. McKenna (1st anniv.)/Fr. Hallahan & SJOA Parish Family
- Sun 04/20 10:30 am Mary Kavanagh/Denise Bramble & Family

12:00 pm Open

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**The People's Tithe**  
**Third Sunday of Easter: \$**  
*Thank you for your continued generosity!*

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*Congratulations to*  
*Anthony & Eileen Watson*  
*on their 40th Wedding Anniversary!*

## Sick List

Please pray for those who are ill and those who care for them:

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## What's Happening Around SJOA

### Sunday, 04/13/08:

Religious Ed.—English	9:15 am	School
Religious Ed.—Spanish	10:45 am	School

### Monday, 04/14/08:

Youth Group Meeting	6-8:00 pm	Rectory
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## H&R Block Referral Program

H&R Block will donate \$25.00 to St. Joan of Arc Parish for every new client referred from the parish for preparation of their income tax return between January 1 and November 1, 2008. A referral form is necessary and must be presented before taxes are prepared. For more information, please call Mr. Richard Baum at (856) 910-2283 or the rectory at (856) 962-8642.

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## A Family Perspective

The shepherd in today's gospel called each sheep by name. Naming is a serious family function because our name is our life-long identity, connecting us to a family history and how we will be remembered forever.



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## From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Last week, I wrote three versions of my weekly letter on Thursday morning, because I didn't know for certain what the bishop was going to announce about our parish.

This week, I have to write only one letter. We now know the general outline that our future will take. It is up to us, and the parishioners from St. Bartholomew's parish, to fill in the details of that outline for the creation of the merger of the two parishes into one.

As we embark on this part of our spiritual journey, it might be good to think a little bit about the history of the Catholic Church. Many times in our history, we have changed our beliefs, practices and institutions to adapt to contemporary conditions.

The earliest Christians did not have churches. They met in their homes. Later, as their numbers increased, the Christians moved their gatherings out of their homes and into public spaces, such as the entrances to the catacombs. When these spaces proved too small, and when the Christians were granted legal recognition, they began to construct their own buildings for worship.

In various places, and under different historical conditions, Christians adapted their ways to their situations. Sometimes, they met secretly in homes or in the fields (as in Ireland during the persecutions by the English), sometimes they made use of the buildings.

In the USA, the Catholic Church developed the model of the parish that had a Catholic School. The School was often the center of life for the parish. The lessons in the school were usually taught in the language of the country of origin of the people (as St. Joseph Polish Catholic School in Camden did, 1/2 day in Polish, 1/2 day in English).

The church-school combination remained strong until the 1970s, when the number of religious sisters declined rapidly. Today, the Catholic school system is only a small portion of what it once was. Nationwide, only about 1/3 of the parishes have a school.

In this new situation, we are being asked to re-think what a parish should be. We must ask how we can be an active parish, that reaches out to all of the people of all ages, races, ethnic origins and family conditions without the schools that we had in the past to help us.

I invite everyone to think about our new situation and to envision ways in which the parish can provide services and activities that will enable us to share the faith with succeeding generations and provide memorable experiences for ourselves.

In the next few weeks, I'll be asking for volunteers to serve on a transition team to help to create our newly merged parish.

Peace,  
Fr. Hallahan

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## Fun in the Sun

Hopeworks 'N Camden will be holding their annual subscription event, Fun in the Sun. Each subscription costs \$20.00 and enables you to have 30 opportunities to win up to \$2,008! Proceeds from this event support their youth summer jobs program. For more information/registration, call (856) 364-HOPE, or go to [www.hopeworks.org/jobs](http://www.hopeworks.org/jobs), or email [www.info@hopeworks.org](mailto:www.info@hopeworks.org).

## Catholic Men: Do You Have the Gifts to Serve Christ as a Deacon?

Do you participate actively in leading church ministries? Do you see in yourself the gifts needed for helping others? Are you drawn to pray and listen to the Word of God? If you can answer with a confident "yes", perhaps you should learn more about the deacon's ministry in the Catholic Church. Consider attending one of the following meetings:

### Tuesday, April 22, 2008—7:00 to 9:00 pm

St. Peter's Parish, Merchantville—Church Basement  
43 W. Maple Ave., Merchantville, NJ

### Wednesday, April 30, 2008—7:00 to 9:00 pm

St. Pius X Spiritual Life Center, Blackwood—  
Guadalupe Lounge, 1840 Peter Cheeseman Road,  
Blackwood, NJ

Please call Stephanie in the Diaconate Office at (856) 583-2858 or Michel in the Hispanic Ministry Office at (856) 583-6138 to register.

To learn more, visit [www.camdendiocese.org](http://www.camdendiocese.org). Click on "The Diocese" tab and then "Clergy and Religious" on the drop down tab.

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## Attention: Parishioners on Medicare!

Information about 2008 Medicare Plans is available through Catholic Golden Age to all parishioners on Medicare. Cal CGA Benefits, Inc. toll free at 1-800-836-5699 between the 8:30 am and 8:30 pm, EST, Monday through Friday for more information.

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## Oldies Night

St. Cecilia School, 4851 Camden Avenue, Pennsauken, NJ will hold their second annual Oldies Night, with Jerry Blavat, "The Geator With The Heater" on Saturday, May 3, 2008 from 7 pm until midnight. Donation: \$35.00 p/p. Dinner, dancing, beer and set ups included. BYOB. For tickets/info., call (856) 663-2509, (856) 979-0005 after 5 pm, or Donna at (856) 665-0511. Proceeds benefit St. Cecilia School.

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## HELPING HANDS

Are you a retiree with a couple of hours a week or month to share? Are you looking for a way to give something back to your community? This is an invitation designed for you! HELPING HANDS is a community benefit program sponsored by Our Lady of Lourdes Medical Center, which recruits and trains volunteers to assist the elderly with medical tasks right in their own community. Volunteers are entitled to special discounts after a 3 month probationary period. Volunteers must be 21 or older. Volunteers set their own schedules, are reimbursed for transportation and are covered by a secondary liability policy while on the job. For more information on becoming a volunteer, please call Nancy at (856) 757-3270.