

# Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 21, 2008



## Announced Masses

Sat	09/20	4:00 pm	Charles Richardson /Jack Richardson
Sun	09/21	10:30 am	Carl Canzanese (Birthday) / Mother
		12:00 pm	Open
Mon	09/22	8:00 am	People of the Parish
Tue	09/23	8:00 am	Mary Kavanagh / Bob& Ellen Healey
Wed	09/24	8:00 am	Edward Weirauch / Regina Weirauch
Thu	09/25	8:00 am	Open
Fri	09/26	8:00 am	Gregory J. Dalessio / Fr. Ken Hallahan & The SJOA Parish Family
Sat	09/27	4:00 pm	Carmen V. Woods (1st Anniv.) / Fr. Ken Hallahan & The SJOA Parish Family
Sun	09/28	10:30 am	Helen O'Shea (5th Anniv.) / Family
		12:00 pm	Open

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**This weekend's second collection is for  
The Catholic University  
Thank you!**

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**The People's Tithe  
Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time: \$  
Thank you for your continued generosity!**

## Sick List

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

## What's Happening Around SJOA

### Sunday, 9/23/07:

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

### Monday, 9/22/08:

Youth Group Meeting	6-8:00 pm	Rectory
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## Religious Education Program

Our Religious Education Classes start this weekend. There's still time to register your children if you haven't yet done so. Classes are held every Sunday in both English and Spanish. English class is held from 9:15 to 10:15 am and our Spanish class is held from 10:45 am to 11:45 am.

**Registration will close on October 21, 2008**

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## ADULT—NEVER BAPTIZED??

## ADULT—NEED FIRST COMMUNION OR CONFIRMATION??

**ARE YOU AN ADULT CATHOLIC WHO HAS NOT RECEIVED ONE OF THE SACRAMENTS OR ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC?** If so, we would like to assist you through discussion groups which will be formed in the fall as part of the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA). It is never too late...you are never too old! Please contact the rectory at (856) 962-8642.



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## From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Thanks to everyone who helped with the celebration of Our Lady of Charity of Cobre last Sunday. Special thanks to Elvin P. for designing the shrine and directing the volunteers to construct it.

The sunflowers reminded me of my travels in Spain in my youth! Once, while driving across the plateau in central Spain, I passed a large field of sunflowers. They were so stately and beautiful that I had to stop my car and get out to admire them. I spent an hour or so just walking around the field and among the flowers.



The heads of the sunflowers follow the sun as it makes its way across the sky. They are a marvel of nature.

After a faith-filled celebration of the eucharist, we gathered in the school cafeteria to enjoy a wonderful luncheon of foods from the Caribbean and Mexico. Thanks to all the cooks!

Our next celebration will be the feast of Our Lady of Divine Providence, the patroness of Puerto Rico, on November 23. I look forward to it.

Discussions about the merger of our parish with St. Bartholomew will begin soon. Fr. Gerard Marable is the priest-convenor who will meet with a "core team" from both parishes. Please remember them in your prayers.

Anyone who would like to be a member of the "core team," please let me know. I shall propose 6 names to Fr. Gerard and he will choose 4 from the 6.

Today's gospel tells one of the most challenging parables of Jesus. In a capitalist economy, many people believe that everyone should get what he or she "deserves." Many people believe in "meritocracy," that is, everyone is rewarded according to "merit."

In fact, most of us get much more than we "deserve" or "merit." We didn't deserve to live at this time in history, when medical care and overall health is better than any previous generation!!

We didn't "deserve" to be born into the wealthiest society in history, or to be born near enough to enter that society. We didn't "deserve" to have a society that produces an abundance of food, clothing, electronic equipment, autos and homes that function well and give us a comfortable and enjoyable life.

Most of these things are available because of previous generations who laid the groundwork for today's society. In other words, we are the latecomers to the vineyard!! Others worked hard in the heat of the day, so that we who have showed up late get lots of privileges and lots of opportunities!

As beneficiaries of the work of others, we are invited to share the wealth and the privilege that we have with others so that they can have a nice life, too.

Peace,  
Fr. Hallahan

## A Family Perspective

**Family, where "the last will be first," is the "vineyard" entrusted to us in today's gospel. Successful families are constructed by "laborers," who work hard on family relationships, and not by couch potatoes. Today Jesus is saying to us: "Why are you idle? Go into my vineyard."**

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### Stewardship Reflection *Attitude of Gratitude*

***"Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, drive out demons. Without cost you have received; without cost you are to give." (Matthew 10:8)***

**Stewardship encourages us to give of our time, talent and treasure without regard to repayment, but from our gratitude for all the blessings we have received.**

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## St. Bart's Three Evening Spiritual Revival

Join St. Bartholomew R.C. Church, 751 Kaighns Avenue, Camden for their annual Spiritual Revival, a three evening event with praise, dancing, choirs and more, **September 24, 25 and 26, 2008**, beginning at 7:00 pm each evening. Guest Revivalist:

**Ansel J. Augustine, MPS - New Orleans**  
(Bring Your Own Bible). Come hear soul-stirring and inspiring words of faith that will rejuvenate your mind, body and soul! Refreshments served each evening.

There will also be a Homecoming Luncheon following the 10:30 am liturgy on Sunday, **September 28th**. Donation: \$5.00. For tickets/information, call St. Bart's rectory at (856) 365-0573.

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## *10th Annual White Mass & St. Luke's Awards*

On Sunday, October 12, 2006 at 10:00 am, Bishop Galante will celebrate the White Mass for healthcare workers and their families at the Chapel of Our Lady of Lourdes Medical Center, 1600 Haddon Avenue, Camden, New Jersey 08103 at 1:00pm. The St. Luke's Awards for outstanding Catholic health care within the Diocese of Camden will be presented during the Mass. This year's honorees are Dr. Gerard Ventrella, M.D. & Dr. Susan Ventrella, D.O., Kay Peters, R.N., Anna Tosti, LNHA, Reverend Howard Mulbeier. If you would like to attend the White Mass please call Katherine Boyer at (856) 342-4125 or email [Katherine.boyer@camdendiocese.org](mailto:Katherine.boyer@camdendiocese.org) to RSVP