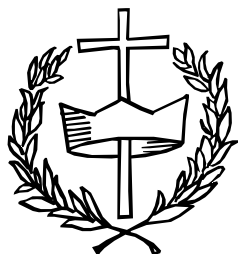


Our Lord Jesus Christ the King

November 23, 2008



Announced Masses

Sat	11/22	4:00 pm	Mary Kavanagh/Bob & Ellen Healey
	11/23	10:30 am	Joe Iobbi/Agnes Ruiz & Family
		12:00 pm	Open
Mon	11/24	8:00 am	Open
Tue	11/25	8:00 am	Agnes R. Landis/Joe Nikituk
Wed	11/26	8:00 am	People of the Parish/Fr. Ken
Thu	11/27	8:00 am	Dec'd. Family Members/ Debbie Carroll & Family
Fri	11/28	8:00 am	For the Intentions of Bill & Marge Mahoney/Bill & Nancy Smith
Sat	11/29	4:00 pm	Elanie L. Punch/Dan & Pat Murphy
Sun	11/30	10:30 am	Isabella Anderson & Florence Lind/Cissie Canzanese
		12:00 pm	Open

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The People's Tithe
33rd 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, 11/23/08:

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

Monday, 11/24/08:

NO YOUTH GROUP MEETING

* * *

Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service
Bridge of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Wednesday, November 26, 2008, 7:00 pm
The Churches of the Fairview Ministerium invite
you to come together and give thanks to God for
our many blessings on this Thanksgiving Eve!
All are welcome!



The rectory office will be closed on Thursday
& Friday, November 27 & 28, 2008



Our Lord Jesus Christ the King



From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Today, we celebrate two great feasts. It is Christ the King, the last Sunday of the year. In the Latino community, it is the feast of Our Lady of Divine Providence, the patroness of Puerto Rico.

For Christ the King, we read the gospel of the last judgment from the Gospel of St. Matthew. In this judgment scene, Jesus presents the most basic value of the Christian life—to recognize Jesus in the other person.

The most challenging dimension of this gospel passage is that Jesus demands that we recognize him in “the distressing disguise of the poor,” as Mother Theresa of Calcutta worded it.

This is Jesus’ invitation to us to rise above ourselves and our own concerns and to recognize the dignity of the other person, especially when that person is suffering or in need.

This week, I’ve been reading a book of philosophy by Hans George Gadamer. In his description of Hegel’s philosophy, Gadamer says that one of the big challenges of human beings is to overcome our self-centeredness. We do this by our encounters with other people in ways that make us recognize the value and worth of the other, while they recognize our value.

Hegel spoke this way as he wrote about “honor.” When we honor another and are honored by others, both receive approval and validation of their basic worth. Hegel says that we do this when we greet each other in our ritualized “hello’s” and “good-bye’s.”

But, says Hegel, we must also do this through our social structures. We honor people through our advocacy of human rights, our creation of just laws, etc. Gadamer and Hegel speak in philosophical terms what Jesus says in parables and Popes Paul VI and John Paul II described in their encyclical letters on justice.

As we celebrate this last Sunday of the year, and prepare for the first Sunday of Advent, the beginning of the new church year, may we “honor” each other with a friendly greeting and a commitment to justice.

The feast of Our Lady of Divine Providence reminds us that we are honored by Mary, who watches over us and accompanies us in our lives. Just as she raised Jesus as a child and watched over him, she exercises providence over the whole body of Christ.

She guides us as a model of faith, intercedes for us in our times of need and comforts us in our struggles and difficulties.

I invite everyone to join the Puerto Rican people in celebrating this wonderful feast day.



Peace,
Fr. Hallahan

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A Family Perspective

Families feed the hungry, give drinks to thirsty toddlers and welcome strangers into our homes. We clothe children and visit family members who are sick and imprisoned. The routine actions of family life are religious and priestly for we make Christ present in what we do. Families live the Beati-

From the Bishop

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

A report this month by the United States Department of Agriculture found that 35.2 million adults and children struggled with hunger in 2007, up from the previous year. More than 12 percent of Americans lack adequate income or assistance to obtain sufficient quantities of food to lead active, healthy lives. This is even before the recent economic downturn.

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD), which was established in 1970, is dedicated to breaking the cycle of poverty by funding community programs that encourage self-help programs and independence for the poor. It also seeks to educate the public about the root causes of poverty (for more information about the work of CCHD, see www.usccb.org/cchd/).

CCHD’s funding is obtained through a national annual collection. **This year, the collection will be taken up in the parishes of the Diocese of Camden on the weekend of November 22-23.**

Twenty-five percent of the CCHD collection is retained by our diocese to fund local self-help initiatives that benefit communities in our own diocese. Local low-income empowerment organizations in the six southern counties of New Jersey may apply for local grants by contacting Fr. Ken Hallahan, director of the CCHD for the Diocese of Camden, at 856-962-8642.

Your generous donations will give those in poverty the support they need to make lasting changes. Thank you for your support of this important collection.

Fraternally,
Most Rev. Joseph A. Galante, DD, JDC
Bishop of Camden

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Stewardship Reflection

Stewards are Blessed

“The Lord bless and keep you! The Lord let his face shine upon you and be gracious to you! The Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace!” (Numbers 7:24-26)

Christian Stewards recognize God as their giver of life and source of all our blessings. We respond in thankfulness by giving of our time, talent and treasure.

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Irish Concert

St. Mary’s Parish in Gloucester City is holding an Irish Concert at Gloucester Catholic High School on Friday, December 5, 2008 at 7:00 pm. The concert features International singer John McNally and Irish dancers. Cost: \$20.00 in advance, \$25.00 at the door; children age 14 and under, \$10.00. For ticket information, call (856) 456-0052 or email StMaryRectory@comcast.net. Mass in Gaelic in church at 6:00 pm.

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**Volunteers Needed from St. Joan of Arc
for Blood Drive at St. Bart’s on January 19, 2009
from 8:30 am to 2:00 pm**

**For information or to volunteer, please call
Betty Atkins at the Office of Black Catholic Ministry
at (856) 755-0953**