

Third Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2008



Announced Masses

Sat	12/13	4:00 pm	Elizabeth B. Staller/Fr. Ken Hallahan & the SJOA Parish Family
Sun	12/14	10:30 am	Michael Yurkow/Cookie, Jim & Angel
		12:00 pm	Joseph J. Stafford/Connie Walker Schirmer
Mon	12/15	8:00 am	Holy Souls in Purgatory/Ernest & Helen Butler
Tue	12/16	8:00 am	Frances Shopa/Beverly Alberts
Wed	12/17	8:00 am	Rita Romantini/Mr. & Mrs. Wiliam Elsasser
Thu	12/18	8:00 am	People of the Parish/Fr. Ken
Fri	12/19	8:00 am	Margaret Hallahan/Terri Todoro
Sat	12/20	4:00 pm	Joe Iobbi/Dan & Pat Murphy
Sun	12/21	10:30 am	Samuel B. Pelle/Dolores Clark & Family
		12:00 pm	Dec'd. Members of the Canzanese Family/Patty

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Second Collection This Weekend

The retirement Fund Collection for Religious will be taken up this weekend. Please give generously to this collection, which benefits the many deserving religious who served our diocese, past and present, and who now need our help meeting the overwhelming costs of elder care. You may be sure of a grateful remembrance in their prayers for your generosity in this collection. Thank you.

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The People's Tithe
2nd Sunday of Advent: \$

Thank you for your continued generosity!

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, 12/14/08:

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

Wednesday, 12/17/08:

Youth Group Meeting	6-8:00 pm	Rectory
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Hangin' of the Greens



Sundays, December 14th & 21st
at 1:30 pm

Many hands make light work!
Please help decorate our Church
for Christmas!

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Stewardship Reflection Stewardship Gift

"His master said to him, "Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy." (Matthew 25-21)

We use our giftedness wisely when we make God our priority and share our gifts with others. The master's words of praise and welcome for the servant who lives Stewardship are our promised words when we meet God face to face.



Third Sunday of Advent



From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Many thanks to Emma Garcia, Elvin P., and all of those who helped with the spectacular celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe last Sunday. An artist friend of mine, Mrs. Pam Laurenzi, visited our church.

She said: "This is bold, it is alive, it is so three-dimensional that it reaches out and invites you in. The colors are strong and the scent of roses is heavenly. Whoever did this should be proud of themselves!"

I am proud of everyone who helped with the creation of the shrine, the celebration of the Eucharist (readers, Eucharistic ministers, altar servers, ushers, choir, musicians and singer), and the luncheon afterwards. The whole day was a wonderful tribute to Our Lady of Guadalupe. I'm sure that she is proud of our parish!

We have completed more than one-half of our Advent preparations for the coming of the Lord. I invite everyone who is able to come to the church on Sunday, December 21 for the "Hanging of the Greens." We'll decorate the church for Christmas Day.

"Many hands make light work," is a Chinese saying. Please lend your hands to the effort.

During this time of mourning the loss of my Mother, I have been struck by the struggles and difficulties of others in this life. Four people have written with their apologies that they could not attend my Mother's funeral, because they were attending funerals of their own relatives on that same day! One friend had two funerals on that day.

I know that many other people are struggling with the downturn in the economy. People are losing jobs, suffering reductions in pay and are anxious about the future.

Others are suffering from the flu and other illnesses and difficulties that come with the advent of winter.

I would ask you to keep in your prayers the families from Eritrea who are living in our Dominic House and other homes in the neighborhood. Adjusting to life in the USA has been a struggle for them and they face some big decisions in the near future.

These families were forced to leave their homeland because of a civil war. Several of the families had members killed in that war.

They came to this country, which offers them many opportunities, but is also a very different culture, with different weather, different customs, different expectations of people and very complicated bureaucracies to deal with. Please pray for their health and happiness.

May the remaining days of Advent fill your hearts with hope.



Peace,
Fr. Hallahan

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A Family Perspective

A parent is meant to be a "witness to the light." To be effective, light must be in front of our children, not behind them. A parent must lead, not follow, to "make straight the path of the Lord" for their children.

Free Arthritis Seminar

Tuesday, December 16, 2008 - 11:00 am
The Manor at St. Mary's
220 St. Mary's Drive, Cherry Hill, NJ
Reservations required. Call (856) 874-5341

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Upcoming Programs at St. Pius X Spiritual Life Center

1840 Peter Cheeseman Road, Blackwood, NJ

New Year's Eve Prayer Party: December 31, 2008 at 4:00 pm
through January 1, 2009 at 11:00 am St. Pius X Spiritual Life
Center, 1840 Peter Cheeseman Road, Blackwood, NJ. Cost:
\$80.00 single occ., \$65.00 double occ. Registration required.

Directed Retreat Weekend: January 2, 2009, 5:00 pm to Sun.
January 4, 2009, 11:00 am. Donation: \$140.00 single occ./
\$110.00 double occ. Lunch provided. Registration required.

Day of Reflection "Women in the Gospels": January 5, 2009,
9:30 am—2:00 pm. Donation: \$25.00. Registration required.

For registration/information, call (856) 227-1436.

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Attention: Parishioners on Medicare!

Information about 2009 Medicare Advantage Plans is available through Catholic Golden Age to all parishioners on Medicare. Call CGA Benefits, Inc. toll free at 1-800-836-5699 between 8:30 am and 8:30 pm Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday for information.

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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

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Afternoon of Jazz, Plus

Sponsored by Advisory Council
Diocese of Camden Black Catholic Ministry
Fun, Fellowship, Dinner & Dancing
To the renown sounds of "To the Max"
Sunday, February 15, 2009

3:00 pm—8:00 pm

Masso's Crystal Manor, Glassboro, NJ

Cost: \$35.00

For tickets/info. Call Fr. Gerard Marable at
(856) 365-0573 or (856) 583-6136 or 6137
Registration forms available in the vestibule