



# Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph



December 28, 2008



## Announced Masses

- Sat 12/27 4:00 pm Fr. John Byrnes (anniv.)/  
Anne Rocanella
- Sun 12/28 10:30 am Daniel & Elizabeth Meschini/  
Diane & Family
- 12:00 pm Arthur B. Walker/Connie Walker  
Schirmer
- Mon 12/29 8:00 am Intentions of Bill & Marge Mahoney/  
Bill & Nancy Smith
- Tue 12/30 8:00 am People of the Parish/Fr. Ken
- Wed 12/31 8:00 am Agnes R. Landis/Joe Nikituk  
5:00 pm Margaret Hallahan/Debbie Carroll  
& Family
- Thu. 01/01 10:00 am** Louis Emanuele/Daughter,  
**2009** Marianna
- Fri 01/02 8:00 am People of the Parish/Fr. Ken
- Sat 01/03 4:00 pm Fr. John Byrnes (2nd anniv.)/  
Anne Rocanella
- Sun 01/04 10:30 am Guy E. Ridenour/Paul Panko, Sr. &  
Paul Panko, Jr.
- 12:00 pm Open

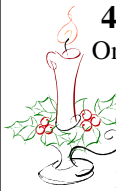
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**The People's Tithe**  
**4th Sunday of Advent: \$**  
*Thank you for your continued generosity!*

## Sick List

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

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 **40 Hour Prayer Vigil for Murder Victims**  
Once again we will host the 40 Hour Prayer Vigil in response to the suffering experienced from the violence in our city this year. This 40 hour vigil of prayer and fasting gives us the opportunity to pray for the murder victims and their families as well as to pray for peace in the new year.

The vigil will begin at 7:00 am on Monday, December 29th and continue until 5:00 pm on Wednesday, December 31st.

Nine Camden parishes will have a time frame to come and pray. St. Joan of Arc's time is schedule for Monday, December 29th from 7:00 to 11:00 am and again on Wednesday, December 31st from 12:00-5:00 pm, however, all are welcome to come and pray at any time, day or night, during the vigil. Please come!

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**Best Wishes to all of you for a Safe,  
Healthy and Happy New Year.**  
**The rectory office will be closed on  
Thursday, January 1, 2009.**



# Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph



## From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Thanks to everyone who helped with the celebration of Christmas in our parish. Many people came to decorate the church, to arrange the poinsettias, to play music, sing, read the readings, distribute communion, serve at the altar, take up the collections and welcome newcomers, friends, family and former parishioners to the feast.

Christmas and Easter are the two pivotal feasts around which the entire church calendar revolves. At Christmas we celebrate the birth of the Savior and at Easter, we celebrate his birth to new life in the resurrection.

Our Advent time of expectation and waiting is now ended and we can celebrate the coming of the Lord. Each of us has his/her own joy at Christmas time and I wish everyone a happy Christmas season that will help you to embrace the presence of the Lord in your own life.

For many people in our city, this Christmas is saddened by the violent death of a loved one. Our parish will host the annual vigil for murder victims, organized by Sr. Helen Cole of the Guadalupe Center in North Camden. The vigil will begin at 7:00 a.m. on Monday, December 29 and continue until 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 31.

I invite everyone to set aside some time to visit the church during the vigil. This prayer by the Catholic community, is our attempt to offer consolation to the families of different faith traditions.

As the poet John Donne said: "No man is an island." The death of one diminishes the lives of all. The many violent deaths in our city constitute a tragedy for the families, the neighborhoods and for our whole society.

Most of the victims are young people. They could have grown up to be nurses or mechanics, teachers or lawyers, shop owners or laborers. Instead, their lives came to an abrupt and untimely end. Many leave orphaned children.

Please come to the church and devote a half-hour or an hour to prayer for the survivors of our violent city.

Also, please prepare to welcome the Three Kings. They emailed me from the deserts of Eritrea to say that they would be here on time to deliver gifts to the children who attend the Sunday Mass on January 4.

The Kings brought gifts to Jesus, and they'll bring gifts to us! I hope to see everyone in church on January 4.



Peace,  
Fr. Hallahan

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## A Family Perspective

**Holy Family Sunday is not just about Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Your family, too, is called to be a "sign" to the world of a way of life modeled after the Holy Family. Like Mary and Joseph, you will be "a sign opposed" by others.**



## Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord Sunday, January 4, 2009

**The Three Kings will be visiting St. Joan of Arc Church at each Mass to present gifts to all children in attendance. Mark your calendars!**

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## Stewardship Reflection

*"And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body. And be thankful." (Colossians 3:15)*

**The good Steward is always thankful. Everything we have is a gift from God. When we fill our hearts with gratitude we can stop striving for more and start appreciating and sharing the gifts we have already been given.**

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## Camden Catholic "Teams for Turf" Fundraiser

Camden Catholic High School will host a "Teams for Turf" Fundraiser on Sunday, January 18, 2009 from 5:00-10:00 pm at Pinsetters Bar and Bowl at 7111 Maple Avenue, Pennsauken. All proceeds from the event will benefit the school's recently announced "Fields for the Future Campaign", which consists of the installation of a turf field at the school and re-grading of existing playing fields. Tickets are \$25.00 and can be purchased by calling the school at (856) 663-2247 or by contacting Linda Talarico Xerri at [xxerri@aol.com](mailto:xxerri@aol.com). This is an age 21 and over event.

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## Volunteers Needed to Assist Parishioners Preparing Petitions for Church Annulments

No Previous Experience Required. Training Provided by Tribunal Staff. Classes will be held at 2 different locations: St. Pius X Retreat House, Blackwood on Tuesdays, January 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2009 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm, and St. Bernadette Church, Northfield on Wednesdays, February 4, 11, 18 & 25, 2009 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. To register or for more information, call the Tribunal at (856) 583-6162.

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## Thank You!

Thank you, in the name of the thousands of men and women religious who benefit from your generous donation to the Retirement Fund for Religious. You have taken the opportunity to give back to these men and women who have given of themselves for many years to our church. Know that you will have a grateful remembrance in the daily prayers of all religious as you help us provide for our sick and elderly. During this Christmas season, we pray that God will bless you now and in the new year.