

The Baptism of the Lord

January 11, 2009



Announced Masses

- Sat 01/10 4:00 pm Angelina Rocanella/daughter, Anne
- Sun 01/11 10:30 am Freda Fattore (Birthday)/
Carroll Family
- 12:00 pm Wilma Palaganas/Palma Family
- Mon 01/12 8:00 am Margaret Hallahan/William &
Maryann Quinn
- 01/3 8:00 am Open
- Wed 01/14 8:00 am People of the Parish
- Thu 01/15 8:00 am Open
- Fri 01/16 8:00 am Frances Shopa/Beverly Alberts
- Sat 01/17 4:00 pm Margaret Hallahan/Dan &
Pat Murphy
- Sun 01/18 10:30 am Guy Ridenour/Donna & Doris
- 12:00 pm Joann Saia/Lisa Soto & Family

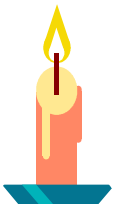
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Entered Eternal Rest Martha Kleisz

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Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary Lamp is burning this week
In Memory of Angelina Rocanella
(Birthday)
Requested by her daughter, Anne



Sick List

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

PLEASE NOTE: If your name or the name of a sick friend and/or family member has been removed from this sick list and you would like it put back on, please notify the rectory. Also, please notify the rectory when you or someone you know no longer needs to be on the sick list.

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What's Happening Around SJOA

Sunday, 1/11/09:

RCIA	9:15 am	Church
Rel. Ed.—English	9:15 am	School
Rel. Ed.—Spanish	10:45 am	School

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Stewardship Reflection *Stewardship is Pleasing*

“Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one with whom I am pleased.” (Isaiah 42:1a)

At our Baptism, we become a servant of the Lord. God has chosen us and equipped us to do special work for Him. Everything that we accomplish in life is a direct result of God's gifts to us. Are we acting in gratitude? Is God pleased with the way we are fulfilling His special plan for us?

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A Family Perspective

What Our Heavenly Father said to Jesus in today's gospel, “You are my beloved. My favor rests on you” is said to each of us. We don't earn this love; it is given freely. The unconditional love we experience in our families is sacramental for it gives us a glimpse of God's freely given, all accepting, love.

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The People's Tithe Epiphany of the Lord: \$00

Thank you for your continued generosity!

The Baptism of the Lord

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Thanks to the Three Kings who came across the deserts of Arabia to bring gifts to our children, just at the original Magi brought gifts to the baby Jesus! Thanks to all who helped including: Ed Miller, Tom Springham, Joe Janetta, George Karwacki, Tim O'Donnell, Ramon, Carlos, Juan, Juan, Martha, Patty Williams, Damariz Perez, Kevin Mahoney, Al Marks, Mike Slocum and Joe Nikituk.

Thanks to the organizations that donated toys, including Holy Maternity Church in Audubon, Starting Point, Inc. and Collingwood High School National Honor Society.

Today, we celebrate the "Baptism of the Lord." The baptism of John was different from the Baptism that we celebrate as a sacrament in our Church today. John offered a Baptism of repentance. Jesus, of course, did not have to repent. However, he wanted to be an example to others, so he insisted that John baptize him.

Our own baptism is a matter of entering the Church. We become members of the Church and we receive the Holy Spirit in our Baptism. The belief that the Holy Spirit is given in baptism is one that not all Catholics, and even not all priests and bishops seem to accept.

If the baptized have received the Holy Spirit, then, it would seem that they have the gifts of the Spirit that would enable them to take a decision-making role in the faith community. Right now, only clergy get to make decisions!!

The Canon Law of the Church, and many of its leaders, seem to think that one only becomes a full-fledged member of the Church at ordination to diaconate, priesthood or the episcopacy.

The feast of the Baptism of the Lord should remind each of us of the importance of our own baptism. At baptism, our life was given a direction. We were also anointed to be "priest, prophet and king." Each of these roles calls us to make a difference in our world.

May everyone embrace the gifts of the Holy Spirit received in their baptism!

Peace,
Fr. Hallahan

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**Our Lady of Altagracia
Celebration
Sunday, January 25, 2009
12:00 pm Mass
All are welcome to join the
Spanish community of
St. Joan of Arc
as they honor Our Lady
of Altagracia
Luncheon following Mass
in the school cafeteria.**

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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Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program
Applications and information about LIHEAP and other energy assistance programs are available at any of the 16 PSE&G Customer Service Centers or by visiting the website at www.pseg.com/billassistance. Deadline extended thru 4/30/09.

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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 lxerri@aol.com. This is an age 21 and over event.

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**Weekend Retreat
"Spiritual Happiness: Salesian Perspectives
on the Beatitudes
Presented by Rev. Michael Murray, OSFS
January 23rd, 4:00 pm through
January 25th, 11:00 am.
\$140.00 single/\$110.00 double occupancy
Includes meals.**

Registration required. For more information/registration, call St. Pius X Spiritual Life Center, 1840 Peter Cheeseman Road, Blackwood, NJ, (856) 227-1436, or email LDeCosta@camdendiocese.org.

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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.**