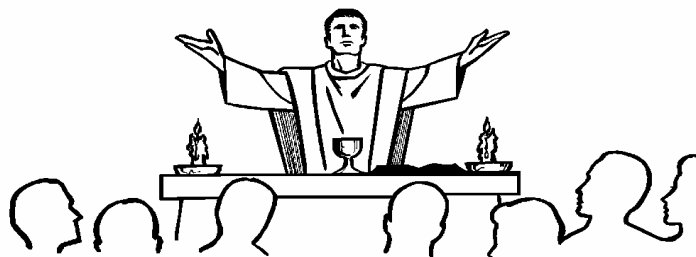


Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 18, 2009



Announced Masses

- Sat 01/17 4:00 pm Margaret Hallahan/Dan & Pat Murphy
- Sun 01/18 10:30 am Guy E. Ridenour/Donna & Doris
1:00 pm Joann Saia/Lisa Soto & Family
- Mon 01/19 8:00 am Open
- Tue 01/20 8:00 am People of the Parish/Fr. Ken
- Wed 01/21 8:00 am Open
- Thu 01/22 8:00 am George Shopa/Beverly Alberts
- Fri 01/23 8:00 am Margaret Hallahan/Marie Smith
- Sat 01/24 4:00 pm Connie Clark/Dolores Clark
- Sun 01/25 10:30 am Irena Szczeck/Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Karwacki & Family
12:00 pm Margaret S. Hallahan/Damariz Perez & Family

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Second Collection Next Weekend

Next weekend's second collection will be for Mission Membership Sunday. Thanks for your continued generosity and support.

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The People's Tithe

Baptism of the Lord: \$.00

Thank you for your continued generosity!

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, 1/18/09:

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

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Blood Drive at St. Bart's Monday, January 19, 2009 from 8:30 am to 2:00 pm

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Stewardship Reflection *Stewards Find Goodness*

Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, "What are you looking for?" (John 1:38a)

What are you looking for? That is a question Jesus asks each of us. By accepting our responsibility of Stewardship, we will be blessed as we share of our time, talent and treasure in service to God. This stewardship will bring us to find the goodness of God that we are all looking for.

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A Family Perspective

In today's gospel Philip told Nathaniel "Come and see." He didn't preach, he invited and Nathaniel became a disciple of Jesus. If our children SEE the excitement of our faith, that will be invitation enough. Words will not be necessary.



Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Last week, we celebrated the Baptism of the Lord, this week, we remember “the call.” Samuel was called by God as a child and the apostles were called as adults. All of us are called by God to do something positive with our lives.

Listening for the call is an important spiritual activity.

I’ve been reading a book by Hans-George Gadamer, a German philosopher, who discusses the nature of human language. He points out that human beings are fundamentally relational beings, not isolated ones.

One of the primary pieces of evidence for humans’ social nature is language. No one develops a language in isolation. Language is always dialogic, that is, it demands a partner.

The call from God is part of the dialogic nature of language. The spiritual life, like the rest of human life, does not take place in isolation, nor in a vacuum. The spiritual life requires relationships—with God, with other individuals and with a community of like believers.

The call from God, an invitation to become what we are intended to become, usually comes through some interaction with other persons. Many people experience this call in the love for the partner of their life. Committed love, usually lived out in marriage, is an answer to a call.

Gadamer says that people cannot become fully themselves without a loving relationship in their life. It is because we are relational beings that “it is not good for us to be alone,” as the book of Genesis has it.

Other people experience the call from God in a desire to follow a vocation. That vocation usually is a way of serving other people. It can be teaching, or medicine, or law or any other work that makes the world a better place for people.

For some people, the call involves a desire to live the community life of a religious order. For centuries, the Catholic Church has offered this option to people by means of the religious orders, such as the Franciscans, Dominicans, Jesuits.

All of these choices, however, have one thing in common. They stand in contrast to the excessive individualism of contemporary society, especially as it is presented in the culture of the USA.

This week, I invited everyone to reflect on the call that God has made to you, and to give thanks for the people through whom God made that call.

Peace,
Fr. Hallahan

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

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 through April 30, 2009.

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Upcoming Programs at St. Pius X Spiritual Life Center

Weekend Retreat—“Spiritual Happiness: Salesian Perspectives on the Beatitudes” will be presented by Rev. Michael S. Murray, OSF from Friday, January 23rd, 4:30 pm through Sunday, January 25, 2009, 11:00 am. Donation: \$140.00 single occupancy/\$110.00 double occupancy. Includes meals. Registration required. Call (856) 227-1436 or email LDeCosta@camdendiocese.org.

Women’s Prayer Breakfast—“Peaks and Valleys” will be presented by Laureen Sparacio on Saturday, February 7, 2009 from 8:30 am to 12:00 noon. Donation: \$25.00. Liturgy and breakfast included. Registration required. Call (856) 227-1436 or email LDeCosta@camdendiocese.org.

Day of Reflection—“Having Jesus as a Friend” will be presented by Sr. Maria Metzger, SSJ on February 9, 2009 from 9:30 am to 2:00 pm. Donation: \$30.00. Lunch included. Registration required. Call (856) 227-1436 or email LDeCosta@camdendiocese.org.

St. Pius X Spiritual Life Center is located at 1840 Peter Cheeseman Road, Blackwood, NJ.

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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.**