

# Fifteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

July 12, 2009



## Announced Masses

Sat	07/11	4:00 pm	Aunt Martha (Kleisz)/John & Debbie
Sun	07/12	10:30 am	Mickey O'Donnell/Barb Sacchetti
		12:00 pm	Blanca Pintor Rodriguez/ La familia Pintor Rodriguez
Mon	07/13	8:00 am	Msgr. Paul Fairbrother/ Joan Mullin
Tue	07/14	8:00 am	Ann Fairbrother/Joan Millin
Wed	07/15	8:00 am	George Shopa/Beverly Alberts
Thu	07/16	8:00 am	People of the Parish/Fr. Ken
Fri	07/17	8:00 am	Rosalie Nowak/Tom & Lauren Hallahan
Sat	07/18	4:00 pm	Thaddeus Abramczyk/Wife
Sun	07/19	10:30 am	Renato DiMedio/Gua & Anita Delmar
		12:00 pm	Open

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**The People's Tithe**  
**14th Sunday in Ordinary Time: \$.**  
*Thank you for your continued generosity!*



**Washington D.C. Trip  
To The National  
Basilica**  
Saturday, August 22, 2009  
For more Information  
please call Margie Nieves at  
(856) 962-8642

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### 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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**Free Chess, Sewing & Embroidering Classes**  
**Every Thursday in Rectory Basement**  
**from 5:30—7:30 pm. For more information**  
**call the rectory at (856) 962-8642.**

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### Stewardship Reflection

#### Stewardship Baggage

*"He instructed them to take nothing for the journey but a walking stick—no food, no sack, no money in their belts." (Mark 6:8)*

How different are we than the Apostles who took nothing when they ventured out to serve God? Today, we make our journey through stewardship more difficult when we drag along too much material baggage. The more we can let go, the freer we are to serve God with love and joy.

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The Rectory Office will close at  
1:00 pm on Fridays now through  
Labor Day

# Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

## From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Amos, the prophet of this week's first reading, is an interesting figure. He was not one of the well-educated prophets who had gone to the best of schools. Instead, he was a common laborer, a dresser of sycamore trees. His job was something like "public works."

He warned the people about false religion, especially people who pray, but ignore the injustices and oppression that exist in their society. Amos tells them that God hates their prayers and their feast days!!

Today, we hear that Amaziah, the priest, reprimands the prophet. Amaziah has it good. He has a comfortable life, with lots of approval by the people. Amos challenges him and he doesn't like it.

Amos wants justice for the poor, the disenfranchised, the overworked, the outcast. He wants justice for those who do not get justice. He criticizes the rich for basking in the luxury while ignoring the suffering of the working people.

The psalm today tells us that God wants peace and justice. Peace cannot be achieved without justice. God wants peace for the people. God wants the powerful to act with justice in order to create the conditions for peace.

This week, I've been reading some essays by Hans George Gadamer, an influential German philosopher. He notes that human beings are a very curious development of nature. The most curious thing about them, says Gadamer, is their tendency to engage in war.

Gadamer says: "It appears to be a contradiction of within nature itself to have produced a type of being that can turn against itself in such a way that in a planned and organized fashion it attacks, destroys, or maims fellow members of its own species." This does not occur anywhere else in nature. War seems to be a contradiction of nature.

War also violates the will of God. "God proclaims peace," says Psalm 85. The psalmist goes on to say that "justice and peace" go together. Pope Paul VI said the same when he said: "If you want peace, work for justice." This Pope also said: "No more war. War never again."

Today about 30 major wars are going on in the world. Our own nation is involved in two wars. We all need to pray that God will forgive us for contradicting both our own nature and the divine will by organizing ourselves to kill our fellow human beings, the sons and daughters of the one God!!

In addition, we need to develop more mature and reasonable ways of resolving our differences.

May God forgive us and help us.

Peace,  
Fr. Hallahan

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## A Family Perspective

Jesus sent out His apostles without a lot of "things." Today's gospel challenges us to look at the "things" crowding our lives. We collect, possess, argue over, and worry about "things." Often we are so busy doing "things" we don't have time for the people closest to us. Are "things" separating you from your family?

## Bridge to Your Future Program

Catholic Charities will once again be accepting applications for its program **Bridge to Your Future**. Bridge to Your Future is an intensive program designed to help those who live in Camden County and are struggling to manage their finances and who have needed assistance of charities or public agencies in the past.

Those who are accepted into the program must demonstrate a high degree of motivation and strongly desire to rely on their own abilities to manage their financial lives. Each person selected to participate in the program will be assigned a case manager who will coach and counsel them along the way. This program involves a big commitment of time and energy (weekly phone calls, monthly appointments, attendance at workshops), but for those who participate, the rewards can be great. If interested, call Sylvia Loumeau at (856) 342-4162 for more information.

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## Social Justice Discussion - Affordable Housing

You are invited to attend an Awareness/Educational Discussion on Monday, July 20, 2009 from 7:00-9:00 pm in St. Mary's Parish Hall, 2001 Springdale Road, Cherry Hill, NJ. "**Building Communities in Camden**" will feature presentations by Msgr. Robert McDermott, as well as representatives from St. Joseph's Carpenter Society, Habitat for Humanity, Heart of Camden, and CCOP (Camden Churches Organized for People). Presenters will describe their efforts to restore/rebuild neighborhoods in Camden through affordable housing. Pass the word! Questions? Call (856) 465-9647.

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## Church Annulment Workshop

On Wednesday, August 19, 2009, from 9:30 am to 2:00 pm, the St. Pius X Spiritual Life Center in Blackwood will be sponsoring an all-day **Church Annulment Workshop**. This workshop is for anyone seeking a Church annulment. The workshop will be conducted in English and Spanish. Volunteers will be available that day to help anyone who wishes to begin the appropriate paperwork. The cost is \$30.00, which includes lunch. For more information, call (856) 227-1436.

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## Camp Firefly 2009

Camp Firefly is a very special overnight camp for children ages 7 through 14 who have experienced the death of a loved one. The program is fully funded by Moorestown Visiting Nurses and is **free** for qualified, registered participants. This 3 day, 2 night camp starts Saturday, August 29 and concludes Monday, August 31. For more information, call (856) 552-1300.

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## Marriage Encounter Weekend

Married couples...skip the lottery this month and treat yourselves to a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. You'll learn how to be honest and straightforward in your communication, building a foundation for the kind of trust and love every marriage deserves. The next weekend is September 18-20, 2009. For more information, call 1-800-688-9963 or visit the website at [www.mesj.net](http://www.mesj.net).