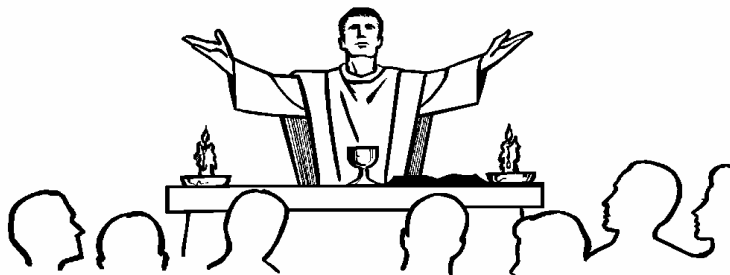


Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 23, 2009



Announced Masses

Sat	08/22	4:00 pm	Mary Hamilton/Panko Family
Sun	08/23	10:30 am	Joseph Kavanagh & Doris Kavanagh-Stavoli/family
		12:00 pm	Open
Mon	08/24	8:00 am	Open
Tue	08/25	8:00 am	Agnes Jackson/Joe Nikituk
Wed	08/26	8:00 am	Open
Thu	08/27	8:00 am	Helen O'Shea (Birthday)/Family
Fri	08/28	8:00 am	Open
Sat	08/29	4:00 pm	Joseph Rocanella (14th anniv.)/ daughter, Anne
Sun	08/30	10:30 am	Edith Egbert/Fr. Ken Hallahan & the St. Joan of Arc Parish Family
		12:00 pm	Diego Barrientos/ Rosario Barrientos

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The People's Tithe
20th Sunday in Ordinary Time: \$.00
Thank you for your continued generosity!

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Second Collection Next Weekend

Our second collection next weekend will be our 5th Sunday Collection. Proceeds from this collection will be used to offset air conditioning costs for our parish buildings. Your support and generosity is always greatly appreciated!

New Parish Mission Statement

As a sacrifice of praise the people of St. Bartholomew and St. Joan of Arc welcome people of every race, language and way of life around the table of our Lord Jesus Christ in an American African/Hispanic expression of Roman Catholic worship. Sharing our time, talent and treasure in acts of justice, we proclaim the "Gospel of Life" with and for the people of Camden.

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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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2009-10 Religious Education Program
Registration for our Fall Religious Education Classes will take place Monday through Thursday, 9:00 am to 6:30 pm and Friday from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm at the rectory. For more information, call the rectory at (856) 962-9642.



Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time



From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

To understand why medical costs are rising so much and why this is a problem, we can look at some trends in medicine today. Some trends affect children and others the elderly.

Children, especially the children of the people who cannot afford basic medical insurance, often go to the emergency room for treatment. Most often, the parents wait until the child is very sick before going. However, they go to the emergency room for head colds and ear aches. Each year, the hospitals of Camden treat several thousand people for head colds and earaches, conditions which are usually treated by a primary care physician, previously known as the family doctor.

Family doctors knew the family. They knew the history of the patient. They knew the situation of the family and could often offer wise advice as well as medical care. Today, the number of family doctors, or primary care doctors, is declining, as more and more doctors go into specialties which are more scientifically and technologically interesting and which pay much more.

Emergency room personnel are not primary care people. For the overall system, it is much more expensive to treat common colds and earaches in the emergency room than in a primary care office. The reason why families go to the emergency room is that the emergency room is required by law to treat everyone who comes, even though the wait might be for several hours.

Lack of primary care physicians also affects the elderly at the end of life.

Dr. Jeff Brenner, of Camden, has done a lot of study of this matter. He points out that people spend more money on health care in the last six months of life than they do for the entire rest of their lives!!

The reason that this happens is that, as a person approaches the end of their life, the various organs and systems of the body begin to fail. The patient is taken out of the care of the primary care physician and is handed over to the experts, each of whom treats one organ. Thus, the dying person goes into the hospital, where he/she is visited and treated by ten experts, each for a different organ. None of the experts has the history of the patient or the family situation to refer to, they simply treat the kidneys, or the liver, or the heart, or the lungs.

As a result, the dying person receives hundreds of thousands of dollars of medical care that is usually futile. They die anyhow. They die in a sterile hospital setting instead of at home in their own bed, surrounded by their own family.

The hospice movement in this country has arisen out of a response to the overmedication, over treatment and futile treatment of the dying. As a society, we don't handle death well. Despite our insistence that we are "Christians," we seem, as a society, not to let our belief in the resurrection affect our reaction to the death of our loved ones.

Peace,
Fr. Hallahan

A Family Perspective

Jesus put all the cards on the table in today's gospel and "many walked away" because they found it too "hard." Are you committed to the relationships in your family as they really ARE or to the mental fantasy of how YOU WANT THEM TO BE?

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Stewardship Reflection

Stewards Serve the Lord

"If it does not please you to serve the Lord, decide today whom you will serve...As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." (Joshua 24:15)

When we commit to serve the Lord in Stewardship, we must be willing to become a person who invests time, talent and treasure into that service, becoming a partner in the work of the Lord, building His kingdom.

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A Eucharistic Congress—September 11-12, 2009

All are invited to attend a Eucharistic Congress on September 11-12, 2009 in Washington, DC at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. The Congress, entitled *Sacrifice of Enduring Love*, is sponsored by the Council of Major Superiors of Women Religious (CMSWR). There is no charge for admission to the two-day event that will explore three vocations in depth—the Priesthood, Religious Life, and Marriage. In addition to other displays, a piece of the actual tilma of St. Juan Diego will be exhibited. For more information about the Congress, visit www.cmswr.org or write P.O. Box 4467, Washington, DC 20017.

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FOCCUS Pre-Marital Inventory

Facilitator Training

Saturday, September 26, 2009 - 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

Our Lady of Peace, Williamstown, NJ

Registration Deadline: September 8, 2009

FOCCUS Facilitator Training is for those who will help administer the FOCCUS inventory for engaged couples and assist the engaged in discussing important issues prior to marriage.

If you are interested in assisting with Marriage Preparation and FOCCUS, check with Fr. Hallahan, then contact Marie Rosney at (856) 583-6164 or mrosney@camdendiocese.org for a registration form.

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