

Second Sunday of Advent

December 6, 2009



Announced Masses

Sat	12/05	4:00 pm	Denise A. Bramble/Bill & Mary Dolan Frances Gajtkowski/Family
Sun	12/06	10:30 am	Denise A. Bramble/Joyce & Jasmine Fletcher Antoinette Fletcher/Agnes Ruiz Bernice Levy/Patty & Jeff Horner Leo Bridgeman/Horner Family Sean Bridgeman/Horner Family
		12:00 pm	Rosary
		12:30 pm	Daniel Carlos/ Maribel
Mon	12/07	8:00 am	Open
Tue	12/08	8:00 am	Denise A. Bramble/St. Joan of Arc Parish Office Staff
		7:00 pm	Elizabeth & Daniel Meschini/Diane & Family
Wed	12/09	8:00 am	Open
Thu	12/10	8:00 am	People of the Parish/Fr. Gerard
Fri	12/11	8:00 am	Open
Sat	12/12	4:00 pm	Elizabeth Brunick (2nd anniv.)/ Anne Rocanella
Sun	12/13	10:30 am	Denise A. Bramble/Cookie & Angel
		12:00 pm	Eleanor Osinski/Sonia Zuchowski Angel Arias/ Felicia Diaz

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Second Collection Next Weekend

Next weekend's 2nd collection is for the Retired Fund for Religious. Your generosity and support will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

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

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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Farewell Fr. Hallahan!

This weekend we say goodbye to Father Hallahan. After nine years as our pastor, Father will be leaving us for his new assignment at St. Agnes in Blackwood.

Fr. Ken has served us well during his time as Pastor of St. Joan of Arc. Although we'll miss him, we wish him much luck, success and happiness at St. Agnes!

Please be sure to stop by the cafeteria after Mass to share a bite to eat with Fr. Ken and extend your good wishes!



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*The Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Tuesday, December 8th is a
Holy Day of Obligation.
Masses at 8:00 am & 7:00 pm
The rectory office will be closed in
observance of the Holy Day*

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Parish Advent Penance Service
Saturday, December 12, 2009 - 2:30 pm
This is the last opportunity for Confessions before Christmas. No Confessions scheduled for Christmas Eve.



Second Sunday of Advent



From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

This will be my last letter in the bulletin, since I was officially relieved of my duties as pastor on December 1. Fr. Gerard is now the administrator of the parish of St. Joan of Arc, and I am assigned as a Senior Priest with the faculties of a "parochial vicar" (assistant pastor) at St. Agnes in Blackwood. My responsibilities will be to minister to the Spanish speaking people of ten parishes along the Black Horse Pike and Gloucester City.

My nine years as pastor of St. Joan of Arc parish have been a blessing for me. I have enjoyed being your pastor and I'll cherish many happy memories of my time here. I also felt the strong support of the prayers and good wishes of the people of the parish.

Although we are a small parish by today's standards, and the heyday of the parish passed by before my arrival here, we did manage to create many memorable expressions of our faith. We also maintained a Catholic presence in our neighborhood as we worked together with the other churches in our neighborhood and the CCOP citywide.

I was very encouraged when I first arrived by the strong spirit of cooperation among the people here. The religious education program was ably led by Terri Todoro. She was followed by Damariz Perez and Margie Nieves. The music for Sunday was provided by Mary Dolan and Mike and Josephine Ryan., who was succeeded by Dr. Mark DiMedio, and recently Kenny Peak has provided leadership for the liturgical music.

Our parish had a long tradition of beautiful decoration of the church for Christmas and Easter. Denise Bramble and Debbie Carroll continued that tradition and the tradition was enhanced by the celebrations of the various feasts of Our Lady held by the Spanish Community. Elvin P, Emma & Damian G., Irene T., Lisa S., Damariz P. and many other helped with those celebrations.

Music in the Spanish Masses was provided by Maria Virgen, Catalino R., Angel S and Gil Ronald R. Jesús and Gladys T. and their daughters, Gleidys and Kersy (and Vlad) were most helpful in creating experiences of prayer, reflection, procession and meditation for the community.

Over the nine years, Debbie Carroll was the parish secretary who held everything together and offered a warm welcome to anyone who called or came to the rectory. Joe Iobbi, Paul Panko, Harold Guerrero, Mike Jones, Al Marks and Alberto Carmenate were most helpful in keeping the church clean and functioning well.

I am most grateful to all of you for all that you have done for the parish and I wish many blessings to you as the parish moves towards a new future in the merger with St. Bartholomew's. I will cherish my memories of all the good that you have done for me. You all have a special place in my heart. May all the good work you have done find fulfillment in your continued life as a community of faith.

Peace,
Fr. Hallahan

Results of New Parish Naming Ceremony

"Prince of Peace" (Feast: December 25), "The Divine Gathering of the Body of Christ" (Feast: Holy Thursday), and "The Passion of Christ Faith Community" (Feast: The Body and Blood of Christ) are the three names selected for the merged parish. These names will be sent to Bishop Galante. Bishop Galante will select one of the three or, with insights from the Holy Spirit, he will not select any of the names. The name he selects will be the name of our new parish. If he does not select any of the three, I will have to ask what our next steps would be.

I am grateful to all the members of the Naming Sub-committee, Liturgy Committee and the Core Team and choirs who helped our two communities to come together for this emotional, social and spiritual event. I think it shows that with God's help, "Yes, we can!"

Fr. Gerard Marable, Pastor St. Bartholomew
Administrator, St. Joan of Arc

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A Family Perspective

Parents feel outclassed by Twitter, FaceBook and MTV as they battle for their children's attention. Our high-tech culture can make a parent feel like an out-dated "voice crying out in the wilderness." As God came to John the Baptist "in the wilderness" God is with you in your "wilderness" moments as a parent.

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Stewardship Reflection

Stewards Giving Back

"And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value..." Philippians 1:9-10

Glittery holiday ads can blind us to our stewardship values and distort our needs and wants. It is important that during this season of endless buying we remember that each of us also has the need to give back to God.

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Let's Start Decorating!

We're hoping to get an early start again this year with decorating the church, so, if you have some time to spare on Sunday, December 13th at around 2:00 pm, we will be in the church putting up the wreaths, window candles and swags and other little things.

Of course, our "Hanging of the Greens" is scheduled for the Sunday before Christmas, which is Sunday, December 20th, and the poinsettias will be put out on Wednesday evening, December 23rd. **ANY HELP THAT YOU CAN OFFER WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED!**

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CAP Training at St. Joan of Arc
Tuesday, December 15, 2009 at 7:00 pm
Call (856) 583-6165 or (856) 962-8642 for more
information and/or registration information.
Please register 5 days prior to class date.