



Pentecost Sunday



May 23, 2010



Announced Masses

| | | | |
|------|-------|----------|---|
| Sat. | 05/22 | 4:00 pm | Paul Panko, Sr./Skip, Helen & Nancy McCabe |
| Sun. | 05/23 | 9:00 am | Mariela Sandre Soto/ Spanish Gaudencio Sandre (papa) & Fabiola Soto (mama) |
| | | 11:00 am | Jane Boyle/Agnes Ruiz & Family English |
| Mon. | 05/24 | 8:00 am | Open |
| Tue. | 05/25 | 8:00 am | Mary Nikituk/Joe Nikituk |
| Wed. | 05/26 | 8:00 am | People of the Parish/Fr. Gerard |
| Thu. | 05/27 | 8:00 am | Open |
| Fri. | 05/28 | 8:00 am | Agnes R. Landis (8th anniv.)/ Joe Nikituk |
| Sat. | 05/29 | 4:00 pm | Paul Panko, Sr./Olga Convery |
| Sun. | 05/30 | 9:00 am | Open Spanish |
| | | 11:00 am | Virginia Redfern/Friends English & Family |

* * *

The People's Tithe
Seventh Sunday of Easter: \$
Saturday, 4:00 pm: \$
Sunday, 9:00 am: \$
Sunday, 11:00 am: \$

Second Collection: Catholic Communications: \$
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.

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.

* * *

What's Happening Around SJOA

Wednesday, 5/26/10:

| | | |
|-------------|---------|---------|
| Youth Group | 6:30 pm | Rectory |
|-------------|---------|---------|

Thursday, 5/27/10

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|--------|
| Freedom Academy Spring Concert | 6:30 pm | Church |
|--------------------------------|---------|--------|

* * *

5th Sunday Collection Next Weekend (May 29-30, 2010)

Proceeds from this collection will be used to offset parish operating expenses. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

* * *

Congratulations to:



Many blessings to you on this special day as you receive the Holy Spirit through the Sacrament of Confirmation!



Pentecost Sunday



From the Bishop

Dear Sisters & Brothers in Christ,

Recently I wrote to you about a parable of the Good Samaritan, where Jesus emphasizes the importance of putting the Mosaic principle of love of God and neighbor into practice. The law is not enough. Action is essential. Jesus stressed that every person is a neighbor worthy of care and concern, not because they've earned that care, or because they're legally entitled to that concern, but because they have inherent dignity by virtue of their creation in God's own image. Jesus says, we should not ask, "Who is my neighbor?" Rather, he says, we must ask, "How can I be a better neighbor to every person?" The Gospel is indeed demanding.

Likewise, the United States Bishops in their statement, *Welcoming the Stranger Among Us: Unity in Diversity*, said, "The Church of the twenty-first century will be, as it has always been, a Church of many cultures, languages and traditions, yet simultaneously one, as God is one,—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—unity in diversity."

In putting this principle into practice, beginning on the Feast of Pentecost, our Diocese is embarking on a year-long effort entitled, "**Many Faces in God's House.**" The aim of this initiative is to foster appreciation for the cultural differences within our parishes and to encourage our church family to focus on God's love for each of us and on His call for each of us to love one another. Another goal is to share with the faithful of the diocese Catholic social teaching on racial justice and immigration.

With this goal in mind, the Racial Justice Commissions of the Diocese of Camden will offer diversity workshops in parishes, host regional meetings on immigration, and provide parish bulletin inserts on Church teaching related to immigrants, under the heading of "**Many Faces in God's House.**" More details about these and other programs will be forthcoming in the weeks and months ahead.

As we take on the Gospel challenge to love God and our neighbor, we call on the Holy Spirit on this Feast of Pentecost to lead us to an ever deepening respect for each others gifts and cultures, in unity and harmony, as one family under God.

May God continue to guide you and bless you.

Fraternally,
Most Rev. Joseph A. Galante
Bishop of Camden

* * *

Welcoming the Stranger

On Monday, May 24, 2010 at 7:30 pm at St. Mary Parish Hall, 2001 Springdale Rd, Cherry Hill. Jennifer Dyer and Kaitlyn Muller of Catholic Charities, Office of Refugee Resettlement Services will be giving a brief presentation and a small group discussion on how Catholic Charities is helping to ease human suffering and encourage the self-sufficiency of those newly arrived, and how their clients are receiving special services designed to enhance self-sufficiency. Everyone welcome. For more info. Call 856-465-9647.

* * *

Wanted: Bus Driver

We need an individual to drive our parish bus on occasional Saturdays and Sundays. Must have the proper license. If interested, please call St. Joan of Arc Rectory at (856) 962-8642 or Mark Lacy at St. Bart's at (856) 365-0573.

Many Faces in God's House

Many times in the Bible, the Lord tells the people to welcome the foreigner. The Law of Israel protects the foreigner, the liturgy of Israel welcomes the foreigner to pray in the Temple, the prophets of Israel envision all the nations of the world coming to the mountain of the Lord, and the Christian vision in the book of Revelation sees a crowd too numerous to count from all the nations of the world in front of the throne of the Lamb.

Pentecost is a celebration of God's law, God's liturgy, God's vision and God's future, all of which welcome the foreigner.

* * *

Some Thoughts on Reverence in Church

When you enter your church, picture in your mind a very large throne sitting upon the altar. God is sitting there in all His majestic glory with powerful, glorious angels by His side. He is sitting there waiting just for you. How would you act? What would you do? Would you saunter into church talking and joking? Would you ignore your God sitting there waiting for you? Would you wear shorts and a tank top or would you think He is worthy of more appropriate dress? Would you want to bow down to Him because He holds your heart in the palm of His hand?

When He gives you His very body and blood during the Eucharistic celebration, because in His love He wants you to be truly one with Him, would you walk out the door without loving Him and giving Him proper thanks? Would you stand around in church after Mass, talking and laughing like you were at a cocktail party? Or would you reverence the awesome presence of your God and say to your friends, "Let's talk outside." ?

* * *

A Family Perspective

We know parents are given the gift of the Holy Spirit. Could it be you are the Advocate mentioned in today's gospel; the Advocate who will teach and remind your children of all I told you? Christian parents are meant to be instruments of the Spirit to their children.

* * *

Stewardship Reflection

Stewardship Advocate

"The Advocate, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you." (John 14:26)

The materialism of our society lures us to concentrate more on what we want than on what God wants for us and from us. It is good to know that when we are confused by our stewardship responsibilities we can call on the promised Holy Spirit to show us the way.

* * *

Merger Update

The Core Team met with the Temporalities Committee of the Diocese of Camden on 4/20/10. The Meeting was good and positive. Another meeting is scheduled for May. If everything goes well at that meeting, 8 weeks from that date in May, a Decree would be announced in the Star Herald sometime in July. Four weeks from that date in July, we would expect to merge.