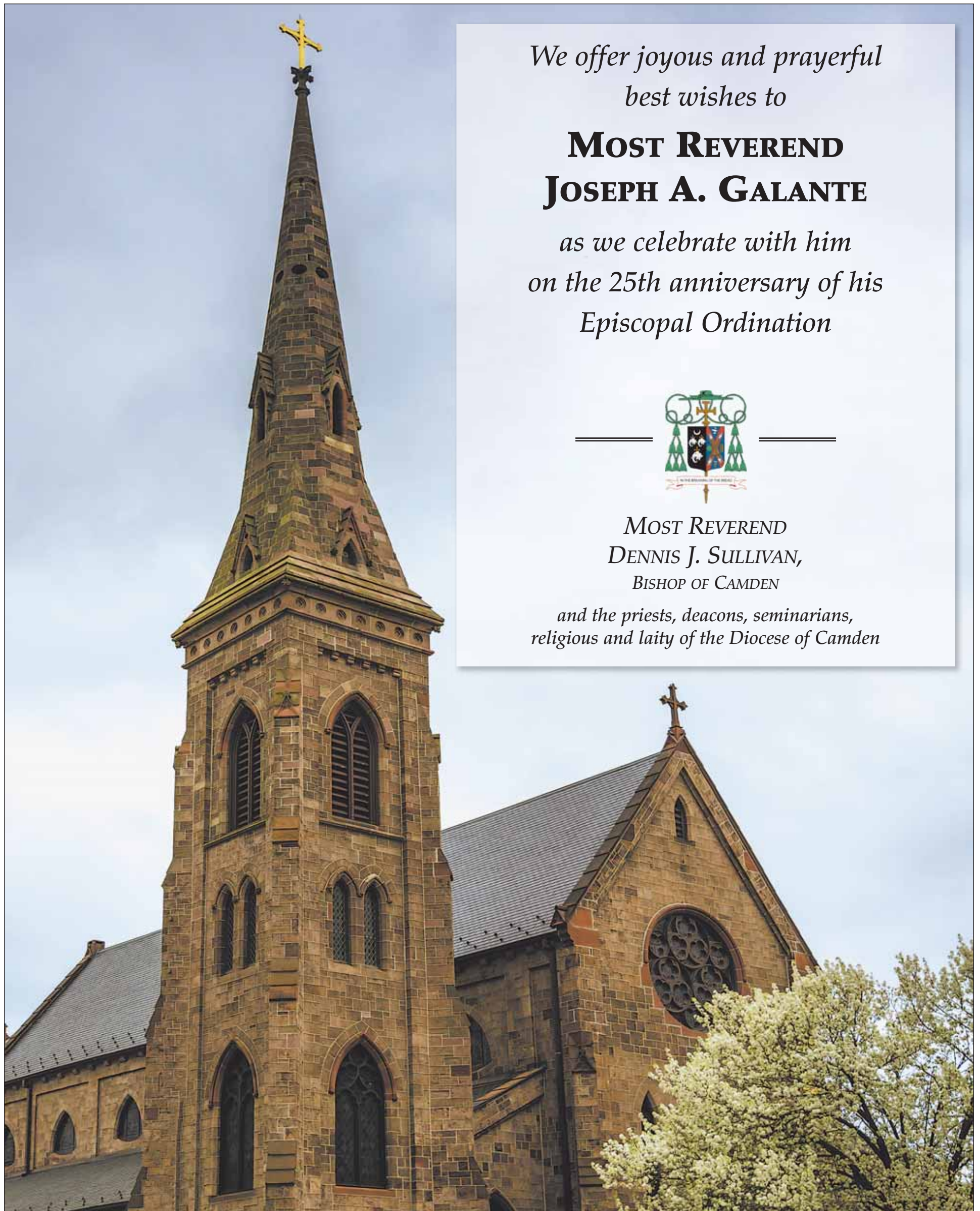


DECEMBER 8, 2017
A SUPPLEMENT TO THE CATHOLIC STAR HERALD

Bishop Joseph A. Galante



CELEBRATING
THE 25TH
ANNIVERSARY
OF
BISHOP
GALANTE'S
EPISCOPAL
ORDINATION



*We offer joyous and prayerful
best wishes to*

**MOST REVEREND
JOSEPH A. GALANTE**

*as we celebrate with him
on the 25th anniversary of his
Episcopal Ordination*



*MOST REVEREND
DENNIS J. SULLIVAN,
BISHOP OF CAMDEN*

*and the priests, deacons, seminarians,
religious and laity of the Diocese of Camden*

A bishop in retirement, a life of prayer

By Carl Peters

Retirement?
“It’s wonderful.”

He says this without a trace of dark humor or irony, although he recently received a diagnosis of prostate cancer.

That means he will soon have to add radiation treatments to his weekly schedule on top of the three days a week he has set aside for dialysis for several years — as well as the doctor appointments for his diabetes, stenosis, weak hip and bad knees.

“I don’t mind. I’m happy to be alive,” said Joseph A. Galante, Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of Camden. “I am grateful to God for the time he has given me since I retired.”

Now 79, the bishop has had, by any measure, a consequential life. Throughout his years of active ministry as a priest, he has been a seminary professor, been engaged in retreat work and spiritual direction, and worked extensively with religious. Serving in Rome for five years as Undersecretary, Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, he can boast of doing a favor for one saint — Saint Teresa of Kolkata — while working for another, Saint John Paul II.

In his 25 years since his episcopal ordination, Bishop Galante served in two Texas dioceses, and regularly dealt with the media as head of the U.S. bishops’ Communications Committee and a member of the bishops’ Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Abuse. During his years in Camden, 2004-13, he travelled to all six counties of South Jersey to conduct listening sessions, set priorities and oversaw a sweeping parish merger process, in addition to his other duties as ordinary.

A Life of Prayer

His life is quieter now. His daily routine consists of taking care of his health, watching sports and movies on TCM, and praying. He celebrates Mass regularly in his home chapel for his full time caregiver and a few neighbors, and occasionally celebrates Mass at Saint Maximilian Kolbe Parish in Marmora.

In a recent interview, the bishop reflected on his life and expressed his enthusiasm for Pope Francis, his dismay over the current state of American politics and his cautious hope for the Philadelphia Eagles this season. But mostly he talked about his prayer life and his gratitude to God and to the people he has worked with over the years.

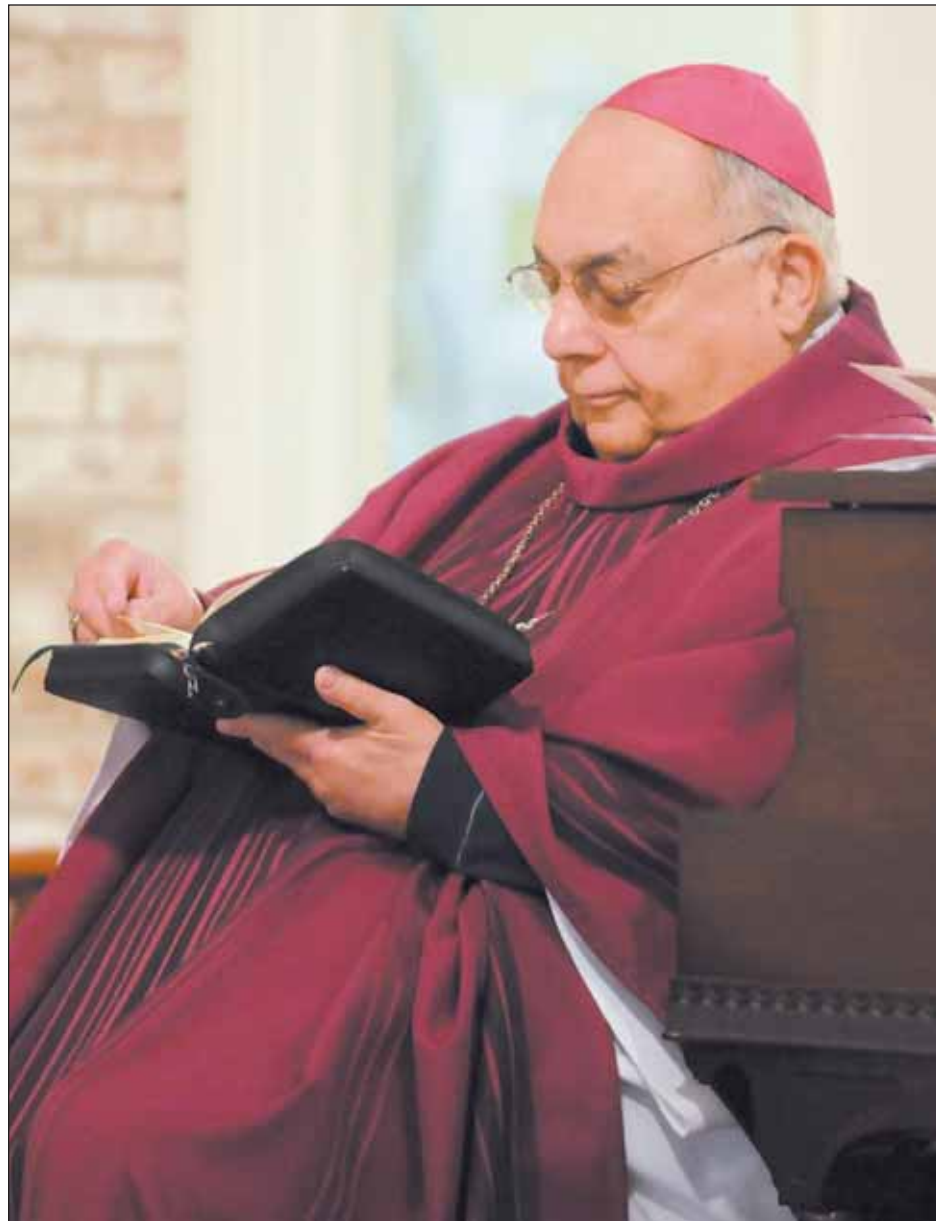


Photo by Alan M. Dumoff

“My ministry now is praying and offering up,” says Joseph A. Galante, Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of Camden.

He says he occasionally has trouble with remembering names and sometimes has trouble concentrating, so he reads less and hasn’t kept up with the blog he started in 2014. Yet, his memory of past experiences is unclouded, he frequently refers to Scripture, and he recited from memory most of the second chapter of Saint Paul’s letter to the Philippians when making a point about his own spiritual life.

Although he says he misses the energizing feeling he got from visiting the parishes of the diocese, he expresses neither relief nor regret about leaving behind the power and responsibilities of being an active bishop. The man who spent decades in church administration seems comfortable with living this stage of his life as a contemplative.

“For me, this has been a rich time,” the bishop said. “My ministry now is praying and

offering up. When I found out I had cancer, I said a prayer of thanksgiving. Now, I said to God, I don’t have to come to you empty-handed. “I see it” — his physical ailments — “as God’s favor, an invitation to share in Jesus’ suffering.”

He prays in the car, at dialysis, while sitting in the recliner in his living room and in his chapel. He prays the Divine Office, at least one rosary a day, follows a book of daily meditations, and takes comfort in the psalms.

When he began dialysis years ago, “hooked up to a machine,” in his description, it helped him be more aware that he is “hooked up to God, who will give me eternal life,” he said.

“One of the things I say to God is thank you for being in charge of my life, rather than letting me be in charge,” he said. He noted, for example, that studying canon

law — a field he would not have chosen — eventually led to him working with the priest he most admired and who turned out to be his biggest influence, Bishop Humberto Medeiros of Brownsville, Texas, an advocate of immigrants, the poor and minorities. (He was eventually named a cardinal and served as Archbishop of Boston 1970-83.)

Since Bishop Galante was a young boy, he wanted to be a priest. According to family lore, he said, the seeds of his vocation were planted even earlier, at his birth. When he was born, the delivering doctor said he was a healthy boy with good shoulders who could grow up to be a football player. His grandmother, in her broken English, responded, “No football. Priest!”

The Church Today

After 53 years of ordained ministry, the boy who grew up to be a priest (and a passionate football fan) expressed both worry and hope for the Catholic Church. On the one hand, he worries about the emptying of the church pews and how church leaders have failed to adequately evangelize people.

“If people understood the Eucharist, they would be passionate believers,” he said. “The challenge is to help people know and love who Jesus is.”

Which is what he sees Pope Francis doing.

The priest who was ordained when Paul VI was pope and became a bishop and worked under Saint John Paul II in Rome is effusive in his admiration of Pope Francis.

Calling Pope Francis “a great gift to the church,” the bishop said he “constantly reminds us of the centrality of Jesus in our lives and of the mercy of God.”

“How he deals with people, how he treats people. He has learned that life has to be lived in the gray — not in the black and white — in the circumstances of life,” the bishop said.

“Even when there is truth, people are not always able to live it,” he continued. “I know some people don’t like that. They say you keep a rule, and the rule will keep you. Well, maybe,” he said.

“He doesn’t compromise church teaching by emphasizing Jesus’ care for the sinner,” he continued. “He is a wonderful image of Jesus today. He will call a sin a sin, but he also reminds us that God’s mercy is more powerful than our weakness and our sins.”

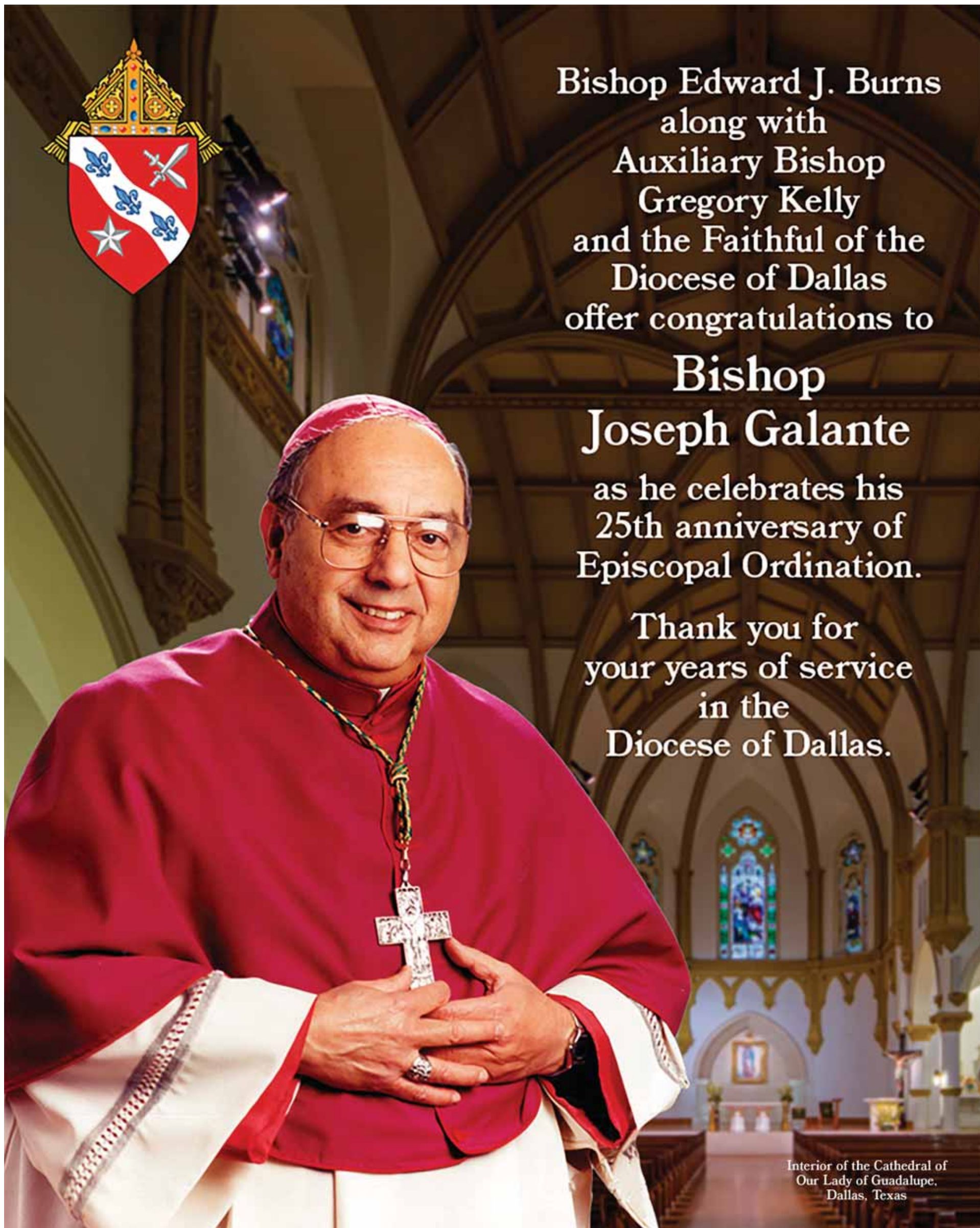




Bishop Edward J. Burns
along with
Auxiliary Bishop
Gregory Kelly
and the Faithful of the
Diocese of Dallas
offer congratulations to

**Bishop
Joseph Galante**
as he celebrates his
25th anniversary of
Episcopal Ordination.

Thank you for
your years of service
in the
Diocese of Dallas.



Interior of the Cathedral of
Our Lady of Guadalupe,
Dallas, Texas

Rooms with religious art and signed footballs

By Carl Peters

The outside of the modest house in a quiet Atlantic county neighborhood reveals that the resident is patriotic (American flag), environmentally conscious (solar panels on the roof) and disabled (wheelchair ramp).

Inside, a quick scan of the living room attests to the lifetime passions of the church leader/sports fan/country music lover/movie buff.

In one direction is a rack of footballs, signed by the likes of former quarterback and ESPN analyst Ron Jaworski. In another are photographs signed by baseball greats Stan “the Man” Musial and manager Tony Lasorda. There are shelves of music CDs — Johnny Cash, Tom T. Hall, “Best of Country,” “Big Band” — and of movies and TV shows: a John Wayne collection and more westerns, “The Rockford Files” and others.

“I grew up rooting for the Philadelphia A’s and Gene Autry,” says Bishop Emeritus Joseph Galante, who was raised in Philadelphia and spent a number of years serving in Texas.

“I watch the Eagles, the Phillies, the 76ers, even the Flyers,” he says. He and his friend Jim Murray, former general manager of the Eagles, often talk with each other on the phone as they watch the football games on their respective TVs.

One room of the small house has been converted to a chapel where the bishop celebrates Mass for his caregiver and a few neighbors.

A wall just off the living room is covered with framed photographs of



Photo by James A. McBride

An enthusiastic supporter of Pope Francis, Bishop Galante keeps this image in his living room.



The bishop and his longtime friend, Jim Murray, former general manager of the Eagles, often talk on the phone when they are watching football in their separate residences.

the bishop with family and friends and with a wide assortment of famous and important people, including Saint John Paul II, Paul VI, Saint Teresa of Kolkata, Cardinal John Krol of Philadelphia, former Polish president and Nobel Prize winner Lech Walesa, Israeli politician Shimon Peres, and Jim Caviezel, most famous for playing Jesus in “The Passion of the Christ,” and TV star Clarence Gilyard.

On another wall hang numerous works of Brother Mickey, an Oblate of Saint Francis de Sales, who has lived and worked in Camden for several years. Among the other religious artworks in the house are an image of Saint Francis of Assisi, the San Damiano cross that the saint prayed before, and — on a table facing the recliner where the bishop spends much of his time — a doll of Pope Francis. We look at each other as I pray, the bishop said.

The bishop is a former member of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications and



Photo by James A. McBride

A room of Bishop Emeritus Joseph Galante’s house has been converted to a chapel where the bishop celebrates Mass for his caregiver and a few neighbors.



Photo by James A. McBride

The bishop has bookcases filled with sports memorabilia and old movies.

once served as chairman of the U.S. bishops’ Committee on Communications. There are books stacked on the table, but at times he will read the psalms on his phone or iPad.

The mobile devices are easier to manage at times, such as when he is undergoing dialysis.

“Bishop, do you still enjoy listening to Patsy Cline?”

“Alexa,” he responds, in a command to the voice-controlled speaker nearby, “play Patsy Cline.” And the expressive voice of the country music singer fills the room. The bishop smiles, tilts his head back and relaxes.



Bishop Galante,
The prayers of the Clergy, Religious
and Lay Faithful of this
Local Church of Newark
are with you as you mark
the 25th Anniversary of your
Episcopal Ministry

May Christ the Redeemer continue to bless you.



Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin

Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R.
Archbishop of Newark



THE PARISH FAMILY OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL,
TURNERSVILLE,

extends our affectionate gratitude to

**BISHOP EMERITUS
JOSEPH A. GALANTE**

*For your 25 years of dedicated pastoral service and
especially for caring for us as our Good Shepherd
in the Diocese of Camden.*

The Oblates of St. Francis de Sales

congratulate our friend

Bishop Joseph Galante

on the 25th Anniversary of your Episcopal Ordination!

Like Francis de Sales, you are a true gentleman!

Ad multos annos and good health.

*We are grateful for your invitation to share the spirituality of
St. Francis de Sales with the Diocese of Camden.*



*Our Lady Star of the Sea
Cape May*



*The Cathedral of the
Immaculate Conception
Camden*



*Christ the King
Haddonfield*



*Oblates of St. Francis de Sales
Wilmington-Philadelphia Province*



The highlight of his 25 years was his time in Camden

By Carl Peters

When he was undersecretary of the Vatican Congregation for Religious and Secular Institutes, Msgr. Joseph Galante would go to the chapel and say a special prayer: "Dear God, if you can get the Israelites out of Egypt, can you get this American out of Rome?"

Although the bishop's respect and admiration for those in consecrated life cannot be overestimated — he has said that his own spiritual growth has been greatly influenced by his work with women religious — his work in Rome was taxing.

And he carried many burdens during his 25 years as a bishop, first as auxiliary bishop of San Antonio, then as bishop of Beaumont and coadjutor bishop of Dallas and finally as ordinary of Camden. But the bishop is more likely to talk about the highs and rewards of ministry than the frustrations, and at the top of his list is his time in South Jersey.

"As a bishop, my happiest time has been in Camden. There are gifted and dedicated people here in the diocese. I will always be grateful for the people who collaborated with me, the priests, religious and laypeople," he said.

"These years have been very peaceful. Words of thanks are inadequate," he said.

When he came to Camden in 2004, he described it as "a return home."

"I was a priest of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia and although I left this area in 1987, I have maintained a home at the shore since 1983," he said at a press conference announcing his appointment as seventh bishop of Camden. "For me South Jersey is home."

"I expect to stay here the rest of my life, God willing. I'm here. I'm home. I'm grateful," he said at the time.

Poor health, and the feeling he could not keep up with his responsibilities, caused his retirement in 2013, having undergone dialysis treatments for two years already. He has said several times that he is in awe of Bishop Dennis Sullivan's energy.

At Bishop Sullivan's installation Mass, Bishop Galante said, "I joyfully welcome you to the wonderful people of God of this diocese. I trust you will come to love them as I do."



Photos by James A. McBride

Bishop Joseph Galante and Bishop Dennis Sullivan are pictured at the press conference announcing Bishop Sullivan as Bishop Galante's successor in 2013. Below, from left, Bishop Galante cutting a cake at the Camden Diocesan Center, Camden; at Mass; and speaking to journalists at a press conference.



The year of Bishop Galante's episcopal ordination

By Peter G. Sánchez

Twenty-five years ago, Joseph Anthony Galante was ordained a bishop of the Catholic Church in San Antonio, Texas. That same year, Whitney Houston introduced a new generation to an old Dolly Parton hit ("I Will Always Love You"); Camden Bishop James T. McHugh cast his net out into the deep waters of the new Camden aquarium; and Pope John Paul II pardoned Galileo.

As well, one current bishop, James Checchio of Metuchen, began his ministry as a priest of the Diocese of Camden, ordained on June 20.

One current parochial vicar (Father Cosme de la Pena, Our Lady of the Angels, Cape May Court House) and three pastors in the Diocese of Camden (Msgr. Peter Joyce, Saint Maximilian Kolbe, Marmora; Father Raymond Gormley, Incarnation, Mantua; and Father Joseph An Nguyen, Most Precious Blood, West Collingswood) were also ordained to the priesthood.

In February 1992, the Thomas H. Kean New Jersey State (now Adventure) Aquarium, located on the city's waterfront and just blocks from the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, hosted Bishop McHugh and other guests in a preview reception, with the Camden prelate providing the invocation.

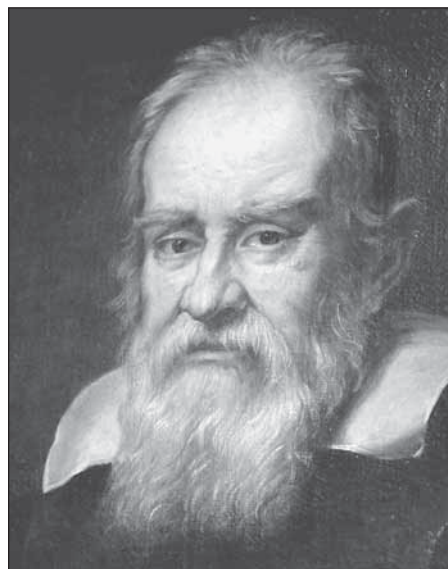
That same month, 15 years before the iPhone, AT&T introduced its revolutionary VideoPhone 2500, letting telephone home customers send and receive video images and audio. Initially priced at \$1500 (more expensive than today's iPhone X), the phone failed to make an impact, and was discontinued three years later.

At the end of April, rioting took place in Los Angeles after the acquittal of four white police officers in the 1991 beating of black motorist Rodney King. Lasting five days, the riots left more than 50 dead and more than 2,000 injured.

The next month, NASA's Space Shuttle Endeavour made its maiden voyage to space on May 7. After its 25th mission from May 16 – June 1, 2011, it was retired from active duty.

On May 22, the groundbreaking for Berlin's new Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church on the White Horse Pike (now part of Saint Simon Stock Parish) took place, presided by Bishop McHugh.

Before Irma ripped through the Caribbean islands and Florida, the Category 5 Hurricane Andrew battered

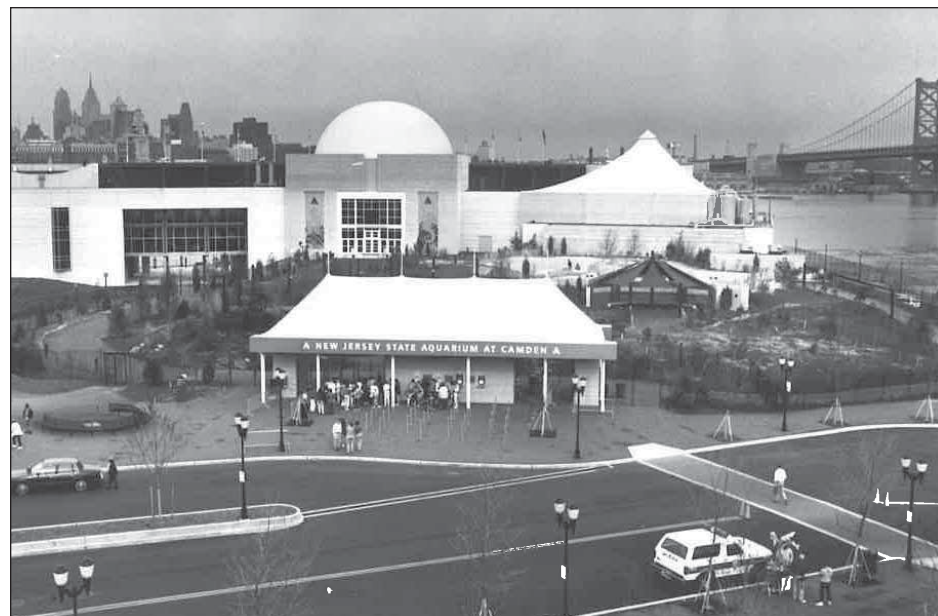


the Bahamas and the southern part of the Sunshine State, killing 65 people and destroying over 25,000 homes in its path in August.

On Oct. 31, Pope John Paul II officially stated that Galileo was right in 1633 when he claimed that the Earth revolves around the sun, and that the Catholic Church and its theologians that condemned him



In 1992, clockwise from above, Bill Clinton was president and Saint John Paul II was pope; Adventure Aquarium (formerly the Thomas H. Kean New Jersey State Aquarium at Camden) opened its doors for the first time; the church officially stated that Galileo was right in 1633 when he claimed that the Earth revolves around the sun; President Donald J. Trump had a cameo in the film "Home Alone: Lost in New York"; and Michael Jackson was one of the most popular entertainers in America.



then was wrong. In a battle between faith and science, Galileo was forced to recant his beliefs to avoid being burned at the stake, and would spend the remaining eight years of his life under house arrest.

In the beginning of November, Bill Clinton defeated incumbent George H.W. Bush and Ross Perot for the presidency of the United

States, serving in this capacity for eight years.

Later that month, Macaulay Culkin would once again be "Home Alone," this time "Lost in New York," as the motion picture was released in theaters. With a cameo by current President Donald J. Trump, the holiday favorite would gross over \$350 million in theaters.





**The Augustinian Friars
of the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova
and their Preparatory School
St. Augustine Prep of Richland, New Jersey,
extend to
Bishop Joseph Galante
prayerful good wishes on the occasion
of the 25th anniversary of his episcopal ministry.**



Very Rev. Michael F. Di Gregorio, O.S.A., Prior Provincial of the Province of St. Thomas of Villanova

Rev. Robert J. Murray, O.S.A., Head of School, St. Augustine Preparatory School

Rev. Francis X. Devlin, O.S.A., Prior, Allegrini Monastery, St. Augustine Preparatory School

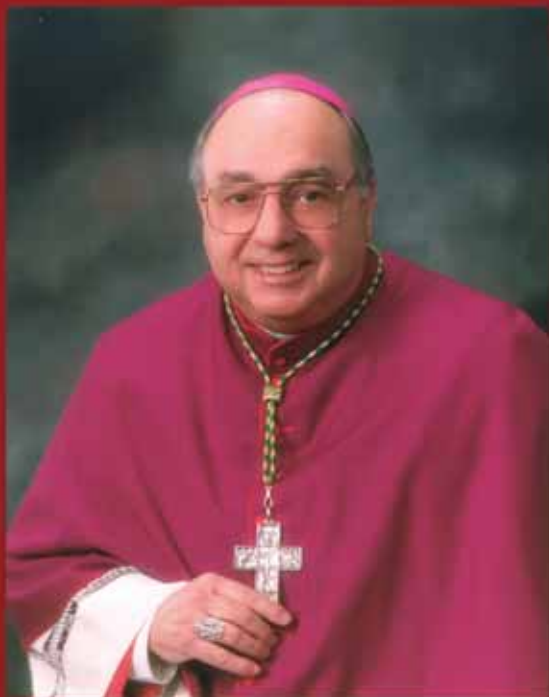


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Bishop Joseph Galante
as you celebrate the
Twenty-Fifth Anniversary
of your
Consecration as Bishop.



*We are grateful for your support
of Catholic education.
You are a blessing to the many
hearts that you have touched.
May God continue to abundantly
bless you.*

*You are in our Prayers.
The Gloucester Catholic Family*

THANK YOU BISHOP JOSEPH GALANTE

For your twenty-five years of
Episcopal Leadership.
Ad multos annos.



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Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap.

together with the bishops, priests,
deacons, religious, and laity
of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia

extend prayerful congratulations and best wishes to

Most Reverend Joseph Galante

on the twenty-fifth anniversary
of his Episcopal ordination.

May the Lord bless you abundantly,
renewing your spirit and strength.



Reflections from the Lone Star State

While Bishop of Beaumont, Bishop Galante wrote a series of columns for the East Texas Catholic, the newspaper of the diocese. The following are brief excerpts from some of those columns:

On our relationship with God

He loves us so much that He sends his Son, Jesus, to become one of us; Jesus lives among us, teaches us God's Will for us, tells us how to live our lives in integrity and peace, leaves us His body and blood truly present under the appearance of bread and wine, suffers and dies for us on the cross so that we may be restored to God's favor and rises from the dead as the ultimate victory over sin and death and the absolute proof of the truth of His message and His Person. ("If Christ is not risen," says Paul, "Our faith is in vain.").

The Dignity of the Human Person

The birth of Jesus is God's affirmation of the great dignity of every human being. May his birth teach us to value the worth, dignity, and the preciousness of every human being, no matter who they are, no matter how different they may be from ourselves, because they are the brothers and sisters that Jesus also comes to bring healing and salvation and love.

Threats against Human Life

Is it any wonder that in a society which cheapens the gift of life by legalizing the killing of the unborn, by attempting to legalize the taking of the life of the sick, or of the old through assisted suicide, is it any wonder that so many other attacks on life and on human dignity continue to threaten human beings?

While we rightly decry the continued practice of abortion, we cannot ignore the plight of the poor, of the homeless, the discarding of persons who become too old, or too frail; the plight of poor, single mothers and their children; the distressing situation of so many of our fellow citizens unable to receive adequate health care, appropriate health insurance, enough food and dignified shelter. All of these should be a cause of grave concern for those who value and treasure life.

The terrible violence that continues in our society; racial and ethnic violence; discrimination; social injustice; the proliferation of weapons, especially handguns and assault weapons, are part of a terrible malaise which contin-



ues to create an atmosphere wherein life is not held as precious and important.

Lifelong Education in Faith

The basic truths revealed by God and revealed to us by Jesus do not change. Faith is always an ongoing journey of heart, mind and spirit into greater conformity with the mind and heart and mission of Jesus. What does change is how we express these truths and how we witness to our beliefs.

The Catholic community must provide help for this lifelong journey by developing in believers a living, explicit and active faith, enlightened by instruction and adapted to different ages, abilities and circumstances of our lives. This lifelong education is most important, not only for our youth, but also for our adults. All ages need this ongoing formation.

Evangelization

Our baptism calls us and empowers us to bring the Good News of salvation — that Jesus overcame sin, darkness and death for us-into every situation. We Catholic Christians participate in this mission of bearing the Good News not only to members of our own church and family but also to the alienated, disenchanted and the unchurched as well as by fostering Gospel values in American culture.

Family Life

Today our culture no longer values sacrificing for family values and lifelong commitment.

Besides the traditional family there are many single-parent families and new family configurations from second marriages, blended families and step families. All struggle to provide a loving and stable home with sufficient income to meet growing needs in a materialistic society.

The church has always taught that parents are the primary teachers of the faith yet often there is little attention given to religious realities.

We know the home is where spiritual awareness, prayer and a relationship with God are cultivated, neglected or ridiculed. As a faith community we must respond with strong support for cultivating solid family life.

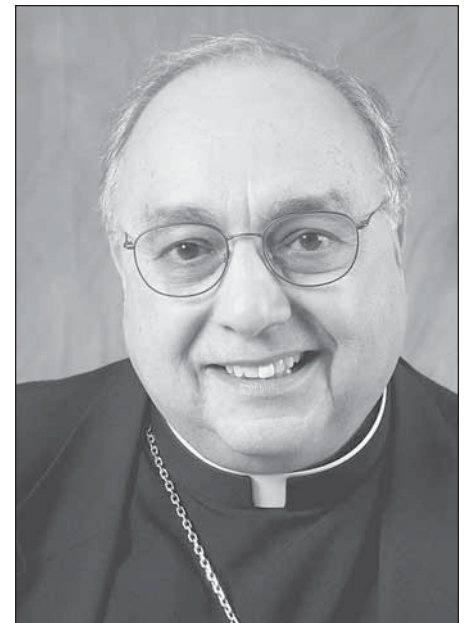
Social Justice

Social justice issues are not merely at the fringe of our faith, nor is social justice an option for Catholics. It is at the center of life issues; the right to life from birth to the right to a dignified natural death, the right to a just living wage, the right to adequate health care, the right to live with dignity that comes with being human.

There is no allowance for Catholics to have prejudices based on socioeconomic status, race or ethnic background, for we are the family of Jesus who prays together "Our Father."

Health Care

In a country where the science of medicine is so highly developed and practiced with such skill, it is tragic that any of our peo-



CNS photo/Nancy Wiehede

Bishop Galante was bishop of Beaumont, Texas, 1994-99. Left, the city's commercial district.

ple would not have access to competent health care.

Priests

I want to publicly express my thanks to them and my love for them and my appreciation for their fidelity, and for what they do and how they serve. I want to invite you to share with me that love, that appreciation, that gratitude. They get weary, they get discouraged, they get lonely; despite that they are there with you each day sharing Jesus in Word and Sacrament...My Brothers and Sisters, I hope that you will continue to grow in treasuring your priests. Please support them with your prayers, your love and your awareness that mortal men are striving to not only bring Jesus to you, but to be Jesus for you.

Stewardship

Through stewardship we bring together four dimensions of our faith: our recognition that all our gifts are from God, our gratitude and worship for God for gifts freely given, the active use of our time, talent and treasure, the commitment to sacrifice for the sake of others as Jesus did.

Vocations

The Lord continues to call people...to priesthood, to diaconate, to religious life, to married life or the single life. Especially do we need to heed the call to priesthood and religious life...[and] need to work to create an atmosphere in which to cultivate vocations wherein those who are called can be supported in answering "yes."





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Dear Bishop Galante,

With prayerful congratulations on the occasion of your
25th Anniversary of your Episcopal Ordination.

The Incarnation Parish Family

On the occasion of the 25th Anniversary
of Bishop Galante's Episcopal Ordination,
we salute the Diocese
and its churches and schools
for giving our young people
a faith-filled future!

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A circuitous route to crossing the Delaware

By Msgr. Roger E. McGrath

The first and only Pennsylvanian to become Bishop of Camden, Bishop Joseph Anthony Galante travelled an unusually roundabout journey for the geographically short distance required to cross the Delaware River. The course of that journey was to impact significantly his understanding of the office to which he was called twenty-five years ago when he was ordained as the Auxiliary Bishop of San Antonio in Texas.

An Italian-American, born and bred in Philadelphia, Joe Galante bled Philles red in the summer and Eagles green in the fall. His calendar of appointments always reflected an awareness of the NFL's publication of the ensuing fall's football schedule. An unusually avid fan, he knew far more about the players and their statistics than others of us who played those sports. Nor did his friendship with Roger Staubach, during his stint in Dallas, dim his allegiance to his beloved Eagles.

Coming to Camden took Bishop Galante on two journeys each to Rome and Texas. Following the normal first assignment as an associate pastor, the then Father Galante was assigned by Cardinal John Krol to study at the Lateran University in Rome where he received his doctorate in Canon Law. Upon his return, he was surprised to be asked to travel to the south Texas Diocese of Brownsville, to apply his newly minted canonical degree to the service of the chancery and tribunal of this small diocese bordering on Mexico.

The contrast between the church of Brownsville in south Texas and his familiar Philadelphia in the northeast United States could not have been greater. This was to expand his understanding of the diversity and universality of the church as much as, if not more than, his time in Rome. However, living with and being mentored by Bishop Humberto Medeiros (who later became the Cardinal Archbishop of Boston) made the greatest impact on Bishop Galante's younger self and provided the standard of humble and devoted episcopal leadership which influenced his embrace of the responsibilities that would be his as a bishop when he returned to Texas years later.

Returning home, he was appointed Vicar for Religious in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Through the performance of these duties, he developed a deep appreciation for the charisms and



Photo by James A. McBride

Bishop Joseph A. Galante stands with eight priests following Liturgy of Evening Prayer and Conferral of Papal Honors at Saint Agnes Church, Blackwood, on Jan. 15, 2006. Standing with the bishop are, from left, Msgr. Roger E. McGrath, Msgr. Michael T. Mannion, Msgr. Thomas J. Morgan, Msgr. John H. Burton, Msgr. Peter M. Joyce, Msgr. William A. Hodge, Msgr. Joseph W. Pokusa and Msgr. James R. Tracy. Msgr. Dominic J. Bottino was also a recipient of papal honors.

Bishop Galante often remarked that he must not have read the same book on how to be a bishop that others had read.

the contributions that religious orders, especially the varied congregations of women religious, made to the life of the church. As a spiritual director to many individuals in religious life in the ensuing years, he was touched by their fidelity, competence and genuine humility. This experience led to his return to Rome to serve as the Undersecretary of the Congregation for Religious. Friendships with leaders of various religious congregations developed and supported him during his tenure in Rome and proved to be a great source of support and encouragement in his years as a bishop.

His appointment and ordination as the Auxiliary Bishop of San Antonio marked the begin-

ning of a three diocese Texas odyssey on his unexpected road finally to cross the Delaware to Camden. The Archdiocese of San Antonio reflected the bi-cultural Anglo-Mexican spirit of old Texas. Beaumont in southeast Texas, where he served as leader of the diocese, was more southern than Texan and Dallas, where he was coadjutor bishop, was far more of a metropolitan center. The disparate variety of these three See cities gave Bishop Galante the crucial awareness of the true uniqueness of every diocese.

Coming to Camden in 2004, Bishop Joe knew that Camden was neither Texas nor Philadelphia. Thus, he embarked on his more than 15 months of listening sessions,

familiarizing himself with the needs of the people of the diocese, beginning a planning process that resulted in a significant restructuring of parishes that would position them for long term sustainability.

Bishop Galante was far from the epitome of a bishop from central casting. He often remarked that he must not have read the same book on how to be a bishop that others had read. Rather, the circuitous route he took to cross the Delaware enabled him to become the bishop he was as Bishop of Camden. He became a unique and very human bishop who valued listening alike to laity, religious and clergy more than the trappings, perquisites and prerogatives of the episcopal office. He would not flinch from making difficult decisions and would accept the responsibility and endure the flack which that entailed.

You have served us well and for this we are most grateful.

Ad multos annos, Bishop Joe!

Msgr. Roger E. McGrath served as vicar general and moderator of the curia under Bishop Galante and is currently pastor of Saints Peter and Paul Church in Turnersville.



The Most Reverend James F. Checchio
with Bishop Emeritus Paul G. Bootkoski,
the clergy, religious and lay faithful
of the Diocese of Metuchen

CONGRATULATE
*The Most Reverend
Joseph Galante*

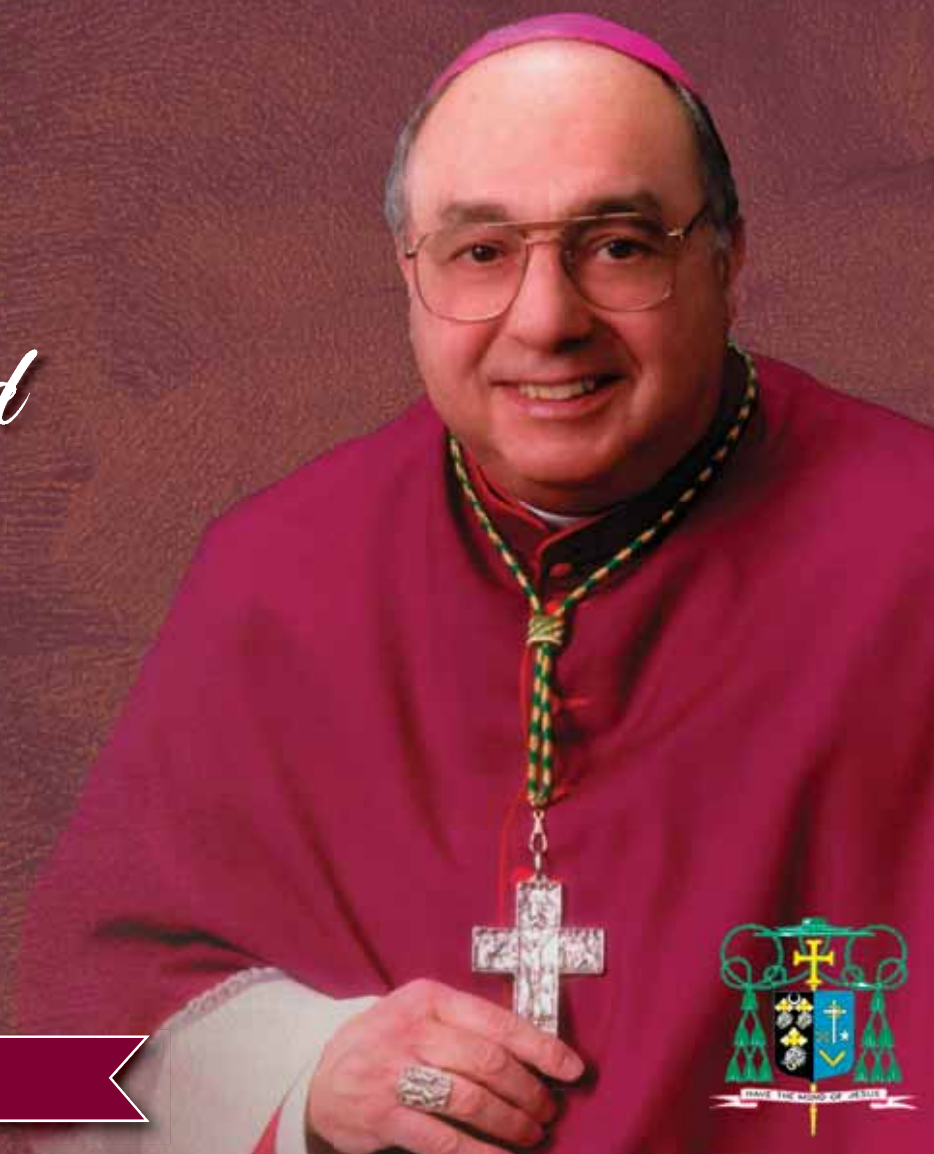
BISHOP EMERITUS OF CAMDEN

On the occasion of his 25th Anniversary
of Episcopal Ordination

May you continue to have the mind of Jesus
and be sustained by God's grace,
and may your life in His service
always be filled with joy.



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Congratulations Bishop Galante

With thankful prayers
and deepest gratitude for
your vision and your leadership.

Msgr. Burton
the Clergy, Staff and People
of
Christ the Good Shepherd Parish
Vineland

Bishop Galante's years in South Jersey

By Peter G. Sánchez

On March 23, 2004 Pope John Paul II made the announcement: 12 years after becoming bishop, and 40 years after he was ordained a shepherd of the Catholic Church, Philadelphia native Joseph Anthony Galante was returning East from Texas.

"This is truly a return home for me," Bishop Galante said in a press conference after his appointment as the seventh Bishop of Camden.

Bishop Galante had served as Undersecretary for Religious in Rome. He was Bishop of the Diocese of Beaumont (Texas) from 1994-99. And, most recently, had been coadjutor of the Diocese of Dallas (Texas) since 2000.

Now, he was back to his roots, and ready to dig into his mission.

"I eagerly look forward to coming to know and collaborate with the laity, religious and clergy of our diocese," he said at the same press conference, held at the Camden Diocesan Center.

Bishop Galante's nine years as bishop to the six southern counties of the state of New Jersey were characterized by his deep love and concern for its faithful from all walks and generations of life, and his commitment to the tenets of the one, holy, Catholic and apostolic Church.

In an interview with this paper the month after he was named Bishop of Camden, Bishop Galante called his "overriding priority" for the diocese, "for all of us — priests, deacons, religious, laity, myself — to continue to grow closer to Jesus."

"I like to say, to know Jesus more intimately, to love Jesus more ardently and to live Jesus more totally," he said.

On the eve of his April 30 installation, he emphatically stated that one's faith and life couldn't be separate, saying that the "so-called 'spiritual life' and ... the so-called 'secular life'" must be connected for one to be "morally coherent."



Photo by Alan M. Dumoff

When named ordinary of Camden, Bishop Galante said his overriding priority was "for all of us — priests, deacons, religious, laity, myself — to continue to grow closer to Jesus."

"This is truly a return home for me."

Bishop Joseph A. Galante

These branches of our lives, "grafted to the vine which is Christ," bear fruit "in every sphere of existence and activity," he said.

Bishop Galante soon got to work in the vineyard of South Jersey. A little more than five months after he began, he established the diocese's first Office of Safe Environment for Children, Youth and Adults (since renamed the Office of Child and Youth Protection), to ensure compliance with the U.S. Bishop's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People.

That same month, October, he announced his intention to visit every parish in the diocese in "Speak-Up" sessions, and hear

directly from his flock — his priests, deacons and their wives, women religious, Catholic youth, and diocesan employees. These more than 140 sessions yielded school and parish reorganizations, intended to strengthen and revitalize the Church of South Jersey.

He was a champion for the marginalized. When then-U.S. President Barack Obama created a 2009 executive order reversing the ban on federal funding for embryonic stem cell research, Bishop Galante made his thoughts clear.

President Obama has "tragically placed defenseless human life at the disposal of political expediency and so-called 'medical

progress.' The destruction of human life, no matter what the hoped-for result, is inhumane and irresponsible, a grave moral wrong and never permissible."

He supported the DREAM Act, now in the hands of Congress, which provided young, undocumented individuals living in the United States an opportunity to achieve citizenship. In his 2010 pastoral letter "Every Person is a Neighbor," he shared his belief that all are "worthy of care and concern, not because they've earned it or because they're legally entitled to it, but because they have inherent dignity by virtue of their creation in God's image."

Bishop Galante fought for affordable housing to low- and middle-income households. After Hurricane Katrina ravaged residents and their homes in Louisiana and Mississippi, he charged the Diocese of Camden's Catholic Charities to initialize "Project One" and send volunteers to these areas.

Consistent with his episcopal motto, Bishop Galante urged all to

"Have the Mind of Jesus" and never cease to ponder how best to help the least of our brothers and sisters.

In October 2011, he announced to his diocese that he would soon begin dialysis treatment, to combat worsening kidney disease. More than a year later, he would retire to the shores of South Jersey, always keeping his thoughts on his flock below, and on the world above.

"This illness, with its inconveniences and diminished strength and energy, has provided me with a graced opportunity for deeper prayer and reflection. I have come more and more to appreciate and cherish the relationship I have with you," Bishop Galante said in this announcement.

"I daily offer to our heavenly Father my illness with all that goes with it for you, that you may have a deeper faith and trust in Jesus and more fervent practice of that faith," he said.





*Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament
Parroquia Nuestra Señora
del Santísimo Sacramento*

Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Parish
and our pastor Fr. Ariel Hernandez
along with Msgr. Victor Muro congratulate

BISHOP JOSEPH GALANTE

on his 25th anniversary of Episcopal Ordination.

*Thank you for serving the people of God
with love, dedication and compassion.*

25
Congratulations, Bishop Galante!

Prayerful best wishes on the 25th Anniversary
of your Episcopal Ordination.

Andy and Susan Walton

To Bishop Galante

With heartfelt blessings

on your Episcopal Anniversary

from the People of

Holy Eucharist Parish, Cherry Hill



St. Andrew the Apostle Parish

Gibbsboro, New Jersey

Extends to

**BISHOP
JOSEPH GALANTE**

Congratulations and Best Wishes

On your 25th Jubilee



To Bishop Joseph A. Galante,

We, the Parishioners
of St. Stephen Parish,
in Appreciation for
your 25 years of
Shepherding God's People,
humbly thank you.

May the Lord continue
to watch over you
and bless you as you
continue Life's Journey.

"Have the mind of Jesus"

BISHOP JOSEPH GALANTE

THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
YEARS OF
LEADERSHIP AND
SERVICE IN THE
DIOCESE
OF CAMDEN.



**CAMDEN CATHOLIC
HIGH SCHOOL**
CHERRY HILL, NJ

CONGRATULATIONS

BISHOP JOSEPH A. GALANTE

...ON THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY...
OF YOUR
EPISCOPAL ORDINATION

*Southeast Texas is
blessed that you
were shepherd here
for 5 years.*

CONGRATULATIONS
AND BLESSINGS

TO

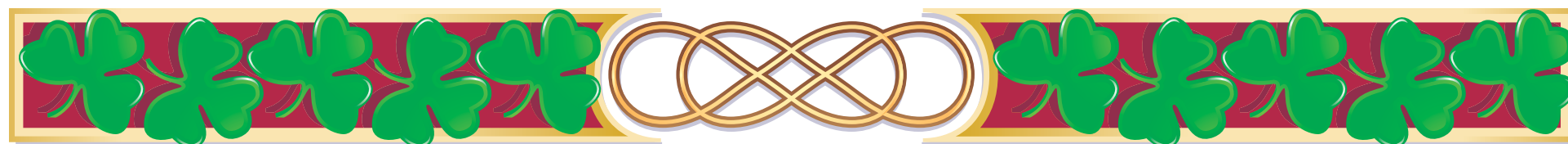
BISHOP JOSEPH GALANTE
ON THE

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS
EPISCOPAL ORDINATION



WITH BEST WISHES FROM
MOST REV. W. FRANCIS MALOOLY
AND THE PEOPLE OF THE DIOCESE OF WILMINGTON

FROM BISHOP
CURTIS J. GUILLORY, SVD
AND THE
CATHOLIC FAITHFUL
OF THE
DIOCESE^{of}
BEAUMONT



MOST REVEREND JOSEPH A. GALANTE

HAPPY 25TH ANNIVERSARY IN THE EPISCOPACY
FROM THE PARISH FAMILY OF SAINT MARY
IN THE "HOLY CITY" OF GLOUCESTER

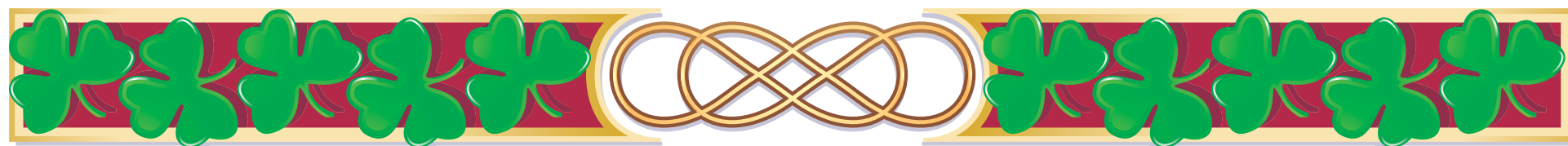
Reverend Monsignor William A. Hodge

Reverend Fr. Kevin J. Mohan

Deacon Frank Crosson

Deacon Dave Murnane

Deacon Joseph Rafferty



CONGRATULATIONS AND GOD BLESS

Most Reverend Bishop Joseph Galante

ON THE OCCASION OF YOUR 25TH ANNIVERSARY

May God Continue to Bless You with His Peace and Joy,
and Keep You always in His Providential Care.

The Priests, Deacons, Franciscan Missionary Sisters,
Rectory & School Staff, School Faculty and Faithful People of



INFANT JESUS PARISH
AND

ST. MARGARET REGIONAL SCHOOL

OVER 50 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE IN CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN THE
FRANCISCAN TRADITION



Woodbury Heights

THE DIOCESAN OFFICE FOR DEVELOPMENT

WOULD LIKE TO WISH

BISHOP JOSEPH A. GALANTE

A BLESSED CONGRATULATIONS ON HIS SILVER JUBILEE.

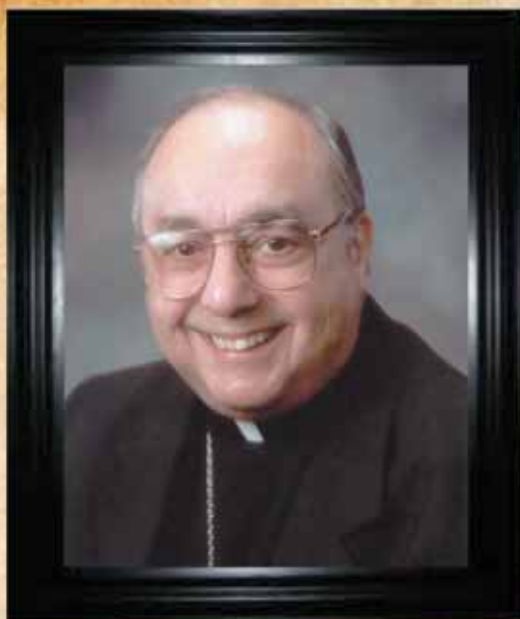
We are grateful for his service and unparalleled compassion.

God bless you now and always, Bishop!

Jim Lanahan
Sheila McGirl
Robin Carpenter
Theresa Purzycki

Joan Perry
Mary Kelly Finegan
Angela Buonasorte

Lynn Benjamin
Christine O'Hara
Deacon Russell Davis
Gina Guarnera



Congratulations
Bishop Joseph Galante
on the 25th Anniversary
of your Episcopal Ordination as Bishop

Your twenty-five years of faithful service as Bishop has been a generous gift to the Church.

The Lord bless you with abundant joy just as you have blessed
so many in your priestly ministry.

Best wishes from your parish family at St. Mary of Mt. Carmel in Hammonton.



Christ Our Light



**Bishop Joseph Galante,
D.D., J.C.D.**

**With much gratitude for all
you have done as you
celebrate 25 years
of Episcopal Ministry.**

The Catholic Community of

Christ our Light

402 Kings Highway N.
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034
(856) 667-2440

www.christourlight.net



OUR HEARTFELT CONGRATULATIONS

to
The Most Reverend
JOSEPH A. GALANTE, D.D., J.C.D.
on the occasion of the
Twenty-fifth Anniversary
of your consecration as a bishop.

*"In your minds
you must be the same as Christ Jesus."*

MARY, MOTHER OF MERCY PARISH
The Churches of *Our Lady of Lourdes*, Glassboro
and *Our Lady Queen of Peace*, Pitman

Our Prayerful Congratulations
Most Rev. Bishop Joseph Galante
*as you joyfully celebrate the
25th Anniversary of your Episcopal Ordination
in sacrificial service to the Church,
daily meeting with Jesus, Son of Mary.*



Mother Dorota Baranowska, Superior Provincial, and Community
Little Servant Sisters of the Immaculate Conception
www.LSIC.US

Congratulations

Bishop Joseph Galante

On the 25th Anniversary of
Your Episcopal Ordination

Ad Multos Annos

Your Friends at



NEW JERSEY
CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

Bishop Galante often wrote a column and other messages that were printed in the *Catholic Star Herald*, almost always beginning with "Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ." Following are some excerpts:

A sacrament of healing

Jesus continues that power of healing as well as forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. As we express sorrow for our sins we should also ask to be healed, not only of the effects of our sins, but also of the impact of the sins of others that have wounded us. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a powerful and wonderful sacrament. We need to take more frequent advantage of it.

Praying for those who mourn this Christmas

The Scriptures tell us that childhood has always been filled with wonder and tragedies. We weep with the mothers of the children of the innocents recounted in Matthew's Gospel, who quotes from Jeremiah:

"A voice was heard in Ramah, sobbing and loud lamentations; Rachel weeping for her children, and she would not be consoled, since they were no more." The same sounds of voices were heard in Newtown, weeping for the 20 children who are no more. But our consolation is that they, too, are joined with the Holy Innocents.

Here in South Jersey, we are no strangers to violence, as our city of Camden experiences a record number of homicides this year. All of them, much like those in Connecticut, were greeted by someone who wept. Together we mourn those children who will no longer leap for joy on Christmas morning, whether in Connecticut or Camden.

Looking beyond the first coming of Jesus this Advent

Jesus is present in our world. Yes, He's present in Eucharist and in the Scriptures, yet He is also present in the people we would prefer not to deal with, such as the homeless person we might see on the street.

Advent is a time to sharpen our perception of Jesus Christ in our world today.

But Advent is also a time to reflect on that encounter with Jesus that awaits each one of us at our death. It is not morbid to reflect on and pray about that reality which awaits all of us. Not one of us knows when this encounter will take place.

Giving thanks in stormy times

For many of us this year, there has been much suffering. Certainly the destruction resulting from Hurricane Sandy may raise the question among some, "What is there to be thankful for?"

There is, and there continues to be, so very much.

We're thankful for the gift of life. We're thankful for all those who respond to our need, who come to the assistance of our beleaguered communities. We are thankful that God continues to watch over us as He inspired so many to be generous towards us.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy

It is my conviction that God brings forth good out of sadness and tragedy. We already see some of that good in the generosity of our police, firefighters, EMT workers, and all those who volunteer to help those who are still suffering from Sandy.

The love that Jesus speaks about for our neighbors will require marshaling our efforts in a concerted way.

The faith dimension of voting

We are called, as a result of our baptism, to live out our faith. But our



Bishop Galante baptized Olivia Katherine Reganata at Saint Thomas More Parish, Cherry Hill, in January 2005.

Photo by James A. McBride

faith is not limited to just being in Church. We are expected to live our faith in everyday life in the world. By voting, and especially by voting with an informed conscience, we exercise one of the ways in which we live out our faith.

There is no "Catholic" party, nor an endorsed candidate by the Church. But there are moral issues that are involved in elections.

Among the issues that we face in the current election are the sanctity of human life; the inherent dignity of every human being; issues of justice, both social and economic; war and peace; care for the poor and public ethics....

So, my dear friends, I ask you to pray daily for our country, which we love, to ask God's grace and help to all those who seek to lead. But I ask as well that we, who are the Church, take seriously our responsibility to be a healing and holy leaven in our society.

The debate is about Catholic identity, not contraception

The works of the Catholic Church flow from our faith, our belief that comes from our understanding of Matthew 25: 31-46: "Whatsoever you did to the least of my sisters and brothers, you did unto me."

We serve others not because they are Catholic but because we are. To limit our understanding to what it means to be a Catholic institution to merely worship in a Catholic church is not an accurate or honest reflection of what our faith means. As the apostle Saint James writes, "faith without good works is dead." Our identity as Catholics revolves around what we believe (doctrine) and how we live what we believe (practice).

To be able to memorize and recite the Creed, yet not to live the implication of what we say we believe is merely an intellectual exercise.

What Is Jesus Doing?

As we look at some of the problems and even scandals that have befallen the institutional Church, we must recognize that the Church is not just the Pope, the bishops and the clergy. The Church is all of us. We each have particular vocations within the body of Christ and each of us brings our gifts and weaknesses, our virtues and our sinfulness to these vocations. But we must recognize that we are the Body of Christ. We are the Church.

At our baptism, among the wonderful things that happen to us, we become Church. I use that term 'become Church' and not 'member of the Church' because the Church teaches that we are the Church. We are the people of God, as St. Peter calls us, a kingly people, a priestly people, a people God has chosen for his own. In becoming Church at our baptism, we are grafted onto Jesus.

We take on an identity with Jesus as priest, prophet, ruler and Shepherd. We become sisters and brothers of Jesus, daughters and sons of God the Father, sharing in the unique relationship that Jesus has with His Father, a sonship that is His by nature and ours by adoption through baptism.

St. Paul reminds us that we are co-heirs with Jesus, that through our baptism we have died with Jesus and will be raised up with Him.

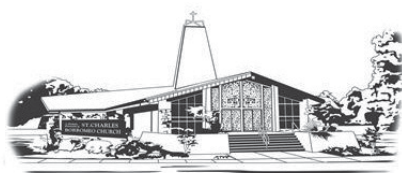
To be a Catholic Christian fundamentally means to live out the transforming reality of our baptism, to continuously grow into our identity with Jesus by deepening our understanding of who He is, by strengthening our love for Him and by growing into living and loving as Jesus lives and loves.

The Church is a living organism. Its strengths, growth, its vitality, depends upon all of us. At times we may be and are frustrated by some directions and decisions that our leaders may take. But the Church will be strong and vibrant because of how we, the body, live our identity and commitment to Jesus Christ.

To renew the Church, we must embrace wholeheartedly and generously Jesus and His message, regularly discovering anew what He is doing in our lives.

(continued on page S29)





SICKLERVILLE

THE COMMUNITY OF
ST. CHARLES BORROMEO PARISH

CONGRATULATES

BISHOP JOSEPH A. GALANTE

ON HIS 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF
EPISCOPAL ORDINATION AND

WISHES HIM . . .

AD MULTOS ANNOS.

*Congratulations
Bishop Joseph Galante
on the 25th Anniversary
of your Episcopal Ordination as Bishop.*

*Best wishes from the
Catholic Church of St. Mary in Cherry Hill.*

The Sisters of the Order of Saint Basil the Great
Congratulate Bishop Joseph Galante
On the 25th Anniversary of His Episcopal Ordination!

Sisters of the Order of Saint Basil the Great
Jesus, Lover of Humanity Province
710 Fox Chase Road, Fox Chase Manor, PA 19046
(215) 379-3998 * www.stbasils.com *
development@stbasils.com

BISHOP JOSEPH GALANTE

THE SAINT JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL, ADMINISTRATION,
STAFF, AND STUDENTS WOULD LIKE TO WISH YOU
CONGRATULATIONS ON THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF YOUR
EPISCOPAL ORDINATION!!



Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the Episcopal Ordination of

Bishop Joseph Galante



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The Franciscan
 Missionary Sisters of the
 Immaculate Heart of Mary,
 Glassboro, NJ,

congratulate

Bishop Joseph Galante

on the 25th anniversary
 of his Episcopal Ordination
 as a bishop.

Congratulations! Bishop Joseph Galante ¡Felicidades!

*The parish community of Divine Mercy
 rejoices with you as you celebrate the
 25th anniversary of your ordination as Bishop.
 We pray that God continues to bless you
 abundantly with health and happiness
 today and always.*



*La comunidad parroquial de
 la Divina Misericordia se regocia con usted
 en el 25 aniversario de su ordenación Episcopal.
 Le pedimos a Dios que lo siga
 bendiciendo abundantemente
 con salud y felicidad hoy y siempre.*



New Jersey

State Council



New Jersey State Council Knights of Columbus Congratulates

Most Rev. Joseph A. Galante
Bishop Emeritus of Camden

**On the 25th Anniversary
 Of His Episcopal Ordination**

Most Rev. Paul A Bootkoski
State Chaplain

Most Rev. Charles J. McDonnell
State Chaplain Emeritus

Rev. Msgr. Michael T. Mannion
Assoc. State Chaplain

Robert E. Hatler
State Deputy

Vincent P. Tavormina
State Secretary

James E. Stoevers
State Treasurer

Raymond Sands
State Advocate

James P. Sweeney
State Warden

Dr. Daniel Rossi, Ph.D., P.S.D
Supreme Director

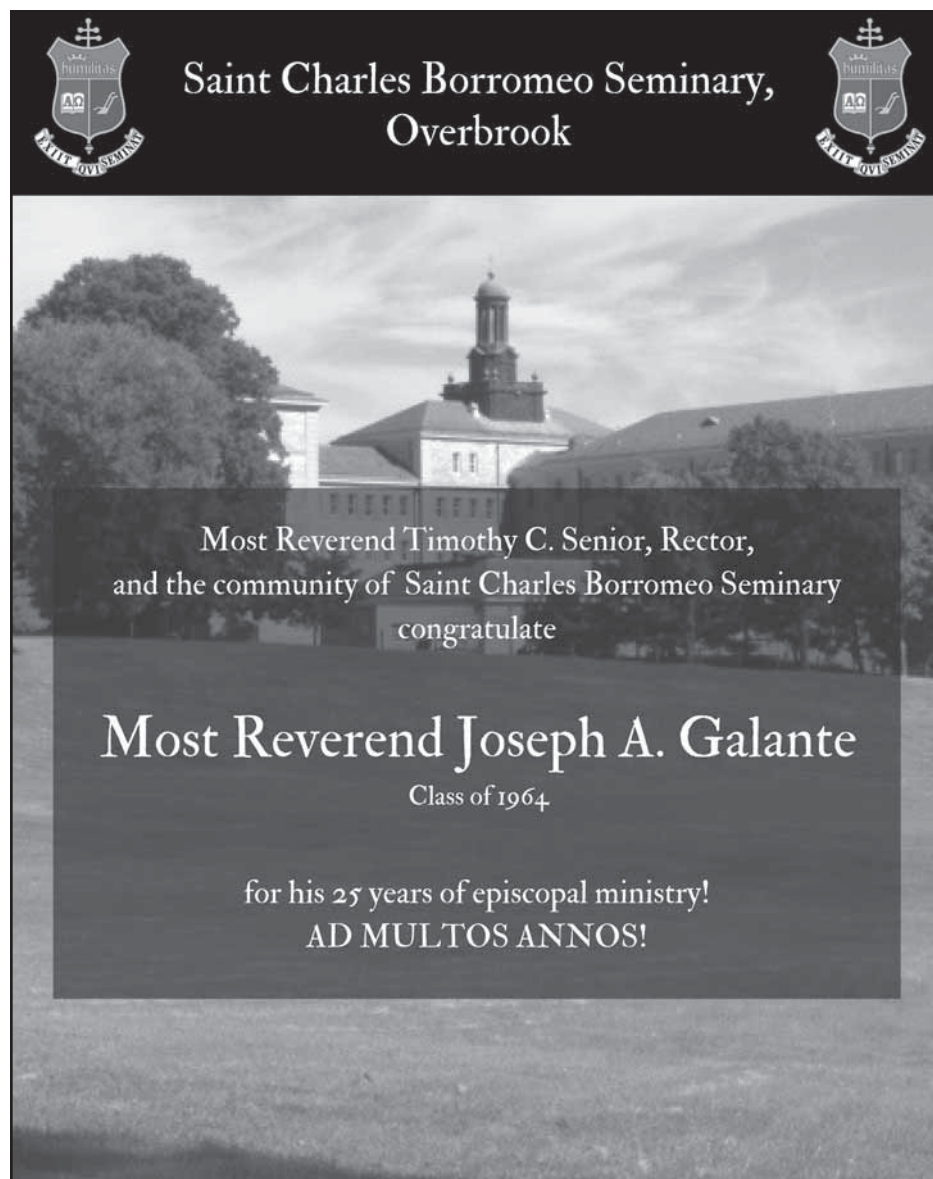
Andrew E. Lipenta, P.S.D, FM
Vice Supreme Master

Anchored in Our Charity and Fraternity

Congratulations
Bishop Joseph Galante
on the 25th Anniversary
of your
Episcopal Ordination
as a bishop.



THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT,
 ELMER, MULICA HILL & WOODSTOWN, N.J.
 REV. ANTHONY DiBARDINO, PASTOR
 REV. JOSEPH CUONG PHAM, PAROCHIAL VICAR



The Priests, Deacons,
Staff and Parishioners offer
Our Best Wishes to you,
BISHOP JOSEPH GALANTE

On the 25th Anniversary of
Your Episcopal Ordination

Saint Simon Stock Parish
 Berlin

Congratulations
Bishop Joseph A. Galante
On the 25th Anniversary of your
Episcopal Ordination
Prayerful Best Wishes
from

REV. MICHAEL J. FIELD
 AND THE PARISHIONERS OF THE
 CHURCH OF ST. BRIDGET

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

(continued from page S25)

God comes to us this season

The first to hear the words of the angels about this birth are not the powerful but simple shepherds, an uneducated crew with a somewhat sour reputation, men who were seen as uncouth, set aside in their fields, not part of the civilizing influence of town life. Perhaps it's a reminder that if we seek Jesus at Christmas, we are sure to find him among those we often seek to avoid.

Flash forward more than 2,000 years. Our times are no longer flush; many families in South Jersey and beyond feel besieged by circumstances of job loss, sickness and poverty. Some of us may have once felt a control over our own destiny, but found that embracing the gospel of individualism is, eventually, a hollow piece of news.

But there is good news, another, better gospel.

At the beginning of the Advent season, I had the opportunity to chat with our young adults group in a "Theology on Tap" session. In an informal tavern atmosphere, I shared a bit about my own faith journey and listened to what their concerns were about the church.

One message from the young people came out loud and clear: they wanted a church engaged in the sufferings and struggles they see around them. They wanted to make the incarnation real in the world. They yearned to embrace a community that made space for the coming of Jesus as experienced through his poor.

New Life in Christ

The glory of Jesus' resurrection, as we well know, came only after profound suffering and an ignominious death.

This reality also is found over and over again in our own lived experience. No one, of course, is exempt from suffering and the hurt of deep loss. Loved ones are taken from us unexpectedly. Illness forever alters our plans. Job loss threatens our livelihood. A marriage bond is ruptured by infidelity, abuse or addiction. Friends or co-workers hurt or disappoint us. Leaders succumb to human weakness and betray our trust. Our children embark on paths that we feel will hurt them or be detrimental to their future. We suffer the disappointments of goals unmet, expectations thwarted, and difficulties we never anticipated or imagined. We may be immobilized by fears or captive to our insecurities. We may slip into sinful ways of living that we thought we had long overcome.

Yet, even when we experience these things, we are not at an end. Nor are we alone. We do not despair or lose hope because Jesus—who Himself felt abandonment, disappointment, betrayal and loss—always is with us in our suffering and carries our sins and burdens to the Cross. We, through God's grace, begin again and walk anew with Christ, confident that we who suffer and die with Him also will rise with Him. As such, the events that we celebrate this week are not something that we observe from the outside, as though we are spectators. Rather, we partake in Jesus' suffering, dying and rising, we enter into the Easter Mystery, and experience new life in Christ, in the present and in the life to come. ...

May we also warmly invite and welcome back all those who have been away from the Church to be with us in our parish communities of faith. We earnestly and prayerfully welcome you home, not as guests or visitors to our parishes, but as family, to celebrate the triumph of life over death and to experience anew the redeeming and merciful love of Jesus.



Photo by Alan M. Dumoff

Bishop Joseph Galante, Father Ronald S. Falotico and worshippers walk to a Mass the bishop celebrated for farmworkers in Hammonton in August 2006.

Christmas: A reminder we are all migrants

At Christmas, we celebrate God, through Jesus, taking on human nature. And the Scriptures tell us this occurred at a particular point of history and under the humblest of circumstances.

Sometimes it's important to read the story anew, as if hearing it for the first time, not overwhelmed by the sentiments nurtured over so many seasons. When we do so in the Gospel accounts of Luke and Matthew, we are struck by how uncomfortable the scene is, how the main players in this story were unable to control all kinds of circumstances.

Luke's Gospel tells us there was no room at the inn for the Holy Family. Matthew tells us about how the baby Jesus was a perceived threat to the evil King Herod, who commenced persecution and killings. Mary and Joseph were forced to flee as exiles to Egypt.

Jesus took on what we take on. He suffered, agonized, and conversely, experienced the joy of love and friendship. He was part of a world where his human limitations placed him in situations beyond earthly control.

Instead of childbirth in sanitized comfort, Mary had Jesus in the place where animals took shelter. Instead of nesting quietly in their special bond, Mary, Joseph and child were forcibly uprooted and fled to a foreign country.

In that sense, they are like us. Even if we are not technically migrants, even if we have the gift of a comfortable and loving home, there is always a part of us that feels restless, as St. Augustine noted, until we rest in Him.

In the deepest recesses of our being, we are all migrants seeking a return from the exile of our deepest anxieties, whether caused by family strife, unemployment, illness, or perhaps a personal malaise we have trouble identifying.

(continued on page S30)



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

(continued from page S29)

The dynamism of following Jesus these 40 days

I find this season of Lent a particular gift. I have been on dialysis for two weeks, four hours a day, three days a week. I've had complications with my veins that will have to be corrected, probably by surgery. I've had a catheter put in me through which my blood is drawn and returned.

These four hours are a wonderful time of prayer and reflection. I recognize that I am in a stage of my life in which my ability to live productively depends very much on the machine to which I am tethered. That reality invites me ever more deeply to continue to surrender to God as the Divine Will is manifested to me through this illness.

I am gratified for this gift of God. I have prayed during my priestly life that I may surrender and be open and powerless, completely dependent upon Jesus, whose spirit liberates me to a radical sense of mission through the rhythm of contemplation and courageous action to be a healing presence in any and all situations. To this, I say Amen.

That has been my daily prayer for at least 40 years of priesthood. God has answered that prayer in a number of ways that would not have been of my choosing. But those answers have deepened my trust in God's abundant love and guidance of me.

As I offer all that has come with my illness for you and all who I love, I thank you for your prayers and for your thoughtfulness. I count on these prayers and I am lifted up by them.

Every person is a neighbor

Jesus says do not ask, "Who is my neighbor?" Rather, he says, we must ask, "How can I be a better neighbor to every person?"

This question is one that we must pose to ourselves today, we who have the tendency to avoid, ostracize and discriminate based on gender, race, language, disability, sexual orientation, religious or political belief, social custom and socio-economic class. While overt discrimination is not always the norm, more subtle attitudes persist....

We often find it easy to love our neighbor in the abstract, when that neighbor is at a safe distance. We'll gladly donate to help those we cannot see or touch, perhaps phoning in a donation to a charitable organization, but will withdraw when the person who needs our attention is in our own midst. We say we believe that all people should have the right to live in a way worthy of their human dignity, but fight madly when affordable housing is proposed in the vicinity of our own neighborhood. We say that we oppose discrimination, but do not object when housing



Photo by Alan M. Dumoff

Bishop Galante is pictured at Mass at Saint Padre Pio Parish, Vineland, in September 2007.

policies segregate our sisters and brothers into enclaves of poverty, denying them access to educational and employment opportunities that are necessary if they are to survive and thrive.

Jesus' parable that we are to be a neighbor to every person also has ramifications for the debate that is now underway on the issue of immigration reform. Today there are more than 10 million undocumented immigrants in the United States, most of whom have been here for some time as productive, contributing workers, many of whom pay taxes, without ever violating criminal law. They do not take jobs away from U.S. citizens, but supplement the native-born workforce. They do not burden or deplete public resources, but make a substantial contribution to the United States economy. We know that past waves of immigrants into this country — many of whom were our grandparents and great-grandparents — were not barred from entering our nation, did not require documentation, were not treated as criminals once they were here, and we know from experience how they greatly enriched our nation.

While we do not condone the unlawful entry of persons into this country, it is clear that current immigration laws are not working and actually contribute to the phenomenon of persons entering the country without proper documentation. That's because current laws keep families separated sometimes for decades and set arbitrary limits on temporary and permanent immigration that are far below both need and demand.

Further, while we must acknowledge the need to have enforceable immigration laws and must be attentive to legitimate security concerns that pertain to border enforcement, we cannot simply brand undocumented workers as lawbreakers and demand punitive enforcement actions as an excuse to walk away from our obligation to care for our immigrant sisters and brothers and to find ways to achieve meaningful reform....

People do not give up their human dignity or the right to due process because they — often compelled by forces that left them with no other option — entered this country without proper documentation....

In gratitude for the people of our wonderful diocese

My great desire is that in my retirement I may, through offering up my physical challenges as well as my constant prayer, be an advocate of God's gifts to this wonderful diocese.



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Saint John Paul II Regional School

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Bishop Joseph Galante

on the 25th anniversary
of his Episcopal Ordination.

May the Lord bless him
and keep him in His loving care.



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May God Bless you Bishop Galante

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BISHOP JOSEPH GALANTE



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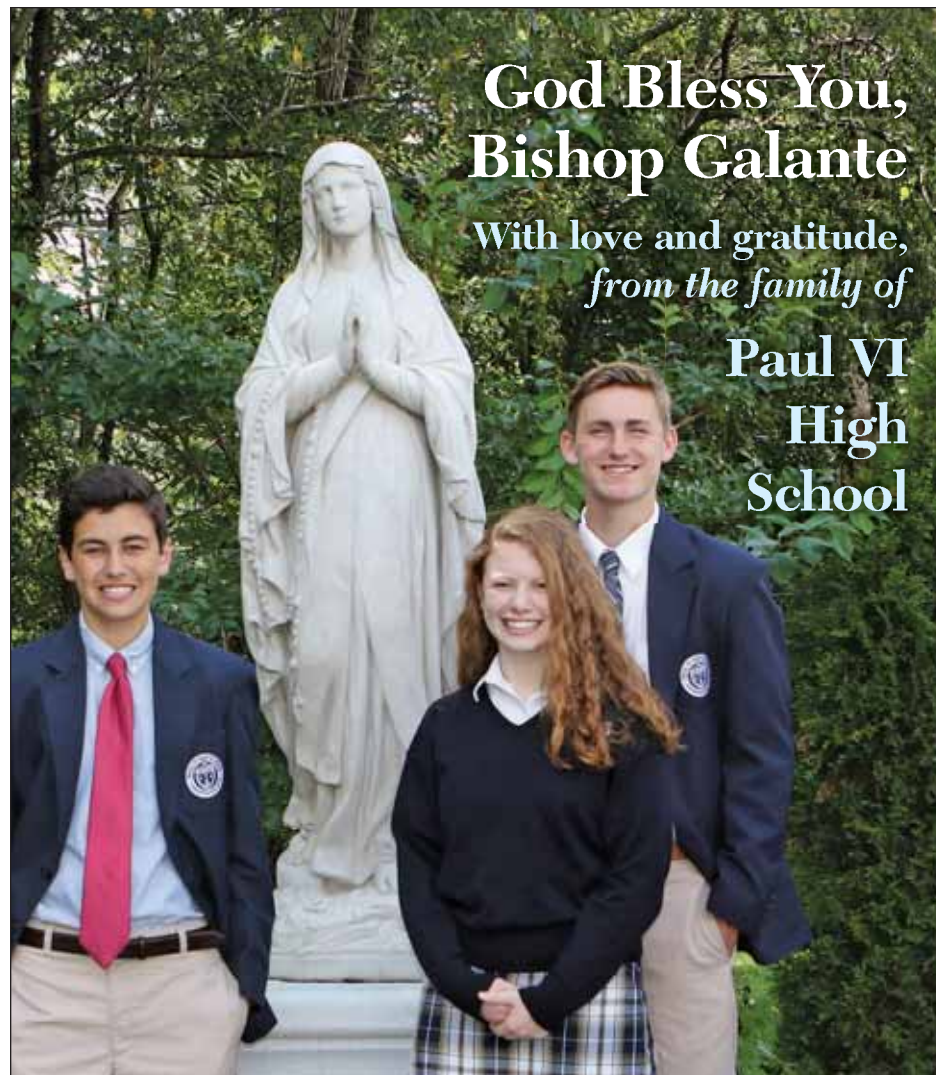
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On your 25th Anniversary
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& the parishioners of
St. Padre Pio Parish*



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St. Mary School
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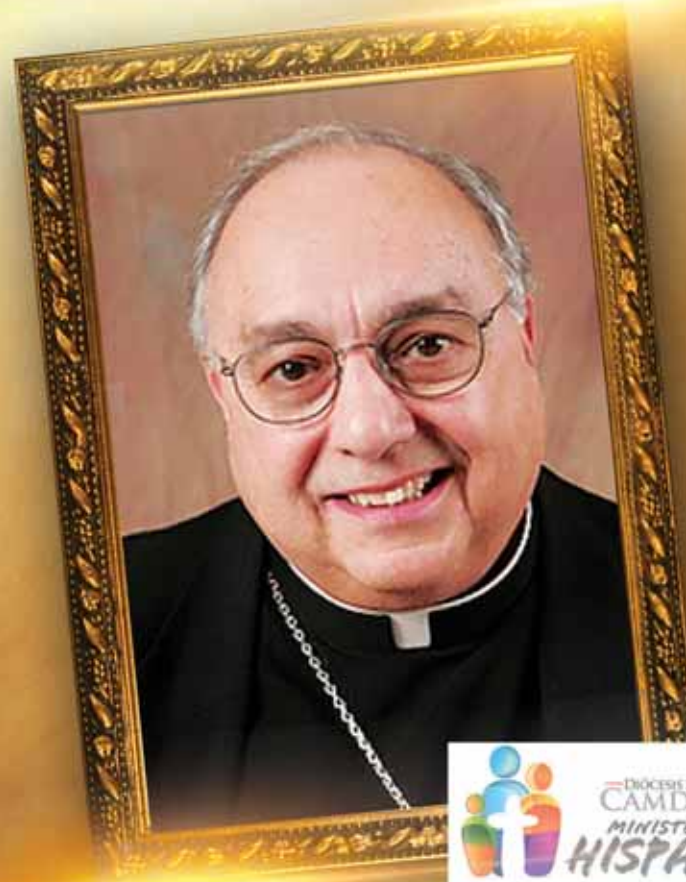
FELICITACIONES POR EL 25^{VO} ANIVERSARIO DE SU ORDENACIÓN EPISCOPAL
CONGRATULATIONS ON THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF YOUR EPISCOPAL ORDINATION

Gracias Obispo José Galante

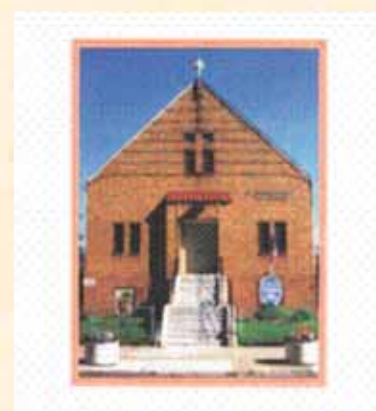
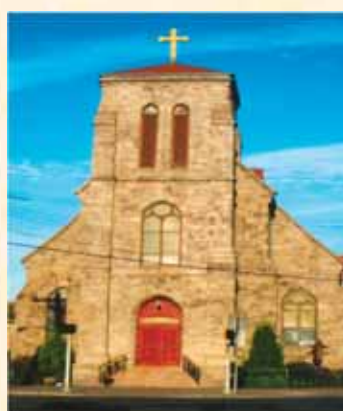
*Por sus años de servicio amoroso a la
comunidad hispana en la Diócesis de Camden.
¡Que Dios le bendiga abundantemente!*

Thank you Bishop Joseph Galante

*for your years of loving service to the
Hispanic Community in the Diocese of Camden
May God bless you abundantly!*



*SACRED HEART
PARISH, CAMDEN
HONORS BISHOP
GALANTE!*



*That They May All Be One
(John 17: 21)*

Bishop Galante and the media

Bishop Joseph Galante has often been in the news, commenting on the sexual abuse crisis, the media, politics and other topics. Following are some samples.

Bishops bear responsibility for resolving sex abuse crisis, one says

By Tracy Early
Catholic News Service

BROOKLYN, N.Y. (CNS) — Coadjutor Bishop Joseph A. Galante of Dallas, a member of the bishops' ad hoc committee on sexual abuse, said that the focus of the sex abuse story had shifted from outrage about priests abusing children to "legitimate and very honest complaints" about the handling of cases by bishops.

"Frankly, the ball is in our court," he said May 17 of himself and his fellow bishops. The purpose of the bishops' meeting June 13-15 in Dallas is to "deal with this serious problem" and to "deal with our accountability for it," he said.

Bishop Galante, who is also chairman of the bishops' communications committee, addressed the sex abuse issue at the annual luncheon given in recognition of World Communications Day by Bishop Thomas V. Daily of Brooklyn. It was attended by dozens of reporters and other representatives of the media who cover the Brooklyn Diocese.

Acknowledging that "a number of criticisms" made of the bishops "have merit," Bishop Galante said an example was moving a priest guilty of sex abuse to another parish. "There's no way that can be defended," he said, making the same comment about secretive handling of abuse cases.

He said he did not view news coverage of the sex abuse story as a "feeding frenzy by the media," and he had not found the approach of reporters objectionable in the many interviews he had given about priests engaged in abuse of children.

"If that ceases to be news, it will mean nobody believes we are serious about our commitment," he said. ...

May 20, 2002

Bishops approve new framework for Hispanic ministry

By Mark Pattison
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The U.S. bishops have approved a new program



Bishop Galante is interviewed by CBS 3 anchor Pat Ciarrocchi.

to strengthen ministry among Hispanics in anticipation of Latinos becoming the largest single group of U.S. Catholics.

A document called "Encuentro and Mission: A Renewed Pastoral Framework for Hispanic Ministry" was approved 254-1 with one abstention in a written ballot taken Nov. 12 during the fall general meeting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. ...

At a press conference after the bishops discussed the document, Coadjutor Bishop Joseph A. Galante of Dallas, chairman of the bishops' Committee on Communications, said that while the document had been a long time in the making it also coincided with the results of the 2000 U.S. Census.

"We're extremely aware in this country" of the growing predominance of Hispanics," Bishop Galante said. "It's a good time for us in the church to go back and consider how to minister to what will be the predominant ethnic group in the country."

Nov. 13, 2002

Catholic media experts gather at New Evangelization conference

By Bill Howard
Catholic News Service

DALLAS (CNS) — About 200 leaders in Catholic print, film, radio and television gathered in Dallas for workshops, talks, brainstorming sessions and resource networking at the fifth annual New Evangelization of the Americas conference Jan. 31-Feb. 2. ...

Dallas Coadjutor Bishop Joseph A. Galante, chairman of the U.S. bishops' communications committee, said that bishops —

particularly in the United States — have lagged behind in the broadcast medium, primarily because of a reliance on the printed word.

"We act as though somehow all communication stopped after Gutenberg invented the printing press," he said.

As a result, he said, the church constantly takes the Second Vatican Council's new evangelization ideas and "puts them in old wineskins. We're interpreting these dynamic decrees in old categories of thought. But the council invited us to a new way of speaking. ...

Bishop Galante challenged church leaders and all Catholics to be unafraid of secular entertainment, and he encouraged church leaders to see movies and watch television shows to keep in touch with what people are watching and what is influencing them.

"That's where the people are ... in pop culture. That's our competition," he said. "Many bishops pride themselves on not watching television or movies. I think that's a failure of us as pastors. We need to know what's forming our people. If we don't understand we'll never connect, because our message never meets what they're watching and hearing." ...

Feb. 7, 2003

Texas bishop suggests new model for seminaries

By Peter Finney Jr.
Catholic News Service

NEW ORLEANS (CNS) — A new model of seminary training in which men take academic courses at the seminary but live in a parish setting while studying for the

priesthood should be examined in the wake of the scandal of sexual abuse by clergy, Dallas Coadjutor Bishop Joseph A. Galante said in a speech at Tulane University in New Orleans.

Bishop Galante's suggestion came in a question-and-answer session following his March 13 lecture, "Renewing the Hope and the Trust of the Faithful in the Institutional Church," delivered as part of the university's annual Judeo-Christian Lecture Series. Bishop Galante is a member of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Abuse.

"I personally think we should look at formation in terms of whether or not segregated seminary training for secular (diocesan) seminarians is the ideal," Bishop Galante said.

He suggested having a small group of two to three seminarians live in a parish setting while receiving spiritual direction from a priest and working with a formation team, "a community of lay people and religious within that parish."

"The seminarians could go to a seminary for academics, but the (priestly) formation would take place out in the real world," Bishop Galante said. "I would like very much for us to seriously look at that."

As for whether or not the church should examine its current practice of ordaining men who may have a homosexual orientation, Bishop Galante said, "Orientation itself is not an impediment to ordination. ... Is there anything that says God can't give them the gift of celibacy?" ...

March 20, 2003

Bishops to begin work on guidelines on relations with politicians

By Patricia Zapor
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The U.S. bishops have begun work on a set of guidelines for themselves on how to handle relationships with Catholics whose actions in public life are not in accord with church teaching. ...

At a press conference following the task force report, Coadjutor Bishop Joseph A. Galante of Dallas said he personally is "tired of hearing Catholic politicians say they personally oppose abortion but can't impose their beliefs on their constituents. That's nonsense. They do it on other issues."

Nov. 11, 2003

(continued on page S36)



Bishop Galante and the media

(continued from page S35)

Brochure to help explain church's teaching on contraception

By Patricia Zapor
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON — Too many Catholics misunderstand and ignore the church's teaching on contraception, the U.S. bishops agreed, as they approved the drafting of a new brochure to help explain it.

In a brief discussion before the vote, Coadjutor Bishop Joseph A. Galante of Dallas encouraged the committee to emphasize the church's support of natural family planning.

"So many Catholics think in terms of 'rhythm,'" he said. But there has been a great deal of advancement in family planning without artificial means since that system was recommended by the church, he said. Natural family planning supporters emphasize that it not only works as a way of planning families, but helps married couples become close.

Nov. 13, 2003

New Jersey governor had come under fire for receiving Communion

TRENTON, N.J. (CNS) — Before his Aug. 12 announcement that he had had an extramarital affair with a man and would resign from office, New Jersey Gov. James McGreevey had faced a series of scandals and controversies in office, including disagreements with the Catholic Church.

In May, after several New Jersey bishops said politicians who disagree with the church's teaching on right-to-life issues should not receive Communion, McGreevey, a Catholic and a Democrat, said he would no longer receive Communion at public Masses.

Bishop Joseph A. Galante, the new bishop of Camden, said McGreevey would not be welcome to receive Communion if he attended the bishop's installation ceremony April 30.

Bishop Galante explained that his decision was based on his understanding that McGreevey married his wife, Dina, without obtaining an annulment of his first marriage, as well as on the governor's support for legal abortion, fetal stem-cell research and domestic partnerships.

McGreevey did not attend the installation. ...

Aug. 13, 2004



Bishop Galante takes questions from a meeting with students. The bishop held student press conferences and media days.

Pro-life, family, justice workers urged to 'give up turf' to partner

By Nancy Frazier O'Brien
Catholic News Service

CHERRY HILL, N.J. — Bishop Joseph A. Galante challenged leaders of Catholic pro-life, family life and social justice offices around the country to "tear down our cubicles" and "give up our turf" in order to model collaboration for the rest of the church.

The bishop of Camden, N.J., spoke July 25 at the close of the first day of a national conference in his diocese called "Life, Justice & Family: Partners in the New Evangelization."

Bishop Galante said those in the church are sometimes guilty of "paralysis by analysis," with each person examining only his or her own area of expertise and then "wondering why we're not having a greater impact on those whom we serve."

"In a culture of individualism it is most important that we live and model communally what we teach," he added. "By giving up the prerogatives of turf, we can discover a more ecclesial way of ministering."

Bishop Galante said the Trinity, with its "divine unity and divine diversity," offers the "key to how we live and are church."

Reminding his audience that the body of Christ includes everyone, from the moment of conception to the "the last breath breathed," the hungry, the thirsty, the imprisoned and the homeless, the bishop asked, "How can we dishonor, dismember, destroy that body? How can we kill the unborn, bomb the Iraqis, shun the one who is different from us?"

"How can we deny that the least of our sisters and brothers are Jesus and yet say that Jesus lives in us?" he added.

But Bishop Galante said Catholics can look for guidance to church teachings contained in the Gospels, the documents of the Second Vatican Council, and the "sound and profound encyclicals" and other writings of Popes Paul VI, John Paul II and Benedict XVI.

"Our world of sound bites and catchy headlines do not do justice to these documents," he said.

Speaking on the 40th anniversary of Pope Paul's encyclical "Humanae Vitae" ("Of Human Life"), Bishop Galante said many

"failed to appreciate the depth of its teachings on marriage."

He called on participants in the conference to "read, discuss, explain, understand and live these writings."

"But that is not enough," he added. "It is most important for us to pray over what we've read and for us to strive to live what we have read."

Bishop Galante said Jesus "had a reason for sending out his followers two by two -- to teach community."

In the work of the church, he said, "there is no room for competitiveness, no room for going it alone."

July 28, 2008

New Jersey bishop discloses he will soon begin kidney dialysis

CAMDEN, N.J. (CNS) — Bishop Joseph A. Galante of Camden told Catholics of his diocese that he would soon begin dialysis treatment to combat worsening kidney disease.

He said that despite the near-daily treatments, "this should enable me to be able to continue an active work schedule both in the office and for the celebration of liturgies in our parishes."

Bishop Galante, 73, said in a Sept. 29 letter to Catholics of the diocese that he had first received treatment 11 years ago for Type 2 diabetes. "For a little more than a year, I have been suffering from chronic kidney disease, which is now at Stage IV," he added.

"Over the past two months, I have had a series of medical procedures to prepare for dialysis. One of these procedures had complications which necessitated a hospital stay due to an infection which is now being treated by intravenous antibiotics."

Bishop Galante said his dialysis treatments would, at the beginning, take place at his home six days a week for up to three hours a day.

"This illness, with its inconveniences and diminished strength and energy, has provided me with a graced opportunity for deeper prayer and reflection. I have come more and more to appreciate and cherish the relationship I have with you," Bishop Galante said. "I daily offer to our heavenly Father my illness with all that goes with it for you, that you may have a deeper faith and trust in Jesus and more fervent practice of that faith," he added.

"This illness has, in God's providence, brought me ever close to you whom I serve and has given me a greater appreciation of what it means to be a bishop," Bishop Galante said.

Oct. 31, 2011



Bishop Joseph Galante

Shepherd in Christ

25th Anniversary

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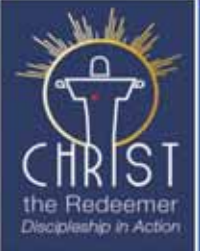
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celebrate your 25 years
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Ad multus annos!

May Jesus, the Good Shepherd
watch over you.
Many blessings on your
Silver Anniversary



Happy 25th Anniversary
From the Parish of the Holy Cross
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*We, the parish community
of St. Teresa of Calcutta,
lift up our hearts
to the Good God
in thanksgiving for
the beautiful gift of
Bishop Joseph A. Galante
on this most joyful occasion
of his silver jubilee
as a bishop.
Thank you,
Bishop Galante,
for your human heart
and your
inspiring leadership.*

*Rev. John D. Bohrer
and Staff*

May God's Choicest Blessings be with

Bishop Joseph Galante

as he celebrates the 25th Anniversary
of his Episcopal Ordination.

Congratulations from the
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The bishop, the diocese and the universal church

By Michael M. Canaris

In his fine book “From Apostles to Bishops,” theologian Francis Sullivan’s meticulous historical study of the *mono-episcopacy* — the familiar structure of one bishop leading each diocese — makes a convincing case that like so much else in Catholic history, this reality occurred as a gradual development that took place over time due to a wide variety of factors, both theological and not.

Like the clarifications of Christ’s dual natures, relationship with Mary as the Mother of God and ecclesial connection to papal primacy, it would take decades or centuries after the Resurrection experience for the traditions or articulations to take the forms that we recognize today.

As we reflect on Bishop Galante’s service to our diocese in this anniversary year, it’s worth pondering the special role that Catholics acknowledge in the role of a bishop.

As the Second Vatican Council re-emphasized, there is a perennial and fruitful tension between the universal Catholic Church and the local particular churches spread throughout the world. The most widespread of these local churches are dioceses in specific geographical places gathered around a bishop or archbishop, though others exist as well (e.g., military ordinariates, personal prelatures, etc.).

It’s also worth remembering that a cardinal is not some kind of super-bishop, but rather a figure with a particular role in advising the pope, whether in the Roman curia or elsewhere around the world. (He may or may not be a bishop. For instance, Avery Cardinal Dulles, S.J. was not ordained a bishop when given the cardinalatial red hat. Historically there were even lay cardinals, although this does not happen today).

It’s important to note that our particular church in the technical canonical sense is then the Diocese of Camden, not an individual parish or apostolate (i.e. a hospital chapel) within it where one attends Mass.

When we confess “one, holy, catholic and apostolic” church, we ought to call to mind the etymological history of the word apostolic, meaning “to be sent.” Saint Mary Magdalene is called the Apostle to the Apostles, since it was she who told Peter and the beloved disciple about the empty tomb in at least two accounts. So apostolicity is not all or only about seminarians and ordinations. The entire church, in its head



BISHOP BARTHOLOMEW J. EUSTACE



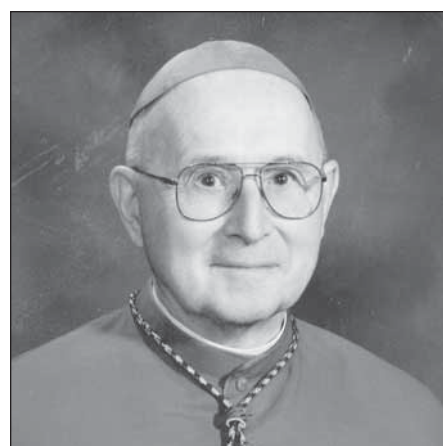
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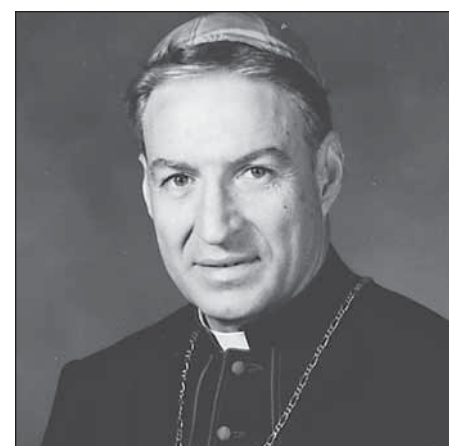
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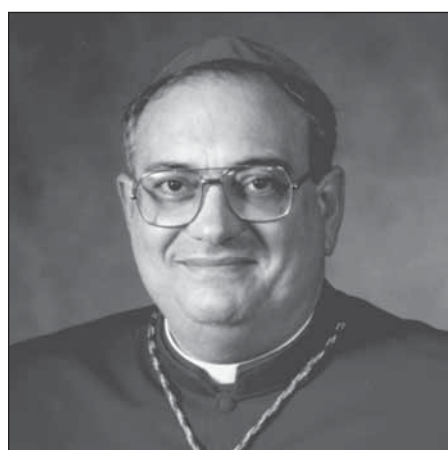
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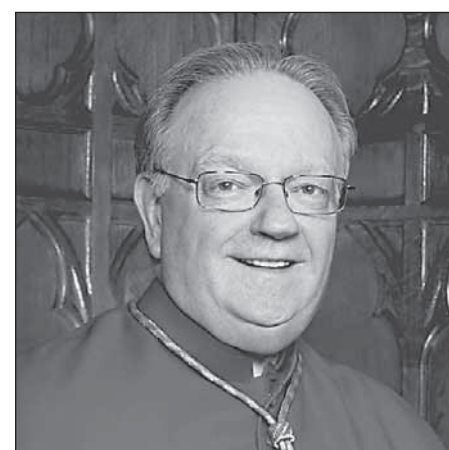
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BISHOP DENNIS J. SULLIVAN

and members, is termed apostolic in being sent by Christ into the world to proclaim the “*euangelion*”: the good news of redemption from sin and death by the Author of Life.

Yet Catholics indubitably do value the role of the shepherd of each flock, who is called to live in mutual respect (from the Latin *re-specere*, “to look back at”) with his sheep. Different places and cultures express the one faith differently, and so a local bishop must know the contours, challenges and strengths of his or her individual community. An

Alaskan bishop on a prop plane visiting arctic outposts and a Syrian one in the shelled ruins of former ancient cities have different ministerial duties and skills, and it’s important that we recognize them along with each’s unique personality and spiritual charisms.

Each of our bishops in South Jersey has contributed to the life of our church in particular ways, and highlighted different priorities while guiding our local church. Yet all are called to share in and work for the unity that Christ willed for

his disciples in the prayer before his death (Jn 17), despite the scandalous and painful state of Christian division that exists today across the family of the baptized. We should remember in prayer and with gratitude those men, imperfect though they may be but sanctified in their episcopal office, who have helped guide our local church in a multitude of courageous ways.

Collingswood native Michael M. Canaris, Ph.D., teaches at Loyola University, Chicago.





God Bless Bishop Joseph Galante
as he celebrates the 25th Anniversary
of his Episcopal Ordination

Best Wishes from

THE PARISH OF SAINT DAMIEN

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Photo by Alan M. Dumoff

HAVE THE MIND OF JESUS — Bishop Joseph Galante, shown here celebrating Mass at the 2006 Camden Diocesan Charismatic Conference in Wildwood, chose as his episcopal motto “Have the Mind of Jesus” (Phil 5:2).

Our Lady of Guadalupe

The Parish Family
of
Our Lady of Guadalupe
thanks you,
Bishop Galante
for your
leadership, love
and service
to the Church!!!

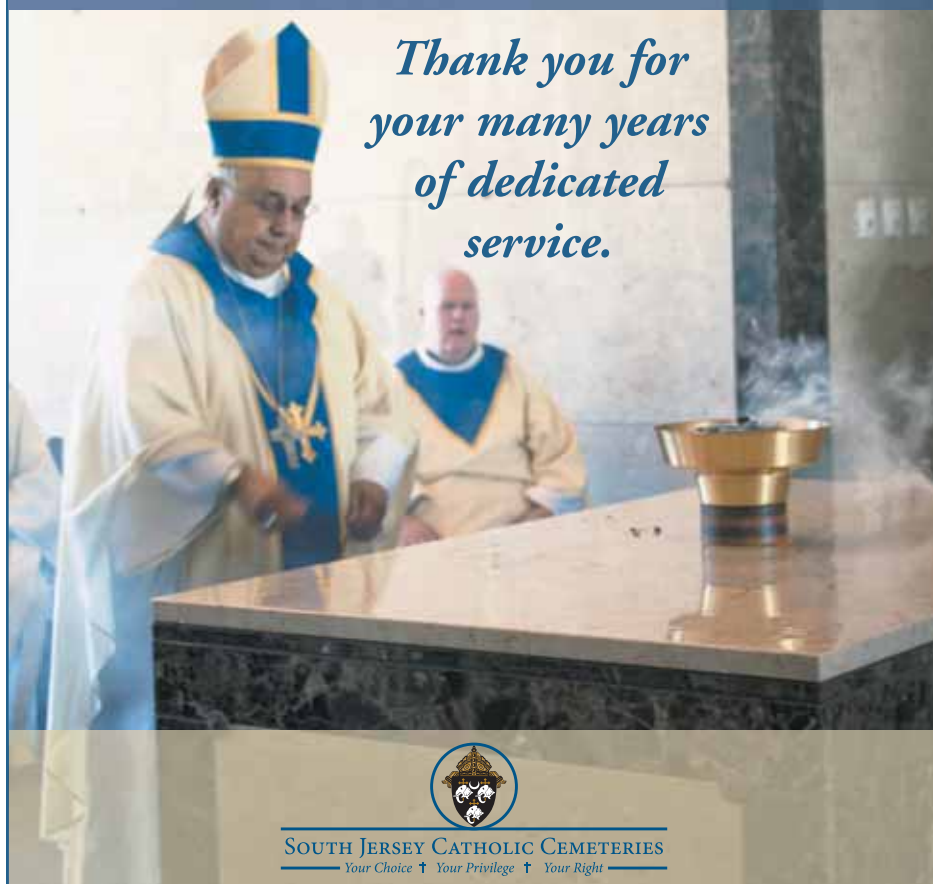
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Bishop Galante



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Silver Jubilee
and
Thank you
for your gentle shepherding!
St. Peter Parish ~ Merchantville

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CONGRATULATES
BISHOP JOSEPH GALANTE
ON HIS JUBILEE.



*Thank you for
 your many years
 of dedicated
 service.*



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BISHOP GALANTE

on the 25th anniversary
 of your Episcopal Ordination.

*May God
 continue to
 bless you.*

*With gratitude from the staff
 of the Office of Catholic Schools.*



Dear
BISHOP GALANTE

*We Wish You
 Continued Blessings &
 Best Wishes!*

**Rita, Dolores,
 Susan & Anna**

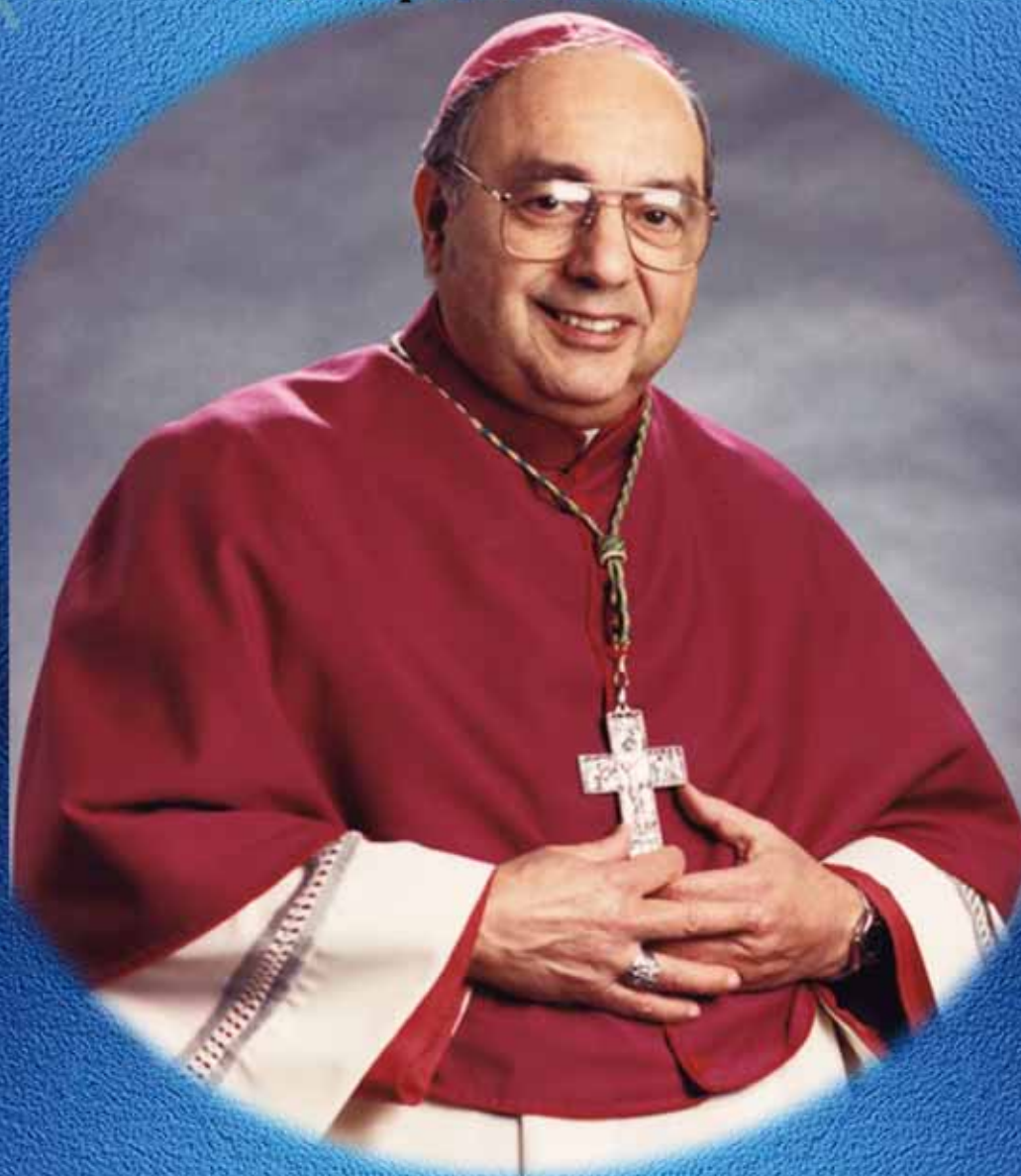
**PROMISE TO
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*Thank you,
 Bishop Galante,
 for being one of the authors
 of the national
 Charter for the Protection of Children
 and Young People.
 Your ministry to the Diocese of Camden
 has been a blessing.*

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