



THE GOOD NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF HOLY NAME OF CAMDEN MINISTRIES

509 State Street • Camden, NJ 08102 • 856.365.1001 • holynamenameofcamdenministries.org

Fall 2025



Dear Friends,

Greetings from Camden! I hope you are taking the time to enjoy the beautiful colors of the trees during this autumn season! The change of seasons is such a reminder to me to let go and live in hope for the spring. Meanwhile, the fall is also a time of new beginnings, especially for our

school community and our youth programs. In this newsletter, you will read about the many new events happening at Holy Name School. Through your generosity, we also help with tuition assistance for high school students at St. Joseph Prep, Camden Catholic, St. Paul VI, Gloucester Catholic and Cristo Rey High Schools. We want to support our families who are sacrificing to send their children to Catholic grade school and high school. We have so many success stories to share because of the academic foundation that our students have received.

One of the many ways we fundraise to help our ministries is through our annual fall fundraiser. I am grateful to Lisa Incollingo, Esquire, for accepting the “Reaching Out to those in Need” Award and to Senator Nilsa Cruz-Perez for accepting the “City Invincible” Award. Both of our awardees have

an over twenty year connection to Holy Name Ministries! We had a wonderful evening at the Riverton Country Club. Thank you to all of our sponsors and those who were able to attend our event. Your support is so vital to our ministries and to our families here in Camden!

As I have in the past, I am asking you to consider a special donation to our Holy Name Scholars Program. The tuition at Camden Catholic High School this year is \$16,008 a year. Many of our students receive tuition scholarships from the Diocese, the Domenica Foundation and individual donors. We have some benefactors who help an individual student for four years through a memorial fund. Perhaps you can consider helping us in that way, too. Even \$500-\$1,000 a year is a very loving gesture to help a student to have a promising future!

Thank you for your faithfulness to Holy Name. You are making a difference in the lives of the families we serve. They are so grateful — and so am I.

Sincerely,

Sister Helen Colessy

Sister Helen Cole SSJ
Executive Director



Chelsea, a Gloucester Catholic graduate, is now attending Rutgers School of Nursing.

Special Appeal —

A loving gesture to help a student have a promising future!

Our Holy Name Scholars need your help!

Camden Catholic, St. Paul VI, Gloucester Catholic, Cristo Rey and St. Joseph Prep tuition is between \$16,000 and \$32,000 a year.

Perhaps sponsor a student with \$500 – \$1000 for four years! Please consider a donation to help with the cost of tuition!

Call Sister Helen for more information: 856.365.1001 or email her at holynameministries@gmail.com

Holy Name Begins a New School Year

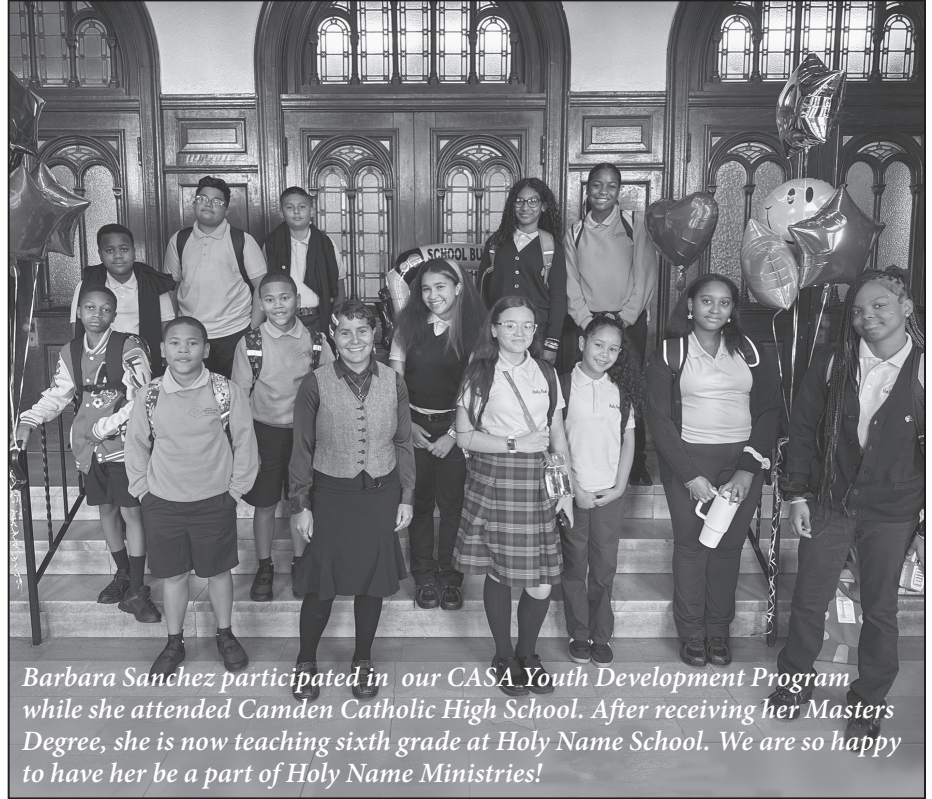
Holy Name is so happy to be back this Fall, 2025 for a new school year. First we must express how grateful we are to be back. Thanks to the generosity of the diocese and their faith in Holy Name School, we were able to have our building restored. Over the summer, the ceiling of the lunchroom was repaired by an epic crew of construction workers and the teacher's classrooms were all reinforced! It is a joy to come back to Holy Name as one school family!

We are very fortunate to have two new teachers, one returning teacher in a new grade, and one wonderful teacher who came out of her retirement to ensure a well-staffed school.

Ms. Nicole Perry is joining us in her fourth year of teaching. She was teaching at Sacred Heart School in North New Jersey before relocating to our area and joining the Holy Name School community. She is bringing enthusiasm for Catholic education and robust experience with our educational technology. Ms. Perry's third grade class is off to a great start with her!

Ms. Barbara Sanchez, our new sixth grade teacher, is a graduate of Camden Catholic. Originally from North Camden, she participated in GFS' CASA Program while she was in High School. She went on to get her M.S. in science and is now teaching all of middle school science at Holy Name. The students have said they really like Ms. Sanchez's energy! One of our returning teachers, Mrs. B, has moved from her third grade classroom back up to seventh grade, where she started her first year at Holy Name! She is teaching Language Arts and has already been a stabilizing presence for our Middle Schoolers. Finally, Sister Rosemary, S.S.J. has put her retirement on hold in order to teach fifth grade for another year. We are so grateful to continue to have her presence and expertise within our teaching staff.

This year, we are welcoming back old programs as new and are very excited to be engaging our students in



Barbara Sanchez participated in our CASA Youth Development Program while she attended Camden Catholic High School. After receiving her Masters Degree, she is now teaching sixth grade at Holy Name School. We are so happy to have her be a part of Holy Name Ministries!

leadership, learning, and service opportunities.

First, we are enthusiastic to once again be part of the Healthy News Works program. "By kids, for kids," the program invites students to contribute to their health publication which helps to educate their fellow students and families on various health topics from physical to mental health. The program will enrich our students' understanding of health topics and promote their literacy skills.

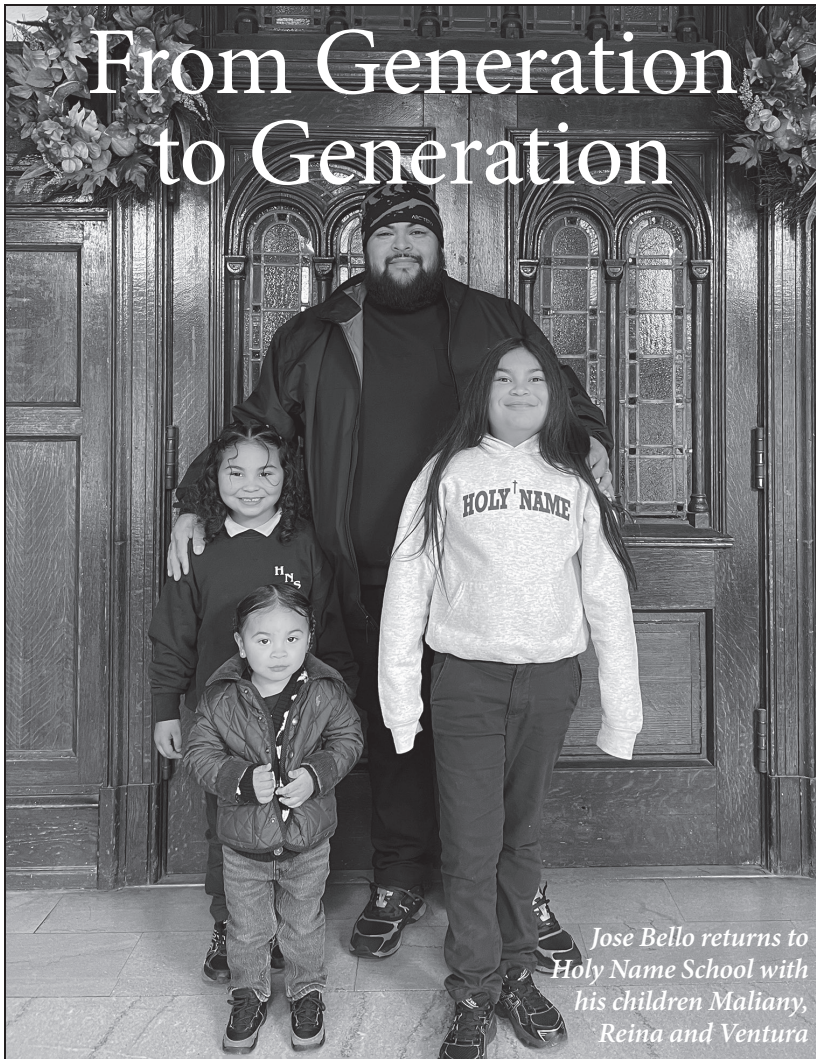
Additionally, we are welcoming back our partnership with Townsend Press. Through them, our students get two new books a month and Ms. Barbara comes in to read to them. In the end they get to keep the book and continue learning and growing through the joy of reading.

Lastly, we have re-established a student council this year with a competitive middle school election. Grades sixth through eighth ran for the positions of Student Body President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer,

and Class Representatives. On September 12th after a week of treats, posters, and campaigning, the students each got up in front of their fellow students to deliver speeches compelling them with reasons to vote for them. In the end, students voted and we now have our President Xzavier and our Vice President Nyaleise along with a council of students representing Holy Name. Xzavier's mom is a Holy Name Graduate and, when Nyaleise's Aunt attended Holy Name, she too was the Vice President! We are sure these Holy Name legacies and the rest of the student council will represent Holy Name well. They are already buzzing with ideas for service, civic engagement, fun, and fundraising at the school! Following election week, one student said, "can we do this every week?" so it is safe to say it was a success!

In closing, Holy Name School is having a joyful, thankful, and enthusiastic beginning to the school year. This year, we are looking forward to building a strong academic foundation for our students that we can build upon, rich with learning and new opportunities. ■

From Generation to Generation



Jose Bello returns to Holy Name School with his children Maliany, Reina and Ventura

Legacy families are a special dimension to Holy Name School. For the past eight newsletters, we have featured students whose parents are graduates of Holy Name School. In this newsletter, we introduce Jose Bello and his family. Jose graduated from Holy Name School in 2012. He attended Pennsauken Technical High School and graduated in 2016. During his time in high school, Jose stayed connected to Holy Name through the CASA Youth Development Program at Guadalupe Family Services. Jose fondly remembers his years at Holy Name School. His favorite memories are of the Christmas Santa Shop, a very special day for our students organized at that time by a beloved volunteer, Nancy Jerome. Jose also said his eighth-grade trip with teacher Miss Williams to Miss Nancy's home in Ocean City is a beach day he will never forget! His favorite teachers, Miss Guzman and Mr. Muchi, helped him to appreciate his education.

Jose and his young family lived in Pennsylvania. When they returned to North Camden, Jose stated that "there was no other school that he wanted to send his children to – he knew they would enroll at Holy Name". Jose expressed his surprise when he discovered his former teacher, Miss Kent, became the principal at Holy Name! Jose's daughters, Maliany, is in fourth grade and Reina is in first grade. He has a future alumni, 2 year old Ventura, waiting to be part of the legacy. Holy Name School is rich in tradition, values and stories that make the school family bond for generations to come. ■

Guadalupe Family Services 30th Anniversary

Guadalupe Family Services is celebrating 30 years of service to the Camden community! We are so grateful to all our benefactors for contributing to our mission for all these years. Through the generosity of the Diocese, companies, individuals and grants, we are able to help so many families in desperate need. Guadalupe Family Services was incorporated in 1995, with the purpose to:

- Counsel and serve families in distress to promote hope, health, and healing
- Educate families on community resources available to improve quality of life
- Advocate on behalf of underserved persons to improve public benefits, housing, health care, and opportunities for youth
- Prevent violence in the community and in the family

As a social service agency, we are committed to maintaining, strengthening, and reconciling the relationships



Working Together: A slice of New York Pizza and the Lambda Theta Alpha Sorority prepared and provided dinners for our North Camden families during the government shut down.

that form the foundation of our community – The Family. Our goal is to enrich and transform our neighborhood by empowering the community, responding to evolving needs through innovative and collaborative service, and counseling families and individuals toward positive change.

We look forward to many more years of helping others in our community, especially our youth! ■

Honoring a Leading Voice for Domestic Violence Survivors



Lisa Incollingo accepts the “Reaching Out in Need” Award for her outstanding commitment to Victims of Domestic Violence

vider of free legal services for victims and survivors of domestic violence in Camden County, offering representation, guidance, and hope to those seeking protection through the courts.

Lisa joined CCLSJ in 2005 and has become one of the region’s most trusted advocates for victims, representing hundreds of individuals in Final Restraining Order hearings and helping countless others find safety and stability. This well-deserved award was given to Lisa in recognition of the hard work and dedication she has always shown toward victims—both in the courtroom and within the broader community.

Through her compassion, professionalism, and unwavering commitment, Lisa embodies CCLSJ’s mission to provide access to justice for those who might otherwise face abuse alone. Her work reminds us that behind every case is a survivor seeking safety, dignity, and a chance to rebuild their life.

Throughout the state, with many other domestic violence programs and services being reduced or eliminated due to funding cuts, Lisa and CCLSJ remain steadfast in their commitment to continue providing these essential services—now more than ever. The need for advocacy and protection has never been greater, and Lisa’s tireless efforts continue to give voice to those who might otherwise go unheard.

CCLSJ and Lisa extend their sincere gratitude to Holy Name of Camden Ministries for its ongoing support and partnership in this vital area of service—helping ensure that survivors of domestic violence in our community continue to receive the protection and justice they deserve. ■

On October 2, marking the beginning of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Lisa M. Incollingo, Esq., coordinator of CCLSJ’s Domestic Violence Unit was honored at the Holy Name of Camden Ministries Annual Awards Ceremony with the “Reaching Out to Those in Need Award” for her two decades of service

to survivors of domestic violence and her leadership at the Camden Center for Law and Social Justice (CCLSJ).

Camden County consistently ranks among the counties with the highest number of domestic violence incidents in New Jersey. In the face of this ongoing crisis, CCLSJ serves as the lead pro-

Holy Name of Camden Ministries



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Visit our website that has links to each ministry! holynameofcamdenministries.org