

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

1 APRIL 2018

Readings for Sunday, April 1: Acts of the Apostles 10:34a, 37-43; Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8; John 20:1-9.

On this day of days we offer a joyful sacrifice of praise to the Father who raised his Son from the dead. Let us be intent upon the life Christ offers us, Christ our Passover who has been sacrificed.

Readings for Sunday, April 8: Acts of the Apostles 4:32-35; 1 John 5:1-6; John 20:19-31.

St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish Special Day of Prayer is Monday.
Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament: Monday after 9:00 A.M. Mass to 4:00 PM in the Chapel.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

<u>Date</u>	<u>Intention</u>	<u>Requested By</u>
2 Apr. MON. 9:00 AM	Mary Margaret Friel	Rev. Gregory J. Hickey
4 Apr. WED. 9:00 AM	Earl Keck	Wife, Cathy
5 Apr. THU. 9:00 AM	Timothy Reilly	Mom & Dad
6 Apr. FRI. 9:00 AM	Mary Rudy	Ron & Kathy
7 Apr. SAT. 4:00 PM	People of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
8 Apr. SUN. 9:00 AM	Those Enrolled in St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother parish Memorial Fund	



ETERNAL REST grant unto them, O Lord. May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.
PRAY FOR THE SICK AND SUFFERING of the parish especially those in homes and hospitals.
REMEMBER OUR TROOPS: Pray that God will bless and protect our young men and women in the military.



SECOND SUNDAY HOSPITALITY on Sunday, April 8 in the social hall after the 9:00 AM Mass. Come and enjoy a cup of coffee and/or juice and some light pastries. Free will offering accepted.

WOMEN'S SOCIETY MEETING on Thursday, April 5 at 7:00 PM in the social hall. Hostesses: Nancy Lingenfelter and Carol Fry.

THE ROSARY PRAYER GROUP leads the recitation of the Rosary every Sunday before the 9:00 AM Mass. They also pray the Rosary before the 9:00 AM weekday Masses. All are welcome to join in these special Marian devotions.

“CONSIDER REMEMBERING YOUR PARISH IN YOUR WILL!” For further information, please call the parish office.

<u>MINISTRY SCHEDULE - April 7/8:</u>
<u>4:00 PM Mass</u>
Lector -John Nester
Extraordinary Ministers - Vincent Tamaro, Mara Tamaro, Tony Vitacco, John Bracaglia
Altar Servers - Michael Holmes
Greeters - Patty Wade and Monica Bauer
<u>9:00 AM Mass</u>
Lector - Rocco D'Emilio
Extraordinary Ministers - Lori Carr, Helen George, Jack Bucciaglia
Altar Server - Tommy Miller, Madelyn Miller
Greeter - Sylvia and Tom Marcheskie

REFLECTIONS FROM THE DESK OF FR. GREGORY J. HICKEY

Easter Sunday

Happy Easter! This is the feast of our salvation! It is a glorious day liturgically and completes the Sacred Paschal Triduum. Some do not understand that the Church has identified the Sacred Paschal Triduum as a specific time in the Liturgical Year. This is important, since the manner in which we name our celebrations, in the liturgy, has a great impact in what people think they are about. It is important to understand the days of Holy Week and the Triduum, and when Lent ends and the Triduum begins.

Lent ends with the start of the Sacred Triduum. The celebration of the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday is the opening, and the Triduum continues until Easter Sunday and ends with Vespers. The Triduum is actually one event or service. On Holy Thursday, there is no final blessing. Our Blessed Lord is carried to the repository for adoration and the Eucharist is reserved for Good Friday. The Passion of Our Lord is on Good Friday (Mass is not celebrated on this day) with Scripture and the reception of Holy Communion. The Easter Vigil celebrates the history of salvation, reception of the Sacraments, the renewal of Baptismal Promises, the Easter Alleluia and the Solemn Blessing at the end. It is different than the rest of the year because it is one great event. The Triduum is our high Holy Day(s) if you will in the Catholic Church.

The first day of the Triduum is from Holy Thursday evening to Good Friday. The second day is from Good Friday evening to Holy Saturday evening, and the third day is from Holy Saturday evening until Vespers on Easter Sunday evening. Easter Sunday evening begins the Octave of Easter. There are actually eight days of celebration for the great Solemnity of Easter. When we enter into the Triduum, we are entering into the three-days-in-one Liturgy that celebrates the Paschal Mystery.

The Paschal Mystery is not only about Christ's Passion, Death, and Resurrection but our participation in it. Our participation in this action of Christ is essential. We experience this each time we attend Mass, and we are to live it out in our lives outside of Mass. What is it that we live? It is no less than joining in the sacrifice of Christ on the Cross and coming to new life in Him, not because of what we do or how we strive to live the life of Christ in the world, but because of what Jesus has done for us. In other words, we do not bring Jesus into the world to make the world around us holy, we join in the action of Christ, the grace of God, already present in the world, and strive to live according to that grace because of who God is, not because of who we are. It is a subtle, but essential difference and it is in the celebration of the Triduum that we come to experience this action of Christ in its fullest.

May each of you come to know the great love that Jesus has for each of you and may Easter bring you and your family the Lord's blessing. I would like to personally thank all those who participated in the Sacred Triduum this year in all the various ministries. My personal gratitude is extended to Mrs. Kathy Kulp and the choir for the beautiful music and to Bonnie Stankunas and Joseph Harbach who are our organists. I would also like to thank Maryann Dailey and Bill Gatta who are our cantors for the weekend and enhance our Liturgy by leading us in song. Thank you to each of you who have attended Mass so faithfully during the Lenten Season. We welcome each of you today to the beautiful Easter Liturgy and extend a warm welcome to our visitors. I would also like to thank the many parishioners who donated money for our beautiful Easter flowers which are adorning our sanctuary this Easter. This was coordinated by Diana Gulotta and her team who work so hard to provide their creativity in ordering and arranging the flowers for our church. Our Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, our Lectors, Servers, Greeters, and Ushers do a wonderful job every week and they are deeply appreciated. Finally, I would like to thank Maria Boyer, our Director of Religious Education, who along with Mrs. Lori Carr were the facilitators for our RCIA Program this year.

I would like to congratulate Mr. James Reitz who was baptized, confirmed, and received First Holy Communion last night at the Easter Vigil and to thank his sponsors, Tom and Cathy Reilly for their support during his journey to the faith.

Next weekend, we will welcome Mrs. Nicole Griffin into full communion in the Catholic Church. Nicole will make a Profession of Faith, be confirmed and receive First Holy Communion. Nicole was baptized into the Episcopalian Church and does not have to be re-baptized. Her sponsor is Mrs. Maria Boyer.

Finally, we remember all of the families who have lost a loved one this year. May the Risen Lord fill their hearts with the love of the Lord and may their loved ones rest in peace with the Lord.

We have so much to be grateful for as a Community of Faith. Enjoy this beautiful Solemnity of Easter with your families and many thanks for your goodness! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Fr. Hickey

Parish Support

Due to an early printing schedule, figures from the March 25 collection will be printed in the April 8 bulletin.

HELP WANTED!! Women's Society needs individual(s) with basic carpentry skills to assemble room dividers. All materials will be supplied. Please call Lori LaRosa (610-326-6030) if you can help.

THE WOMEN'S SOCIETY has purchased and donated the beautiful new handmade Altar cloth placed on the Altar for Easter. We have also purchased round tables and chairs for the social hall. Our thanks to all who participated in our fund raising efforts this last year in order to make these purchases possible.

THE WOMEN'S SOCIETY is looking for donations to be used as door prizes for our Ladies Tea. Due to the almost non-existent donations from community businesses, we are asking for your help with items, gift cards, etc. Thank you for your help. Donations can be dropped at the church office.

WOMEN'S SOCIETY NEWS

April 7 - Parish "Yard Sale" in social hall. Tables \$5.00. Doors open 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Set up 7:00 AM. Will offer various unused items from church for sale (oak chairs, organ, bingo equipment, kitchen items, etc.) PLUS will offer 8 ft. tables and chairs for FREE. Payment to church office by April 6 to reserve tables.

April 29 - Ladies Springtime Tea at 1:00 PM in the social hall. Tickets \$10.00 - on sale beginning April 7 after Masses. Must have ticket to attend. Ticket sales continue until April 22.



PARISH LOTTERY RAFFLE TICKET based on the PA Pick 3 Evening Number. Winning ticket number must be the exact number drawn for the PA Pick 3 Evening

Number. Tickets are \$5.00 each and are sold on a monthly basis. The prize for the winning ticket is \$50.00 on weekdays and \$100.00 on Sundays and one specially-designated weekday. Tickets are available after the Masses on weekends and at the parish office on weekdays. **This is our major fund raiser for the parish. We encourage each family to purchase at least one ticket each month. Your support is greatly appreciated.**

"ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK"

ST. GABRIEL LODGE

610-326-4137

OFFERTORY GIFT BEARERS - All parishioners are encouraged to be Offertory Gift Bearers for the Masses on Saturdays, Sundays and Holydays. Please call Kathy at the parish office to volunteer.

HAND-MADE BABY BLANKETS are being sold by the Women's Society. Cost is \$10.00. The blankets make a very nice gift for a new baby. Blankets are available at the parish office.

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT PANCAKE BREAKFAST hosted by the Pottstown-Stowe Lions Club on Sunday, April 29 from 8:00 AM til Noon at the West End Fire Company, Stowe. Pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, juice, milk and coffee. Cost: \$7.00 - Adults; \$5.00 - Children 4-12 years; and kids under 4 years old eat free.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY, APRIL 8 from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM at Our Lady's Missionaries of the Eucharist, Birdsboro. Conference Presenter is Sr. Joan Noreen; Celebrant and Homilist for Mass is Most Rev. Alfred A. Schlert. Includes Conference, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Divine Mercy Devotions, Sacrament of Reconciliation, Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and Mass. For more details or to register, call 610-582-3333 or email olme@olme.org.

HOLY HOUR IN CELEBRATION OF DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY on April 8 at 3:00 PM at St. Eleanor Parish, Collegeville. This is not a Mass and does not fulfill your obligation for Sunday Mass. Come and be blessed by this flood of Divine Grace at this special Holy Hour. Any questions, call Mary Ann (610-409-2622).

A BABY'S BREATH RUN FOR LIFE 2018 on April 7 at the Norristown Farm Park, East Norriton. 1 Mile Fun Run at 9:00 AM; 5K Run at 9:30 AM. Please register online at http://www.ababysbreath.org/events/NOR_RFL.html. For more details contact Dorothy Swedkowski (610-316-6281).

SPIRITUALITY UNDER THE DOME at Immaculata University on Saturday, April 7 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon. Keynote Presenter is Brother Mickey McGrath, OSFS and talk is *Saved by Beauty* focusing on the spirituality of Dorothy Day. For details call S. Mary Henrich, IHM (484-323-3434) or visit www.immaculata.edu/spirituality.