

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

6 AUGUST 2017

Readings for Sunday, August 6: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Peter 1:16-19; Matthew 17:1-9.

Transfigured in glory, the Son of Man has received kingship and dominion. He will come again in glory.

Readings for Sunday, August 13: 1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:22-33.

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>
7 Aug.	MON. 9:00 AM	Timothy Patrick Reilly	Mom & Dad
9 Aug.	WED. 9:00 AM	George & Helen Koren	Son & Daughter
10 Aug.	THU. 9:00 AM	Lawrence Streck	Ron & Carol Fry
11 Aug.	FRI. 9:00 AM	August Ferrante	Wife, Jeannine
12 Aug.	SAT. 4:00 PM	John McCarthy	Wife, Sharon
13 Aug.	SUN. 9:00 AM	People of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	



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.

PARISH OFFICE ENTRANCE: Due to the work on the parking lot, please use the front door entrance of the school on Fairview Street to access the parish office until Monday, August 14.

PARISH PARKING LOT will re-open on Saturday, August 12.

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 devotions.

HANDMADE BABY BLANKETS - The Women's Society is selling hand-made baby blankets. The cost is \$10.00. The blankets make a very nice gift for a new baby. To purchase the blankets, please see a member of the Women's Society or call the parish office.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE - August 12/13:

4:00 PM Mass

Lector - Jim Mich

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion - Tony Vitacco, John Bracaglia, Cindy Nore, and John Nester

Altar Servers - Michael Holmes

Greeters - Phil Bracaglia and Maria DiMarco

9:00 AM Mass

Lector - Jack Bucciaglia

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion - Jim Bucciaglia, Denise Bucciaglia and Lori Carr

Altar Server - Tony Vitacco

Greeter - Sylvia & Tom Marcheskie

REFLECTIONS FROM THE DESK OF FR. GREGORY J. HICKEY

August 6th, 2017

This weekend is the reading from the Gospel of Matthew outlining the Transfiguration of Jesus Christ. This reading happens twice throughout the year. It happens once in August and once within the Season of Lent. As Jesus is transfigured in front of His disciples, He can help us be transformed in our thinking and prayer life within this Season of Lent.

In this incident of the Transfiguration, I am moved by what Peter did not say. This is one of the few times in which the Gospel tells us that Peter did not know what to say. He simply says, "Lord, it is good that we are here with you." Listen closely to those words. It is almost as if this very hyperactive, impetuous St. Peter wanted to savor being quiet in the presence of the Master, to enjoy the person of Jesus and remain silent.

Sometimes, like St. Peter, it is a gift when we do not know what to say to our Lord, because silence is attractive in the eyes of God. There is a divine preference for silence. Silence is essential if we're going to be with Christ. From the moment we get up in the morning with the alarm clock, we want the radio on, the TV on, the telephone ringing, or we are answering text messages, or we desire company, and many people dread silence. Yet, silence is essential to our Life with Christ.

I was always impressed by students at Malvern Retreat House who came to make their annual Kairos Retreat. They deposited their cell phones and electronic equipment into boxes and had them returned at the end of the retreat. I asked them once why they did this and they responded they were "Fasting from noise." I don't know if they consciously were thinking of this reading but they had captured the essence of what Jesus did for Peter, James and John. They were telling me that they were stopping, looking, and listening to not only the Lord but to themselves as well.

Each one of us is called daily to ascend the mountain to be with the Lord and to be transformed through prayer. I am basically a night person and do most of my work late into the night. I forget that when I e-mail people the time appears on the e-mail and people have commented: I received an e-mail from you at 2:30 a.m. I find the mornings difficult but I try to get up an hour before I have to and reserve that time for prayer. As I pray the Divine Office, I pray for many things and remember each of you and your intentions. Each of us is called to find that special time throughout the day to communicate with the Lord. It could be early morning, afternoon, or the evening. I would suggest that you make that a special part of your day. Each of us is called to the mountain of Kairos (God's time) on a daily basis.

I feel confident that many of you have climbed a mountain or a hill in your life and experienced the presence and grandeur of God, maybe not as dramatic as the three apostles did in the transfiguration, but God's presence could be felt. If you've never climbed a real mountain, I am sure you have climbed many mountains figuratively: mountains of ignorance to become educated, mountains of fear to discover new strength and courage; mountains of hurt and sickness to find healing, mountains of pride to discover we are not the center of the universe. In conquering everyday heights, we discover the God who never leaves us. Peter, James and John on Mount Tabor discovered the God that was hidden within Jesus and then realized through silence that He was always with them.

As we contemplate the Transfiguration in Matthew's Gospel, may it come alive for you as you come to understand the many faces of Christ. He is Son of Mary but also the Eternal Word made flesh. He is full of brightness and He gives us a new vision of Himself. He invites us to sit with Him on the mountain and to give us a new vision of ourselves so that we may truly see all that he wants to communicate to us personally.

On this First Sunday in August, may you not only witness the Transfiguration of Jesus Christ but may your lives be transformed.

Have a good week!

Fr. Hickey

The wooden yardsticks and rulers we are collecting for Fr. Hickey's friend, Tina Hyde, are for special projects for special people. You may recall that years ago, banks and retail businesses gave them to customers as promotions; like carpet, furniture, fabric, hardware and department stores. Most were imprinted with the company's name, address and phone number, but many had slogans like: We go that extra yard for you, Inch by inch, it's a cinch, How do you measure up, We are a foot ahead of the rest, Buy your candy by the yard, to name a few. Now, they give out pens and refrigerator magnets, so yardsticks have become scarce. Many thanks for all the yardsticks.

Parish Support

WEEKLY BUDGET.....	\$5,000
DEPOSIT FOR JULY 30, 2017.....	\$3,278
Regular Sunday Collection -	\$3,203
Parish Giving -	\$75
WEEKLY DEFICIT.	(\$1,722)
Year to Date Budget.....	\$25,000
Year to Date Collections.....	\$18,009
Average per week Collections.....	\$3,602
Year to Date Deficit.	(\$6,991)
Average per week Deficit.....	(\$1,398)

JULY 31, 2016

Deposit.	\$3,541
2016-2017 Deficit to Date.....	(\$7,100)
Difference from previous year.....	\$109



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.**

LOTTERY CALENDAR RAFFLE TICKET WINNERS

July 24 - #311 - Helen Chaykowsky - \$50.00
 July 25 - #217 - unsold
 July 26 - #489 - unsold
 July 27 - #577 - unsold
 July 28 - #476 - unsold
 July 29 - #487 - unsold
 July 30 - #963 - unsold
 July 31 - #539 - Karen Levan - \$50.00
 July figures: 360 tickets sold - \$,1800.00. Payout for winners - \$550.00. Printing of tickets - \$100.00. Profit for July - \$1,150.00.

MASS ATTENDANCE for July 29/30:

4:00 PM Mass - 197
 9:00 AM Mass - 157
 Total Attendance - 354
 Mass Attendance for July 30/31, 2016 - 327

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

WINNER OF THE MONTHLY 50/50 GOLD ENVELOPE DRAWING to support Religious Education:

JULY DRAWING - Mrs. Mildred Semmer - \$317.00.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sponsored by the Women’s Society

Boscov’s Friends Helping Friends Fundraiser: Tickets currently available. When you purchase your ticket for ONLY \$5.00, you can shop all day on October 17 with a shopping pass good for a 25% discount on purchases on that day from 9:00 AM to 11:00 PM. Buy them also for family members and friends. Tickets available at the parish office.

Movie Night on September 8.

Zook’s Homemade Amish Apple Dumplings Sale on September 16. Don’t miss them this year!

Kauffman’s Chicken BBQ on October 8.

More information to follow on these events. Thank you for supporting the Women’s Society and your parish.

“ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK”

MISHOCK PHYSICAL THERAPY & ASSOCIATES
 610-327-2600

ZOOK’S HOMEMADE AMISH APPLE DUMPLINS SALE

made in Lancaster County
Saturday, September 16 - pick up after 4:00 PM Mass

Cost: \$3.00 each

Pre-orders and pre-payment only

_____ Number of Apple Dumplings

_____ Amount of payment enclosed

NAME _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

Last date to order is August 31.

Place orders in collection basket or drop off at the parish office.



10TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING
to benefit St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Church

Friday, September 22

11:00 AM Shotgun Start

Held at Blackwood Golf Course, Douglassville

Rain or Shine

\$85.00 per golfer includes Hot dog/sauerkraut Lunch, Post-play Banquet, Refreshments throughout the day, Door Prizes and Individual and Team Skill Prizes. Our goal is to have 72 golfers at our outing. Help us reach our goal by coming out to golf and invite your friends.

Banquet Guest only - cost is \$20.00 per person.

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE

Family Sponsor - \$25.00

Prize Sponsor - \$50.00

Course Refreshment Sponsor - \$75.00

Hole Sponsor - \$100.00

Food Sponsor - \$250.00

Event Sponsor - \$300.00

For more information, sponsorships or registration, please call the parish office or email contact@sgsm62.org.

Come join us for a day of golf and lots of fun!

METANOIA is an active community of Catholic young adults in western Montgomery County. The group supports Catholics in their 20s and 30s who are looking to deepen their faith and meet fellow Catholics in the area. August events: Tuesday, August 8 - Bible Study at Corpus Christi Parish, Lansdale at 7:00 PM; Tuesday, August 15 - Mass for the Feast of the Assumption (time and location TBA); Tuesday, August 22 - Theology on Tap at Appalachian Brewing Co., Colledgeville, Doors open at 7:00 PM, Talk starts at 7:30 PM, Speaker - Dr. Angie Corbo; Saturday, August 26 - Annual Retreat at St. Eleanor Parish, Colledgeville, 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM; Tuesday, August 29 - Holy Hour at Mary, Mother of the Redeemer Parish, North Wales at 7:30 PM. Contact metanoiayoungadults@gmail.com for more information.

THEOLOGY OF THE BODY INSTITUTE AND ANTHEM: Join the Theology of the Body Institute and Anthem in a mini-immersion retreat encounter called "Awaken," Friday, August 11 (5:00 PM) - Sunday, August 13 (1:00 PM) at St. Mary of Providence Retreat Center, Elverson. To register or to find out more, contact Samantha (215-302-8200, ext. 104). Come and awaken the wonder and mystery of being human!

FLAME OF LOVE - Celebrating the Past, Anticipating the Future on August 15 at SS. Simon and Jude Parish, West Chester. Begins with Mass at 9:00 AM and ends with Benediction at 2:00 PM. Spiritual Teachings & Music, Sharing, Holy Hour and Benediction. Bring your own lunch or call ahead to order a Box Lunch for \$15 (610-622-4257).

FATIMA PRAYER SERVICE at Visitation Parish, Norristown in the Lower Church on Sunday, August 13 at 7:00 PM. This date is the 100th anniversary (observed) of the fourth apparition of Our Lady of Fatima. The Prayer Service will provide an opportunity for a plenary indulgence. For more information, contact Bob Hehn (484-557-1371).

REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE! Retrouvaille may be the Lifeline that you need to save your marriage. It is not just a social gathering or series of seminars, but rather a way to rediscover and rekindle the loving relationship in your marriage. The next program begins the weekend of August 11-13 at the Family Life Center, Malvern. For more information or to register, visit www.HelpOurMarriage.com or call 1-800-470-2230.