

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT 25 FEBRUARY 2018

Readings for Sunday, February 25: Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Romans 8:31b-34; Mark 9:2-10.

Abraham offers the ultimate sacrifice of thanksgiving, the gift of his very son. This sacrifice prefigures the sacrifice of Jesus who died for us all. In his transfiguration, Jesus discloses a suffering messiahship.

Readings for Sunday, March 4: Exodus 20:1-17; 1 Corinthians 1:22-25; John 2:13-25.

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>
26 Feb. MON. 9:00 AM	David Chester Andreas	Tony & Theresa Vitacco
28 Feb. WED. 9:00 AM	Francis Pessaro Families	Jane Perkins
1 Mar. THU. 9:00 AM	Joseph Daniel Guarinello, Jr.	Jim Forcinio
2 Mar. FRI. 9:00 AM	Michael Vitacco	Tony & Theresa
3 Mar. SAT. 4:00 PM	People of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
4 Mar. 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.

WOMEN'S SOCIETY MEETING on Thursday, March 1 at 7:00 PM in the social hall. Hostesses: Melanie Warzeski and Phil Bracaglia. 2018 DUES payable now - \$3.00. Contact Anna Baldasano (610-323-8198) or the parish office.

PIZZA & MOVIE NIGHT on Friday, March 2 at 6:30 PM in the social hall. Pack up the kids, blankets and chairs and join us for pizza and movie night. Pizza will be \$1.00/slice and soda only 50 cents. Popcorn will be FREE. Be sure to look for sign up sheets after Masses to let us know how many people we can expect. Join us for a fun night!

SENIOR CITIZENS BUS TRIP to Hunterdon Hills Playhouse on April 17 to see *Steel Magnolias*. Leave from church at 9:00 AM and return about 5:30 PM. Cost is \$83.00 - all inclusive. Any questions, call Shirley (610-326-1128).

MINISTRY SCHEDULE - March 3/4:

4:00 PM Mass

Lector -Phyllis Villano

Extraordinary Ministers - Frank Durante, Sherry Durante, John Nester, John Bragalica

Altar Servers - Michael Holmes

Greeters - Patty Wade and Monica Bauer

9:00 AM Mass

Lector - Jim Mich

Extraordinary Ministers - Chris Gerasimowicz, Helen George, Rita Templin

Altar Server - Domenic Gerasimowicz

Greeter - Jack and Lori Carr

REFLECTIONS FROM THE DESK OF FR. GREGORY J. HICKEY

New Procedures on the Tribunal

Fees to be paid by the Archdiocese

The Tribunal is a group of specifically qualified priests, sisters, and lay persons whose responsibility it is to come to the help of people who have experienced divorce.

When a divorce occurs, the Catholic Church always seeks to balance two realities. One is the unbreakableness of the bond of marriage. This is God's law. It cannot be broken by human intervention. On the other hand, the Church is concerned about the spiritual welfare of the people involved. Was this a true marriage? Even though a Catholic marriage was celebrated, perhaps there was some weakness in the consent of the parties involved. The Annulment Procedure addresses this problem without affixing blame on either party.

Anyone who had a marriage that ended in divorce can petition the Tribunal for a Declaration of Nullity. The Tribunal is looking to see if something was lacking in the intentions of the parties with regards to children, fidelity and permanence, and/or in their understanding of marriage, and/or in their ability to enter into and fulfill marriage.

If you are divorced or married outside the Catholic Church, please telephone the Tribunal Office if you have questions. Have no fear. All interviews are private. The telephone number is (215) 587-3750. You can also call me at the rectory as I am very familiar with the process and worked at the Tribunal in the 80's.

New Procedures as requested by Pope Francis

1. To begin, go to the website of the Archdiocese, www.archphila.org and download the forms. On the top of the webpage, under the heading, "How do I", click the tab "Start the Annulment Process." **Follow the instructions, fill out the form on your computer, print out the form, obtain the proper documents and send everything to the Tribunal.** When your application is received you will be contacted to begin your case with formal testimony.
2. Once your formal testimony has been taken, your former spouse will be cited by the Tribunal. Your former spouse will be notified of the grounds and reasons for the Petition. If you do not have an address for your former spouse, you need to provide the Tribunal with an explanation as to why that is so and what steps you took to locate your former spouse.
3. If your former spouse participates in the case, is in favor of a Declaration of Nullity, and agrees with the grounds and the reasons for the Petition and if their testimony is similar to your testimony, then it is possible that the case **may** be heard in a process called the "Brief Process", or the "Bishop's Process" given by Pope Francis. With this process, the testimony in the case, the advice of a Tribunal assessor and the comments of the Defender of the Bond (whose job is to uphold the validity of the marriage) go to the Bishop for a decision. If the Bishop judges the case to be proven, he then issues a decision for a Declaration of Nullity. If the Bishop judges the case not to be proven to him, the Bishop **does not deny** the Petition. Instead, sends it back to be judged in the normal process, where more testimony is gathered.
4. In cases where the former spouse is opposed to a Declaration of Nullity, where the former spouse does not respond to the Tribunal, or is unable to be located, and even cases from #3, these cases continue on in the **normal process** for a Declaration of Nullity. Pope Francis facilitated this ordinary process by permitting Tribunals to accept the case of everyone who lives within their local diocese, no matter where the marriage took place (even if in a foreign country) or no matter where the former spouse lives (even if in a foreign country). Also, if the Tribunal arrives at granting a Declaration of Nullity and if the other person is not opposed to it and does not appeal it, then the Declaration becomes immediately effective, without need for anything further. The normal process takes about 6-8 months.
5. Archbishop Charles Chaput, in accord with the wishes of Pope Francis, has decreed that the Archdiocese will absorb the \$800 cost of the process. Petitioners are asked to contribute something out of charity according to their means.

N.B. Even though the process has been shortened, it still may seem difficult for some to understand. I will be happy to meet with anyone to help you discern and understand the process. I am only a phone call away.

Have a good week!

Fr. Hickey

Parish Support

WEEKLY BUDGET.....	\$5,000
DEPOSIT FOR FEBRUARY 18, 2018.....	\$4,044
Regular Sunday Collection -	\$2,907
Parish Giving -	\$95
Ash Wednesday Collection -	\$1,042
WEEKLY DEFICIT.....	(\$956)
Year to Date Budget.....	\$170,000
Year to Date Collections.....	\$150,465
Average per week Collection.....	\$4,425
Year to Date Deficit.....	(\$19,535)
Average per week Deficit.....	(\$575)
 <i>FEBRUARY 19, 2017</i>	
Deposit.....	\$3,650
2016-2017 Deficit to Date.....	(\$21,370)
Difference from previous year.....	\$1,835

MASS ATTENDANCE for February 17/18:

4:00 PM Mass - 282
 9:00 AM Mass - 112
 Total Attendance - 394
 Mass Attendance for February 18/19, 2017 - 342



Raffle Drawing

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

February 12 - #830 - Kevin Villano - \$50.00
 February 13 - #387 - John Yergey - \$50.00
 February 14 - #775 - unsold
 February 15 - #242 - Lara Dilworth - \$50.00
 February 16 - #977 - Ken & Helen George - \$50.00
 February 17 - #132 - unsold
 February 18 - #182 - unsold

Statement of Most Rev. Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap. Regarding shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida: "Nineteen years ago I sat with the parents of children murdered in the Columbine High School massacre, and buried some of their dead. Nothing seems to change, no matter how brutal the cost. Terrible things happen; pious statements are released, and the nation goes back to its self-absorbed distractions. The latest massacre in south Florida requires two things from all of us. We need to pray for the victims and their families because – as I witnessed firsthand at Columbine – their suffering is intense and long lasting. And we need to be angry; angry at our lawmakers for doing so little to prevent these catastrophes; angry at our news and entertainment media for simultaneously feeding off these tragedies and fueling them with a steady stream of sensationalism and moral incoherence; angry at ourselves for perversely tolerating these things, and then forgetting them until the next round of violence. This is Lent. As a people, we have a lot to repent and confess. And let's not lie to ourselves that tighter gun restrictions – as vital and urgent as they now are – will solve the problem. We've lost our respect for human life on a much broader scale, and this is the utterly predictable result."

STATIONS OF THE CROSS during Lent on Wednesday, February 28, March 7, 14 and 28 at 1:30 PM. Also on Friday, February 23 at 5:00 PM.

FAST & ABSTINENCE DURING LENT - All persons who are 14 years of age and older are bound to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday, on all the Fridays of Lent and Good Friday. All persons 18 years of age and older, up to and including their 59th birthday, are bound to fast by limiting themselves to a single full meal on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, while the other two meals on those days are to be light.

LENTEN DINNERS at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Stowe on Fridays during Lent from 5:00-8:00 PM. Various seafood offered (crab cakes every week). Cost is \$20.00.

MARIAN DAY at St. Charles Seminary on Saturday, March 17 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Includes morning and afternoon presentations by Tim Staples, Mass, box lunch and Holy Hour. Donation for box lunch is \$10. RSVP: advancement@scs.edu or 610-785-6270 by March 1.

10th ANNUAL PHILADELPHIA CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE on Saturday, March 3 at Neumann University, Aston. Register at www.manuphilly.com.