

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

22 JULY 2018

Readings for Sunday, July 22: Jeremiah 23:1-6; Ephesians 2:13-18; Mark 6:30-34.

Jesus, our shepherd, nourishes and strengthens us, guiding us in right paths. He is the righteous shoot of David, the peace between Jews and Gentiles, between God and all humanity.

Readings for Sunday, July 29: 2 Kings 4:42-44; Ephesians 4:1-6; John 6:1-15.

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>
23 July	MON. 9:00 AM	Earl Keck	Wife, Cathy
25 July	WED. 9:00 AM	Joan Reitz	Husband, Jim
26 July	THU. 9:00 AM	David Angelo	Kathy Tauber
27 July	FRI. 9:00 AM	Helen G. Hickey	Fr. Gregory J. Hickey
28 July	SAT. 4:00 PM	Helen Oberley	The Family
29 July	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.

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.

ST. GABRIEL OF THE SORROWFUL MOTHER PARISH MEMORIAL FUND DONATION received in memory of:
GRACE PAVLIK from Lew & Beth Chillot.

MAGNIFICAT - Those who purchased the Magnificat can pick up their AUGUST issue at the parish office.

OFFERTORY GIFT BEARERS - All parishioners are encouraged to be Offertory Gift Bearers for the Masses on Saturdays, Sundays and Holydays. You may volunteer as a family or an individual. Please call Kathy at the parish office to volunteer.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE - July 28/29:

4:00 PM Mass

Lector - John Nester

Extraordinary Ministers - George Siver, Shelly Stockmal, Terry Donnelly, John Bracaglia

Altar Server - Maeve Donnelly

Greeters - Ginger Scheidt

9:00 AM Mass

Lector - Sylvia Marcheskie

Extraordinary Ministers - Jim Bucciaglia, Denise Bucciaglia, Cindy Nore

Altar Server - Tommy Miller and Madelyn Miller

Greeters - Marie Hildebrand

REFLECTIONS FROM THE DESK OF FR. GREGORY J. HICKEY

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

For the past several weeks, the readings have centered on the Kingdom of God. We have seen the Kingdom compared to a treasure. Other readings have centered on the Pearl of great price. One Sunday used the idea of planting seeds and brought us into a Botany lesson of seeing results many months later. Another Sunday showed us that we value people and people are so more important than possessions. Each of them were spoken of in parables and hopefully went below the surface to teach us valuable lessons about ourselves and our faith.

Jesus was a master teacher and used the ideas from His own culture to teach the people so they might understand more complex issues. Each one of us are teachers in our own way. You as parents are teaching your children on a daily basis and at times, you probably get as frustrated as Jesus did but you continue to teach and give positive feedback on a daily basis. Then, the lights go on and you feel so proud of yourselves and your children's self-esteem receives a heightened sense of approval. Teaching is a two-way street. The teacher and the pupil learn from one another.

I remember clearly a Math teacher in one of the high schools I was working at. She was so frustrated because she was trying to get across a very difficult new Math concept. Each day the more she tried, the more plainly students were becoming more frustrated and quite edgy. She was discussing this with me in the faculty room and I suggested that she relax and meet the students where they were and not where she was. I told her to think about it and do something different on a Friday during her class.

The following week, she sensed a high degree of anxiety and on Friday, the teacher said, "Look, put away your books. Everybody take out a piece of paper and list each of the other students' names on that paper, and write something nice about each one."

So that's what they did for the entire class. She collected the papers, she went home, and over the weekend she listed the names of all the students and all the nice things that people had to say about them. When she went in Monday morning, she gave the papers out to each one. Immediately, the tenor of the class changed. She even overheard one of the students whisper to another that "I never knew that anybody thought anything nice about me." They were then ready to progress and learn because someone was looking at them as real people, with real emotions, real problems, and the little exercise changed their lives and transformed them into students with a connection to one another and to the teacher.

The years went by, students came and went, and eventually they had a fifteen year reunion. When they gathered around Theresa, their old teacher, one of the guys opened up his wallet and pulled out a ragged piece of paper that obviously had been folded and refolded many times. Theresa recognized it immediately as the list she had given to them – to this boy and others – many years ago. Another student told her how she had kept that list in her bedroom dresser drawer all these years. Another volunteered that she had pasted her list into her wedding album. Others told her about their lists and how they had referred to it many times after the class had ended.

The teacher was quite overwhelmed to think that a minor gesture to settle down a class so many years ago had meant so much to these students. Someone had said something nice about them, and during these years when they were feeling low, they would pull out this piece of paper. Then they would remember that to somebody they were of value, that they mattered, and that something was good in their lives.

Theresa never realized that she was planting a small seed; she certainly was not intending a grand gesture. It was a situation that Jesus would appreciate and say, "The Kingdom of God is like this."

It is very difficult to understand the complex issue of the Kingdom of God when we do not understand what is going on in the kingdoms of our own backyard. What are you doing in your own backyard to advance the understanding of both God's Kingdom and your own?

Have a good week!

Fr. Hickey

Parish Support

WEEKLY BUDGET.....	\$5,000
DEPOSIT FOR JULY 15, 2018.....	\$3,484
Regular Sunday Collection -	\$3,394
Parish Giving -	\$90
WEEKLY DEFICIT.	(\$1,516)
Year to Date Budget.....	\$15,000
Year to Date Collections.....	\$11,347
Average per week Collection.....	\$3,782
Year to Date Deficit.	(\$3,653)
Average per week Deficit.....	(\$1,218)

July 16, 2017

Deposit.	\$3,392
2017-2018 Deficit to Date.....	(\$3,744)
Difference from previous year.....	\$91

MASS ATTENDANCE for July 14/15:

4:00 PM Mass - 191
 9:00 AM Mass - 142
 Total Attendance - 333
 Mass Attendance for July 15/16, 2017 - 325

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

“ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK”

AMITY SELF-STORAGE
 610-385-1222

HAND-MADE BABY BLANKETS - The Women’s Society is selling hand-made baby blankets. Cost is \$10.00. The blankets make a very nice gift for a new baby or as an additional something when giving a gift card. To purchase a blanket, please contact the parish office.

RADA CUTLERY - The Women’s Society is selling RADA Cutlery. Items available include: 6-1/2" Paring Knife, Vegetable Peeler, Server Spoon, 8-1/2" Utility Steak Knife, 11" Large Slicer and 8-1/2" Serrated Knife. Please call Louise Roberts (610-323-5765) for more information or to purchase any of the RADA Cutlery items.



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

- July 9 - #709 - unsold
- July 10 - #608 - unsold
- July 11 - #224 - unsold
- July 12 - #808 - Edward Karaszkiwicz, Jr. - \$50.00
- July 13 - #619 - Maria & Steve Boyer - \$50.00
- July 14 - #603 - unsold
- July 15 - #464 - unsold

REDNER’S TAPES - Thank you to everyone for collecting the Redner’s register tapes for our parish. Money we receive from this fund raiser is put towards our Parish Religious Educational Program (PREP). Just a reminder that the Redner’s tapes only count when you use a Save-A-Tape card and that information prints out at the bottom of your receipt. If you do not use a card, we can not use your tapes. You can obtain a Save-A-Tape card at the Customer Service Desk at any Redner’s. Containers for the Redner’s tapes are in the vestibule of church or you may bring them to the parish office.

MOO MONEY FUND RAISER PROGRAM - Our parish is a participant in the Moo Money Program offered by Turkey Hill. For every 500 milk lids turned in with the Moo Money Label, the parish will receive \$25 from Turkey Hill. Money the parish receives is used to offset our PREP expenses. Containers for the Moo Money lids are in the vestibule of church or you may bring them to the parish office.

CatholicPhilly.com, the official news website of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, delivers up-to-date Catholic news and information twice each week to your email inbox for free. It’s easy to sign up at www.CatholicPhilly.com/newsletter.

Important **GIFT CARD SCAM** - Please be advised that there is a nationwide scam that has affected several parishes in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. This particular scam is titled the "Gift Card" scam. In this scam, the parishioners of a parish are the targets. An unknown person creates an email address account which contains the pastor's name or the name of the church. An email is then sent to the parishioners requesting them to purchase a gift card and to tell the unknown person the numbers off the back of the cards. Please be advised if you receive such an email, it is not authorized by the Archdiocese, St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish or Fr. Gregory J. Hickey.

ST. ALOYSIUS PARISH SCHOOL - Prospective parents looking to enroll their child(ren) in a high-quality Pre-K program or Grades K through 8 for the 2018-2019 school year are invited to schedule a tour of St. Aloysius Parish School by calling Cathy Remick (610-326-6167, ext. 427).

GOLF TOURNAMENT & BANQUET sponsored by Fr. Bally Council #1192 Knights of Columbus on Friday, August 10 at Twin Ponds Golf Course, Gilbertsville - held rain or shine. Shotgun start for an 18-hole Scramble format at 9:00 AM. Banquet and awards presentation at approximately 2:30 PM. Golfers - \$100.00. Banquet only - \$30.00. Tournament includes Door Prizes, 18 Holes of Golf, Breakfast at the Course, Lunch will be provided, Beer & Water throughout the day, Team Prizes as well as Skills Competition Prizes, Dinner/Banquet. Net proceeds go directly toward the Father Bally Council #1192 Charitable Works Fund. This is a 100% pre-paid event and limited to 36 foursomes. Contact Joseph Barrase (856-885-0687) for more details or registration.

BIRTHRIGHT OF POTTSTOWN has been helping pregnant moms and babies in need since 1980. They are in need of volunteers to continue their life-affirming mission. Anyone interested can stop in to visit at 327 King St., Pottstown or call one of the co-directors: Carole (448-366-2065) or Lori (610-731-7012). A training session is scheduled for Wednesday, August 8.

ARCADIA AT LIMERICK POINTE offers truly special and unique new senior living options in our area. Spacious and modern independent living apartments, many with balconies and patios. À la carte services so you can make sure you are only paying for what you need, when you need it. Faith-based ties to St. Teresa of Calcutta Parish that will create an inclusive, family-like atmosphere for all who reside at the community, regardless of affiliation. For more information, brochures are available at the church entrances.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL 2018 - We thank everyone who has made a gift in the past to the Catholic Charities Appeal. The Catholic Charities Appeal is a time for our parish to come together to extend our love, generosity, and concern to those who need it most. So far, our parish has raised \$7,270 of our \$11,294 goal. For those who have not yet contributed to the Appeal, we ask that you prayerfully consider showing your support to this great call for action. Taking care of those in need is one of the most important things we can do as Catholics.

RETROUVAILLE is a peer ministry of volunteer couples that can help you learn the tools of healthy communication, build intimacy and heal, just as they have done in their own marriages. Retrouvaille can help get your relationship back on track. Next program is at the Family Life Center, Malvern on August 17-19. For more information or to register visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 1-800-470-2230. Inquiries are strictly confidential.

THE JOY OF RESTORATION RETREAT for men and women on August 3-5 at Malvern Retreat House. Cost is \$265 per person and includes accommodations and meals. This retreat will look at restoration in terms of: forgiveness and accountability, impediments to evangelization and spiritual growth, relationships with God and others, mercy and healing. This retreat will feature nationally acclaimed speakers and experts from disciplines and perspectives such as Damon Owens, Devin Schadt, Dr. Peter Kleponis, Megan Murphy, David Abel, Marty Rotella and Msgr. William King. For more details or to register at www.malverretreat.com/register or call 610-644-0400.

METANOIA is an active community of Catholic young adults in western Montgomery County who support Catholics in their 20s and 30s who are looking to deepen their faith and meet fellow Catholics in the area. Upcoming events: Tuesday, July 24 - Holy Hour at Mary, Mother of the Redeemer Parish, North Wales at 7:30 PM; Sunday, July 29 - Summer Picnic; Friday, August 3 - Mini Golf Social at Freddy Hill Farms, Lansdale at 7:30 PM. Visit www.metanoiayoungadults.org for more details.

ROMAN CATHOLIC ALUMNI AND J. W. HALLAHAN ALUMNAE are celebrating the 25th Annual Day at the Bay on Saturday, August 4 from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM at Keenan's Irish Pub, North Wildwood, NJ. Ticket prices: \$30.00 in advance/ \$40.00 at the door. Roman Alumni - 215-627-1890; Hallahan Alumnae - 215-568-3081.

SENIORS: Do you like Bingo, Bridge or Pinochle? Seniors meet Thursdays from 11:30 AM to 3:00 PM at Visitation BVM Church Larkin Center, Norristown.