

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

30 JULY 2017

Readings for Sunday, July 30: 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12; Romans 8:28-30; Matthew 13:44-52.

The person of true wisdom, like Solomon, will seek the reign of God and treasure it above all else. It is more precious than gold and silver. Thus one becomes conformed to the image of Christ, the Son.

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

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>
31 July	MON. 9:00 AM Rita Bernas	Cathy Keck
2 Aug.	WED. 9:00 AM Rev. Patrick A. Duddy	
3 Aug.	THU. 9:00 AM Rosemary Rice	Husband, Ken
4 Aug.	FRI. 9:00 AM Helen G. Hickey	Rev. Gregory J. Hickey
5 Aug.	SAT. 4:00 PM People of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
6 Aug.	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.

“CELEBRATE YOUR FAITH” Night with the Reading

Phillies: Thursday, August 24, 2017 at 7:05 PM vs. The Harrisburg Senators. Enjoy the game, Fireworks, faith discussion with R-Phillies players, and a post-game concert by the band “Boundaries.” Yellow reserved seats - \$10 each. Please contact Maria Boyer (610-506-2455 or mboyer@sgsm62.org) - deadline is August 3.

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 5 and 6

4:00 PM Mass

Lector - John Nester

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion - Frank Durante, Sherry Durante, Helen George, Cindy Nore, Nikki Gambino and John Bracaglia

Altar Servers - Tony Vitacco

Greeters - Ginger Scheidt and Marie Hildebrand

9:00 AM Mass

Lector - Rocco D’Emilio

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion - Rita Templin, Chris Gerasimowicz, George Siver, Gary Huster and Debbie Huster.

Altar Server - Domenic Gerasimowicz

Greeter - Jack & Lori Carr

REFLECTIONS FROM THE DESK OF FR. GREGORY J. HICKEY

July 30th 2017

Once upon a time there was a king who ruled a small kingdom. It wasn't great, and it really was not known for any of its resources or people. But the king had a diamond, a great perfect diamond that had been in his family for generations. The diamond was not as big as the Hope diamond that many people in our generation have come to admire but it was a large diamond. He kept it on display for all to see and appreciate. People came from all over the country to admire it and gaze at it.

Word of the diamond spread to neighboring countries, and more people came to look at it. Soon the people felt that the diamond was theirs; somehow it gave them a sense of pride, of dignity, and of worth. Then one day a soldier came to the king with the news that, although no one had touched the diamond, for it was guarded night and day, the diamond was cracked.

The king ran to see, and sure enough there was a crack right through the middle of the diamond. Immediately he summoned all the jewelers of the land and had them look at the diamond. One after another they examined the diamond and gave the bad news to the king: the diamond was useless; it was irredeemably flawed. The king was crushed, and so were the people. Somehow they felt that they had lost everything.

Then out of nowhere came an elderly gentleman who claimed he was a jeweler. He was passing through the kingdom and heard of the catastrophe. He asked to see the diamond. After examining it, he looked up and confidently told the king, "I can fix it. In fact, I can make it better than it was before." The king was shocked and overwhelmed at the same time. However, he was a bit leery. The gentleman said, "Give me the jewel, and in one week, I will bring it back to you fixed."

Now the king was not about to let the stone out of his sight, even if it was ruined, so he gave the gentleman a room in the palace. He gave him all the tools and food and drink he needed and wanted, and then he waited. The entire kingdom waited. It was a long week.

At the end of the week, the gentleman emerged from the room in the palace and came down to the courtyard where many people were waiting. He had the diamond in his hand and gave it to the king. The king could not believe his eyes. It was magnificent. The traveler had fixed it, and he had made it even better than it was before! He had used the crack that ran through the center of the diamond as a stem and carved an intricate, full-blown rose, leaves, and thorns into the diamond. It was exquisite.

The king was overjoyed and offered the elderly gentleman half of his kingdom. He had taken something beautiful and perfect and improved upon it!

The gentleman thanked the king for his generosity but refused the king's generosity in front of everyone. He said, "I did not do that at all. What I did was to take something flawed and cracked at its heart and turned it into something beautiful."

That is what the Lord does for each of us. We are all diamonds in His eyes. We have our flaws and we have cracks in those diamonds from time to time. He is not waiting for us to be perfect. He loves us just the way we are. He calls us to Reconciliation just as we call one another to Reconciliation so that we may renew our friendship with Him just as we renew our friendships with one another.

Have a good week and take care of the many diamonds in your life. You may just be the artist that helps to cement the flaws in one of the diamonds that the Lord has created.

Fr. Gregg Hickey

Dear Fr. Hickey and Parishioners of St. Gabriel's,

The wooden yardsticks and rulers I collect 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. We measure everything from heights, lengths and widths to successes and failures and service. Many thanks for all the yardsticks you amassed for me and to Fr. Hickey for his "Field Effect."

Sincerely, Tina Hyde

Parish Support

WEEKLY BUDGET.....	\$5,000
DEPOSIT FOR JULY 23, 2017.....	\$3,475
Regular Sunday Collection -	\$3,400
Parish Giving -	\$75
WEEKLY DEFICIT.	(\$1,525)
Year to Date Budget.....	\$20,000
Year to Date Collections.....	\$14,731
Average per week Collections.....	\$3,683
Year to Date Deficit.	(\$5,269)
Average per week Deficit.....	(\$1,317)

JULY 24, 2016

Deposit.	\$3,049
2016-2017 Deficit to Date.....	(\$5,614)
Difference from previous year.....	\$345

MASS ATTENDANCE for July 22/23:

4:00 PM Mass - 197
 9:00 AM Mass - 154
 Total Attendance - 351
 Mass Attendance for July 23/24, 2016 - 300



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 17 - #413 - Joey John Stockmal - \$50.00
- July 18 - #823 - Fr. Gregory J. Hickey - \$50.00
- July 19 - #303 - unsold
- July 20 - #693 - unsold
- July 21 - #153 - Shirley Mohn - \$50.00
- July 22 - #901 - unsold
- July 23 - #111 - unsold

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

“ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK”

GUTTER DOCTOR 610-776-2000

ST. GABRIEL OF THE SORROWFUL MOTHER PARISH MEMORIAL FUND DONATION received in memory of: DARLENE STROCK from Catherine Sands.

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 Dumplin’s 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.

ST. ALOYSIUS PARISH SCHOOL - There is still time to enroll your child for the 2017-2018 school year. Classes are filling up so call TODAY! Pre-school through 8th grade. Full day Kindergarten. Please contact Mrs. Pat Kerwin (610-326-5877) or visit the school website at www.saintaloyssiusschool.com.

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).



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: Saturday, August 5 - Philadelphia Union Game at 7:00 PM; 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.

STOP WORRYING & START LIVING RETREAT at Malvern Retreat House on August 4-6 for both men and women. Retreat Director Gary Zimak will help retreatants find practical ways to achieve peace in their lives. Topics include "You CAN Stop Worrying!", "Unleashing the Spirit," and "Jesus - Your BEST Friend." For more details call 610-644-0400 or visit www.malvernretreat.com.

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 contact Samantha (215-302-8200, ext. 104). Come and awaken the wonder and mystery of being human!

DAY AT THE BAY hosted by Roman Catholic High School Alumni Association on Saturday, August 4 from 2:00 -6:00 PM at Keenan's Irish Pub, North Wildwood, NJ. For tickets call 215-627-5487 - cost \$35 in advance; \$40 day of event.

REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE! Do you feel lost, alone or bored in your marriage? Are you frustrated, hurt or angry with your spouse? Have you thought about separation or divorce? Retrouvaille may be the Lifeline that you need. 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.