

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

25 MARCH 2018

Readings for Sunday, March 25: Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11; Mark 14:1–15:47.

Jesus, humbling himself out of love for us, did not shield his face from buffets and spitting, but offered his life on the cross. He relied on his Father's love.

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.

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 Mar. MON. 9:00 AM	Earl Keck	Wife, Cathy
28 Mar. WED. 9:00 AM	Mary Calcasacco	Daughter, Jeannine
29 Mar. THU. 7:00 PM	MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER	
31 Mar. SAT. 7:30 PM	People of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
1 Apr. SUN. 9:00 AM	David Oberley	The Family



ETERNAL REST grant unto them, O Lord. May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace, especially FRANCES RULLI.

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.

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.

WOMEN'S SOCIETY NEWS

March 27 - Visit Padre Pio Center for Stations of the Cross and Rosary. Meet in church parking lot at 10:30 AM. All parishioners invited.

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.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE - March 31/April 1:

7:30 PM Mass

Lector - Jack Bucciaglia and Phyllis Villano

Extraordinary Ministers - Jim Bucciaglia, Denise Bucciaglia, Shelly Stockmal, Cristin Bucciaglia, Terry Donnelly, Nikki Gambino

Altar Servers - Tony Vitacco, Michael Holmes, Maeve Donnelly, Kiersten Donnelly

Greeters - Nikki Gambino and Ginger Scheidt

9:00 AM Mass

Lector - Sylvia Marcheskie

Extraordinary Ministers - George Siver, Gary Huster, Debbie Huster, Cindy Nore, Chris Gerasimowicz

Altar Server - Domenic Gerasimowicz

Greeter - Marie Hildebrand

REFLECTIONS FROM THE DESK OF FR. GREGORY J. HICKEY

Palm Sunday

***Statement of Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap. On the Occasion of
Pope Francis' 5th Anniversary in Petrine Ministry***

"On behalf of the priests, deacons, consecrated religious, and lay faithful in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, I offer prayerful best wishes to Pope Francis as he marks the 5th anniversary of his Petrine ministry. I've admired and respected his keen focus on service to the poor since we first met as young bishops delegated to the 1997 Special Assembly for the Americas.

The people of our local Church will always have a special bond with this pope and remember with great joy his presence here at the conclusion of the World Meeting of Families in 2015. His time with us was filled with powerful public moments and deeply grace filled intimate gatherings hallmarked by an overarching spirit of mercy, compassion, and charity. These moments were special gifts that we can all use to build a stronger society and a stronger Church.

From a broader perspective, Pope Francis has consistently spoken in a style appealingly his own and has gained the attention of Catholics and non-Catholics alike. He's grasped that our modern world is morally fractured and that it's mission territory.

He's repeatedly challenged us to bear witness to Christ through concrete action – by serving the poor, by helping immigrants, be preserving families, and by protecting the sanctity of life. It's the kind of challenge we can and should answer with a hearty yes each day.

*May God bless Pope Francis and may the Holy Spirit grant him wisdom as shepherd of the Universal Church.
Most Reverend Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap.*

Archbishop of Philadelphia

STATIONS OF THE CROSS during Lent on Wednesday, March 28 at 1:30 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.

OPERATION RICE BOWL - All are encouraged to participate in Operation Rice Bowl which has aided countless hungry persons here in the Archdiocese as well as throughout our nation and our world. Rice Bowls are available at the entrances of church.

NO CONFESSIONS ON SATURDAY, MARCH 31.

HOLY THURSDAY, MARCH 29 - Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00 PM. Church will remain open for private prayer until 9:00 AM.

GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 30 - Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 3:00 PM (Mass is not celebrated on Good Friday). Collection on Good Friday is for the Holy Land.

"Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On Good Friday, March 30, 2018, we celebrate the mystery of the Lord's Passion, contemplating the sacrifice by which Jesus redeemed the human race from sin and death. It also has been our longstanding tradition as Catholics to offer alms in support of the Catholic Community in the Holy Land. As directed by our Holy Father, Pope Francis, funds generated by this collection support programs and services in the Holy Land. Support is needed to maintain the sacred places, to provide educational and pastoral programs as well as outreach programs for the poor through established charitable institutions. On behalf of those Christians and others in so much need, I seek your most generous and sacrificial support of the Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land on March 30, 2018. I know that God our Father will reward your generosity beyond all measure. Gratefully and with best wishes in Jesus Christ,

Most Reverend Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap., Archbishop of Philadelphia"

HOLY SATURDAY, MARCH 31 - Blessing of Food at 3:00 PM. Easter Vigil Mass at 7:30 PM.

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 1 - Mass at 9:00 AM.

Parish Support

WEEKLY BUDGET.....	\$5,000
DEPOSIT FOR MARCH 18, 2018.....	\$4,994
Regular Sunday Collection -	\$3,610
Parish Giving -	\$90
Easter Flower Collection -	\$1,294
WEEKLY DEFICIT.....	(\$6)
Year to Date Budget.....	\$190,000
Year to Date Collections.....	\$168,153
Average per week Collection.....	\$4,425
Year to Date Deficit.....	(\$21,847)
Average per week Deficit.....	(\$575)
 <i>MARCH 19, 2017</i>	
Deposit.....	\$5,128
2016-2017 Deficit to Date.....	(\$23,202)
Difference from previous year.....	\$1,355

MASS ATTENDANCE for March 17/18:

4:00 PM Mass - 201
 9:00 AM Mass - 161
 Total Attendance - 362
 Mass Attendance for March 18/19, 2017 - 363



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

March 12 - #142 - St. Gabriel Church - \$50.00
 March 13 - #655 - unsold
 March 14 - #214 - Sue Commale - \$50.00
 March 15 - #172 - unsold
 March 16 - #855 - unsold
 March 17 - #658 - unsold
 March 18 - #254 - unsold

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

“ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK”

POTTSTOWN ORAL & MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY
 610-326-7880

WINNER OF THE MONTHLY 50/50 GOLD ENVELOPE DRAWING to support Religious Education:
 MARCH DRAWING - Cristin Buccigaglia - \$316.00.

ST. GABRIEL OF THE SORROWFUL MOTHER PARISH MEMORIAL FUND DONATION received in memory of: JAMES DIAMOND from Jack & Margie Buccigaglia and family.

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.

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, Colledgeville. This is not a Mass and does not fulfill your obligation for Sunday Mass. 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.