

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

19 NOVEMBER 2017

Readings for Sunday, November 19: Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6; Matthew 25:14-30.

Those who use their gifts and talents in the service of one another, especially the poor and needy, are blessed indeed. They shall be known as children of the light, and will be ready for the Lord's return.

Readings for Sunday, November 26: Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17; 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28; Matthew 25:31-46.

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>
20 Nov. MON. 9:00 AM	All the Faithful Departed	
22 Nov. WED. 9:00 AM	Rosemary Rice	Rice & O'Connell Families
23 Nov. THU. 9:00 AM	56 th Anniversary - Jack & Margie Bucciaglia	
24 Nov. FRI. 9:00 AM	Thomas Skokowski	The Family
25 Nov. SAT. 4:00 PM	People of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
26 Nov. SUN. 9:00 AM	Neil Hipszer	Barbara & Michael



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.



We welcome JAMES & RUTH THOMAS AND FAMILY, ROBIN & PATRICIA MOYER and ANDREW & MARIE JOHNSEN who recently joined our Parish!

WOMEN'S SOCIETY CHRISTMAS PARTY on Sunday, December 3 at 12:30 PM at Shorty's Sunflower Café, N. Charlotte St., Pottstown. Member price of \$21 includes soup, salad, entree, dessert and assorted beverages. Non-member price is \$26. Choose an entree of Crab and Tilapia Cake, Moroccan Style Chicken Breast, Winter Lasagna or George's Beef Stew. Please reply by November 19 with payment and entree choice to Lori LaRosa (610-326-6030) or the parish office.

THE PARISH OFFICE will be closed on Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24 for the Thanksgiving Holiday. Happy Thanksgiving to all our parishioners and their families!

MINISTRY SCHEDULE - November 25/26:

4:00 PM Mass

Lector - Tony Vitacco
 Extraordinary Ministers - Mara Tamaro, Vincent Tamaro, Shelly Stockmal, Cindy Nore
 Altar Servers - Michael Holmes
 Greeters - Nikki Gambino and Maria DiMarco

9:00 AM Mass

Lector - Jim Mich
 Extraordinary Ministers - Kathy Bernhard, Rita Templin, Helen George
 Altar Server - Dominic Gerasimowicz
 Greeter - Jack and Lori Carr

REFLECTIONS FROM THE DESK OF FR. GREGORY J. HICKEY

“What We Believe”

We are a community of believers who span the globe. Our very name “Catholic” means universal. We are members of smaller faith communities called parishes. You are reading this because you picked up a parish bulletin in the parish of Saint Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother.

Our core beliefs are summed up in the Nicene Creed which we recite together every Sunday and on solemnities throughout the year.

We are the original Christian Church, which began when Jesus himself said to the Apostle Peter, “You are Peter and upon this rock, I will build my Church. The gates of hell will not prevail against it.” Every pope since then has been part of an unbroken line of succession since Peter, the first pope.

Early in the history of the Church, there was the belief that when Jesus said at the Last Supper, “Take this and eat – this is my body; take this and drink – this is my blood” he was giving us the gift of his real presence in the form of bread and wine. We call this the Eucharist – a name that comes from the Greek word for thanksgiving. The Catholic Mass is a Eucharistic celebration and a celebration of God’s Word in Sacred Scripture.

We believe that holy men and women who have come before us still pray for us and aid us. We call them saints, and many of our churches are named for them. First among the saints is Mary, a virgin who gave birth to the child Jesus, and who is honored as the Mother of God and the Mother of the Church.

From the beginning of Christianity, the Catholic Church defined the canon of Scripture – the books found in every Christian Bible – and defined what it meant to be a follower of Jesus Christ. Through the centuries, it is the Catholic Church that preserved the Bible, as well as many other written works, through its monasteries and libraries. It instituted the university system in order to educate.

We also believe that God is present in beauty and so we have commissioned and preserved some of the world’s greatest artworks. Without the sponsorship of the Church, Michelangelo would never have painted his famous Sistine Chapel nor carved the Pieta.

Today, the Church is the world’s largest charitable organization; we provide a significant portion of social service for Americans. There are nearly 250 Catholic universities and colleges in the United States alone, and we also operate this nation’s largest non-public school system.

Mostly, we are a billion people on every continent who profess and express a faith in Christ that spans two millennia.

We hold sacred the Holy Bible which consists of the Old and New Testaments and believe they are the inspired words of God.

The Sacraments are the seven outward and visible signs, instituted by Christ, to confer God’s inward and invisible grace. They are Rites of Initiation, Healing, and Vocation.

The Sacraments of Initiation are : Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist.

The Sacraments of Healing are: Reconciliation and the Anointing of the Sick.

The Sacraments of Vocation are: Marriage and Holy Orders.

Each of us are called to play a specific role in the Church and are called by Baptism to live out that role within the Catholic Christian Community.

This is “What we believe.”

Have a good week!

Fr. Hickey

THE ROSARY PRAYER GROUP leads the recitation of the Rosary every Sunday before the 9:00 AM Mass. The 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:
LORI ANN VOGT requested by Tony & Theresa Vitacco.

Parish Support

WEEKLY BUDGET.....	\$5,000
DEPOSIT FOR NOVEMBER 12, 2017.	\$3,701
Regular Sunday Collection -	\$3,576
Parish Giving -	\$125
WEEKLY DEFICIT.	(\$1,299)
Year to Date Budget.....	\$100,000
Year to Date Collections.....	\$79,662
Average per week Collections.....	\$3,983
Year to Date Deficit.	(\$20,338)
Average per week Deficit.....	(\$1,017)

NOVEMBER 13, 2016

Deposit.	\$3,576
2016-2017 Deficit to Date.	(\$22,781)
Difference from previous year.....	\$2,443

MASS ATTENDANCE for November 11/12:

4:00 PM Mass - 211
 9:00 AM Mass - 144
 Total Attendance - 355
 Mass Attendance for November 12/13, 2016 - 334

ST. CHARLES BORROMEIO SEMINARY APPEAL 2017-2018

Information about the appeal has been mailed to your homes. Today our parish welcomes Seminarian Philip Mass. He will share with us his personal experience at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary. For those of you who have contributed in the past we ask you to consider doing so again this year. For those of you who may have never contributed, we invite you to make the effort to do so this year. For us to reach our goal and support those in formation at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, we need everyone to participate.

“ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK”

MISHOCK PHYSICAL THERAPY & ASSOCIATES
 610-327-2600

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

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



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

- November 6 - #635 - unsold
- November 7 - #923 - unsold
- November 8 - #684 - unsold
- November 9 - #912 - unsold
- November 10 - #295 - unsold
- November 11 - #551 - unsold
- November 12 - #621 - Pete Stoop - \$100.00

WINTER COAT AND OUTERWEAR COLLECTION - The Women’s Society is sponsoring the collection of winter coats, hats, scarves and gloves. The outerwear for men, women and children will benefit the Pottstown Cluster Outreach Center. All items must be clean and in good condition. Drop off items before and after Masses in the social hall. Last day of collection is November 19.



THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE next weekend, November 18 and 19. Please bring your donations of non-perishable food items (canned soup, canned pasta, canned beef stew, canned fruit, canned vegetables, pasta, pasta sauce, rice, peanut butter, jelly, etc.) to the church vestibule. Food collected will be delivered to the Pottstown Outreach Center for those in need in our area.

CHRISTMAS BASKET RAFFLE: We are selling chances on a Christmas Basket beginning this weekend until Sunday, December 3. Chances are \$5.00 each. Basket contains a Christmas arrangement with \$50 cash, \$50 Gift card to Cutillo’s Restaurant, \$50 Gift Card to Giant Food Stores, \$45 in Instant Christmas Lottery tickets, 2 Bottles of wine, Hallmark ornament and Christmas hand towels. Drawing will be held on Monday, December 4.

2018 MASS BOOK - Requests for Masses to be offered on a specific day during 2018 can be made at the parish office during regular business hours beginning **Monday, November 27 (no requests will be accepted before that date)**. The Mass stipend of \$10.00 must be paid at the time you request the Mass Intention.

BUS TRIP TO SHRINE OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL on Saturday, December 2. Sponsored by St. Philip Neri Catholic Family Life Center. Depart from the Center by bus at 8:45 AM and leave the Shrine at 12:45 PM, stopping for lunch on the way back. Arrive back around 4:30 PM. Please call 215-679-2237 or visit www.catholicfamilylifecenter.com for more details. Registration deadline is November 25.

THE BALL BROTHERS CHRISTMAS CONCERT on Friday, December 8 at 7:00 PM at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Pottstown. Held in conjunction with the Pottstown Hometown Holiday Celebration. Reserved Seating - \$22.50 (fees included); General Seating - \$17.00 (fee included). Limited to 431 seats. Tickets on sale at www.eventbrite.com.

OPEN HOUSE AND CHRISTMAS CONCERT at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary on Sunday, December 10. Tours begin at 1:00 PM and Christmas Concert takes place in the St. Martin of Tours Chapel at 4:00 PM. The event is free and open to the public.

UNDERGRADUATE COURSE WORK offered through the School of Theological Studies at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary fosters a greater knowledge and a deeper appreciation of the Catholic Church, its theological traditions and its pastoral mission. It also serves as a pre-requisite program for those who need college level theology and/or philosophy to be considered for acceptance in the Graduate program. Applicants for admission to the Undergraduate Program are required to have a high school diploma or its equivalent. It's easy to apply online and start classes as soon as the Spring semester. We will be offering *Creed and the Sacraments* and *Church History* starting in January. Evening classes are scheduled during the week which makes it convenient to pursue your academic goals at your own pace. Admission is open to all and courses may be taken for credit or audit. Visit www.scs.edu/sts for more details.

ROMAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL MEMORIAL MASS & COMMUNION BREAKFAST on Sunday, November 26: Mass at 9:30 AM at Basilica of SS. Peter & Paul; Breakfast at 10:45 AM at Sheraton Hotel; Homecoming Reception at 1:00 PM at Roman Catholic High School.

ROMAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL Class of 1967 50th reunion on Saturday, November 25 at Sandy Run Country Club, Oreland. For details contact: Jim Fitzsimmons (267-716-9716 or jfitzsimmons0124@gmail.com).

ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS on Wednesday, December 6 at 7:00 PM at Holy Martyrs Church, Oreland with the Students of Martin Saints Classical High School. Visit www.martinsaintsclassical.org for more details.

CONCERTS AT THE CATHEDRAL: November 19 at 3:00 PM - Westminster Williamson Voices. James Jordan and the Grammy-nominated ensemble return with a diverse and inspiring program showcasing their rich palette of choral colors. Held at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul, Philadelphia.

METANOIA is an active community of Catholic young adults in western Montgomery County that supports Catholics in their 20s and 30s who are looking to deepen their faith and meet fellow Catholics in the area. Upcoming events: Tuesday, November 21 - Bible Study at Corpus Christi Parish, Lansdale at 7:30 PM. Tuesday, November 28 - Holy Hour at Mary, Mother of the Redeemer Parish, North Wales at 7:30 PM. For more information contact metanoiayoungadults@gmail.com.

FLAME OF LOVE GATHERING on Thursday, December 7 at SS. Simon and Jude Church, West Chester. Begins at 6:30 PM with Rosary in the Chapel and Mass at 7:00 PM in the Main Church. Sharing from Maryland State Leader, Diane Salem, Prayer for Receiving the Flame, and Benediction. Any questions, call Mary 302-388-3752.

ADVENT DAY OF REFLECTION on Wednesday, December 6 at Malvern Retreat House. Directed by Fr. Matt Guckin. To register or for more information, visit www.malvernretreat.com or call 610-644-0400.

SPIRIT POWER DAY OF REFLECTION on December 8 at Malvern Retreat House. Theme is "Here Comes Jesus." Directed by Grammy-Nominated Singer/Songwriter Mary Rotella, Fr. Stephen DeLacy, Anna Iatesta and Anne McGlone. For more information visit www.malvernretreat.com or call 610-644-0400.

ARCHDIOCESAN HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE - Share the trip of a lifetime with Christians from the Holy Land and fellow pilgrims from the Archdiocese of Philadelphia from February 1-11, 2018. For more information about the itinerary, pricing and registration, contact Susan (1-800-842-4842 or susan@select-intl.com or visit www.selectinternationaltours.com.