

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8 OCTOBER 2017

Readings for Sunday, October 8: Isaiah 5:1-7; Philippians 4:6-9; Matthew 21:33-43.

The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel. At vintage time the master will return to receive the harvest. May we bear fruit in plenty, and be pleasing in his sight by living lives that are marked by love and respect.

Readings for Sunday, October 15: Isaiah 25:6-10a; Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20; Matthew 22:1-14.

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> |
|----------------------|--|------------------------------|
| 9 Oct. MON. 9:00 AM | Nancy Barbalace | Husband & family |
| 11 Oct. WED. 9:00 AM | Marie Dellaquila | Husband & family |
| 12 Oct. THU. 9:00 AM | Joseph Ciori | Marie, Tom & Jeff Hildebrand |
| 13 Oct. FRI. 9:00 AM | Joseph Ciori | Jim & Anna Baldasano |
| 14 Oct. SAT. 4:00 PM | People of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish | |
| 15 Oct. SUN. 9:00 AM | Carol Della Penna | Tony & Theresa Vitacco |



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.

SENIOR CITIZENS MEETING on Tuesday, October 10 at 1:30 PM in the social hall.

BUS TRIP to the American Music Theater Christmas Show on November 14. Bus leaves from front of church at 11:30 AM. Lunch at Cracker Barrel. Cost is \$65.00. Call Shirley (610-326-1128).



SECOND SUNDAY HOSPITALITY on Sunday, October 8 in the social hall after the 9:00 AM Mass. Come and enjoy a cup of coffee or juice and some light pastries.

Free will offering accepted.

ROSARY PROCESSION on Sunday, October 15 after the 9:00 AM Mass. Weather permitting, we will gather at the Outdoor Marian Shrine and process around the Church property while saying the Rosary.

| MINISTRY SCHEDULE - October 14/15: |
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| <u>4:00 PM Mass</u> |
| Lector - Tony Vitacco |
| Extraordinary Ministers - Shelly Stockmal, Nikki Gambino, Sherry Durante, Frank Durante |
| Altar Servers - Michael Holmes |
| Greeters - Patty Wade and Monica Bauer |
| <u>9:00 AM Mass</u> |
| Lector - Rocco D'Emilio |
| Extraordinary Ministers - Jim Bucciaglia, Denise Bucciaglia, Terry Donnelly |
| Altar Server - Maeve Donnelly |
| Greeter - Tom & Sylvia Marcheskie |

REFLECTIONS FROM THE DESK OF FR. GREGORY J. HICKEY

Heaven is going to surpass all our hopes and expectations. It's going to be more wonderful than we can imagine. Because there will be love and joy and peace like we've never experienced, it's hard for God to tell us about it. All He can do is to use images that we're familiar with: a great banquet, a wedding feast, the elimination of suffering and death, wealth that cannot be exhausted as in the hidden treasure, the pearl of great price, or the mansion God is preparing for us. We have heard Isaiah compare it to a great banquet and Jesus compares it to a wedding celebration for a prince which would be an event people would remember for years.

As Jesus tells us, to have all this wonder and joy we must respond to the invitation. We must be wise enough not to turn it down. How will we recognize the invitation when it comes? As I have reflected on the gospel, I came up with a long list of ways we might recognize it. I won't bore you with everything on my list but just give you a few ideas of how we might recognize it. It sounds like this: "Come to me all you who labor and are burdened and I will refresh you." Or, "I am the Good Shepherd." A shepherd whose sheep hear his voice and follow him. We hear the invitation in the Sermon on the Mount when Jesus tells us: "Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock." Or, from the Book of Revelation: "Behold I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, then I will enter his house and dine with him and he with me." He doesn't promise everything will be wonderful in this world if we respond to his call, for: "If anyone would come after me, let him take up his cross and follow me." But for those who do respond, he promises, "I will be with you always." "I will not leave you orphans." In a special way he invites us to begin enjoying the wonderful banquet heaven will provide when he tells us, "Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood you do not have life in you." He invites us each morning to "take this and eat, take this and drink." For Catholics this is part of his invitation to "Keep holy the Lord's day."

You might say that's a commandment, not an invitation. Yes, he does command us because we don't always feel like doing what we should, but today he invites us for he wants us to come to him not just because we're commanded, but he wants us to come because we want to, he wants us to come out of love.

There is one part of the parable that puzzles many people and that is the last part about the wedding garment. Some scholars have suggested that the wedding garments were provided to guests as they arrived because the king, apparently a kind and generous man, would not have responded with such anger if they were not extremely important and easily attainable. Jesus uses this part of the parable to warn his followers that even though a person says they believe in him, it's not going to help them much if they do not put their faith into action.

Our new age theology wants us to think that everyone is going to be blessed in the next life. Jesus is telling us eternal happiness is not to be taken for granted. The way to eternal happiness is open for all, but we have a free will as to how we will respond. May the banquet we come to today, eating his body and drinking his blood, lead us to the eternal banquet he has prepared for us.

Have a wonderful week and take advantage of the Eucharist often!!!

Fr. Gregg Hickey

THE WOODEN YARDSTICKS AND RULERS we are collecting for Fr. Hickey's friend, Tina Hyde, 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. Please give your donations to Tony Vitacco or drop them off at the parish office. Many thanks for your generosity!

Parish Support

| | |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| WEEKLY BUDGET..... | \$5,000 |
| DEPOSIT FOR OCTOBER 1, 2017. | \$4,854 |
| Regular Sunday Collection - | \$3,641 |
| Parish Giving - | \$85 |
| Parish Property & Maint. Collection - | \$1,128 |
| WEEKLY DEFICIT. | (\$146) |
| Year to Date Budget..... | \$70,000 |
| Year to Date Collections..... | \$54,407 |
| Average per week Collections..... | \$3,886 |
| Year to Date Deficit. | (\$15,593) |
| Average per week Deficit..... | (\$1,114) |

OCTOBER 2, 2016

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| Deposit. | \$5,524 |
| 2016-2017 Deficit to Date. | (\$16,339) |
| Difference from previous year.. | \$746 |



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

September 25 - #866 - unsold
September 26 - #412 - unsold
September 27 - #850 - unsold
September 28 - #948 - unsold
September 29 - #248 - unsold
September 30 - #156 - unsold
September Figures: 335 tickets sold - \$1,675.00.
Payout for winners - \$500.00. Printing of tickets - \$100.00. Profit for September - \$1,075.00.

MASS ATTENDANCE for September 30/October 1:

4:00 PM Mass - 257
9:00 AM Mass - 158
Total Attendance - 415
Mass Attendance for October 1-2, 2016 - 345

"ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK"

AMITY SELF-STORAGE

610-385-1222

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

UPCOMING EVENT

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.

ST. GABRIEL OF THE SORROWFUL MOTHER PARISH MEMORIAL FUND DONATIONS received in memory of: MARCELLA VITACCO from Anne Chizauskie, Co-workers of Larry at Renzi Bernardi Suarez & Co.

KAUFFMAN'S CHICKEN BARBEQUE sponsored by the Women's Society on Sunday, October 8. Pick up from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM in the church parking lot.

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.

DEDICATION OF NEW ORGAN on Saturday, October 28. Open Concert from 2:30-3:30 PM. Performing: Michael Stairs, Organist for the Philadelphia Orchestra and Rudolf A. Lucente, church musician for over 40 years and holiday staff organist at Longwood Gardens, Kennett Square. Dedication will take place at the 4:00 PM Mass.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ANNUAL PICNIC on Sunday, October 15 from 1:00-5:00 PM at the Grove in Stowe. Open to anyone from our parish. Fun and games for all. No reservations needed - just bring a dish (salad, dessert, etc.) - one dish per family.

POPE JOHN PAUL II HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS

LEGACY OF IMPACT HALL OF FAME AWARDS on Friday, October 13 in PJP Legacy Atrium. Dinner tickets are \$35.00. 2017-2018 Legacy Hall of Fame Recipients include Coach Jim Mich, Educator & Coach at St. Pius X High School and parishioner of our parish. Visit www.pjphs.org to purchase tickets.

ANNUAL COLLEGE FAIR on Thursday, October 26 from 6:00-8:00 PM in Main Gymnasium. More than 115 Institutions will be in attendance. Open to the public and Admission is free.

FALL OPEN HOUSE on Wednesday, October 25 from 6:30 -8:30 PM. Visit us to experience for yourself why our families are giving such high praise to the outcomes and the values-based education our students receive. RSVP - www.pjphs.org - Admissions - Visit.

WEEKEND RETREAT - A Time Apart With Jesus to Grow in Your Spiritual Life - Friday evening, November 3 to Sunday at noon, November 5 sponsored by Our Lady's Missionaries of the Eucharist at Ave Maria Retreat House, Doylestown. Retreat is offered by Sr. Joan Noreen, Co-founder of OLME and includes daily Eucharist, Eucharistic Adoration, conferences and much more. For more information: 610-582-3333 or www.olme.org.

FATIMA PRAYER SERVICE on Friday, October 13 at 7:00 PM at Visitation BVM Church, Trooper in the Lower Church. This date is the 100th anniversary of the sixth and final apparition of Our Lady of Fatima. For more information contact Bob Hehn (484-557-1371).

SHARE THE JOURNEY - On September 27, Pope Francis launched the *Share The Journey* campaign to the world to support our brothers and sisters who have fled their homes seeking a decent and safe life for their families. The Holy Father is encouraging all to participate in a "Week of Prayer and Action" for migrants and refugees from October 7 to October 13. You can help our Archdiocese and our parish in the "Share The Journey" campaign through prayers and acts of compassion and support. For more information visit <http://journey.caritas.org>.

50TH ANNIVERSARY JUBILEE MASS commemorating the Restoration of the Permanent Diaconate in the Latin Church on Sunday, October 15 at 11:00 AM at Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul, Philadelphia. Principal celebrant and homilist will be Most Rev. Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap. Also at this Mass, the Archbishop will consecrate the Archdiocese of Philadelphia to Our Lady of Fatima on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin in Fatima, Portugal.

FLAME OF LOVE CELEBRATES THE MIRACLE OF THE SUN on Friday, October 13 at St. Charles Seminary, Wynnewood. Time: 6:00 PM - Holy Hour; 7:00 PM - Fatima Narrative; 7:30 PM - Mass, Celebrant and homilist is Fr. Chris Walsh, Pastor of St. Raymond of Penafort Church. No registration necessary.

FATIMA 100 CONFERENCE on Sunday, October 14 at St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish, West Chester. The theme is *Discover Heaven's Blueprint for Restoring Family and a Culture of Life*. This event marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Knights of Immaculata by St. Maximilian Kolbe and the anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima. Mass begins at 8:00 AM and the day ends at 3:00 PM. Continental breakfast and box lunch included. Men, women and families are welcome to attend by registering at www.fatima100conference.org.

WINE (WOMEN IN THE NEW EVANGELIZATION) - National Catholic Women's Conference on Saturday, October 21 from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM at National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Doylestown. Theme: *Drawn by Love, Sent on Fire*. Mass, Dynamic Speakers, Music, Shopping, Prayer. Visit www.wineconference.org for more details.

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. October events: Tuesday, October 10 - Bible Study at Corpus Christi Parish, Lansdale at 7:30 PM; Friday, October 13 - Campfire at St. Eleanor Parish, Collegeville at 7:30 PM; Tuesday, October 17 - Theology on Tap at Appalachian Brewing Co., Collegeville, Doors open at 7:00 PM, Talk starts at 7:30 PM - Speaker is Dr. John Brehaney; Tuesday, October 24 - Holy Hour at Mary, Mother of the Redeemer Parish, North Wales at 7:30 PM; Friday, October 27 - Pumpkin Carving Social at The Rose's House, Audubon at 7:30 PM. For more information contact metanoiayoungadults@gmail.com.