

# TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## 17 SEPTEMBER 2017

**Readings for Sunday, September 17:** Sirach 27:30–28:7; Romans 14:7-9; Matthew 18:21-35.

As the Lord is kind and merciful, so should we be forgiving toward one another. Our forgiveness is to be without limit and so reflect Christ's eternal love. He alone is Lord.

**Readings for Sunday, September 24:** Isaiah 55:6-9; Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a; Matthew 20:1-16a.

**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>
18 Sept.      MON.    9:00 AM	Anna Ross	Jeanille Gatta
20 Sept.      WED.    9:00 AM	Joseph Hickey	Rev. Gregory J. Hickey
21 Sept.      THU.    9:00 AM	Decd. Members of Hospodar Family	The Family
22 Sept.      FRI.    9:00 AM	Michael Vitacco	Tony & Theresa
23 Sept.      SAT.    4:00 PM	Steven M. Slaby	Dave, Janet, Jim & Patty Slaby
24 Sept.      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.

**WELCOME TO PREP (Parish Religious Education Program) 2017-2018!** Families with school age children in grades K and up, and those with 3, 4, 5 year olds not yet in Kindergarten, are encouraged to register their children for PREP. PREP will begin Sunday, September 24 with Mass at 9:00 AM and continue in our new location (the convent building) from our usual time of 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM. We also have 2 adults who are interested in coming into our Catholic Faith, so we have an RCIA class, if there is anyone else interested. Please contact Maria Boyer, DRE (610-506-2455 or [mboyer@sgsm62.org](mailto:mboyer@sgsm62.org)).

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE - September 23/24:**

4:00 PM Mass

Lector - Phyllis Villano  
 Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion - John Nester, Tony Vitacco, Terry Donnelly, John Bracaglia  
 Altar Servers - Brigid Donnelly, Maeve Donnelly  
 Greeters - Patty Wade and Monica Bauer

9:00 AM Mass

Lector - Sylvia Marcheskie  
 Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion - Jim Bucciaglia, Denise Bucciaglia, Chris Gerasimowicz  
 Altar Server - Domenic Gerasimowicz  
 Greeter - Jack and Lori Carr

**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.

**THE PARISH OFFICE** will be closed on Friday, September 22.

## REFLECTIONS FROM THE DESK OF FR. GREGORY J. HICKEY

It's not all that easy to find something that most people agree with, most of the time. But when it comes to the final weeks of summer vacation, most people, with rare exception, agree - they aren't ready.

They need a few more weeks of warm weather and lazy days; swimming, hiking and sightseeing, extra time to be with friends, and most especially - more time with no homework. This is a feeling shared by children and their parents...because as often is the case, the school year can be almost as challenging for parents as it is for children.

No matter how much we resist, no matter how vivid our dreams of an extended summer may be...the new school year will arrive, right on time. And with it will come all of the challenges, responsibilities and demands that face school families.

It's understandable that folks may be reluctant to go back to school. But here is something to consider that may change the way to look at this - students, educators and parents alike. The return to school is the opening of a fresh opportunity to serve the Lord and do his work; to make a difference in the world through the light of our faith.

We know that when teachers teach, and students learn, good things happen. That includes lessons about faith which help students grow to be true Disciples of Christ, and those that open up the worlds of science, math, technology, literature, and the arts. Any student or teacher that works hard to achieve their goals, that strives to impact others positively, draw ever closer to Christ, whether they be in Catholic or public school. Every parent that guides and supports his or her children, while fostering respect of teachers and peers, truly does God's work.

Students in the Church community, whether in Catholic school or parish religious education, are richly blessed by the experience, where they can receive some of the most important lessons of their lives. They learn that everything they have and learn is a gift from God. They learn about our Catholic religion and what the Bible and our Church teaches. They learn how to pray. They learn that we are all created by God and that makes us look at our lives, our families, our friends, our studies, our talents differently. They learn the difference between right and wrong. They learn that Jesus invites us to live a life of love and helping others because that's what he did, that's what he wants for us.

Join me in offering a prayer of thanks to God for our Catholic schools and all that they do for us, and for our parishes, who reach so many Catholic students through religious education programs. Pray for all who support our students as they return to school - parents, principals, teachers and staff, pastors and priests, consecrated religious sisters and brothers, generous benefactors and alumni, catechetical leaders and catechists, and the countless parishioners who all play a role as our students strive to make the most of the coming school year.

And pray for our students as they head back to school, that they realize what God is calling them to and make a commitment to live up to the calling. To all I extend my blessing!

The article was written by Most Reverend David M. O'Connell, C.M., Bishop of Trenton. It appeared August 24, 2017 in the *Monitor*, the diocesan newspaper and has been reprinted with permission.

**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 of yardsticks to Tony Vitacco or drop them off at the parish office. Many thanks for your generosity!

*Parish Support*

WEEKLY BUDGET.....	\$5,000
DEPOSIT FOR SEPTEMBER 10, 2017.....	\$3,519
Regular Sunday Collection -	\$3,394
Parish Giving -	\$125
WEEKLY DEFICIT.....	(\$1,481)
Year to Date Budget.....	\$55,000
Year to Date Collections.....	\$42,576
Average per week Collections.....	\$3,871
Year to Date Deficit.....	(\$12,424)
Average per week Deficit.....	(\$1,129)

*SEPTEMBER 11, 2016*

Deposit.....	\$3,550
2016-2017 Deficit to Date.....	(\$13,652)
Difference from previous year.....	\$1,228

**MASS ATTENDANCE for September 9/10:**

4:00 PM Mass - 193  
 9:00 AM Mass - 146  
 Total Attendance - 339  
 Mass Attendance for September 10/11, 2016 - 319

**"ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK"**

**POTTSTOWN ORAL & MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY**  
 610-326-7880

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

**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** CANCELLED due to conflict with dates.  
 Thank you for supporting the Women's Society and your parish.



**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 4 - #532 - Fr. Thomas A. Nasta - \$100.00
- September 5 - #368 - Buck Reibsame - \$50.00
- September 6 - #667 - unsold
- September 7 - #391 - unsold
- September 8 - #800 - unsold
- September 9 - #587 - unsold
- September 10 - #770 - unsold

**KAUFFMAN'S CHICKEN BARBEQUE** sponsored by the Women's Society on Sunday, October 8 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM in the church parking lot. The \$8.00 dinner includes: ½ BBQ Chicken, baked potato, baked beans and applesauce. Advance ticket sales only. Tickets on sale at weekend Masses and at the parish office. Deadline for tickets is October 1.

**BASKET RAFFLE** - We are selling chances on a Fall Floral Arrangement with \$75.00 cash included. Chances are \$5.00 each. Chances are available after Masses on the weekends of September 16 and 17 and September 23 and 24. The drawing will be held on September 25. Thank you for your generous support!

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

**BREAKFAST** at St. Gabriel Lodge on Sunday, September 17 from 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM. All are welcome!

**ANNUAL ITALIAN NIGHT** at St. Gabriel Lodge on Saturday, October 7 - doors open at 6:00 PM; Antipasto at 6:30 PM; Italian Dinner Buffet at 7:00 PM. Entertainment by Nicola Desiderio. Cost - \$30 per person - cash bar. For more information call 610-326-4137.



**10<sup>TH</sup> 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](mailto:contact@sgsm62.org).

Come join us for a day of golf and lots of fun!

**CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF ST. THERESE OF LISIEUX** -

event sponsored by St. Philip Neri Catholic Family Life Center. PART ONE - Tuesday, September 19 from 7:00-8:30 PM at the Neri Center. Brother Joseph Schmidt, FSC, will speak on the life of St. Therese. PART TWO - Sunday, October 1 from 1:30-5:00 PM - bus trip to the Carmelite Monastery in Coopersburg. Bus will depart from the Catholic Family Life Center at 1:30 PM for the Shower of Roses Celebration. Each person will be presented with a blessed rose. Refreshments available after the Celebration. Total Cost is \$5.00 per person (includes Part One and Part Two). Register online at [catholicfamilylifecenter.com](http://catholicfamilylifecenter.com), by mail (check payable to CFLC) at 26 East 6<sup>th</sup> St., East Greenville, PA 18041, or phone 215-679-2237.

**ST. TIMOTHY PARISH** in Mayfair, Philadelphia will be commemorating the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding with a year-long celebration beginning in October 2017 and ending in October 2018. Opening Mass will take place on Sunday, October 1 with Mass celebrated at 12:00 Noon in the upper church. Principal celebrant and homilist is Archbishop James P. Green. Reception will follow in the school gym. Please call 215-624-6188 if you plan on attending.

**DOROTHY DAY RETREAT** for men and women on September 24-28 at Malvern Retreat House. Retreat will offer an experience of the Benedictine spirituality of Dorothy Day, who in her life integrated her love for God, neighbor, and nature. Themes of the retreat include simplicity of life, hospitality, and appreciation for God's creation. For more information or to register, visit [malvernretreat.com](http://malvernretreat.com) or call 610-644-0400.

**WOMEN'S 24-HOUR RETREAT** on September 29-30 at Malvern Retreat House with phenomenal speaker Jennifer Hubbard, who shares a message about the mercy and hope God provides us, even in the face of unexpected life events. This retreat will make you think, and it will leave you joyful as the realization of God's everyday presence unfolds. For more information or to register, visit [malvernretreat.com](http://malvernretreat.com) or call 610-644-0400.

**METANOIA** is an active community of Catholic young adults in Montgomery County. Upcoming Event: Tuesday, September 19 - Theology on Tap at Appalachian Brewing Co., Collegeville. Doors open at 7:00 PM; talk starts at 7:30 PM. Speaker - Fr. Michael Mullan. Visit [www.facebook.com/users/metanoiayoungadults](https://www.facebook.com/users/metanoiayoungadults) for more details.