

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9 SEPTEMBER 2018

Readings for Sunday, September 9: Isaiah 35:4-7a; James 2:1-5; Mark 7:31-37.

The advent of the age of salvation is upon us: the deaf hear, the blind see, and those bowed down are raised up. The kingdom is made manifest around the Eucharistic table, where rich and poor alike are invited to feast.

Readings for Sunday, September 16: Isaiah 50:4c-9a; James 2:14-18; Mark 8:27-35.

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>
10 Sept. MON. 9:00 AM	Mary E. Diamond	Tony & Theresa Vitacco
11 Sept. TUE. 9:00 AM	Kathy Doderer	Jack & Lori Carr
12 Sept. WED. NO MASS		
13 Sept. THU. NO MASS		
14 Sept. FRI. 9:00 AM	Alfred Dori	The Family
15 Sept. SAT. 4:00 PM	Andrea Abbonizio	Cliff & Barb Keller
16 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, especially RALPH MURGIA.

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.



SECOND SUNDAY HOSPITALITY on Sunday, September 9 in the social hall after the 9:00 AM Mass. Come and enjoy a cup of coffee and/or juice and some light pastries. Free will offering accepted.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE - September 15/16:

4:00 PM Mass

Lector -Phyllis Villano
 Extraordinary Ministers - Vincent Tamaro, Mara Tamaro, John Bracaglia, Shelly Stockmal
 Altar Server - Michael Holmes
 Greeters - Patty Wade and Monica Bauer

9:00 AM Mass

Lector - Rocco D'Emilio
 Extraordinary Ministers - Kathy Bernhard, Cindy Nore, Rita Templin
 Altar Server - Domenic Gerasimowicz
 Greeters - Jack and Lori Carr

PREP NEWS

Welcome to **PREP (Parish Religious Education Program) 2018-2019!** Families with school age children in grades K-8, and those with 3, 4, and 5 year olds not yet in Kindergarten, are encouraged to register their children for PREP. PREP will begin Sunday, September 23, 2018 with Mass at 9:00 AM and continue in our PREP building from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM. Please contact Maria Boyer, DRE at 610-506-2455 or mboyer@sghm62.org for more information.

SENIOR CITIZENS MEETING on Tuesday, September 11 at 1:30 PM in the social hall.

REFLECTIONS FROM THE DESK OF FR. GREGORY J. HICKEY

Weekend of September 8th and 9th, 2018

Heaven is going to surpass all our hopes and expectation. 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 are 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. Today we heard Isaiah compare it to a great banquet and Jesus compare 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 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.

Every Monday, we are privileged to have Eucharistic Adoration in our chapel. The chapel is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. One can sit there in the presence of the Lord and tell Him what's on our mind and unpack our suitcases before the Lord. It is a wonderful experience to be alone with the Lord. Stop in at any time during those hours and experience the peace that only Jesus can give you

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

Fr. Gregg Hickey

Parish Support

WEEKLY BUDGET.....	\$5,000
DEPOSIT FOR SEPTEMBER 2, 2018.	\$3,451
Regular Sunday Collection -	\$3,371
Parish Giving -	\$80
WEEKLY DEFICIT.	(\$1,549)
Year to Date Budget.....	\$50,000
Year to Date Collections.....	\$38,795
Average per week Collection.....	\$3,880
Year to Date Deficit.	(\$11,205)
Average per week Deficit.....	(\$1,120)

SEPTEMBER 3, 2017

Deposit.	\$3,548
2017-2018 Deficit to Date.	(\$10,943)
Difference from previous year.....	(\$262)

MASS ATTENDANCE for September 1-2:

4:00 PM Mass - 179
 9:00 AM Mass - 141
 Total Attendance - 320
 Mass Attendance for September 2/3, 2017 - 344

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

“ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK”

MORGAN BASEMENT WATERPROOFING
 610-696-0100

WOMEN’S SOCIETY EVENTS

BOSCOV’S FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS on Tuesday, October 16 from 8:00 AM to 11:00 PM. \$5.00 shopping pass for 25% off purchases made that day. Available now at the parish office and will be on sale after Masses during September and October. Benefits St. Gabriel Women’s Society and your church.

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.



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

August 27 - #607 - Roseann Grace - \$50.00
 August 28 - #490 - Betty Hoffman - \$50.00
 August 29 - #962 - John Donnelly - \$50.00
 August 30 - #891 - unsold
 August 31 - #130 - unsold
 FIGURES FOR AUGUST: 343 tickets sold - \$1,715.00.
 Payout to winners - \$450.00. Printing of tickets - \$100.00. Profit for August - \$1,165.00. Thank you to everyone who supported the Lottery Raffle.
 September 1 - #055 - unsold
 September 2 - #395 - unsold

PRAYER VIGIL OF REPARATION AND PETITION - All Catholics of the greater Philadelphia area are invited to an evening of prayer before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament to ask for His mercy upon His Church in this moment of profound crisis. We come to make reparation for our own sins and those of our bishops and priests. We come also in confident hope that from Christ’s super-abounding mercy will come the purification, healing and restoration of holiness for which we long. Friday, September 14 - Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul, Philadelphia from 5:00 PM to Midnight. 5:00 PM - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. 7:00 PM - Holy Hour of Reparation. 12:00 AM - Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Everyone is invited to make this a day of fasting.

ST. PHILIP NERI CATHOLIC FAMILY LIFE CENTER, Pennsburg is celebrating their 5th Anniversary Kick-Off on Sunday, September 16 from 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM. Food/Dessert trucks, carnival games, 50/50 for cash prizes, photo booth (bring your own camera), bounce house and more. Free Admission.



11TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

to benefit St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Church
Friday, September 21 at Blackwood Golf Course, Douglassville

Start time 11:00 AM

Held Rain or Shine!

Cost - \$85.00 per golfer, includes golfing, lunch, banquet dinner, refreshments throughout the day, cash prizes for 1st & 2nd place foursomes, longest drive and closest to pin and door 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.

Cost for banquet guest is \$25.00.

Sponsorships available include:

Family Sponsor - \$25.00

Course Refreshment Sponsor - \$75.00

Food Sponsor - \$250.00

Prize Sponsor - \$50.00

Hole Sponsor - \$100.00

Event Sponsor - \$300.00

To sign up as a Sponsor, Golfer or Banquet Guest contact Kathy at the parish office - Phone: 610-326-5127; Fax: 610-326-5749; E-mail - contact@sgsm62.org.

OUR LADY OF CONFIDENCE CHRISTIAN RETREAT FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

- A three-day retreat at Malvern Retreat House on October 9, 10, and 11. The retreat is geared for adults with intellectual, physical or emotional disabilities. If you or someone you know would enjoy this retreat that includes having your faith in God refreshed and strengthened, please email OLCRetreat@gmail.com or call Malvern Retreat House (610-644-0400) for a brochure and registration form.

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, September 11 - Bible Study and St. Rose of Lima Parish, North Wales at 7:30 PM; Tuesday, September 18 - Theology on Tap at Appalachian Brewing Co., Collegeville, Doors open at 7:00 PM, Talk starts at 7:30 PM; Tuesday, September 25 - Holy Hour at Mary, Mother of the Redeemer Parish, North Wales at 7:30 PM. Contact metanoiayoungadults@gmail.com for more information.

ANNUAL PADRE PIO FESTIVAL at St. Bede the Venerable Parish, Holland on September 14, 15 and 16. Exhibit of private collection of relics of Padre Pio. Special Masses on September 15 and 16. Street procession and healing service with confessions and blessing with relics following the Sunday Mass. Call 215-357-5720 or visit www.padrepiofestivalhollandpa.com for more details.

HOLY MARTYRS FALL CARNIVAL on September 18-22 at Holy Martyrs Parish, Oreland. Tuesday-Friday 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM. Saturday 3:00 PM to 10:00 PM. Enjoy rides, games, fantastic food, play Bingo, take a chance on the Raffle and nightly 50/50, enjoy live music and Craft Beer & Wine Garden. Wednesday night - wrist band night. For more information visit www.Holymartyrschurch.org or call 215-884-8575.

MERCY & MARY RETREAT on September 21 and 22 at St. Ignatius of Antioch Church, Yardley. Join the Marian Missionaries of Divine Mercy for an inspiring retreat featuring acclaimed speaker Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC. The retreat begins with a conference on Friday, September 21 at 7:15 PM. Saturday will begin with Mass at 7:45 AM and end at 4:30 PM. To register on line visit <https://events.marianmissioners.org/events/mercy-mary-retreat-philadelphia-pa/>

CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE RETREAT on September 28-30 at Marianist Family Retreat Center, Cape May, NJ. Intended for couples married at least 10 years. Cost is \$270 per couple (includes all meals, room and program). For more information call 609-884-3829.

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE on Saturday, October 27 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Doylestown. \$55 for General Admission. Register at www.catholicwomensconference.org.