

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

23 APRIL 2023

Readings for Sunday, April 23: Acts of the Apostles 2:14, 22-33; 1 Peter 1:17-21; Luke 24:13-35.

Through the blood of Jesus, we have been delivered from the power of sin. We recognize him in the breaking of the bread, the one whom God raised from the dead and who now sits at His right hand forever.

Readings for Sunday, April 30: Acts of the Apostles 2:14a, 36-41; 1 Peter 2:20b-25; John 10:1-10.



St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish Special Day of Prayer is Wednesday. Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament: Wednesday after 9:00 A.M. Mass to 5:00 PM in the Church. Benediction at 5:00 PM.



<u>Date</u>		<u>Intention</u>	<u>Requested By</u>
24 Apr.	MON.	9:00 AM	Rocco & Congetta Castillo
25 Apr.	TUE.	9:00 AM	Marian Horan & John Willemssen
26 Apr.	WED.	9:00 AM	Lori Christman & family
27 Apr.	THU.	9:00 AM	Theresa & Lester Luft
29 Apr.	SAT.	4:00 PM	49 th Wedding Anniversary - Ron & Kathy Bernhard
30 Apr.	SUN.	9:00 AM	Parishioners of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish
			Decd. Members of Women's Society St. Gabriel Women's Society



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.



CONGRATULATIONS to **Nathaniel, Peregrine and Simon** who received their First Holy Communion today!

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING on Tuesday, April 25 at 6:30 PM in the PREP Building.



THE ROSARY PRAYER GROUP leads the recitation of the Rosary before the 9:00 AM Mass every Sunday. They also pray the Rosary before the 9:00 AM weekday Masses. All are welcome to join them.



The Women's Society will be selling chances for a **Mother's Day Basket** beginning April 29 and 30 after Masses until Mother's Day, May 14 when the winner will be drawn. Approximate value of the basket is \$200.00. Chances are \$1.00 for one or \$5.00 for six.

LOST WEEK

Collections

thank you

DEPOSIT FOR APRIL 16, 2023. \$3,558
2022-2023 Year to Date Collections. \$189,555
2021-2022 Year to Date Collections. \$179,789

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND, April 29 and 30,
is the Mother's Day Remembrance Envelope.



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. **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 RAFFLE TICKET WINNERS

April 3 - #249 - Paul Grenewald - \$50.00
April 4 - #500 - unsold
April 5 - #892 - unsold
April 6 - #454 - unsold
April 7 - #240 - Jane Perkins - \$50.00
April 8 - #098 - unsold
April 9 - #865 - Victor Schue - \$100.00
April 10 - #763 - unsold
April 11 - #339 - unsold
April 12 - #084 - unsold
April 13 - #003 - unsold
April 14 - #616 - unsold
April 15 - #257 - unsold
April 16 - #299 - unsold

"ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK"

WARKER-TROUTMAN FUNERAL HOME
610-326-1510

MASS ATTENDANCE for April 15/16:

8:00 PM Mass - 103
9:00 AM Mass - 103
Total Attendance - 206

CONSIDER REMEMBERING YOUR PARISH IN YOUR WILL.
Call the Parish Office for more details.



AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVES

on May 1 and 15 from 2:00 PM to 7:00
PM in the social hall. Please call 1-800-
RED-CROSS to make an appointment.

MAGNIFICAT BOOKS - Those who purchased the
Magnificat can pick up their MAY issue at the Parish
Office.

ST. GABRIEL OF THE SORROWFUL MOTHER PARISH

MEMORIAL FUND DONATIONS received in memory of:

MARILYN HULL from Kathy & Ron Bernhard;
DOROTHY LEVANOVTCH from Kathy & Ron Bernhard,
Loretta & John Gauger, Pete & Lori LaRosa, Jack & Margie
Bucciaglia, Bob & Vivie Fitch;
ALICE STEINER from Bob & Vivie Fitch.



VOCATION PRAYER

God our Father,
in Your plan for our salvation
You provide shepherds for Your
people. Fill Your Church in the
Archdiocese of Philadelphia,
especially St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish,
with the Spirit of courage and love.
Raise up from our families future
priests: worthy ministers for Your
altars, generous and ardent
servants of the Gospel.
We ask this through
Christ our Lord.
Amen.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE - April 29 & 30

4:00 PM Mass

Lector - Nester

Ministers of Holy Communion - Front, Deacon; Break, Durante & Durante; Choir, Bracaglia

Altar Server - Vitacco

Greeter - Bell

9:00 AM Mass

Lector - Iannozzi

Ministers of Holy Communion - Front, Deacon; Break, Donnelly & Boyer

Altar Server - Donnelly

Greeter - Neiman



Due to an increase in the cost of the votive candles, we need to ask for a donation of **\$3.50** per candle. The cost of the small candles at the Blessed Mother Statue in the vestibule will not change.

The Corner

"No duty is more urgent than that of returning thanks."

—St. Ambrose, 4th century Doctor of the Church

Thank you God, for sending us Your only Son. Thank you Jesus, for redeeming us by Your blood. Thank you Holy Spirit, for giving us strength against the forces of evil. We have countless reasons to give thanks... what is your reason to give thanks today?

EAGLE EYE MINISTRIES - YOUNG ADULT RETREAT ON

APRIL 28-30 at St. Mary of Providence Center, Elverson. Eagle Eye seeks to form, unite and inspire today's young adults to grow in their relationship with Christ. This retreat will lead young adults through a weekend of Catholic intellectual formation, prayer and genuine fellowship led through **growing in hope through the Book of Revelation** with the Brothers and Sisters of the Community of St. John. Email Sarah Roberto (phillyretreat@gmail.com) for more information or to register.

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. Next event: Tuesday, April 25 - Prayer, Penance, Pub at Visitation BVM, Norristown. For more information, contact metanoiayoungadults@gmail.com.



DEEPEN YOUR DISCIPLESHIP - GROW IN MISSION

Join Archbishop Pérez in his mission to create a culture of missionary disciples in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia! Subscribe to receive a weekly text from the Archbishop with one action step you can take that week to deepen your friendship with Jesus or grow in your mission to bring Jesus to others. It will be a year of journeying with the Archbishop into deeper missionary discipleship from February 2023 to February 2024. To subscribe visit www.phillydisciples.org/goforth.

CALLING ALL CATHOLIC MEN! Please consider a weekend at Malvern. As men of faith, we need to come together and rejuvenate our relationship with Christ. Come to the peaceful grounds known as "St. Joseph's in the Hills." Sit in silence before our Lord in one of the adoration chapels. Walk the Stations of the Cross. Spend some time in quiet contemplation at the Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto. Hear our retreat director, Father Boniface Hicks illuminate God's Word and explain why St. Joseph is such a necessary model for Catholic men in today's world! Attend daily Mass. Sit in silence. Pray and reconnect with our Lord. Go to www.MalvernRetreat.com and select "Register Now." Scroll down the calendar to the St. Joseph the Worker Men's Retreat, April 28-30. To register by phone call Malvern (610-644-0400).



CATHOLIC CHARITIES

APPEAL NIGHT WITH THE PHILLIES!

Come out to watch the National League Champions take on the Chicago Cubs all while benefitting the Catholic Charities Appeal. CCA Night with the Phillies is scheduled for Friday, May

19 at 7:05 PM. A portion of all tickets sold will directly support Catholic Charities Appeal beneficiaries. Go to www.mlb.com/phillies/tickets/specials/catholic-charities to purchase tickets.



First, it was a former parishioner and friend. That was back in the fall. Right before Holy Week and Easter, it was a grade school friend that had just moved back into the area. Now, most recently, it was my good friend and "Kumpel" – Mike. Dying suddenly and unexpectedly has sadly struck close to home for me of late. Roger was just shy of sixty. We ran road races together in the past. We were very proud of our Broad Street Runs, but enjoyed most being out with the parish XC and track teams during practice. Rich has lived out in Arizona for years, but always stayed in touch. In



his words, he got "tired of the heat" and was happy to report that he and his sister would be moving back east to Camp Hill in the Harrisburg area. Since a mutual friend of ours already lives out that way, "the old gang will soon be back together," he had said. Unfortunately, that reunion wouldn't last long. Losing a good friend is never easy, but perhaps Michael's death is the most difficult. That is because of the circumstances. Mike wasn't yet forty. He leaves



behind a young daughter, Franziska, whom I baptized in August, and a wife, Bettina, pregnant with their second child. We met through his older brother and his wife at whose wedding I officiated. Mike and I hit it off right away. He had an interest in American sports, especially football and baseball. He invited me to play



in the annual "beer bowl" that he and his friends held every year on Super Bowl Sunday. This "old guy" didn't do too bad playing with those young bucks on that particular Super Bowl Sunday. At least he didn't break any of his bones and the few scrapes were well worth it. That was the year the Eagles won and watching the game in the wee hours that year with those Bavarian football fans was especially sweet, because I was the only one sporting an Eagles' jersey. Unfortunately, Mike rooted for and was always a fan of New England. I let him know that

I was constantly praying for his conversion. Well, it could have been worse. He could have been rooting for that *other* team from somewhere in Texas. I'm sure that he won't be surprised to find Our Lord sporting a jersey with a #1 on it, though the fact that it's green and bears the letters *H-u-r-t-s* on the back might startle him. All three of these guys were good friends and good people. They were all men of Faith. I was privileged to preside at the Funeral Mass for both Roger and Rich. That's what makes Mike's death all the more difficult.



Being an ocean away means that, I cannot be present with his wife and family now in their grief nor preside at his Funeral. This is where the true privilege of priesthood comes in and the honor of being a pastor – *your* pastor. As a priest, I can offer Mass for Mike from anywhere and I can never be closer with him now than when I celebrate Mass – any Mass. And therein is my main consolation with the passing of Mike, my other friends, my parents, and other family members as well. They are always present with me at Mass as are all our deceased loved ones – more present than we can imagine. My other consolation is *you* – in your prayers offered and condolences given. I am greatly appreciative. It's what being a part of a parish family is all about. Easter is the Season of New Life and Resurrection. Jesus *did* rise. This is our ultimate hope and consolation that overcomes all sadness bringing us all together as friends of Christ! Alleluia!

He is Risen! See you at Mass, Mike!

Peace!

Fr. Wilson