

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER - SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY

28 APRIL 2019

Readings for Sunday, April 28: Acts of the Apostles 5:12-16; Revelation 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19; John 20:19-31.

As Thomas believed because he saw the risen Jesus, so too were many brought to faith through the various signs and wonders wrought by the apostles. They proclaimed as Lord “the stone rejected by the builders,” “the First and the Last of the One who lives.”

Readings for Sunday, May 5: Acts of the Apostles 5:27-32, 40b-41; Revelation 5:11-14; John 21:1-19.

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>
29 Apr. MON. 9:00 AM	McHugh-Mundy Families	Jack & Margie Bucciaglia and family
1 May WED. 9:00 AM	Ralph Murgia	Gerry & family
2 May THU. 9:00 AM	Decd. Members of Pottstown Police Dept.	Tony Vitacco
3 May FRI. 9:00 AM	Marie & John Bolonski	Daughter, Karen Horner
4 May SAT. 4:00 PM	People of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
5 May SUN. 9:00 AM	Those Enrolled in St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish Memorial Fund	



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.



Flowers and candles at the Blessed Mother Altar are in memory of the **DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE WOMEN'S SOCIETY** requested by the Women's Society.

WOMEN'S SOCIETY - Combined Social with St. Aloysius Women's Group on Thursday, May 2 at 6:00 PM in St. Aloysius Gathering Center.

PARISH MAY PROCESSION will be held next Sunday, May 5 at the 9:00 AM Mass.

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

BASKET RAFFLE WINNER - #3117865, Mary Gacura. Profit of \$720.00. Thank you to all everyone who purchased tickets.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE - May 4/5:

4:00 PM Mass

Celebrant - Fr. Ortega
 Lectors - John Nester
 Extraordinary Ministers - Vincent Tammaro, Mara Tammaro, John Bracaglia, Shelly Stockmal, Nikki Gambino, Helen George
 Altar Servers - Tony Vitacco
 Greeters - Ginger Scheidt and Maria DiMarco

9:00 AM Mass

Celebrant - Fr. Hickey
 Lectors - Rocco D'Emilio
 Extraordinary Ministers - Rita Templin, Cindy Nore, Jack Bucciaglia, Tony Vitacco, Gary Huster, Debbie Huster
 Altar Server - Tommy Miller and Madelyn Miller
 Greeters - Sylvia and Tom Marcheskie

REFLECTIONS FROM ARCHBISHOP CHARLES J. CHAPUT, O.F.M. Cap.

The Notre Dame Fire

April 16, 2019 - Catholic Philly.com

M. Jean Duchesne cofounded the French edition of the Communio international theological journal and served as special assistant to the late Cardinal Jean-Marie Lustiger of Paris for more than 25 years. The author of numerous books and articles on the faith, active in Jewish-Catholic dialogues, and a consultant to Lustiger's successors, he has been a friend to the Church in the United States for decades. He and his family live in Paris. I'm grateful for his willingness to offer his thoughts on the Paris Holy Week fire.

Please pray for the Catholic community in France, and may God bless all of us.

+Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap.

Archbishop of Philadelphia

Seeing Notre Dame de Paris burning and threatening to collapse was a shock that left everyone voiceless – including President Emmanuel Macron, who canceled a speech dealing with the social unrest in France over the past few months.

The cathedral towering above the island on the Seine that was the cradle of the city is more than a venerable medieval building, more than an exceptionally beautiful architectural masterpiece. It has been for centuries the heart not only of Paris, but of the whole nation, the place where even atheistic presidents and ministers came to pray because they could not think of anything else to do when France was victorious (in 1918), defeated (in 1940) or liberated (in 1944). It was desecrated during the French Revolution and turned into a temple of the goddess Reason, but Napoleon realized he had to give it back to the Church and be crowned there if he was actually to become an Emperor.

It is also a vibrant reminder of the faith of our ancestors, which shaped the monument and inspired every detail as a facet of God's revelation and gifts as well as the overall design. It was meant and has survived as a representation of the celestial abode that everyone openly hopes for or secretly dreams of. That something so ancient should defy time and remain so mysteriously meaningful is perceived as a miracle that no science can either deny or explain. This is why even non-believers feel affected. The Paris cathedral is the symbol not just of the Catholic faith, but of the fact that all humans have souls.

Rather strangely, non-Catholics lament more noisily than Catholics. They fear the damage is irreversible. Can it be repaired? How much will it cost? Can it be afforded? A fund has already been started to raise the money that is needed. But will this be enough to restore everything as it was? Is it possible to rebuild the roof oak framework that has resisted the elements since the 13th century? Will Notre Dame ever be the same again?

The faithful are less pessimistic, though they quite reasonably could be. The late Cardinal Jean-Marie Lustiger had centered the Paris Archdiocese's life in and around the cathedral and refashioned the interior with an elegant modern altar in the middle. The loss of all this might seem to be the last blow after all the sex abuse scandals that have hit the Church recently, and all the sociological studies highlighting the plummeting numbers of baptisms, ordinations and religious vocations, or revealing that the younger generations are simply unsure what Christians commemorate at Easter or what a parish is exactly.

On top of it all, this happens just at the beginning of Holy Week, the most sacred time of year for Christians: Where will the Archbishop gather his priests for Chrism Mass? And finally, *why did God allow this?*

Notre Dame on fire and perhaps unusable for months if not years is undoubtedly a trial. But faith does not allow to see this as a punishment or the confirmation of a decline and fall. There is some comfort to be found in the massive sense of affliction and solidarity of non-believers, since it proves that for them, however irreligious they are, the visible Church is not a mere remnant of the past, but a vital part of the scenery, without which they themselves miss something. Yet, in the end, this support does not make that much of a difference.

What is decisive is the knowledge that Jesus Christ the Groom will never abandon his bride the Church – which does *not* mean that her faithfulness will never be tested. The Temple on Mount Zion was destroyed, rebuilt and destroyed again. St. Peter's in Rome was plundered several times. The crusaders lost Jerusalem. What ultimately matters is not the signifier (the cathedral), but the signified (God's glory) which remains forever fertile and will forever inspire those who long for it.

Parish Support

WEEKLY BUDGET.....	\$5,000
DEPOSIT FOR APRIL 14, 2019.....	\$3,976
Regular Sunday Collection - \$3,886	
Parish Giving - \$90	
WEEKLY DEFICIT.	(\$1,024)
Year to Date Budget.....	\$210,000
Year to Date Collections.....	\$181,364
Average per week Collection.....	\$4,318
Year to Date Deficit.	(\$28,636)
Average per week Deficit.....	(\$682)

APRIL 15, 2018

Deposit.	\$4,226
2017-2018 Deficit to Date.	(\$19,935)
Difference from previous year.....	(\$8,701)

WEEKLY BUDGET.....	\$5,000
DEPOSIT FOR APRIL 21, 2019.....	\$9,255
Regular Sunday Collection - \$3,290	
Parish Giving - \$90	
Easter Collection - \$5,219	
Easter Flowers - \$25	
Holy Thursday Collection - \$631	
WEEKLY SURPLUS.....	\$4,255

Year to Date Budget.....	\$215,000
Year to Date Collections.....	\$190,619
Average per week Collection.....	\$4,433
Year to Date Deficit.	(\$24,381)
Average per week Deficit.....	(\$567)

APRIL 22, 2018

Deposit.	\$4,143
2017-2018 Deficit to Date.	(\$20,792)
Difference from previous year.....	(\$3,589)
EASTER 2018 COLLECTION.....	\$5,696

“ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK”

**POTTSTOWN ORAL & MAXILLOFACIAL
SURGERY ASSOCIATES, INC.**
610-326-7880 (Pottstown)
610-367-6074 (Boyertown)

MASS ATTENDANCE for April 13/14:

4:00 PM Mass - 231
9:00 AM Mass - 178
Total Attendance - 409
Mass Attendance for April 14/15, 2018 - 333

MASS ATTENDANCE for April 20/21:

7:30 PM Mass - 121
9:00 AM Mass - 256
Total Attendance - 377
Mass Attendance for April 21/22, 2018 - 351



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

April 8 - #939 - unsold
April 9 - #517 - Robert Mackey - \$50.00
April 10 - #451 - Nikki Keim - \$50.00
April 11 - #084 - unsold
April 12 - #621 - unsold
April 13 - #452 - unsold
April 14 - #498 - unsold
April 15 - #235 - unsold
April 16 - #352 - unsold
April 17 - #229 - unsold
April 18 - #193 - unsold
April 19 - #158 - Ken Stoudt - \$50.00
April 20 - #266 - unsold
April 21 - #634 - unsold

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

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 Marian Devotions.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Here in the United States there are great needs for evangelization and sharing the message of Christ and the beauty of the Church. The Church at home needs to be strengthened. Soon, as a diocese, we will take up the Catholic Home Missions Appeal (CHMA), which supports the neediest dioceses in the United States. This appeal makes the most basic faith programs possible and shares the gospel message with our brothers and sister in dioceses where Church communities are struggling.

If you were to cross the Diocese of Colorado Springs, you would see the stunning mountain valleys and peaks of the Continental Divide to the west, and the wide expanses of the Great Plains to the east. However, the Diocese of Colorado Springs is a mission diocese because the terrain poses so many challenges for priests and ministers. Each weekend, priests of the diocese traverse the mountain routes or drive hundreds of miles across the plains to preside over Sunday Masses. The lack of priests and ministers makes it difficult for the diocese to serve all the region's Catholics. Without regular pastoral care, people, especially young adults, are susceptible to leaving the Church.

But your generosity to the Catholic Home Missions Appeal assists ministry efforts across the diocese. Your support gives young adults the opportunity to make retreats, go on pilgrimages, participate in service projects, and attend vocational discernment events. These ministry centers also offer daily and Sunday Masses, RCIA classes, regular confession times, Eucharistic adoration, Bible studies, and other opportunities to build community.

Your support of this appeal makes a difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters right here in the United States. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the appeal this year. Thank you for strengthening the Church at home.

Gratefully and with best wishes in Jesus Christ,
+Most Reverend Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap.
Archbishop of Philadelphia

ST. GABRIEL OF THE SORROWFUL MOTHER PARISH MEMORIAL FUND DONATIONS received in memory of:

REV. JAMES GORMLEY from Cristin Bucciaglia, Maria, Steve & Tyler Boyer;

MARY RULLI from Maria, Steve & Tyler Boyer, Mary Gacura & Kathy Valentine, Chris, Gene & Domenic Gerasimowicz and Lucy D'Emilio;

MATTHEW CAPPELLETTI from Nikki Nailon, Kathy & Ron Bernhard, Chris, Gene & Domenic Gerasimowicz and Lucy D'Emilio, Bucciaglia Family, Cristin Bucciaglia, Maria, Steve & Tyler Boyer, Pete & Lori LaRosa;

MARY ANN KARPINSKI from Mary Lenhardt, Kathy & Ron Bernhard, John Testa & sister, Mary, Mary Gacura & Kathy Valentine, Bonnie Stankunas, Jake & MaryAnn Dailey, M/M Tom Palladino;

ROSELLA MURGIA from Philomena Bracaglia.

EITC AWARENESS WEEKEND - Did you know that you can redirect your tax dollars to a Catholic School of your choice? For more information about how your tax dollars can support Catholic education, contact Foundation for Catholic Education (610-793-8503) or BLOCS (484-704-2300).

ANNUAL PRO-LIFE GOLF TOURNAMENT sponsored by Valley Forge Chapter, Knights of Columbus on Friday, May 3 at Twin Ponds Golf Course, Gilbertsville. Event includes breakfast, lunch, banquet dinner, golf and individual/team skill prizes. Cost per golfer - \$100. Dinner only tickets - \$35. Contact Gary Huster (610-972-0356 or thebighue@aol.com) or Mark Nunan (610-754-7185 or marknunan@dejazzd.com). All proceeds benefit local crisis pregnancy centers.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY, April 28 from 11:00 AM to 2:30 PM at Our Lady's Missionaries of the Eucharist, Birdsboro. Principal celebrant and homilist - Fr. Brian Connolly. Conference Presenter - Sister Joan Noreen. Includes Conference, Exposition of Blessed Sacrament, Divine Mercy Devotions, Sacrament of Reconciliation, Benediction of Blessed Sacrament and Mass.

FAUSTINA: MESSENGER OF DIVINE MERCY, a St. Luke production will be presented by the National Centre for Padre Pio. This professional production runs 90 minutes and is suitable for ages 13 and up. To purchase tickets or more information, go to www.PadrePio.org and click on Events Calendar - May 3rd.

MOTHERS OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES RETREAT on Wednesday, May 1 at Malvern Retreat House. For details visit www.opdarchphilly.org or call Malvern Retreat House (610-644-0400).

ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKE BREAKFAST hosted by the Pottstown-Stowe Lions Club on Sunday, April 28 from 8:00AM to 12:00 PM at West End Fire Co., Stowe. Pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, juice, milk & coffee. \$7.00 - adults; \$6.00 - seniors; \$5.00 - children 4-12 years; children under 4 eat for free.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY, APRIL 28 - Devotions at St. Eleanor's Catholic Church, Collegetown at 3:00 PM. Don't miss the amazing special graces.