

# TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## 22 AUGUST 2021

**Readings for Sunday, August 22:** Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b; Ephesians 5:21-32; John 6:60-69.

Joshua confronts the tribes of Israel: Will you desert your covenant with Yahweh? The desertion of disciples is a prelude to the paschal mystery. With Peter, however, let us profess our faith in the Lord who gave himself up for us all.

**Readings for Sunday, August 29:** Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8; James 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27; Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23.

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**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.**

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<u>Date</u>		<u>Intention</u>	<u>Requested By</u>
23 Aug.	MON. 9:00 AM	Daniel J. Higgins, Jr.	Ron & Carol Fry
24 Aug.	TUE. 9:00 AM	Joseph Appolonia	Ann Discher
25 Aug.	WED. 9:00 AM	C. Ronald Yost, Jr.	Wife, Theresa & sons
26 Aug.	THU. 9:00 AM	Ann & Tom Perkins	Jane Perkins
28 Aug.	SAT. 4:00 PM	Brian Axsmith	Amy & Tony Piazza
29 Aug.	SUN. 9:00 AM	Parishioners 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.

**WOMEN'S SOCIETY NEWS - WE ARE BACK!** First meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 9 at 6:30 PM. \*\*Please note new time\*\* Our first fundraisers will be the ever-popular and delicious Zook's chicken pies and apple dumplings and, also, Boscov's \$5 donation for Friends Helping Friends.

**SENIOR CITIZENS MEETING** - We will start meeting again on Tuesday, September 14 at 1:30 PM in the Social Hall.

**THE PARISH OFFICE** will be closed Monday, August 23.

**THE ROSARY** is prayed on weekdays before the 9:00 AM Mass. We also pray the Rosary before the 9:00 AM Mass every Sunday. We welcome all to join us for these special Marian Devotions.

**ST. GABRIEL OF THE SORROWFUL MOTHER PARISH MEMORIAL FUND DONATION** received in memory of:  
LISA A. MOORE from Tony & Theresa Vitacco.

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



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History was quietly...and slowly made on the first Saturday in August this year. Texas Rangers utility player, Brock Holt ("The Brock Star"), threw the slowest pitch ever recorded in MLB history in a game against the A's of Oakland in which Texas was being blown-out (12-3 final). The so-called "eephus pitch" is a high-arc, off-speed pitch. Think of it as a slow soft ball-like pitch thrown overhand. The arc was so high that the ball briefly went out of camera frame view. The 31.1 mph "eephus" was called as a strike. A's batter, Josh Harrison, was in disbelief as he just laughed at the call. "Eephus" ain't nothing and an "eephus" pitch is a 'nothing' pitch," said the player attributed with the term's origin. Au contraire, it is a very intentionally slow pitch. My own "eephus" moment came while playing in a CYO game in grade school. I wasn't the pitcher and it wasn't even the pitch that was "eephus." I was the at-bat catcher of our team. I wound up punching a hopper out into mid-field. A distracted nose-picking fielder missed his opportunity as the ball went by bouncing. His nasal cavity exploration allowed me to explore all the wonderfully white bases surrounding the infield. Husky kid catcher that I was, with the coach, my teammates, and the man from whose loins I sprang forth screaming at me to run, I forthwith shifted into what I call, "full tugboat speed." It wasn't about speed. Gosh, I was the "husky" kid. It was about momentum. It still is. The opposing coach was screaming too. His head and face were a brilliant crimson red. He was livid at his outfielder who was henceforth and forever known as "booger." He was even more livid at his pitcher, who ran off the mound to give Booger a slap upside the head. At least Booger wasn't picking his seat. That would require a different nickname. In the midst of all this, the now unstoppable "tug" just kept on steadily cruising along the inner harbor baseline. I throttled right through home plate like a loose and laden barge in a storm slamming to a stop against the cage surrounding home plate. Homerun! The wild throw to the plate wasn't even close. My teammates boarded the vessel now docked giving back-slaps, high-fives, and cheers. They would have lifted me up, but there was no lifting the husky kid. Tugs float. It was definitely not the fastest rounding of the bases, but maybe the most enthusiastic. History was made for me for sure! We live in a world hell-bent on speed. I write that very intentionally. It doesn't seem that it was always that way. It's as if there used to be more hours in the day. There weren't, but the feeling today is that there just aren't enough. Everything needs to be done yesterday. People are rushed, hurried, and exhausted because "he who hesitates is lost." Or is he? We never hear Jesus, Himself, being rushed or hurried. Nor was He ever distracted while standing around picking His nose. It is the devil that distracts as he was once and forever distracted himself. Jesus is deliberate and intentional. So should we be. His Life isn't one of lightening fast, 90 mph, pitches. Jesus is more a high-arc, slow, "eephus" kind of guy. Here we are expecting fast balls and God throws off-speed lobs. No wonder we can be so confused and left shaking our heads laughing as a strike is called. Creation happened slowly over a sacred seven days. It wasn't a fast-food-fifteen-minute-ready-to-eat undertaking. Those sacred seven days continue to slowly unfold in so many ways for each one of us. Being deliberate and intentional gets us to heaven. It may mean that we have to slow-down a bit and do things as Jesus did – just a little off-speed. Then, it will be our opportunity to round the bases – finally and triumphantly crossing home! Enjoy the game and get ready for your own "eephus" moment!



Peace!  
Fr. Wilson

LAST WEEK

# Collections ©PPG *thank you*

WEEKLY BUDGET.....	\$5,000
DEPOSIT FOR AUGUST 15, 2021. ....	\$4,514
Regular Sunday Collection -	\$3,459
Parish Giving -	\$115
Assumption Collection -	\$940
WEEKLY DEFICIT. ....	(\$486)
Year to Date Budget.....	\$35,000
Year to Date Collections.....	\$28,051
Average per week Collection.....	\$4,007
Year to Date Deficit. ....	(\$6,949)
Average per week Deficit.....	(\$993)
 <i>AUGUST 16, 2020</i>	
Deposit. ....	\$3,412
2020-2021 Deficit to Date. ....	(\$6,474)
Difference from previous year.....	(\$475)

### **MASS ATTENDANCE for August 14/15:**

- 4:00 PM Mass - 106
- 9:00 AM Mass - 146
- Total Attendance - 252

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

### **“ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK”**

**MEMORIES ‘N’ MORE**  
610-326-1911

**SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND, AUGUST 28 AND 29** will be the Gold 50/50 Envelope to support Religious Education.



Red Cross  
Blood Drive

**AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE** on September 1 from 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM in the church social hall. Prospective donors can sign up directly at <https://rb.gy/sduxr>. You

can also call 800-RED-CROSS to make an appointment.



**ST. GABRIEL PARISH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING** is scheduled for Friday, September 24 beginning at 11:00 AM at Blackwood Golf Course, Douglassville. Cost per golfer is \$95.00 (includes lunch, post-play banquet, refreshments throughout the day and prizes). Plan on joining us for a day of golf and lots of fun!



### **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. SEPTEMBER LOTTERY TICKETS ARE ON SALE AT THE PARISH OFFICE. TICKETS ALSO AVAILABLE AFTER ALL MASSES BEGINNING NEXT WEEKEND.**

### **LOTTERY RAFFLE TICKET WINNERS**

- August 9 - #343 - unsold
- August 10 - #550 - unsold
- August 11 - #772 - unsold
- August 12 - #777 - unsold
- August 13 - #548 - Ron Bernhard - \$50.00
- August 14 - #335 - unsold
- August 15 - #393 - unsold

### **The Corner**

**“Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.” —Phillipians 4:7**

“Not even the saints and the faithful worshipers of the one true and most high God are safe from the many temptations and lies of the demons. But in this abode of weakness, and in these wicked days, this state of anxiety also has its use. It stimulates us to look with keener longing for that security where peace is complete and unassailable.”

— St. Augustine, a Doctor of the Church, *Feastday August 28*

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE - August 21/22**

4:00 PM Mass

Lector - Nester

Ministers of Holy Communion - Front, Deacon;  
Choir, George; Break, Vitacco

Altar Server - Holmes

Greeter - Bell

9:00 AM Mass

Lector - Iannozzi

Ministers of Holy Communion - Front, Deacon;  
Break, Carr

Altar Servers - Donnelly

Greeter - Neiman

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE - August 28/29**

4:00 PM Mass

Lector - Villano

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

Altar Server - Holmes

Greeter - DiMarco

9:00 AM Mass

Lector - LaRosa

Ministers of Holy Communion - Front, Deacon;  
Break, Bernhard

Altar Server - Gerasimowicz

Greeter - Carr

**ZOOK'S FAMOUS HOMEMADE  
APPLE DUMPLINGS AND CHICKEN PIES**

**Pick up after Mass  
Saturday, October 2  
Sunday, October 3**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Apple Dumplings - \$4.00

Quantity \_\_\_\_\_ Cost \_\_\_\_\_

6" Chicken Pie - \$6.00

Quantity \_\_\_\_\_ Cost \_\_\_\_\_

9" Chicken Pie - \$11.00

Quantity \_\_\_\_\_ Cost \_\_\_\_\_

Total Cost of order \_\_\_\_\_

Checks payable to: St. Gabriel Women's Society.

All items will be delivered frozen.

**Last day to order is September 18.**

**JOB OPENING** - St. Thomas More Parish, Pottstown has a full-time opening for an Administrative Assistant for M-F from 9-5 PM. Minimum 2 years experience in administrative support. Anyone interested in this opening can contact the pastor, Fr. Kozak at 610-469-9304 or email their resume along with references to [stmore2@aol.com](mailto:stmore2@aol.com) or [bm02715@aop222.org](mailto:bm02715@aop222.org).

**SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING** - A one time class required for volunteers is being offered at Sacred Heart Parish, Royersford in the café on Tuesday, September 14 at 6:00 PM. Class open to anyone 18 and older, from any parish. Event capped at 100 people. Visit [www.sacredheartroyersford.org/safe-environment-v2](http://www.sacredheartroyersford.org/safe-environment-v2), scroll down to option 4 for details.

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES NIGHT AT THE PHILLIES** - Join us on Friday, September 10 at Citizens Bank Park to watch the Phillies vs. the Rockies. Tickets available in the following locations with a portion from each ticket sold benefitting the Catholic Charities Appeal: Outfield (101-107, \$38 each); Pavilion (201-205, \$30 each); Pavilion Deck (301-310, \$20 each). Purchase tickets at [www.phillies.com/catholiccharitiesnight](http://www.phillies.com/catholiccharitiesnight). If 500 tickets are sold Fr. Sean Bransfield, Vice Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia will throw out the first pitch of the game with special guest, Archbishop Pérez!

**CAR & BIKE SHOW** sponsored by Freedoms Foundation Valley Forge Chapter to honor veterans will be held on Saturday, August 28 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. For more information contact Amy Braccia (267-767-9809) or Joe Barrese (610-323-4171).