

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

10 FEBRUARY 2019

Readings for Sunday, February 10: Isaiah 6:1-2a, 3-8; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11.

Isaiah, a man of unclean lips, beholds the Lord's glory in the temple and is sent on mission. Simon, a sinner, responds to the mission of Jesus by becoming a disciple. Paul, the persecutor, speaks of his call to preach nothing but Christ crucified and risen.

Readings for Sunday, February 17: Jeremiah 17:5-8; 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20; Luke 6:17, 20-26.

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>
11 Feb. MON. 9:00 AM	Sandra Smith	Jim & Denise Bucciaglia
13 Feb. WED. 9:00 AM	Patrick O'Neal	Francis J. Czeiner Family
14 Feb. THU. 9:00 AM	Pauline Harbach	Husband, Joe
15 Feb. FRI. 9:00 AM	Thomas Roberts	Jim & Anna Baldasano
16 Feb. SAT. 4:00 PM	Robert & Joan Sabo	Cliff & Barb Keller
17 Feb. 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.

SENIOR CITIZENS MEETING on Tuesday, February 12 at 1:30 PM in the social hall.

UPCOMING WOMEN'S SOCIETY EVENTS

March 15 - Pizza and Movie Night
 April 12 - Pizza and Game Night PLUS "Bags and Baubles"
 April 28 - Ladies Springtime Tea
 Mark your calendars! More details on all events will be published at a later date.



SECOND SUNDAY HOSPITALITY on Sunday, February 10 in the social hall after the 9:00 AM Mass. Come and enjoy a cup of coffee or juice and some light pastries. Sponsored by the Fr. Bally Council Knight of Columbus.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE - February 16/17:

4:00 PM Mass

Lector - Melanie Warzeski
 Extraordinary Ministers - Vincent Tamaro, Mara Tamaro, Terry Donnelly, John Nester
 Altar Server - Maeve Donnelly
 Greeters - Patty Wade and Monica Bauer

9:00 AM Mass

Lector - Tony Vitacco
 Extraordinary Ministers - Kathy Bernhard, Lori Carr, Jack Bucciaglia
 Altar Server - Domenic Gerasimowicz
 Greeters - Sylvia & Tom Marcheskie

REFLECTIONS FROM THE DESK OF FR. GREGORY J. HICKEY

Several years ago, Rabbi Joseph Telushkin wrote a little book called *Jewish Humor: What the Best Jewish Jokes Say About the Jews*. In it he tells this story: A man takes some very fine material to a tailor and asks the tailor to make him a pair of pants. He goes back a week later, but the pants are not ready. Two weeks go by, and still the pants are not ready. Finally, after six weeks, the pants are finally ready. The man tries them, and they fit perfectly. As he pays for them, he says to the tailor, "It took God only six days to make the world. And it took you six weeks to make just one pair of pants." "Yes," said the tailor, "but look at the pair of pants (perfect!) and look at the world (it's a mess)." The tailor was hinting that perhaps God would have done a better job if he weren't in so much of a hurry.

I wonder if the tailor ever read his Bible. It tells us from the very beginning all that God made was good. God, moreover, put his human creatures in the Garden of Eden, a paradise that would be a source of every delight. But God's first human creatures rebelled against God and destroyed the harmony and joy God had blessed them with. Somehow we, the children of those first humans, continue to follow their example. So if the world is in a mess, the Bible is telling us, don't blame God. We humans have created that mess ourselves. Maybe God really didn't create the world in six days. After all the Bible is not trying to teach science. It's trying to tell us that God made all things, not how. You may have heard the story that after God made Adam, and Adam was in the Garden of Eden for a while, God asked Adam how things were going. Adam told God he was enjoying everything, but he felt something was missing. God said, how about if I create a companion for you, someone you can put your arms around, someone who will laugh at your jokes, listen to your stories, who will give you no hassle and will cater to your every whim. Adam thought that would be great. God said it will cost you an arm and a leg. Adam thought for a few moments, then asked God, what can I get for a rib?

We know there is a lot of symbolism in the two creation accounts of Genesis. For example, men are not going around with a rib missing. The six days of creation is also symbolic. Scholars tell us this account of creation was written by a priest who was trying to teach his people among other things, that they were to keep holy the Sabbath. Even God rested on the Sabbath. Actually God doesn't get tired and his work of creation is ongoing. Astronomy has discovered that new stars are forming all the time. New human beings are coming into the world all the time. Even Jesus told the Jewish leaders after one of his miracles: "My Father is at work until now, so I am at work." (Jn 5:7). We heard how God is at work, making the world better through his prophet, Isaiah. God appeared to Isaiah, and purified his lips so that he could proclaim God's message to God's people.

God was at work through Saint Paul in today's second reading proclaiming the Resurrection, and I would like to expand on this passage a little more. Paul's letter is one of the earliest writings in the New Testament, written about the year 56 or 57 A.D. (about 14 years before the first Gospel was written), thus it is a very important testimony to the faith of the early Church. The Corinthians were having a problem accepting the Resurrection of the body. They thought our body came back to life with the same problems, weaknesses, and flaws it had before we died. They thought their spirits would be freer without their bodies. That's not so, Paul said. He tells them: "what I handed on to you, as of first importance, I also received."

Because it is such an important doctrine, Paul dedicated the whole last part of his letter to the Resurrection. Notice the kind of language he uses to indicate this is the Tradition of the Church: "I handed on to you what I also received." That is, this is what the Church always believed about Jesus, that although he was put to death, his body now lives and he is seated at the right hand of God the Father. Paul goes on (beyond today's passage) to explain how we too shall rise to new life with him. It is a new world God is creating, in the rise Lord Jesus.

That is where our Gospel comes in: Peter and the Apostles, who were among the many who visibly saw Jesus after his Resurrection, would now be catching people in God's perfect kingdom, leading them through Baptism and the Eucharist to a new life, eternal life, where there would be no more pain or suffering or even death. When we look around and see the world is in terrible shape, let us not lose hope. God has not abandoned us, rather God continues to send people who will help us establish his eternal kingdom, people like Isaiah, people like Paul, people like Peter and the Apostles, people like you and me.

Have a good week!

Fr. Hickey

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

THE PARISH OFFICE will be closed Monday, February 11 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

Parish Support

WEEKLY BUDGET.....	\$5,000
DEPOSIT FOR FEBRUARY 3, 2019.....	\$5,127
Regular Sunday Collection -	\$3,885
Parish Giving -	\$90
Parish Property & Maintenance -	\$1,152
WEEKLY SURPLUS.....	\$127
Year to Date Budget.....	\$160,000
Year to Date Collections.....	\$140,442
Average per week Collection.....	\$4,389
Year to Date Deficit.....	(\$19,558)
Average per week Deficit.....	(\$611)

FEBRUARY 4, 2018

Deposit.....	\$5,113
2017-2018 Deficit to Date.....	(\$17,038)
Difference from previous year.....	(\$2,520)

MASS ATTENDANCE for February 2/3:

- 4:00 PM Mass - 192
- 9:00 AM Mass - 120
- Total Attendance - 312
- Mass Attendance for February 3/4, 2018 - 367

2018 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT REQUESTS can be made by email (contact@sgsm62.org) or phone (610-326-5127). Statements are available for registered parishioners (those who receive and use their envelopes). Statements will be mailed to you or you can pick them up at the parish office.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL 2019 - The appeal remains a channel of hope for so many in need, and serves as a positive source for good in all facets of the Church of Philadelphia. The appeal provides support to tens of thousands of people throughout countless organizations, programs and ministries throughout the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. This year our parish goal is \$12,000.00. Through your charity and generosity, we will get there. It is important that every parishioner and every parish do their part to help raise the \$12.5 million Catholic Charities Appeal goal, because we are one family in Christ. To make your donation, please use the card and envelope that was mailed to you.

February 10, 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In the Gospel of Saint Luke we will hear next weekend, Jesus proclaims His well known "Sermon on the Mount", offering the Beatitudes as a design for living our lives. In this scripture reading, Jesus relates the foundation of the central tenets for Christian discipleship.

Our priests strive to live Jesus' message faithfully through their pastoral service and sacramental ministry in parish communities, schools, and institutions. Many retired priests continue to assist parishes with great dedication. Others, due to advanced age and declining health have been compelled to withdraw from active ministry. These priests reside at Villa Saint Joseph in Darby, Regina Coeli in Warminster, as well as various other health care facilities where they continue to carry a message of hope to all by their lives of prayer and sacrifice offered for the people of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. They now depend on you for your prayers and support.

The annual Collection for the Care of Aging and Retired Priests of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia will be taken in all parishes on the weekend of February 16th and 17th throughout the Archdiocese. This annual collection is an opportunity for the faithful to express their gratitude for the many blessings received through the ministry of priests. I'm very grateful for your generous response to this collection in the past. Through your continued kindness we can be assured that they will be cared for in their retirement.

Your kindness will be remembered daily in my prayers. I ask that you continue to remember our retired priests in yours. May God bless you and your loved ones for your generous response to this annual appeal.

Gratefully and with best wishes in Christ,

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

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:

- DEBORAH FICK from Phyllis Villano;
- RALPH MURGIA from Phyllis Villano;
- THOMAS ROBERTS from Robert & Janice Brown, Phyllis Villano, Ken & Marguerite Shaner, Nancy Lingenfelter, Annette Segner & family, Anna Neri;
- SUSAN CIOE from Philomena Bracaglia, Kathy & Ron Bernhard, Bob & Vivie Fitch, Blanche Lesik.



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

January 28 - #060 - unsold
 January 29 - #096 - unsold
 January 30 - #767 - unsold
 January 31 - #416 - unsold
 JANUARY FIGURES: 321 tickets sold - \$1,605.00. Payout to winners - \$650.00. Printing of tickets - \$100.00. Profit for January - \$855.00.
 February 1 - #085 - unsold
 February 2 - #796 - unsold
 February 3 - #774 - unsold

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

MEATBALL & SPAGHETTI SAUCE SALE

February 23 and 24, 2019

Pick up orders in the social hall

Saturday, February 23 after Mass until 5:00 PM

Sunday, February 24 after Mass until 10:00 AM

All orders must be pre-paid

Make checks payable to St. Gabriel Women’s Society

_____ qts. Spaghetti Sauce - \$6.00 per quart

_____ doz. Meatballs - \$12.00 per dozen

_____ ½ doz. Meatballs - \$6.00 per half dozen

NAME _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

Deadline for orders is February 17.

BAGS AND BAUBLES - Ladies, do you have a purse that you are not in love with any more or jewelry you are just plain tired of? Before sending it all to the thrift store, save them for the Women’s Society. We will be hosting a “Bags and Baubles” event during our Pizza and Game night. Drop off details will be announced at a later date but start sorting NOW!

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.

2019 MASS BOOK - Requests for Masses to be offered on a specific day during 2019 can be made at the parish office. Mass stipend of \$10.00 for weekday Masses and \$15.00 for weekend Masses must be paid at the time you request the Mass Intention.

“ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK”

AMITY SELF STORAGE

610-385-1222

ST. PHILIP NERI CATHOLIC FAMILY LIFE CENTER EVENTS:

True Reformers Series from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM - February 12 - St. Teresa of Avila; February 19 - St. Francis de Sales. Call 215-679-2237 for more details.

METANOIA is an active community of Catholic young adults in Western Montgomery County. Upcoming events: Tuesday, February 12 - Bible Study, St. Rose of Lima Parish, North Wales at 7:30 PM; Tuesday, February 19 - Theology on Tap, Conshohocken Brewing Co., Bridgeport, doors open at 7:00 PM, talk starts at 7:30 PM. Visit www.metanoiayoungadults.org for more details.

HOLY HOUR OF REPARATION AND PETITION on February 17 at the Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul, Philadelphia from 5:30-6:30 PM. Confessions available beginning at 5:30 PM. Holy Hour followed by 6:30 PM Mass.

COME AND SEE WEEKEND for men to learn more about discerning their vocation. Next weekend is for post-high school men on February 22-24. For more details, visit www.heedthecall.org/comeandsee.

THEOLOGY LECTURE on Monday, February 25 at 7:00 PM at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary Vianney Hall. Topic: *When Peter and Paul Disagree: Living Faithfulness and Charity Amid Public Controversy*. Presenter: Monsignor Michael K. Magee.