

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

28 JUNE 2020

Readings for Sunday, June 28: 2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16a; Romans 6:3-4, 8-11; Matthew 10:37-42.

If we have died with Christ, we believe we shall also live with him. He invites us to take up our cross and follow him, and to respond to those who are in need, as did the woman who extended hospitality to Elisha the prophet. Blessed is she who walked in the countenance of the Lord.

Readings for Sunday, July 5: Zechariah 9:9-10; Romans 8:9, 11-13; Matthew 11:25-30.

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 June	MON. 9:00 AM	John Donovan	Tom Donovan
1 July	WED. 9:00 AM	Agnes Slaby	Carol Shuback
2 July	THU. 9:00 AM	People of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
3 July	FRI. 9:00 AM	Patrick A. Duddy	
4 July	SAT. 4:00 PM	George & Mary Harbacs	The Family
5 July	SUN. 9:00 AM	Those Enrolled in St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish Memorial Fund.	

Mass on weekdays will be in the Chapel. Remember to practice the social distancing guidelines for the safety of all.



ETERNAL REST grant unto them, O Lord. May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace, especially SIMON NAGEL III.

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.

THE PARISH OFFICE IS OPEN! However, due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic, for the safety of our parishioners and staff, all parish business will be conducted by phone (610-326-5127), regular mail or email (contact@sgsm62.org).

The Parish Office will be closed on Friday, July 3 for the Independence Day Holiday.

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.

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

"ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK"

ST. GABRIEL LODGE
610-326-4137

MASS ATTENDANCE for June 20/21:

4:00 PM Mass - 64

9:00 AM Mass - 64

Total Attendance - 128

REFLECTIONS FROM THE DESK OF FR. GREGORY J. HICKEY

Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul

On Monday, June 29th, we are celebrating the feasts of Saints Peter and Paul. It is a very ancient feast going back to around the year 250 A.D. The two are honored because they are the two Apostles about whom we know the most. They were the greatest influence on the church at its beginning. Tradition has it they died together in Rome during the persecution of the Emperor Nero. Most historians suspect that Nero himself started the fire that burned most of Rome in order to clear out old houses and buildings to make room for his own ambitious building projects. Then he blamed the fire on the Christians in order to take suspicion off himself.

Peter was crucified upside down, again tradition has it that he did not consider himself worthy of dying in the same way his Master had died. Paul was beheaded. Although he was a Jew, he was also legally, by birth, a Roman citizen. Roman law decreed that Roman citizens could not be crucified because it was such a horrific way to die and being exempt from crucifixion was one of the perks of being a Roman citizen.

If you recall in 2010, the Holy Father put the spotlight on Saint Paul because the universal church was celebrating his 2,000th birthday, so this year I would like to center on St. Paul on this combined feast day. We do not know if Paul ever saw Jesus in the flesh. He was born in Tarsus, a city in Asia Minor, which is now modern day Turkey. He spoke Greek and Aramaic and wrote all of his letters in Greek. He was a Pharisee and 1000th% dedicated to observance of Jewish Law and traditions. Sometime after the death and resurrection of Jesus, he began persecuting the early followers of Christ.

Paul was present at the martyrdom of St. Stephen, the first martyr. He viewed those who believed in Jesus as heretics. He was such a zealous devotee to the Jewish Law that he would go looking for believers in Jesus to arrest them and persecute them. It was on such a journey to Damascus that the Risen Christ spoke to Paul. He was enveloped in a bright light and fell to the ground. There is no mention of a horse, although people are used to saying he was thrown off his horse. The idea came from a painting of the event. I rather believe Paul was walking or riding a donkey, which was the usual means of transportation.

Paul heard someone call him, and when he asked who was calling him, Jesus answered: "I am Jesus whom you are persecuting." Then Jesus said: "Now get up and go into the city and you will be told what you must do." Paul got up but he was a new man. He was ill and blind for a few days until he was healed by one of Jesus' followers and was baptized. In his encounter with Jesus, he discovered that Jesus was not a heretic and condemned criminal, but the glorified Lord who has risen from the dead and lives in His Church. He would learn that his mission would be to the Gentiles and that the good news Jesus proclaimed was to be preached to all the people. This is when Paul became an Apostle for the word Apostle means one who has been sent. He would come to understand how we are saved by Jesus' death and resurrection, and by our incorporation into this saving event through three things: 1.) faith, 2.) the sacraments, especially Baptism and the Eucharist, and 3.) our love for one another.

Paul wrote more than any other New Testament author. One could keep on talking about him because he wrote so much. To put everything succinctly, Paul's life and mission can be summed up in the one sentence Jesus spoke to him on the way to Damascus: "I am Jesus whom you are persecuting." We might recall the most famous lines Paul wrote: "Love is kind, love is patient, love is not jealous, it is not pompous, etc." ending with the sentence: "love never fails." This kind of love Paul talks about is a love rooted in Christ. We express that love as we gather here this weekend, giving God our time and worship and praying for one another. May we continue to express that same love for one another throughout this coming week.

Both St. Peter and St. Paul were the hinges of the early Church, and both were tested, and both died a martyr's death. Both were intimately connected by their love to Jesus Christ. Every year in Rome on this feast day of SS. Peter and Paul, Our Holy Father celebrates a Mass and confers a Pallium on all the Archbishops who have been appointed since last year. The Pallium is worn over the neck and shows the connection of unity between the Archbishops and the Vicar of Christ on earth, Pope Francis. The Pallium is made of Lamb's wool which was blessed on the Feast of St. Agnes (Agnus=lamb).

Have a good week!

Fr. Hickey

Parish Support

WEEKLY BUDGET.....	\$5,000
DEPOSIT FOR JUNE 21, 2020.....	\$4,007
Regular Sunday Collection -	\$3,877
Parish Giving -	\$130
WEEKLY DEFICIT.....	(\$993)
Year to Date Budget.....	\$255,000
Year to Date Collections.....	\$218,184
Average per week Collection.....	\$4,278
Year to Date Deficit.....	(\$36,816)
Average per week Deficit.....	(\$722)
<i>JUNE 16, 2019</i>	
Deposit.....	\$4,564
2018-2019 Deficit to Date.....	(\$29,334)
Difference from previous year.....	(\$7,482)



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.**

JULY LOTTERY TICKETS ARE ON SALE THROUGH THE PARISH OFFICE. PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO PURCHASE TICKETS. WE ARE NOT SELLING TICKETS AFTER MASSES AT THIS TIME. THANK YOU to all who have been supporting this fund raiser.

LOTTERY CALENDAR RAFFLE TICKET WINNERS

- June 15 - #456 - Judie Perlstein - \$50.00
- June 16 - #592 - unsold
- June 17 - #586 - unsold
- June 18 - #247 - Ed Slaby - \$50.00
- June 19 - #203 - unsold
- June 20 - #022 - unsold
- June 21 - #975 - unsold

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

“Caring for the poor is not just something nice the Church does; it’s a part of who we are and essential to the Church’s saving work.” (Bishop Jaime Soto, Chairman, CCHD Subcommittee, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops)

These words from my brother Bishop Soto express well our solidarity with the poor as essential to our identity as followers of Jesus, who was born of humble origins, worked as a manual laborer, and identified with the poor and marginalized people of his day. As missionary disciples of Christ in our own day, we are called to be genuinely concerned for the well-being of our brothers and sisters who lack the basic necessities which everyone deserves in order to live a full and dignified human life. With that calling of our Lord in mind, I enthusiastically welcome your support of our annual collection for the **Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD)**, which this year commemorates 50 years of concretely assisting poor and disadvantaged members of our local communities. CCHD is the domestic anti-poverty program of the U.S. Catholic Bishops, and works closely with dioceses across the country to support low-income community groups to address the root causes of poverty. By helping those who are poor and powerless to participate in decisions and actions that affect their lives, CCHD offers a hand up, not a hand out, helping the most vulnerable members of our communities.

In our country today, nearly 47 million people are living in poverty, which is one of every six Americans, and one of every five children. This growing gap between those who are financially secure and those who are not now includes many middle-class families who have been adversely impacted by the economic consequences of the current pandemic. More than one in four residents in our region now suffers from insecurity about their income, food, or health care. These brothers and sisters of ours need the collective efforts of all of us who care enough to make a difference. Through CCHD, the Catholic Church reaches out to involve and support people in acting together to improve their own lives, overcome injustices, and escape the cycle of poverty. As Catholics, we are called to stand with them and be their advocates as they strive to achieve living conditions worthy of their inherent God-given human dignity.

The annual CCHD collection in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia will occur at masses on the weekend of July 4th and 5th. Your contribution will help your neighbors near and far to realize a better future for themselves and their families. God bless you for your generous response to this year’s CCHD appeal.

Gratefully and with best wishes in Jesus Christ,

+Most Reverend Nelson J. Pérez, D.D.

Archbishop of Philadelphia