

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

19 MAY 2019

Readings for Sunday, May 19: Acts of the Apostles 14:21-27; Revelation 21:1-5a; John 13:31-33a, 34-35.

At the conclusion of their missionary journey, Paul and Barnabas tell the Antioch community all that the Lord had accomplished in their preaching the kingdom of God. This kingdom, to be marked by our love for one another, will reach its fulfillment in new heavens and a new earth.

Readings for Sunday, May 26: Acts of the Apostles 15:1-2, 22-29; Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23; John 14:23-29.

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

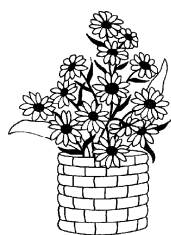
<u>Date</u>		<u>Intention</u>	<u>Requested By</u>
20 May	MON. 9:00 AM	Garrante & Annetta Ferrante	Jeannine Ferrante
22 May	WED. 9:00 AM	Mary Rulli	Tony & Theresa Vitacco
23 May	THU. 9:00 AM	Mary Rulli	Evelyn Segnere
24 May	FRI. 9:00 AM	Earl Keck	Wife, Cathy
25 May	SAT. 4:00 PM	People of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
26 May	SUN. 9:00 AM	Michael Cress	The Family



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 on the Blessed Mother Altar are in honor of OUR BLESSED MOTHER requested by St. Gabriel Women's Society.

Flowers on the Main Altar are in honor of ST. RITA requested by Cynthia Nore & Rita Templin.

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

Congratulations

Fr. Hickey is celebrating his 40th Anniversary of Ordination this weekend. He was ordained May 19, 1979, so this weekend is the actual anniversary. We wish Father Hickey a Happy Anniversary of service to the Lord and Saint Gabriel Parish!

MINISTRY SCHEDULE - May 25/26:

4:00 PM Mass

Celebrant - Fr. Hickey
 Lectors - Phyllis Villano
 Extraordinary Ministers - Frank Durante, Sherry Durante, Vincent Tamaro, Mara Tamaro, John Nester
 Altar Servers - Tony Vitacco
 Greeters - Nikki Gambino and Maria DiMarco

9:00 AM Mass

Celebrant - Fr. Ortega
 Lectors - Tony Vitacco
 Extraordinary Ministers - George Siver, Lori Carr, Chris Gerasimowicz
 Altar Server - Domenic Gerasimowicz
 Greeters - Marie Hildebrand

REFLECTIONS FROM THE DESK OF FR. GREGORY J. HICKEY

Good Shepherd Gospel

If we lived in Israel at the time of Jesus, we would instantly relate to what Jesus told us last weekend in the gospel. Sheep were the people's main source of meat, milk, and cheese. They provided wool for clothing and they were regularly used as sacrifice in their liturgy.

If I were to try to think of something in our culture today that would be similar to the relationship of a shepherd to his sheep, the best comparison I can come up with is a mother who needs to be home to care for several toddlers. Just as toddlers depend on their mother's care, and their mother is always busy, sheep depend on the care of their shepherd and the shepherd, who has dozens of sheep, is kept busy twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

Last week's gospel makes reference to an activity that shepherds had to go through daily. When night came, a number of shepherds would come together with their sheep and put them in a pen. Then they would sleep while one shepherd would stay awake watching out for thieves or predatory animals. In the morning, each shepherd would call out for his sheep to follow him to pasture. The sheep knew the voice of their own shepherd and would follow only their own shepherd's voice when they were called. They would ignore all the other shepherds who were calling for their sheep. The gospel reflects this when Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice; I know them and they follow me."

Some people are offended to hear themselves compared to sheep. Perhaps that's because they don't realize they need God's constant care at all times and not just when they have problems.

We live in a society where everyone is trying to get our attention. You can't turn on the radio or television without someone trying to sell you something. Even to go for a drive, you have billboards trying to catch your eye. Companies spend significant amounts of money to buy just 30 seconds of advertising time in order to get their message across. Sometimes, like sheep, we just follow the latest message we hear, or sometimes we hear so many messages and, like sheep, we just follow the crowd. Jesus says, "My sheep hear my voice." If we want to belong to Him, we do have to hear His voice, though in today's world, it takes a conscious effort to do so. We have to take time to shut out all kinds of other noises so we can listen to Him. If we don't make the effort, we can easily lose touch with the Shepherd. This is one reason (among many) to take time to pray daily and to come to church every Sunday. We need to keep in touch.

Jesus tells us something else about shepherds today; they know their sheep and the sheep know their shepherds. It's just the same way we know our pets at home. How do they know one another so well - because they spend a lot of time together? Sheep take a lot of care and the shepherd is with his or her sheep twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Jesus is with us all the time and knows us better than we know ourselves (all the hairs on our heads are numbered - do any of us know ourselves that well?) If we don't know Him very well, we need to spend more time with Him; and that is called prayer.

Whenever I think about shepherds, I think about friends of mine many years ago who climbed Mt. Sinai. They told me it is very rugged and steep. On the way down, they saw a shepherd and her sheep on a near-by hill. It was getting dark. She started playing her flute and headed in a direction away from where my friends were; the sheep fell in line following her. It was all the sheep trusting her and it showed how much they depended on her. They said it was a beautiful and touching scene.

Our Lord does not want to lose any one of us. His desire is for us to be with Him forever, in heaven, where there will be no more sadness or pain, where our second reading tells us, He will wipe every tear from our eyes. One of the ways He leads us is through the Eucharist we are celebrating. He is with us as we gather in His name. He speaks to us in the Sacred Scriptures. He feeds us with His own Body and Blood. Sheep may not be smart, but they are smart enough to know they need their shepherd and to recognize his voice.

The metaphor is obvious. Christ is our Good Shepherd. He wants us to trust and follow Him. Sometimes following Him can get a little frightening; we don't know where He's taking us or what He might ask of us. Sometimes when He takes us through the desert, as shepherds need to do at times when they want to bring their sheep to better grazing ground, we ask why He is doing this to us. That's why He is always telling us to have faith in Him. That's also why we need to pray - so we will have faith in Him.

May the Good Shepherd watch over all of us. May he protect your children and always keep them close to Him. May the light and zeal that they feel ignite each of us and our love for the Eucharist. May they and each of us continue to deepen our faith in Jesus as we all continue on our journey through life.

Have a great week!

Fr. Gregg Hickey

Parish Support

WEEKLY BUDGET.....	\$5,000
DEPOSIT FOR MAY 12, 2019.	\$4,508
Regular Sunday Collection -	\$3,233
Parish Giving -	\$140
Mother's Day Collection -	\$1,135
WEEKLY DEFICIT.	(\$492)
Year to Date Budget.....	\$230,000
Year to Date Collections.....	\$203,109
Average per week Collection.....	\$4,415
Year to Date Deficit.	(\$26,891)
Average per week Deficit.....	(\$585)
<i>MAY 13, 2018</i>	
Deposit.	\$5,634
2017-2018 Deficit to Date.	(\$22,252)
Difference from previous year..	(\$4,639)



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

- May 6 - #941 - unsold
- May 7 - #310 - Peter Monfort - \$50.00
- May 8 - #449 - unsold
- May 9 - #057 - Edward Karaszkiwicz - \$50.00
- May 10 - #134 - Tracey Flynn - \$50.00
- May 11 - #311 - Helen Chaykowsky - \$50.00
- May 12 - #094 - unsold

MASS ATTENDANCE for May 11/12:

4:00 PM Mass - 192
 9:00 AM Mass - 141
 Total Attendance - 333
 Mass Attendance for May 12/13, 2018 - 441

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND will be the Parish Property Maintenance & Repair Collection.

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

“ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK”

WATERPROOFING ONE
 800-508-4144

ST. GABRIEL OF THE SORROWFUL MOTHER PARISH MEMORIAL FUND DONATIONS received in memory of:
JOSEPHINE BOMBERGER from Gerry Murgia & family, Bucciaglia & Boyer Families, Louise Roberts;
MARY ANN KARPINSKI from Anna & John Nester, Chris, Gene & Domenic Gerasimowicz and Lucy D’Emilio;
RICHARD BARNDT from Anna & John Nester;
LOUISE HIGH from Curt J. High;
RICHARD HUNTER from Tony & Theresa Vitacco.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CLOTHING DRIVE will be held on Saturday, June 8 from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be using the services of GreenDrop to support their clothing drive. Look for the GreenDrop truck in the church parking lot where an attendant will be available to assist you with your donations. Please place your donations of usable men’s, women’s and children’s clothing in plastic bags or boxes. Household items such as kitchenware, games/toys, small appliances under 50 pounds, electronics, sporting goods, books, CDs and videos are also accepted. Unfortunately, furniture, large appliances, TVs or computer monitors cannot be accepted. For a full list of acceptable items visit www.gogreendrop.com.

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.

MAGNIFICAT SUBSCRIPTIONS - Cost for a one year subscription is \$36.00. Subscription begins with the September 2019 issue. Anyone interested in subscribing or renewing their subscription, please call the parish office. Deadline for subscriptions and payment is June 21.

91ST ANNIVERSARY SPAGHETTI DINNER - ST. GABRIEL LODGE on June 1 from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM. All you can eat Spaghetti with 2 meatballs or sausage with 1st serving, tossed salad, bread and dessert. \$8.95 - Adult; \$5.95 - Children (5-10 yrs); Children under 5 eat free. Walk-ins welcome.

TRAVEL WITH FR. PAUL BRANDT, Pastor of St. Teresa of Calcutta Parish to Budapest, Prague, Wroclaw, Warsaw, Vienna and Czestochowa. Trip Dates: June 29-July 12, 2019. Cost is \$4,600.00 - airfare and ALL included. To register, contact 855-842-8001 or 508-340-9730. Register on-line at www.proximotravel.com.

BUS TRIP TO HOLLYWOOD CASINO - Wednesday, June 19. Leaves from St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church Parking Lot, Pottstown at 10:00 AM. Cost is \$27.00 - includes tip for driver. Package is \$30.00. Call Judy Petro (484-236-1049) for reservations.

HOLY HOUR OF REPARATION AND PETITION on Sunday, May 19 from 5:30-6:30 PM at the Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul, Philadelphia. All Catholics of the greater Philadelphia area are invited to spend time each month before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament to ask for His mercy upon His Church. Confessions beginning at 5:30 PM. Followed by Mass at 6:30 PM.

REMAIN IN MAY LOVE INITIATIVE FOR THE RENEWAL OF CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE - At each session, national Catholic speakers will present the splendor of Christ's teachings on the high dignity of the vocation of marriage and Christian family life. Session #1: "He Saw That It Was Very Good" - the Goods of Marriage. Speaker is Fr. Dennis Gill. June 2 from 2:00-4:30 PM at SS. Simon and Jude Parish, West Chester; June 15 from 1:00-3:30 PM at Nativity of Our Lord Parish, Warminster; June 30 from 2:00-4:30 PM at Cathedral Chapel of SS. Peter and Paul, Philadelphia. The same presentation is offered in each of the three locations - choose one location. Free and open to the public. Please RSVP. More information, Speaker bios and online registration at www.archphila.org/remain2019.

WOMEN'S HEALING RETREAT with Fr. Steve DeLacy and De Yarrison of You Are Made New Ministry. May 31 - June 1 at Mariawald Renewal Center. For women of all ages seeking a deeper relationship with Our Lord. Retreat includes Mass, teaching on the 5 Keys to Freedom in Christ, healing prayer, personal coaching, reflection, sisterhood and adoration. Registration required. Visit www.YouAreMadeNew.com/healing-retreats or contact De Yarrison (610-287-2989).

CATHOLIC CHARITIES NIGHT WITH THE PHILLIES on June 21. Plan a night out with family and friends watching the Phillies vs. Miami, all while benefitting the Catholic Charities Appeal. If 500 tickets are sold, a student from Catholic Social Services OST Program will throw out the first pitch of the game. A portion of all tickets sold will directly benefit the Catholic Charities Appeal. Visit www.phillies.com/catholiccharitiesnight to purchase tickets.

RETREAT at Malvern Retreat House - June 7-9. A retreat for men and women. The theme is: "Encountering the Joy of the Lord." Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers will be inspiring all through this retreat filled with uplifting music, adoration, the Sacraments and quiet time. Register at www.malvernretreat.com.

WELCOME HOME OUR VIETNAM VETERANS on Sunday, June 2. Honor Flight Philadelphia will be returning from a day of honor in Washington, DC with 250 Vietnam Veterans to the Porch at the Lamb Tavern, Springfield at 6:15 PM. Join them for the Welcome Home they never received! For more details contact JoDean (610-627-1494 or jodean@honorflightphiladelphia.org).

MAY PROCESSION on Monday, May 20 at the Miraculous Medal Shrine, Philadelphia. 10:45 AM Procession followed by 12:05 PM Mass. For more information contact Colleen Buckley at Cbuckley@Cammonline.org.

SUMMER NOVENA OF HOPE - Nine Mondays in June and July at the Miraculous Medal Shrine, Philadelphia. Times: 7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 12:05 PM and 7:00 PM. The theme for this Summer Novena of Hope is "Vincentian Saints, Models of Sanctity." Dates: June 3, June 10, June 17, June 24, July 1, July 8, July 15, July 22 and July 29. For more information contact Colleen Buckley at Cbuckley@Cammonline.org.

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 in the area. Upcoming events: Tuesday, May 21: Theology on Tap at Conshohocken Brewing Company, Bridgeport - Doors open at 7:00 PM, Talk starts at 7:30 PM; Tuesday, May 28: Holy Hour at Mary, Mother of the Redeemer Parish, North Wales at 7:30 PM; Sunday, June 2: Annual Picnic at Green Lane Park, Green Lane at 12:00 PM. For more information visit www.metanoiayoungadults.org or contact metanoiayoungadults@gmail.com.