

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

24 MAY 2020

Readings for Sunday, May 24: Acts of the Apostles 1:12-14; 1 Peter 4:13-16; John 17:1-11a.

Jesus, having completed the work of his Father, speaks of returning to Him and of being glorified. As we share in his glory, so too do we share in Christ's suffering. We have nothing to fear, however, since the Lord is our refuge. In his name do we gather, attentive to the Spirit.

Readings for Sunday, May 31: Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11; 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13; John 20:19-23.

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.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is cancelled until further notice.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

<u>Date</u>		<u>Intention</u>	<u>Requested By</u>
25 May	MON.	No public Mass	Wife & children
27 May	WED.	No public Mass	Jack Smith
28 May	THU.	No public Mass	Jack & Lori Carr
29 May	FRI.	No public Mass	Special Intention for Gonzalez Family
30 May	SAT.	No public Mass	Matthew & Loreen Cappelletti Loretta & John Gauger
31 May	SUN.	No public Mass	People of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish

Fr. Hickey will celebrate a private Mass each day to fulfill the Mass Intentions for Masses previously scheduled. The Chapel will be open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM for private prayer.



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.

CANCELLATIONS AND POSTPONEMENTS DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC:

PREP CLASSES are cancelled until further notice.

CHOIR PRACTICE is cancelled until further notice.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT is cancelled until further notice.

CONFESSIONS scheduled for Saturdays are cancelled - contact Fr. Hickey for Confession.

WOMEN'S SOCIETY MEETING scheduled for Thursday, June 4 has been cancelled. Women's Society Meetings will resume in September.

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) or email (contact@sgsm62.org).

The parish office will be closed on Monday, May 25 for the Memorial Day Holiday.

SPAGHETTI SAUCE (FROZEN) for sale by the Women's Society. Cost - \$7.00 per quart. Please call Lori LaRosa (610-326-6030) to purchase the sauce and for delivery of the sauce.

REFLECTIONS FROM THE DESK OF FR. GREGORY J. HICKEY

Ascension Thursday – 40

Quarantine --root of 40

WORLD QUARANTINE

The Latin root of the word “quarantine” is “forty.”

So what does the Bible say about 40?

The flood lasted 40 days.

40 years Moses fled Egypt.

40 days Moses stayed on Mount Sinai to receive the Commandments.

Exodus lasted 40 years.

Jesus fasted for 40 days.

Lent is 40 days.

40 days for a woman to rest after giving birth.

A group of theologians thinks the number 40 represents “change.” It is the time of preparing a person, or people, to make a fundamental change.

Something will happen after these 40 days. Just believe and pray. Remember, whenever the number 40 appears in the Bible, there is a “change.”

Please know that during this “quarantine” rivers are cleaning up, vegetation is growing, the air is becoming cleaner because of less pollution, there is less theft and murder, healing is happening, and most importantly, people are turning to Christ. The Earth is at rest for the first time in many years and hearts are truly transforming.

So, during this time, enjoy it with your loved ones and return to the family altar together. Family prayer is a great blessing. Through prayer you will see the changes God can work in you and in your home.

Christ promises us that everything works together for the good for those who love God: Romans 8:28!

Remember we are in the year 2020, and $20 + 20 = 40$.

Also, 2020 is the year of the United States Census. Jesus Christ, the savior of the world, was born during a census.

Lastly, 2020 is perfect vision. May our sight focus on the Lord and living according to His perfect vision for us knowing He holds us in the palm of His hand.

May these days of “quarantine” bring spiritual liberation to our souls, our nation, and our world.

40 always means change, transformation, new beginning. May this time of Quarantine bring change to us, to our way of life, to the way we think, and to a deepening of our faith in God.

The best is yet to come.

Trust in the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!

Have a great week and Happy Ascension Thursday.

Fr. Hickey

Parish Support

WEEKLY BUDGET.....	\$5,000
DEPOSIT FOR MAY 17, 2020.....	\$2,864
Regular Sunday Collection -	\$2,699
Parish Giving -	\$165
WEEKLY DEFICIT.....	(\$2,136)
Year to Date Budget.....	\$230,000
Year to Date Collections.....	\$196,003
Average per week Collection.....	\$4,261
Year to Date Deficit.....	(\$33,997)
Average per week Deficit.....	(\$739)

MAY 12, 2019

Deposit.....	\$4,508
2018-2019 Deficit to Date.....	(\$26,891)
Difference from previous year.....	(\$7,106)

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



HAVE A SAFE AND ENJOYABLE HOLIDAY!

MAGNIFICAT BOOKS Those who purchased the Magnificat can pick up their JUNE issue at the parish office. **Please call before coming to pick up your book.**



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.**

MAY LOTTERY TICKETS ARE ON SALE THROUGH THE PARISH OFFICE. PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO PICK UP TICKETS.

LOTTERY CALENDAR RAFFLE TICKET WINNERS

- May 11 - #015 - unsold
- May 12 - #286 - unsold
- May 13 - #124 - Michael Burke - \$50.00
- May 14 - #848 - unsold
- May 15 - #377 - unsold
- May 16 - #632 - unsold
- May 17 - #012 - unsold

CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL - Speaker weekends have been postponed due to the Coronavirus. Your support is needed by the beneficiaries that are struggling right now. There is still an immediate need for resources, essential items, and services in our community and we want to make sure these individuals in need are not forgotten. To find messages from three different speakers, click these YouTube links:

- www.youtube.com/watch?v=lu4N0mY7Df0
- www.youtube.com/watch?v=jnfjOzv_fiU
- www.youtbue.com/watch?v=dinwn5jljms

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love you above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least
spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly
to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen.



The March 17, 2020 suspension of all public Masses in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia remains in effect until further notice. This includes all Sunday and weekday Masses with the faithful. Priests will continue to offer Holy Mass privately during this period and to honor all requested Mass intentions.

Options for viewing Mass on TV or the internet:

TV: 6ABC - Sunday at 5:30 AM; ME TV - Sunday at 7:00 AM; EWTN - Sunday at 8:00 AM.

Internet: Live streaming of Mass from the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul on Sunday at 11:00 AM from www.archphila.org; check web sites for St. Aloysius Church, St. Teresa of Calcutta Church, St. Thomas More Church and St. Columbkil Church for viewing the Mass.

Pope Francis is asking people to recite the Rosary during this difficult time. He has written prayers for the end of the COVID-19 pandemic and asks people to pray these prayers after the Rosary.

“We fly to your protection, O holy Mother of God.”

In the present tragic situation, when the whole world is prey to suffering and anxiety, we fly to you, Mother of God and our mother, and seek refuge under your protection.

Virgin Mary, turn your merciful eyes toward us amid this coronavirus pandemic. Comfort those who are distraught and mourn their loved ones who have died, and at times are buried in a way that grieves them deeply. Be close to those who are concerned for their loved ones who are sick and who, in order to prevent the spread of the disease, cannot be close to them. Fill with hope those who are troubled by the uncertainty of the future and the consequences for the economy and employment.

Mother of God and our Mother, pray for us to God, the father of mercies, that this great suffering may end and that hope and peace may dawn anew. Plead with your divine Son, as you did at Cana, so that the families of the sick and the victims be comforted, and their hearts be opened to confidence and trust.

Protect those doctors, nurses, health workers and volunteers who are on the frontline of this emergency, and are risking their lives to save others. Support their heroic effort and grant them strength, generosity and continued health.

Be close to those who assist the sick night and day, and to priests who, in their pastoral concern and fidelity to the Gospel, are trying to help and support everyone.

Blessed Virgin, illumine the minds of men and women engaged in scientific research, that they may find effective solutions to overcome this virus.

Support national leaders, that with wisdom, solicitude and generosity they may come to the aid of those lacking the basic necessities of life and may devise social and economic solutions inspired by farsightedness and solidarity.

Mary Most Holy, stir our consciences, so that the enormous funds invested in developing and stockpiling arms will instead be spent on promoting effective research on how to prevent similar tragedies from occurring in the future.

Blessed Mother, help us realize that we are all members of one great family and to recognize the bond that unites us, so that, in a spirit of fraternity and solidarity, we can help to alleviate countless situations of poverty and need. Make us strong in faith, persevering in service, constant in prayer.

Mary, Consolation of the afflicted, embrace all your children in distress and pray that God will stretch out his all-powerful hand and free us from this terrible pandemic, so that life can serenely resume its normal course.

To you, who shine on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope, do we entrust ourselves, O Clement, O Loving, O Sweet Virgin Mary. Amen.