

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

11 NOVEMBER 2018

Readings for Sunday, November 11: 1 Kings 17:10-16; Hebrews 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44.

The Lord provides for Elijah's need as the widow of Zarephath shares with him from her want. Her generosity is mirrored in the widow in the temple who gives from her poverty and not from power, privilege or excess. In Jesus, God became poor for us, offering himself to take away our sins.

Readings for Sunday, November 18: Daniel 12:1-3; Hebrews 10:11-14, 18; Mark 13:24-32.

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>
12 Nov. MON. 9:00 AM	Earl Keck	Wife, Cathy
14 Nov. WED. 9:00 AM	Michael J. Rudy	Daughter, Mary
15 Nov. THU. 9:00 AM	Elizabeth Pinder Family	Francis J. Czeiner
16 Nov. FRI. 9:00 AM	All the Faithful Departed	
17 Nov. SAT. 4:00 PM	People of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
18 Nov. SUN. 9:00 AM	Neil Hipszer	Barbara & Michael



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, November 13 at 1:30 PM in the social hall.



SECOND SUNDAY HOSPITALITY on Sunday, November 11 in the social hall after the 9:00 AM Mass. Come and enjoy a cup of coffee and juice and some light pastries. Free will offering accepted.

KIELBASA FOR SALE: Limited amount of frozen kielbasa for sale. Cost: \$10.00 for 5 pounds. Call the parish office if interested.

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 invited to join in these special Marian Devotions.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE - November 17/18:

4:00 PM Mass

Lector - John Nester
 Extraordinary Ministers - Frank Durante, Sherry Durante, Nikki Gambino, Helen George
 Altar Server - Michael Holmes
 Greeters - Patty Wade and Monica Bauer

9:00 AM Mass

Lector - Jack Bucciaglia
 Extraordinary Ministers - Rita Templin, Cindy Nore, Lori Carr
 Altar Server - Tommy Miller and Madelyn Miller
 Greeters - Sylvia and Tom Marcheskie

REFLECTIONS FROM THE DESK OF FR. GREGORY HICKEY

“A Call to Integrity”

Are you being called to be a Sponsor at Baptism or Confirmation?

It is the ancient custom of the Church that a candidate for Baptism and for Confirmation has a sponsor (or godparent) who represents the extended faith community of the Catholic Church into which the candidate is being initiated. The role of sponsor is not merely ceremonial, nor is it simply a social role. To be someone's sponsor is to take an important religious and spiritual place in that person's life and to promise that you will help the candidate grow to maturity in the Catholic Church. Accepting the invitation to be a sponsor implies your own commitment to practice your faith and to give daily example to adult Catholic living in our modern world.

Often people ask: “What does the Church require of a sponsor?” While there are several specific requirements for serving as a sponsor, the more basic question is not: “Will the church allow me to be a sponsor?” – But rather: “Can I honestly allow myself to be a sponsor?” In other words, when you are invited to be a sponsor, you must first ask yourself if your own personal integrity allows you to stand at the altar to make a public profession of faith and to affirm that you practice your faith in your daily life. Are you being true to who you say you are as a believer?

It is true that the role of sponsor does not demand that you be a canonized saint. All of us need to rely upon the mercy of God for our sins and faults. Yet the role of sponsor does call for an individual who practices the sacramental life of the Church and “lives a life in harmony with the faith.” That is, attend Mass regularly and if married, was married in the Catholic Church, or with the approval of the Catholic Church. If you are an active practicing Catholic at this point in your life, you would make a great sponsor at Baptism or Confirmation!

Many of us know situations in which someone who has stopped participating in Mass and rarely receives the sacraments is asked to be a sponsor at Baptism or Confirmation. If you are in a similar situation now, I invite you to let this invitation to be a real opportunity to grow in the Holy Spirit and in your own faith commitment. You could arrange to meet with a priest or deacon, or perhaps with a family member or friend who does practice the faith, to talk about the state of your faith life as an adult. Such a prayerful conversation may be the opportunity to begin a new and more faithful living out of your faith at this point in your life. Perhaps you are really not ready to make this kind of decision. If you cannot bring yourself to a renewed practice of the faith, then by all means be honest enough to politely decline the invitation to be a sponsor at this time. **This is what is meant by a call to personal integrity.**

Simply being a registered member of a parish is not sufficient to being a sponsor at Baptism or Confirmation. I hear from so many couples that they are having difficulty finding sponsors because their friends or family members are not practicing their faith.

If I can help you discern your readiness to accept the responsibility in the Church, please call me at 610-327-2248.

May the Lord guide you in deciding whether or not you can honestly complete and sign the affirmation listed on the Certificate of Eligibility.

Next week, I will be continuing this article by offering specific guidelines for Letters of Eligibility.

Have a good week!

Fr. Hickey

Parish Support

WEEKLY BUDGET..... \$5,000
 DEPOSIT FOR NOVEMBER 4, 2018..... \$6,433
 Regular Sunday Collection - \$4,560
 Parish Giving - \$90
 All Saints Collection - \$906
 All Souls Collection - \$877
 WEEKLY SURPLUS..... \$1,433

Year to Date Budget..... \$95,000
 Year to Date Collections..... \$75,057
 Average per week Collection..... \$3,950
 Year to Date Deficit. (\$19,943)
 Average per week Deficit..... (\$1,050)

NOVEMBER 5, 2017

Deposit. \$5,378
 2017-2018 Deficit to Date. (\$19,039)
 Difference from previous year.. (\$904)



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

October 29 - #987 - unsold
 October 30 - #189 - unsold
 October 31 - #835 - Monica Bauer - \$50.00

OCTOBER FIGURES: 304 tickets sold - \$1,520.00. Payout to winners - \$450.00. Cost of printing tickets - \$100.00. Profit for October - \$970.00. THANK YOU to everyone who supported the October Lottery.

November 1 - #090 - unsold
 November 2 - #265 - Paula Spollen - \$50.00
 November 3 - #882 - unsold
 November 4 - #493 - unsold

MASS ATTENDANCE for November 4/5:

4:00 PM Mass - 218
 9:00 AM Mass - 134
 Total Attendance - 352
 Mass Attendance for November 4/5, 2017 - 379

WINNER OF GOLD 50/50 MONTHLY ENVELOPE to support Religious Education:

OCTOBER DRAWING - Elsie Thum - \$266.00.

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

“ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK”

DC FUNDING
 215-586-1575 or 267-251-0341

ST. GABRIEL OF THE SORROWFUL MOTHER PARISH MEMORIAL FUND DONATIONS received in memory of:

ALLEN D. HARDING, SR. from Tony & Theresa Vitacco;
STELLA P. LESE from Elizabeth Skokowski.



THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE will be held next weekend, November 17 and 18. Please bring your donations of non-perishable food items (canned soup, canned pasta, canned beef stew, canned fruit, canned vegetables, pasta, pasta sauce, rice, peanut butter, jelly, etc.) to the church vestibule next weekend. Food collected will be delivered to the Outreach Center in Pottstown for those in need in our area. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKE BREAKFAST hosted by the Pottstown-Stowe Lions Club on Sunday, November 11 from 8:00 AM to Noon at the West End Fire Co., Stowe. Pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, juice, milk and coffee. Cost: \$7.00 - adults; \$6 - seniors; \$5 - children 4-12 and kids under 4 years eat free.



WOMEN'S SOCIETY CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Sunday, December 16

1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Shorty's Sunflower Café, Pottstown

Includes Soup, Salad, Entree and Dessert

Entree Choices:

_____ SEARED SALMON FILLET - Maple Mustard Sauce with Sautéed Winter Greens and Warm German Style German Potato Salad

_____ SAUTÉED CHICKEN BREAST - With Pickled Cranberry, Plum and Cider Bourbon Glaze with Potato Gratin and Sautéed Winter Greens

_____ SUNFLOWER CAFÉ'S VERY SPECIAL BEEF STEW - Slow Cooked Beef and Winter Vegetables with Polenta Dumpling

_____ VEGETARIAN OPTION - Wide Pasta tossed with Winter Greens and Walnut Pesto, Grilled Butternut Squash and White Beans

Member Price - \$25.00; Non-Member Price - \$30.00.

Holy Trinity Women's Club Members invited for \$25.00.

NAME _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

Choice of entree and payment due by Sunday, December 9. Place in collection basket or drop off at the parish office.

HOLY HOUR OF REPARATION AND PETITION - 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 in this moment of profound crisis. We come to make reparation for our own sins and those of our bishops and priests. Next Holy Hour is on Sunday, November 11 from 5:30-6:30 PM at the Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul, Philadelphia. Confessions will be available beginning at 5:30 PM. Each Holy Hour is followed by 6:30 PM Mass.

PHILOSOPHY LECTURE - "Classical Theism and the Nature of God" presented by Dr. Edward Feser on Monday, November 12 at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary. Lecture is free, open to the public and will be held in the Vianney Hall Auditorium at 7:00 PM. For more details call 610-785-6287 or visit www.scs.edu/Lectures.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR at Visitation BVM Church, Norristown on Friday November 16 (6:30-10:00 PM) and Saturday, November 17 (9:00 AM-5:00 PM).

AD LUMINA CHRISTI RETREAT for men and women on November 12-16 at Malvern Retreat House. Directed by Kathleen McCarthy. Special guest Fr. Dermot Roache, SMA. Focus of the retreat will be healing and renewal of the heart with God the Father.

ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA RETREAT FOR WOMEN on November 16-18 at Malvern Retreat House. Director - Marty Rotella. Theme - "Love Will Heal Your Brokenness."

To register for either retreat or more information, call 610-644-0400 or visit www.malverretreat.com.

NINE-DAY MIRACULOUS MEDAL SOLEMN NOVENA - November 12-20 at the Miraculous Medal Shrine, Philadelphia. Theme is "Eucharist: The Heart of Our Catholic Faith & Practice." Preacher is Fr. Francis W. Sacks, CM. Feast Day Mass on Wednesday, November 21. You will be able to watch the LIVE stream and obtain more information about the Novena schedule by visiting www.MiraculousMedal.org/SolemnNovena18.