

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

4 NOVEMBER 2018

Readings for Sunday, November 4: Deuteronomy 6:2-6; Hebrews 7:23-28; Mark 12:28b-34.

The two commandments, love of God and love of neighbor, go hand in hand. Through the priesthood of Jesus, we are brought into communion with God who is love.

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

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>
5 Nov. MON. 9:00 AM	Francesco Ferraro	Slovak American Women's Guild
7 Nov. WED. 9:00 AM	Nicholas Lenhardt	Ron & Kathy Bernhard
8 Nov. THU. 9:00 AM	All the Faithful Departed	
9 Nov. FRI. 9:00 AM	Helen & Joseph Hickey	Rev. Gregory J. Hickey
10 Nov. SAT. 4:00 PM	People of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
11 Nov. SUN. 9:00 AM	Robert & Joan Sabo	Cliff & Barb Keller



ETERNAL REST grant unto them, O Lord. May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace, especially STELLA LESE.

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.

Thank You! The Women's Society wishes to thank everyone who supported the Kauffman Chicken fundraiser and bake sale. This will be the last year for the chicken fundraiser. Be sure to follow the weekly bulletin for upcoming ways to support your church.



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.

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 10/11:

4:00 PM Mass

Lector -Melanie Warzeski
 Extraordinary Ministers - Vincent Tamaro, Mara Tamaro, Terry Donnelly, George Siver
 Altar Server - Maeve Donnelly
 Greeters - Ginger Scheidt and Nikki Gambino

9:00 AM Mass

Lector - Rocco D'Emilio
 Extraordinary Ministers - Gary Huster, Debbie Huster, Chris Gerasimowicz
 Altar Server - Domenic Gerasimowicz
 Greeters - Sylvia and Tom Marcheskie

REFLECTIONS FROM THE DESK OF FR. GREGORY HICKEY

Reflection on Grief

As we enter the month of the Holy Souls, I can't help but remember the many parishioners who have lost loved ones within the last five years. All of us are still making the journey of the grieving process. Everyone grieves differently and there is not one correct way of doing so.

Someone on Reddit, wrote the following heartfelt plea online: "My friend just died. I don't know what to do." Many people responded. Then there was an incredible response from an older gentleman that stood out from the rest that might just change the way we approach life and death.

Alright, here goes. I'm old. What that means is that I've survived (so far) and a lot of people I've known and loved did not. I've lost friends, best friends, acquaintances, co-workers, grandparents, Mom, Dad, relatives, teachers, mentors, students, neighbors, and a host of other folks. I have no children, and I can't imagine the pain it must be to lose a child. But here's my two cents.

I wish I could say you get used to people dying. I never did. I don't want to. It tears a hole through me whenever somebody I love dies, no matter the circumstances. But I don't want it to "not matter." I don't want it to be something that just passes. My scars are a testament to the love and the relationship that I had for and with that person. And if the scar is deep, so was the love. So be it. Scars are a testament to life. Scars are a testament that I can love deeply and live deeply and be cut, or even gouged, and that I can heal and continue to live and continue to love. And the scar tissue is stronger than the original flesh ever was. Scars are only ugly to people who can't see.

As for grief, you'll find it comes in waves. When the ship is first wrecked, you're drowning, with wreckage all around you. Everything floating around you reminds you of the beauty and the magnificence of the ship that was, and is no more. And all you can do is float. You'll find some piece of the wreckage and you hang on for a while. Maybe it's some physical thing. Maybe it's a happy memory or a photograph. Maybe it's a person who is also floating. For a while, all you can do is float. Stay alive.

In the beginning, the waves are 100 feet tall and crash over you without mercy. They come 10 seconds apart and don't even give you time to catch your breath. All you can do is hang on and float. After a while, maybe weeks, even months, you'll find the waves are still 100 feet tall but they come further apart. When they come, they still crash over you and wipe you out. But in between, you can breathe, you can function. You never know what's going to trigger the grief. It might be a song, a picture, a street intersection, the smell of a cup of coffee. It can just be about anything...and the wave comes crashing. But in between waves, there is life.

Somewhere down the line, and it's different for everybody, you find that the waves are only 80 feet tall, or 50 feet tall. And while they still come, they come further apart. You can see them coming. An anniversary, a birthday, or Christmas, or landing at the airport. You can see it coming, for the most part, and prepare yourself. And when it washes over you, you know that somehow you will, again, come out on the other side. Soaking wet, sputtering, still hanging on to some tiny piece of the wreckage, but you'll come out.

Take it from an elderly gentleman. The waves never stop coming, and somehow you don't really want them to. But you learn that you'll survive them. And other waves will come. And you'll survive them too. If you're lucky, you'll have lots of scars from lots of loves and lots of shipwrecks.

Grieving is not a set amount of time. It is a process that can last a lifetime.

Eternal rest grant unto each of them! Always remember to pray for those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith.

Have a good week!

Fr. Hickey

Parish Support

WEEKLY BUDGET.....	\$5,000
DEPOSIT FOR OCTOBER 28, 2018.	\$3,215
Regular Sunday Collection - \$3,135	
Parish Giving - \$80	
WEEKLY DEFICIT.	(\$1,785)
Year to Date Budget.....	\$90,000
Year to Date Collections.....	\$68,624
Average per week Collection.....	\$3,812
Year to Date Deficit.	(\$21,376)
Average per week Deficit.....	(\$1,188)
 <i>OCTOBER 29, 2017</i>	
Deposit.	\$3,572
2017-2018 Deficit to Date.	(\$19,417)
Difference from previous year.....	(\$1,959)

MASS ATTENDANCE for October 27/28:

4:00 PM Mass - 221
 9:00 AM Mass - 115
 Total Attendance - 336
 Mass Attendance for October 28/29, 2017 - 354

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

“ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK”

CROCKER & CROCKER, P.C.
 610-323-5700

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

OFFERTORY GIFTS: All parishioners are encouraged to be Offertory Gift Bearers for the Masses on Saturdays, Sundays and Holydays. Please call Kathy at the parish office to volunteer.

HAND-MADE BABY BLANKETS are being sold by the Women’s Society. Cost is \$10.00. The blankets make a very nice gift for a new baby or as an additional something when giving a gift card. To purchase a baby blanket, please contact the parish office.



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 22 - #170 - unsold
- October 23 - #584 - unsold
- October 24 - #996 - unsold
- October 25 - #175 - Beth Chillot - \$50.00
- October 26 - #419 - Sue Commale - \$50.00
- October 27 - #628 - unsold
- October 28 - #442 - unsold

REDNER’S TAPES FUND RAISER - Thank you to everyone for collecting the Redner’s register tapes for our parish. Money we receive from this fund raiser is put towards our Parish Religious Education Program (PREP). Just a reminder, the Redner’s tapes only count when you use a Save-A-Tape card and that information prints out at the bottom of your receipt. If you do not use a card, we cannot use your tapes. You can obtain a Save-A-Tape card at the Customer Service Desk at any Redner’s. Containers for the tapes are in the vestibule of church or you can drop off your tapes at the parish office.

MOO MONEY FUND RAISER - Our parish is a participant in the Moo Money Fund Raiser offered by Turkey Hill. For every 500 milk lids turned in with the Moo Money Label, our parish will receive \$25.00 from Turkey Hill. Money the parish receives from Moo Money helps to offset our PREP expenses. Containers for the Moo Money lids are in the vestibule of church or you can drop off your Moo Money lids at the parish office.

RADA CUTLERY - The Women’s Society is selling RADA Cutlery. Items available are: 6-1/2" paring knife, Vegetable peeler, Server spoon, 8-1/2" utility steak knife, 11" large slicer, and 8-1/2" serrated knife. Please call Louise Roberts (610-323-5765) for more details or to purchase the RADA Cutlery.

**STATEMENT OF ARCHBISHOP CHARLES J. CHAPUT, O.F.M. Cap.
REGARDING SHOOTING AT PITTSBURGH SYNAGOGUE**

Religious and ethnic hatred is vile in any form, but the ugly record of the last century is a lesson in the special evil of anti-Semitism. That evil has not been stamped out. Rather, it has been resurgent in many areas of the world for the last several decades. It has no place in America, and especially in the hearts of Christians. I want to express the heartfelt support and prayers of Philadelphia's Catholic Community, and my own, for the victims of the Pittsburgh synagogue attack and their families. May God give them courage and solace, and may this be a statewide wake-up call to resist religious hatred.

Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap.
Archbishop of Philadelphia

IMPORTANT ST. ALOYSIUS CEMETERY INFORMATION:

It's that time of year for the cemetery to be cleaned up. The cemetery will be cleared for the holiday season beginning Monday, November 5. Only dead, worn, broken or items in disarray will be cleared. If your items are in good condition, they will remain untouched by our cemetery staff.

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.

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN FOR ADULTS SESSION on Wednesday, November 7 at 6:00 PM at Sacred Heart Church, Royersford. Estimated length of session is 2 hours, 30 minutes. Held in the café (838 Walnut St., Royersford). All who wish to attend this session **MUST BE REGISTERED**. No children under the age of 18 should attend this session. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to the start of the session to sign in and pick up materials used in the training. **PLEASE BE PROMPT - LATE ARRIVALS WILL NOT BE ADMITTED**. To register visit www.virtusonline.org, select Philadelphia, PA (Archdiocese), then register for our location (in order of date).

NIGHT OF FUN - Come to the Crowne Plaza in King of Prussia on November 10 from 6:30 PM to 10:30 PM. Enjoy a delicious meal, drinks and incredible Silent Auction items benefitting "A Baby's Breath" Crisis Pregnancy Centers. Tickets are \$70 - individual or \$140 - couple. Contact Kim Granito (kim@thegrantios.com) for tickets and more information.

HOLY HOUR OF REPARATION AND PETITION - Have

Mercy on us, O Lord. 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. We come also in confident hope that from Christ's super-abounding mercy will come the purification, healing and restoration of holiness for which we long. 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.

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. To register go to www.malvernretreat.com/calendar or call 610-644-0400.

NINE-DAY MIRACULOUS MEDAL SOLEMN NOVENA -

November 12-20. Feast Day Mass on Wednesday, November 21. Join us in person or online for this Solemn Novena and Feast Day Mass at the Miraculous Medal Shrine, Philadelphia. This year's theme is "Eucharist: The Heart of Our Catholic Faith & Practice." Preacher is Fr. Francis W. Sacks, CM. Anointing of the Sick on Friday, November 16 at all services. Send us your intentions to be placed at the foot of Mary's Altar by visiting www.MiraculousMedal.org/SolemnNovena18. You will also be able to watch the LIVE stream, obtain more information about the Novena schedule and topics or download the flyer.