

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8 NOVEMBER 2020

Readings for Sunday, November 8: Wisdom 6:12-16; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13.

We seek many things in this life, but we should seek first the Lord and his wisdom. By so living, we will keep vigil for the Lord as we await his return in glory.

Readings for Sunday, November 15: Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6; Matthew 25:14-30.

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 Church.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

<u>Date</u>		<u>Intention</u>	<u>Requested By</u>
9 Nov.	MON. 9:00 AM	C. Ronald Yost, Jr.	Bruce & Patti Pollock
11 Nov.	WED. 9:00 AM	Leo Brennan	Dick & Ginny Linderman
12 Nov.	THU. 9:00 AM	All the Faithful Departed	
13 Nov.	FRI. 9:00 AM	Gormley, Yeager, Campbell & McQue Families	
14 Nov.	SAT. 4:00 PM	People of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
15 Nov.	SUN. 9:00 AM	LCPL Matt Snyder, USMC	Jane Perkins

Mass on weekdays will be in the Church. Remember to practice the social distancing guidelines and wear a face mask or covering for the safety of all.



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.

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 Wednesday, November 11.

2020 MASS BOOK - There are still a few weekday Masses available in December 2020. If interested in scheduling a Mass for December, please call the parish office.

THE ROSARY is prayed on weekdays before the 9:00 AM Mass. We also pray the Rosary before the 9:00 AM Mass every Sunday. We welcome all to join us for these special Marian Devotions.

RADA CUTLERY - The Women's Society is selling RADA Cutlery. Items available include 6-1/2" paring knife, vegetable peeler, server spoon, 8-1/2" utility steak knife, 11" large slicer and 8-1/2" serrated knife. For more details or to purchase the cutlery, please call Denise Bucciaglia (610-468-4032).

ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

Last week I mentioned that November is traditionally a month where we focus on praying for the dead. Also, the readings at Sunday Mass these last few weeks of the liturgical year tend to have an “end of time/final judgment” theme to them. It might be good to give a quick reminder of what the Church calls the Four Last Things: Death, Judgment, Heaven, and Hell. Admittedly, this isn't necessarily a cheerful topic, but we need to be reminded of these things because they are a real part of life.

In the Apostles' Creed, we say we believe in the Resurrection of the Body and Life Everlasting. Quoting the *Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church*, “After death, which is the separation of the body and the soul, the body becomes corrupt while the soul, which is immortal, goes to meet the judgment of God and awaits its reunion with the body when it will rise transformed at the time of the return of the Lord.” We call that moment of meeting the judgment of God the *particular judgment*: “the judgment of immediate retribution which each one after death will receive from God in his immortal soul in accord with his faith and his works. This retribution consists in entrance into the happiness of heaven, immediately or after an appropriate purification, or entry into the eternal damnation of hell.” The particular judgment is in contrast to the *final judgment*, which occurs when Jesus comes to judge the living and the dead at the end of time. “After the last judgment, the resurrected body will share in the retribution which the soul received at the particular judgment.”

We should take note of that phrase “after an appropriate purification.” There are those who, at their death, are “assured of their eternal salvation but who still have need of purification to enter into the happiness of heaven.” We call that state of purification *Purgatory*. Many images get used to describe this, but what it boils down to is that sin wounds us, and even though the wound is healed in forgiveness, there are still residual scars and imperfections that need to be “polished up” before we can enter into the perfection of heaven.

We on earth can help the souls in purgatory be praying for them and offering Masses for them, as well as by acts of charity and works of penance. That's why it's customary to request Masses be said for a deceased loved one, for example. But prayer and works of penance and mercy can also be used to help us in our own purification while still on earth – to start the polishing up process now, before we die. This is the groundwork for the Church's doctrine about indulgences – which, for space consideration, is a subject for another day.

So, use this month of November to pray and do good works for those who are in purgatory. You'll be helping them get to heaven, and in the process you'll make some friends up there who will then no-doubt return the favor and pray for you to help you on your own journey of life. It's a win-win deal! And, by the way, with the focus on death and judgment and such, it's probably a good time to remind everyone to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance regularly. Then you won't have to be as concerned about death and judgment, because you'll be in the state of grace and ready to stand before God.

Whew! That was intense, I know. So, to end on a lighter note, last week at Mass I mentioned that anyone who wants to give their children a lesson in tithing can feel free to give 10% of their Halloween Candy to the parish, and I'll make sure it gets put to good use. I'm disappointed that nobody took me up on that offer. But that might be a good thing, because the rectory washer and dryer keep shrinking all my clothes...

Have a great week!

Fr. Steven W. Kiernan



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. **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. NOVEMBER 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.**

Raffle Drawing

<i>Parish Support</i>	
WEEKLY BUDGET.....	\$5,000
DEPOSIT FOR NOVEMBER 1, 2020.....	\$4,481
Regular Sunday Collection -	\$3,474
Parish Giving -	\$105
All Saints Day Collection -	\$902
WEEKLY DEFICIT.....	(\$519)
Year to Date Budget.....	\$90,000
Year to Date Collections.....	\$71,082
Average per week Collection	\$3,949
Year to Date Deficit.....	(\$18,918)
Average per week Deficit	(\$1,051)
 <i>NOVEMBER 3, 2019</i>	
Deposit.....	\$5,890
2019-2020 Deficit to Date.....	(\$19,476)
Difference from previous year.....	\$558

LOTTERY CALENDAR RAFFLE TICKET WINNERS

- October 26 - #974 - unsold
- October 27 - #897 - Bob Zomolsky - \$50.00
- October 28 - #050 - unsold
- October 29 - #156 - unsold
- October 30 - #858 - unsold
- October 31 - #631 - Larry Smith - \$100.00

OCTOBER FIGURES: 243 Tickets sold - \$1,215.00. Payout to Winners - \$650.00. Cost of tickets - \$100.00. Profit for October - \$465.00. THANK YOU to everyone for supporting this fund raiser!

November 1 - #455 - unsold

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND, NOVEMBER 14 AND 15 is the collection for Parish Property Maintenance and Repairs.

MASS ATTENDANCE for October 31/November 1:

- 4:00 PM Mass - 88
- 9:00 AM Mass - 104
- Total Attendance - 192

"ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK"

<p>GAMA PRINTING CO. 610-945-4263</p>

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

BABY BLANKETS - The Women's Society is selling hand-made baby blankets. These blankets make a very nice gift for a newborn or as an extra something when giving a gift card. The cost is \$10.00. To purchase a blanket, contact the Parish Office.

REDNER'S REGISTER TAPES PROGRAM: Thank you to everyone for collecting the Redner's register tapes for our parish. Money we receive from these rebates are put towards our Parish Religious Education Program (PREP). Just a reminder that 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. You can obtain a Save-a-Tape card at any Redner's. Containers for the register tapes are in the vestibule of church or you can drop them off at the Parish Office.



THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE will be held next weekend, November 14 and 15. 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.

ST. CHARLES BORROMEIO SEMINARY APPEAL - This weekend is the kick-off for the 2020-2021 St. Charles Borromeo Seminary Appeal. A donation to the Appeal supports our seminarians, candidates for the Permanent Diaconate and lay church leaders in their formation. Most importantly, your gift provides for the future of our faith. Please prayerfully consider a gift to this year's Appeal to provide for the future generations of the church. A separate mailing has been sent to your home with more information about the Appeal.

MARRIAGE RETREAT on November 13-15 - a retreat for married couples at Malvern Retreat House. Presenters Johnnette and Jack Williams will focus on the blessings and beauty of marriage. This event will be held in the Family Life Center. There will be powerful sessions, time for prayer and reflection, and Mass. The cost is \$395 per couple. There is still space available. This retreat will also be offered via Zoom for \$75. To register, please visit www.malvernretreat.com.

ADVENT DAY OF RECOLLECTION on Wednesday, December 2 at Malvern Retreat House. Directed by Fr. Jim McGuinn. Cost is \$40 per person and includes a continental breakfast and lunch, Sacrament of Reconciliation, Mass and inspiring talks. Virtual cost is \$25 (an email with the Zoom link will be sent before 9:00 PM the night before the Retreat). Registration at 8:30 AM; Breakfast begins at 9:00 AM; Mass at 2:30 PM; Departure at 3:30 PM. Register online at www.malvernretreat.com or call 610-644-0400.

ST. MARY POLISH AMERICAN SOCIETY is taking orders for Polish Christmas food items including babkas (cheese or cinnamon crumb) for \$15; pierogi (potato, potato cheese or sauerkraut) for \$9 per dozen; and kielbasa for \$5 per pound. Raffle tickets for the Raffle featuring \$10,000 in prize money are available at \$50 each and only 500 tickets will be sold. Drawing is on Sunday, December 13. To place food orders or purchase raffle tickets, email smpas@stmarypolish.org or call Dorothy Swedkowski (610-630-0861).

**PRAYER TO OUR LADY
DURING THE PANDEMIC**

O Mary,
You shine continuously on our journey
as a sign of salvation and hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who, at the foot of the cross,
were united with Jesus' suffering,
and persevered in your faith.

"Protectress of the Roman people,"
you know our needs,
and we know that you will provide,
so that, as at Cana in Galilee,
joy and celebration may return
after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform ourselves to the will of the Father
and to do what Jesus tells us.
For he took upon himself our suffering,
and burdened himself with our sorrows
to bring us, through the cross,
to the joy of the Resurrection.
Amen.

We fly to your protection,
O Holy Mother of God;
Do not despise our petitions
in our necessities,
but deliver us always
from every danger,
O Glorious and Blessed Virgin.