

# TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## 22 OCTOBER 2023

**Readings for Sunday, October 22:** Isaiah 45:1, 4-6; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b; Matthew 22:15-21.

The Lord is king and there is no other. We are to render to God, therefore, fitting praise and service, as is God's due. God's word to us, in turn, is a matter of power and strength, to be lived with conviction of heart.

**Readings for Sunday, October 29:** Exodus 22:20-26; 1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10; Matthew 22:34-40.



**St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish Special Day of Prayer is Wednesday. Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament: Wednesday after 9:00 A.M. Mass to 5:00 PM in the Church. Benediction at 5:00 PM.**



<u>Date</u>		<u>Intention</u>	<u>Requested By</u>	
23 Oct.	MON.	9:00 AM	Dorothy Levanovitch	Tony & Theresa Vitacco
24 Oct.	TUE.	9:00 AM	Doris Smith	Sharon McCarthy
25 Oct.	WED.	9:00 AM	Gentile, Almond & Rulli Families	Bucciaglia Family
26 Oct.	THU.	9:00 AM	Rita Linderman-Benenati	Dick & Ginny Linderman
28 Oct.	SAT.	4:00 PM	Regina Tucker	The Family
29 Oct.	SUN.	9:00 AM	Parishioners of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	



**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.

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** on Tuesday, October 24 at 6:30 PM in the PREP Building.



**NOVENA IN HONOR OF OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL** on Mondays after the 9:00 AM Mass. All are welcome to join in this special Marian Devotion.

**THE ROSARY PRAYER GROUP** leads the recitation of the Rosary before the 9:00 AM Mass every Sunday. They also pray the Rosary before the 9:00 AM weekday Masses. All are welcome to join in these special Marian Devotions.



**PARISH FALL SOCIAL** on Saturday, November 4 in the social hall from 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM. Happy Hour from 5:00 PM to 5:30 PM. Dinner at 5:30 PM. BYOB! Cost is

\$15.00. Moyer's Catering Menu: Broasted chicken, hot roast beef, baked ziti, tossed salad, potato and macaroni salad, baked beans, red beet eggs, ring bologna and cheese, pickles and olives, bread and rolls, soda, mixers, and coffee, dessert. Music by DJ Pete LaRosa. Tickets on sale after Masses on the weekends and at the Parish Office during the week.

LOST WEEK

# Collections ©JPPC *thank you*

<b>DEPOSIT FOR OCTOBER 15, 2023.....</b>	<b>\$4,066</b>
2023-2024 Year to Date Collections.....	\$62,234
2022-2023 Year to Date Collections.....	\$61,596

**SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND**, October 28 and 29, will be the All Souls Collection.

**WINNER OF THE GOLD 50/50 MONTHLY ENVELOPE DRAWING** to support Religious Education:  
OCTOBER DRAWING - Maria Boyer - \$253.00.

**MASS ATTENDANCE for October 14/15:**

4:00 PM Mass - 95  
9:00 AM Mass - 104  
Total Attendance - 199

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

**“ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK”**

**WARKER-TROUTMAN FUNERAL HOME**  
610-326-1510



**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.**

**LOTTERY RAFFLE TICKET WINNERS**

October 9 - #581 - unsold
October 10 - #500 - unsold
October 11 - #123 - unsold
October 12 - #711 - Lauren Lupi - \$50.00
October 13 - #069 - unsold
October 14 - #415 - Gene Harding - \$50.00
October 15 - #474 - unsold



**AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVES** on November 6 and 20 from 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM in the social hall. Please call 1-800-RED-CROSS to make an appointment

**DONATIONS** are always accepted for the on-going work at our Blessed Mother Prayer Garden. Donations can be placed in the collection basket or sent to the parish office.



**APPAREL ALERT!** We are now accepting orders for our parish apparel:  
T-shirt (small logo on upper left) - \$10  
Hoodies - (small logo on upper left) - \$25  
1/4 Zip (small logo on upper left) - \$35

Men’s & Women’s Polo Shirts (small logo on upper left) - \$25

Current colors offered are: Kelly Green or Sunburst Yellow (logo is black and gray just like the photo). Sizes: S to XL - larger sizes are available (just add \$2) and we have youth sizes too! **PROMOTE YOUR PARISH!!!** Contact Maria Boyer ([mboyer@sgsm62.org](mailto:mboyer@sgsm62.org)) or complete the order form in the vestibule of church and return to the parish office along with payment.



**CHURCH MAGNETS** are available at the Parish Office. They can be placed on your car or refrigerator. Cost is \$5.00 each.



Thank You to Alley Heist for her donation of mums for our church.

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

**THE PARISH OFFICE** will be closed on Thursday, October 26.



The following is adapted from an article written by John L. Allen, Jr. of *Crux*: When he first began working in the Vatican, a young monsignor had been assigned a cramped and decrepit office, the lone advantage of which was that it had a small window with a partially obstructed view of St. Peter's Square. One hot day he tried to raise the window, only to find that it had been painted shut. Thinking at the time this was a perfect metaphor for the failure of the Vatican to adopt Pope

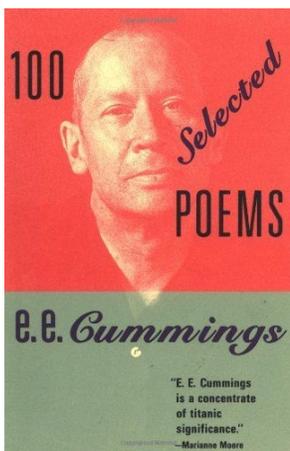
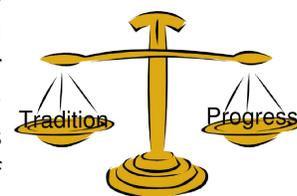


John XXIII's famous injunction to "open the windows" to let in some fresh air, the next day he brought in a hammer and chisel, chipped away the paint, and triumphantly raised the window. After a bit, he left for lunch. When he got back, he discovered that a pigeon from the square had flown in and wreaked havoc in the office, forcing the cleric to spend a slightly revolting afternoon cleaning up the mess. Only then did he realize there may have been a reason for the shuttered window.

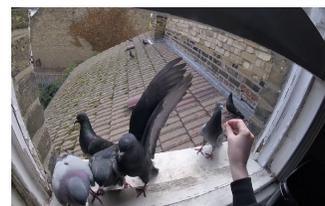


The moral of the story is that there's often a wisdom embedded in the traditions of the Vatican, even if the people charged with preserving those traditions may have forgotten, or never known in the first place, what the original logic was. This anecdote comes to mind in light of the Synod of

Bishops on synodality taking place now in Rome. Some allege that the situation can be likened to the young cleric and his chisel – wary of impetuous breaks with tradition, often led by people who don't have the experience or background to appreciate what they're doing. The synod, is an institution which has been around since 1965 and which was originally conceived by Pope Paul VI as a way to extend collegiality among the world's bishops after the close of the Second Vatican Council. It has undergone significant mutations this time, above all with the inclusion of a host of non-bishop voting members. In truth, this is a less a Synod "of" Bishops than a Synod "with" Bishops, which critics allege threatens to subvert the hierarchical character of the Catholic Church and to set the stage for whatever doctrinal mischief they imagine might result. It is said to irritate some long-time curial veterans



to no end that several figures seen as among the architects of the synodal exercise, such as new Cardinal Victor Manuel Fernández, basically got to the Vatican five minutes ago and yet are already setting the place on its ear. Pope Francis is a reformer, and if you insist on simply doing things the way they've always been done, nothing would ever change. Mistakes may be made along the way, but such, the pope's supporters say, is the price of progress. If the synod is in the hands of people disinclined to business as usual, that's by design. On the other hand, there's also an argument to be made that Vatican reform is a bit like what generations of English teachers have told precocious young students, who complain that if poets such as E. E. Cummings could break the rules of grammar, they shouldn't be penalized for misspellings or stray commas: "First show me you've mastered the system," good teachers always say, "then you can start taking liberties with it." The Vatican's unique identity



has been protected over the centuries by a welter of laws, customs and traditions, which may seem counter-intuitive or even dysfunctional to outsiders, but which, with time and perspective, often do reveal a certain logic. The drama of the synod therefore, in some ways, boils down to whether the change agents Pope Francis has placed in charge will strike the right balance between continuity and rupture – or whether, as in the story with which we began, once again the pigeons will come home to roost.

Peace!  
Fr. Wilson

### MINISTRY SCHEDULE - October 28/29

#### 4:00 PM Mass

Lector - Nester

Ministers of Holy Communion - Front, Deacon; Break, Durante & Vitacco; Choir, Bracaglia

Altar Server - Wasylkowski

Greeter - Bell

#### 9:00 AM Mass

Lector - LaRosa

Ministers of Holy Communion - Front, Deacon; Break, Donnelly & Gerasimowicz

Altar Servers - Donnelly & Miller

Greeter - Hildebrand

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

THOMAS PALLALDINO from John Derecola, Lawrence & Lisa Engle, Nancy Kovach, Peggy Neese, Pottstown Police Officers Association, West Pottsgrove Township Board of Commissioners, Louis & Kathy Ferranti, Virginia Takach, Chris, Gene & Dom Gerasimowicz and Lucy D'Emilio;

VINCEINT C. RICCI II from Tony Vitacco;

MARY JANE HARTMAN from Tony Vitacco;

ROBERT FITCH from Chris, Gene & Dom Gerasimowicz and Lucy D'Emilio;

HEYLNNE MICH from Chris, Gene & Dom Gerasimowicz and Lucy D'Emilio;

REV. GREGORY J. HICKEY from Chris, Gene & Dom Gerasimowicz and Lucy D'Emilio.

### *The Corner*

"He seeks us before we dream of seeking Him; He knocks before we invite Him in; He loves us before we respond."—Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen

**THE PAWS PROGRAM** at Pope John Paul II High School supports the individual needs of students with learning differences through instruction and academic accommodations. We will be hosting two information sessions about the program on Thursday, November 9; one at 5:00 PM and the second at 6:00 PM in the Panthers' Learning Center at PJP to outline the program objectives, enrollment process, fees, and financial aid opportunities. To register, contact Mr. Joseph Rogers, Director of Academic Support at [jrogers@pjphs.org](mailto:jrogers@pjphs.org).

**TRUNK OR TREAT** on Saturday, October 28 from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM at Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church, Pottstown, in the parking lot behind the church. Call 610-323-4312 for more information.

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST FUND RAISER** sponsored by the Pottstown-Stowe Lions Club on Sunday, November 5 from 8:00 AM till Noon at Goodwill Steam Fire Co., Pottstown. All you can eat breakfast (pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, juice, milk, coffee). Cost: \$9 for adults; \$8 for Seniors, 1<sup>st</sup> responders, Veterans; \$6 Children 4-11 years; children under 4 years old eat for free.

### **GENTLE SPIRITUAL DAUGHTER: THE LIFE OF MARY PYLE**

presented by Susan De Bartoli at the National Centre for Padre Pio, Barto on Wednesday, November 8 following the 12:00 PM Mass celebrated by Bishop Alfred A. Schlert, Bishop of Allentown. **DIVINE MERCY RETREAT** at the National Centre for Padre Pio, Barto on Saturday, November 11 (9:30 AM to 3:00 PM) and Sunday, November 12 (9:30 AM to 10:30 AM). Retreat Director: Fr. Chris Alar, MIC. For more information on both events visit [www.padrepio.org](http://www.padrepio.org) or call 610-845-3000.

**POTTSTOWN BEACON OF HOPE** relies heavily on volunteers to fulfill their mission of sheltering men and women experiencing homelessness in Pottstown. For more information on volunteering or to sign up to help, visit [www.pottstownbeaconofhope.org/volunteer](http://www.pottstownbeaconofhope.org/volunteer).

**RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT** - a place to heal from abortion. Next retreat is November 3-5 at IHM Spirituality Center, Malvern. Retreat brings healing and God's forgiveness to the trauma and darkness of abortion for those who think they have committed the unforgivable sin. To register call Susan (610-716-4795) or Georgeann (484-955-4278).

**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHRISTMAS BAZAAR** on December 2 from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM at St. Francis of Assisi School, Norristown. Vendors needed. Cost: \$50 for 8 ft. space with table; \$40 for 6 ft. space without table. 2 chairs included per space. Reserve your spot by November 10. Contact Jane Caruso (610-539-1691 or [jcaruso6@verizon.net](mailto:jcaruso6@verizon.net)).

**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND** on November 10-12 at Our Lady of Czestochowa, Doylestown. Worldwide Marriage Encounter is an enrichment for married couples who value their relationship and desire a richer, fuller life together. For more information visit [www.wwme-philly.org](http://www.wwme-philly.org) or contact Al & Mary Liz (610-449-1859).

**POSITION AVAILABLE** - Morning Facility Personnel position at St. Teresa of Calcutta Parish, Schwenksville. Visit [www.stteresacalcutta.com](http://www.stteresacalcutta.com) for details.