

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

25 OCTOBER 2020

Readings for Sunday, October 25: Exodus 22:20-26; 1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10; Matthew 22:34-40.

We are to love the Lord with our whole heart, and our neighbor as ourselves. By thus fulfilling these two great commandments, we hope to become models of faith and imitators of the Lord who gave himself totally for our sakes.

Readings for Sunday, November 1: Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14; 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12a.

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> |
|-------------|--------------|--|-------------------------------|
| 26 Oct. | MON. 9:00 AM | Alice McGlocklin | Paula & Dennis Bolonski |
| 28 Oct. | WED. 9:00 AM | Gormley, Yeager, Campbell & McQue Families | |
| 29 Oct. | THU. 9:00 AM | Eugene J. Coccia | Dr. Maria Regina Coccia |
| 30 Oct. | FRI. 9:00 AM | C. Ronald Yost, Jr. | Jeanille Gatta & Garrett Pool |
| 31 Oct. | SAT. 4:00 PM | Agnes Slaby | Daughter, Sharon |
| 1 Nov. | SUN. 9:00 AM | People of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish | |

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 Tuesday, October 27 from 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM.

MAGNIFICAT BOOKS - Those who purchased the Magnificat can pick up their NOVEMBER issue at the parish office. Please call prior to coming for your book.

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.

ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

Last week I wrote about the upcoming elections and our responsibility as Catholics to vote in a way that reflects a well-formed conscience based on authentic Catholic moral principles. It's an important enough topic to mention again.

The Bishops of the United States as well as Popes Francis, Benedict XVI, and St. John Paul II have all written on the subject. They tell us one of the challenges we face today regarding faithful citizenship is a tendency to place all moral issues on a level playing field. The reality is that certain matters are of greater weight than others in our decision-making. The bishops teach that "it is essential for Catholics to be guided by a well-formed conscience that recognizes that all issues do not carry the same moral weight and that the moral obligation to oppose policies promoting intrinsically evil acts has a special claim on our consciences and our actions."

Since October is Respect Life Month, it seems appropriate to look quickly at certain life issues as an example. Moral doctrine tells us that human dignity is of preeminent importance. Life is sacred from its inception to its final moment. We are called to do what we can to build a culture of life. In their document *Living the Gospel of Life*, the bishops of the United States remind us that life issues are not simply about abortion and euthanasia, but also about addressing issues of poverty, violence, injustice, capital punishment, war, racism, hunger, employment concerns, education, and health care. However, while those are all serious topics that must be considered, the protection of innocent human life is preeminent. The bishops offer a powerful image of the human person as a Temple of the Holy Spirit – a living building. While the other issues are likened to the walls and beams, the protection of innocent human life is described as the foundation of the building on which the rest is built. "Indeed, the failure to protect and defend life in its most vulnerable stages renders suspect any claims to the 'rightness' of positions in other matters affecting the poorest and least powerful of the human community."

In our world of party agendas, it's rare to find a candidate who perfectly reflects the moral and social doctrine of the Church. It is thus incumbent on us to make prudent and careful decisions. The bishops remind us that, while there are grave issues out there, we can't focus on a single issue and simply ignore the others. We have to sift through all the information we have available and make a prudent choice, taking everything into account.

So do your part to educate yourself and form your conscience appropriately. Don't rely on the ads and yard signs or your party affiliation to make your decisions. The Bishops of Pennsylvania have compiled some basic, non-partisan, educational material that may be helpful to you. It is available here: <https://bit.ly/318u6aX>. Please read it and be informed!

Changing gears, some quick notes. First, congratulations to the three students in PREP who celebrated the Sacrament of Penance for the first time Saturday morning! Second, you may have noticed a dumpster on the campus this past week. We're clearing some stuff out from the rectory and other buildings. From the looks of things, there may be more stuff that has to go, so there may be another dumpster here in the future. I'm grateful to Pat Griffin and a team of helpers who helped do the heavy lifting. My back thanks you!

– 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

LOTTERY CALENDAR RAFFLE TICKET WINNERS

- October 12 - #501 - unsold
- October 13 - #989 - unsold
- October 14 - #827 - Eric Arendt - \$50.00
- October 15 - #184 - unsold
- October 16 - #729 - unsold
- October 17 - #405 - Robert Fitch - \$50.00
- October 18 - #430 - Jim & Denise Bucciaglia - \$100.00

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.

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.

Parish Support

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| WEEKLY BUDGET..... | \$5,000 |
| DEPOSIT FOR OCTOBER 18, 2020..... | \$3,831 |
| Regular Sunday Collection - | \$3,726 |
| Parish Giving - | \$105 |
| WEEKLY DEFICIT..... | (\$1,169) |
| Year to Date Budget..... | \$80,000 |
| Year to Date Collections..... | \$60,707 |
| Average per week Collection | \$3,794 |
| Year to Date Deficit..... | (\$19,293) |
| Average per week Deficit | (\$1,206) |

OCTOBER 20, 2019

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|------------------------------------|------------|
| Deposit..... | \$3,404 |
| 2019-2020 Deficit to Date..... | (\$19,004) |
| Difference from previous year..... | (\$289) |

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND, OCTOBER 31 AND NOVEMBER 1 is the All Saints Day Collection.

MASS ATTENDANCE for October 17/18:

- 4:00 PM Mass - 94
- 9:00 AM Mass - 104
- Total Attendance - 198

"ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK"

ST. GABRIEL LODGE
610-326-4137

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

November 1-7 marks this year's **NATIONAL VOCATION AWARENESS WEEK.** To celebrate and promote holy, priestly vocations, the Vocation Office for the Diocesan Priesthood will be sponsoring events throughout the week. Visit www.https://heedthecall.org/events/vaw/ to find out more about these events.