

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

31 OCTOBER 2021

Readings for Sunday, October 31: 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 the God who is love.

Readings for Sunday, November 7: 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 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>
1 Nov.	MON. 9:00 AM	Parishioners of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
2 Nov.	TUE. 9:00 AM	All the Faithful Departed	
3 Nov.	WED. 9:00 AM	Loreen Cappelletti	John & Loretta Gauger
4 Nov.	THU. 9:00 AM	Sunday & Shellenberger Families	Jack Bucciaglia Family
6 Nov.	SAT. 4:00 PM	Parishioners of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
7 Nov.	SUN. 9:00 AM	Those Enrolled in St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish Memorial Fund	



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 WORD AMONG US - Copies of the NOVEMBER issue of the Word Among Us are at the church entrances. There is no charge - feel free to take a copy with you.

MAGNIFICAT BOOKS - Those who purchased the Magnificat can pick up their NOVEMBER issue at the parish office. The November issue is the beginning for new subscribers to the Magnificat.

WOMEN'S SOCIETY - REMINDER - no November meeting. Trip possibility during November - unable to schedule. Will try again next year.

RADA CUTLERY - The Women's Society has, for the time being, decided to forgo the RADA program. There are a few items left in inventory for purchase. Items available are:
 (3) 6-1/2" paring knife - \$6.00
 (3) Vegetable peeler - \$8.00
 (8) Server spoon/spatula - \$6.00
 (3) Utility/Steak Knife - \$6.50
 (1) Stubby Butcher - \$9.00
 Please call the parish office at 610-326-5127 for purchase and pick up.

*A Message
From The
Pastor*

Halloween ushers in the month of November. Though turkeys, pies, and good Old Saint Nick arrive at month's end, saints and sinners come at its beginning. November 1st is All Saints' Day and the entire month is a time to remember All Souls. We don't need to pray for the saints. They're doing just fine, thank you. We do need to ask them to pray for us and all the Holy Souls. We're not in Heaven yet, but we do hope to get there at some point as do the Holy Souls in Purgatory because an eternal life without Heaven is truly a Halloween nightmare unending. Some people question Purgatory



and its existence. I usually pose a simple question. Are you ready to meet God, Face to face, - this very second? R.I.P. my friend! If the answer to this question is yes, then please pray for the rest of us. Just beware of pride and presumption in believing one already possesses the security code unlocking the pearly gates. (FYI - it's changed regularly and uses a two-step verification process.) I suppose most folks, including me, would ask for just a wee bit more time in order to get the house in order before meeting the Big Guy. Purgatory is

a place for those who haven't quite got their house in order, but have already taken their last breath. It is not so much a place, but a condition or state of being in which one is "made ready" for Heaven. There is a certain suffering (purgation), because it is as if one is already looking into Heaven, but not quite there; looking at Paradise from just outside the Gate. The desire and longing becomes ever more intense just like a starving person would look upon a banquet that cannot be had. Our prayers for the Holy Souls can help them sooner enjoy the banquet for which they so long. My



own story concerning Purgatory is rather simple. Both of my parents were called home to God prior to my ordination. In the case of my father (who, by the way, was not Catholic), I had the strong sense that he made a rather brief purgatorial pit stop before obtaining the coveted heavenly access code. He suffered a good bit at the end, but knew the path that his son was taking. I was already in my third year at the seminary at the time. I believe that he just needed a little catechesis in some of the basics that he didn't have the opportunity for in this life through no fault of his own. Once that catechesis took place, with the knowledge that was given

and the burning desire for more, it was on to the Shangri-La of Heaven. My mother, on the other hand, died while I was in high school. It was well before I began seminary studies. I took her death rather hard and buried some of my feelings along with her. Those I would have to disinter later. It was only after I was newly ordained that I really went back to my mother's grave. I can't really recall being there at any time after the funeral itself. Finding her grave that day, I prayed. I prayed my priestly prayers from the breviary and I prayed specifically for my mother. Suddenly, I was overwhelmed with the sensation that she was



now finally free. Freed from Purgatory and ready for God, she too now entered Heaven and apparently it was my prayers that day that were her access. I now think that she, amazingly, may have chosen to wait - though ready for God, but spending more time there just for me - and waiting for my prayers. The emotion that I felt that day is the emotion that I still feel today when I think of it. I'm still not too big on visiting graves, but that's only because I know that I can be no closer to my parents and all my deceased relatives and friends than when I stand at the altar for Mass. They're all there with me. This November pray for the Holy Souls. Ask them to join you at Mass and know that your prayers for them might provide the very code that unlocks the Gates of Heaven. Access to Heaven indeed involves two-step verification. You and me - we're the other step!

Peace!

Fr. Wilson

Collections ©JPPC thank you

WEEKLY BUDGET.....	\$5,000
DEPOSIT FOR OCTOBER 24, 2021.	\$4,024
Regular Sunday Collection -	\$3,859
Parish Giving -	\$165
WEEKLY DEFICIT.	(\$976)
Year to Date Budget.....	\$85,000
Year to Date Collections.....	\$64,099
Average per week Collection.....	\$3,771
Year to Date Deficit.	(\$20,901)
Average per week Deficit.....	(\$1,229)

OCTOBER 25, 2020

Deposit.	\$5,894
2020-2021 Deficit to Date.	(\$18,399)
Difference from previous year.....	(\$2,502)

MASS ATTENDANCE for October 23/24:

4:00 PM Mass - 113
 9:00 AM Mass - 107
 Total Attendance - 220

BLOOD DRIVE on Friday, November 5 from 2:00-7:00 PM in the social hall. Prospective donors can sign up directly at <https://rb.gy/sduxr>. You can also call 800-RED-CROSS to make an appointment.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA SALE

Pick up the weekend of December 11 & 12 after Masses. From Levengood Greenhouse, Douglassville.

Small single bloom RED ONLY Poinsettia
 \$6.00

Name _____

Phone _____

Deadline for orders is November 28. Place in collection basket or drop off at parish office.



PARISH LOTTERY RAFFLE TICKET

Raffle Drawing 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 NOW ON SALE.**

LOTTERY RAFFLE TICKET WINNERS

- October 18 - #227 - unsold
- October 19 - #865 - Victor Schue - \$50.00
- October 20 - #886 - unsold
- October 21 - #877 - unsold
- October 22 - #000 - unsold
- October 23 - #864 - unsold
- October 24 - #167 - unsold

MINISTRY SCHEDULE - November 6/7

- 4:00 PM Mass
- Lector - Villano
- Ministers of Holy Communion - Front, Deacon; Choir, Durante; Break, Durante & Nester
- Altar Server - Holmes
- Greeter - DiMarco
- 9:00 AM Mass
- Lector - Iannozzi
- Ministers of Holy Communion - Front, Deacon; Break, Gerasimowicz & George
- Altar Server - Gerasimowicz
- Greeter - Wade

NOVEMBER IS THE MONTH OF ALL THE HOLY SOULS. Please remember all the faithful departed in your prayers during this month.