

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

6 SEPTEMBER 2020

Readings for Sunday, September 6: Ezekiel 33:7-9; Romans 13:8-10; Matthew 18:15-20.

May our hearts not be hardened, but may we turn from our sin. In our love for one another, we may be called to confront our brother and sister for the wrong they may be doing.

Readings for Sunday, September 13: Sirach 27:30–28:7; Romans 14:7-9; Matthew 18:21-35.

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>
7 Sept.	MON. 9:00 AM	K. Joan Birmingham	Tony & Theresa Vitacco
9 Sept.	WED. 9:00 AM	Robert Wright	Jamelle Foster
10 Sept.	THU. 9:00 AM	Peg Keleman	Ron & Carol Fry
11 Sept.	FRI. 9:00 AM	Patricia Chillot	Jim & Helynn Mich
12 Sept.	SAT. 4:00 PM	People of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
13 Sept.	SUN. 9:00 AM	Henry & Viola D'Altorio	Jake & Mary Ann Dailey

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 Monday, September 7 for the Labor Day Holiday. The Office will also be closed from 12:00 PM to 3:30 PM on Wednesday, September 9.

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 in these special Marian Devotions.

SENIOR CITIZENS MEETINGS cancelled until further notice.

NO ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT on Monday, September 7 due to the Labor Day Holiday.

HELP NEEDED for the Parish Golf Outing on September 25. If interested in volunteering, please call the parish office.

DO YOU HAVE ANY GIFT CARDS YOU DON'T INTEND TO USE? We could use them for the Golf Outing. Please contact the parish office for more information.

ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

A couple of people have pointed out the Emergency Exit lights in the church have been randomly flashing and flickering. We contacted our usual electrician, thinking it might be a damaged wire or something to that effect. Unfortunately, it wasn't. The problem was the emergency lighting system itself, which powers the exit lights as well as the back up lights in the event of a power outage. The company that services that system was out this past week and informed us that the whole system has to be replaced. What we have now is 21 years old, and the manufacturer no longer makes or sells replacement parts for it. The circuitry is starting to go bad, and the only solution is to replace everything with something new. Obviously, that wasn't the news I wanted to hear!

As much as I'm afraid to think about the cost, it's an important safety issue, so we're in the process of exploring replacement options and getting things done as quickly as possible. In the meantime, we'll also be placing some flashlights in strategic locations in the church just in case. Hopefully, we won't have to use them, but the Eagle Scout in me still likes to be prepared.

This saga highlights a few important points. First, thanks to everyone who noticed the issue and said something to me or to someone else on the parish staff. We try our best to be on top of things, but if you notice something looks amiss on campus, please let one of us know so we can have it looked at. Second, we are fortunate as a parish that so much of our physical plant has been maintained and upgraded over the years. Over the past 15 years or so, Fathers Nasta and Hickey did a great job staying on top of things and making improvements as needed. Given the age of our buildings, it's no surprise that things will continue to break down. For example, some of the toilets in the school building are 50+ years old and had to be replaced. The air conditioning units in the church are starting to show their age as well. The same challenges you face in your homes, we face here, though on a larger scale. We'll keep addressing issues as they come up. And finally, the reason this parish has been able to make the improvements and upgrades is because of you. Your financial support and care for our spiritual home are the only way we can keep our buildings and grounds beautiful, safe, and comfortable. I am so grateful to all of you who contribute not only to the weekly collection, but to all the other fundraisers we do as well – the lottery, the golf outing, the sales run by the Women's Society, etc. We need your ongoing support so we can continue our mission of worshiping God and proclaiming the Gospel.

Ironically, as I write this, the printer is warning me that it's almost out of ink, and the red light on my mouse is telling me the battery will need to be replaced soon. It never ends, does it?

Have a blessed week ahead!

JUST A FEW REMINDERS! The obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation continues to be lifted during the Green Phase. Please stay home if you are sick. Mass is available via live-stream from the Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul on Sundays at 11:00 AM. Mass is broadcast on TV on Sundays: 6ABC at 5:30 AM; ME TV at 7:00 AM; EWTN at 8:00 AM.

Please wear a mask or face covering when you enter Church and keep it on during Mass, only removing it when you receive Holy Communion.

Entrance to church using the main front doors and elevator door only.

Exit the church using the side doors and elevator door only. Please do not congregate inside of church after Mass.

Parish Support

WEEKLY BUDGET.....	\$5,000
DEPOSIT FOR AUGUST 30, 2020.	\$3,512
Regular Sunday Collection -	\$3,357
Parish Giving -	\$155
WEEKLY DEFICIT.	(\$1,488)
Year to Date Budget.....	\$45,000
Year to Date Collections.....	\$35,357
Average per week Collection	\$3,929
Year to Date Deficit.	(\$9,643)
Average per week Deficit	(\$1,071)

SEPTEMBER 2, 2019

Deposit.	\$3,454
2019-2020 Deficit to Date.	(\$10,781)
Difference from previous year.....	\$1,138

MASS ATTENDANCE for August 29/30:

4:00 PM Mass - 82
 9:00 AM Mass - 91
 Total Attendance - 173

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY LAND -

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, Pope Francis has transferred the date of the collection to September 12/13. Many parishioners have already contributed and we thank you. If you have not yet done so and wish to contribute, please place your donation (put "Holy Land Collection" on the envelope) in the collection next weekend.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CLOTHING DRIVE on Saturday, September 19

from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Look for the GreenDrop truck in the church parking lot where an attendant will be available to assist you with your donations. Please place your donations of usable men's, women's and children's clothing in plastic bags or boxes. Household items such as: kitchenware, games/toys, small appliances under 50 pounds, electronics, sporting goods, books, CDs & videos are also accepted. Furniture, large appliances, TVs or computer monitors cannot be accepted.



Raffle Drawing

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. SEPTEMBER 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.**

LOTTERY CALENDAR RAFFLE TICKET WINNERS

August 24 - #890 - unsold
 August 25 - #216 - Cliff & Barb Keller - \$50.00
 August 26 - #763 - unsold
 August 27 - #713 - Tom Reilly - \$50.00
 August 28 - #599 - unsold
 August 29 - #756 - unsold
 August 30 - #352 - Pete Stroop - \$100.00
 August 31 - #929 - Cathy Reilly - \$50.00
 AUGUST FIGURES: 247 tickets sold - \$1,235.00. Pay out to winners - \$600.00. Cost of tickets - \$100.00. Profit for August - \$535.00.
 Thank you to everyone for supporting our August Lottery Raffle.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 - Fr. Kiernan would like to invite families with school age children to the **PREP Family Picnic and Meeting** following the 4:00 PM Mass. We will have a picnic on the front lawn of PREP with pizza, hoagies, chips and drinks provided by the parish. Fr. Kiernan, Maria Boyer, the catechists and aides will also be present. It is then, we will discuss in-person opening of PREP and answer any questions you have. RSVP to Mrs. Boyer (610-506-2455).

WINNER OF THE MONTHLY 50/50 GOLD ENVELOPE DRAWING to support Religious Education:
 AUGUST DRAWING - David Slaby - \$271.00.