

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

6 APRIL 2025

Readings for Sunday, April 6: Isaiah 43:16-21; Philippians 3:8-14; John 8:1-11.

To the exiles in Babylon, Isaiah foretells a new exodus, when the Lord will lead his people from captivity to freedom. True freedom is rooted in the person of Jesus, not in observance of the Law. It is he who challenges us to examine our own hearts before self-righteously judging others.

Readings for Sunday, April 13: Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11; Luke 22:14–23:56.



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>
7 Apr.	MON. 9:00 AM	Mary S. Rudy	Daughter, Kathy
8 Apr.	TUE. 9:00 AM	Domenica Maria Graziani	Donna Baldasano, Ethan & Ryan
9 Apr.	WED. 9:00 AM	Alex & Dorothy Levanovitch	Daughter, Diana & family
10 Apr.	THU. 9:00 AM	Msgr. Richard Wright	
12 Apr.	SAT. 4:00 PM	Parishioners of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
13 Apr.	SUN. 9:00 AM	Francis & Perkins Families	Jane Perkins



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.



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.



LOW GLUTEN HOSTS - We have low gluten hosts for those who need gluten free. Please see Father before Mass to let him know you require the low gluten host.



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

THE PARISH OFFICE will be closed on Monday, April 7 from 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM and on Wednesday, April 9 from 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM.

LOST WEEK

Collections ©IPPC *thank you*

DEPOSIT FOR MARCH 30, 2025. \$4,540
2024-2025 Year to Date Collections. \$173,324

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



THE CATHOLIC CHARITIES

APPEAL - When you give to the Appeal, your gift is transformed into hope, providing education, food, shelter, and medical assistance to our brothers and sisters and neighbors right here in

the Greater Philadelphia Area. For those who have not yet contributed to the Appeal, prayerfully consider showing your support to this great call for action. Taking care of those in need is one of the most important things we can do as Catholics, and it is important that together, we, as a community, reach the needed \$10 million goal. Envelopes for the Appeal are at the entrances to Church or you can use the envelope mailed to your homes.



APPAREL ALERT! Orders are being accepted for our parish apparel. Items available are: T-Shirt - \$10; Sweatshirt with hood - \$25; Men's and Women's Polo Shirts - \$25. Colors available are Kelly Green and Sunburst Yellow. 1/4 Zip - \$35; Full Zip hoodies - \$30 -

color is Forest Green. Logo on all apparel is in the upper left corner. Sizes: S to XL - larger sizes are available (just add \$2) and we have youth sizes too! **PROMOTE YOUR PARISH!!!** Complete the order form in the vestibule of Church and return to the parish office along with payment or contact Maria Boyer (mboyer@sgsm62.org).



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



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

March 24 - #569 - M. P. Onifrek - \$50.00
March 25 - #918 - unsold
March 26 - #350 - Brigid Donnelly - \$50.00
March 27 - #501 - John Norman, Jr. - \$50.00
March 28 - #014 - Carol Fry - \$50.00
March 29 - #794 - unsold
March 30 - #864 - unsold

MASS ATTENDANCE for March 29/30:

4:00 PM Mass - 140
9:00 AM Mass - 125
Total Attendance - 265

"ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK"

CATAGNUS FUNERAL HOME

610-323-4440



American Red Cross

AMERICAN RED CROSS

BLOOD DRIVE on April 7 and 21 from 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM in the social hall. Give hope this spring! Maximize your blood donation. Help more patients. If you are an eligible type O, B- or A-

donor, consider making a Power Red donation. Red blood cells are the most commonly transfused blood component. Give April 1 to 13 for a \$15 Gift Card (email) plus chance to win \$5K prize. See www.rcblood.org/hope. Call 1-800-RED CROSS or visit www.RedCrossBlood.org to donate blood.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE - APRIL 12/13

4:00 PM Mass

Lector - Warzeski & Nester

Ministers of Holy Communion - Front, Deacon; Break, Tammaro & Tammaro; Choir - George

Altar Server - Pomponio

Greeter - DiMarco

9:00 AM Mass

Lector - Boyer & LaRosa

Ministers of Holy Communion - Front, Deacon; Break, Vitacco & C. Bucciaglia

Altar Servers - Tran & Miller

Greeter - Carr

WOMEN'S SOCIETY NEWS

Santina Kitchen and Douglassville Café Gift Certificates continue to be sold. Pick them up at the Parish Office for \$15.00 each. You can also call Lori (610-326-6030) to order them. Leave a message stating which Mass you will be at - pick up after that Mass. Please have correct amount of \$15.00.

The Women's Society will be traveling to the Padre Pio Centre on April 8 for Stations of the Cross and Rosary at 11:30 AM. All are welcome to meet us there.

LENTEN PARISH OUTREACH

Ash Wednesday March 5, through Palm Sunday April 13

Parish-Wide outreach program to help **Birtheright of Pottstown**



Right now, they need donations of the following:

- Diapers: Sizes Newborn, 2 and 3
- Baby Wipes
- Baby Clothes (new or gently used – sizes 0-18 months)
- Hooded Towels and Washcloths
- Winter coats/snowsuits (sizes 0-18 months)
- Infant footed pajamas (sizes 0-3 months)
- Maternity leggings
- Sanitary pads
- Pregnancy Books
- Bottles

A Collection Box is in the vestibule of the church for donations.

We will deliver the donations weekly.

PREP Challenge – students are collecting coins weekly to donate to a family in need and the winning class will receive a prize!

Let's come together as a parish and make a big difference in our community through this important work of mercy this Lent.



FAST & ABSTINENCE

DURING LENT

The Bishops of the United States prescribe, as minimal obligation, that all

persons who are 14 years of age and older are bound to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all the Fridays of Lent. Further, all persons 18 years of age and older, up to and including their 59th birthday, are bound to fast by limiting themselves to a single full meal on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, while the other two meals on those days are to be light.

ACTS OF Penance FOR LENT

All the faithful are encouraged, when possible, to participate at Mass and to receive the Holy Eucharist daily, to celebrate frequently the Sacrament of Penance, to undertake spiritual reading, especially the study of the Sacred Scripture, and to participate in parish Lenten Devotions. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is especially recommended.

OPERATION RICE BOWL

All are encouraged to participate in Operation Rice Bowl which has aided countless hungry persons here in the Archdiocese as well as throughout our nation and our world. Operation Rice Bowls are available at the entrances to Church.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

DURING LENT

Wednesdays at 1:00 PM.

Fridays at 5:00 PM.

CONFESSIONS DURING LENT

Wednesdays at 12:30 PM.

Saturdays from 3:00 PM to 3:45 PM.

ADVENT Penance SERVICE

on Sunday, April 13 at 7:00 PM at St. Columbkille Parish, Boyertown. Fr. Wilson along with several other priests from the area will be available for Confession.



ST. GABRIEL CHURCH

Palm Sunday, April 13 - Vigil Mass on Saturday, April 12 at 4:00 PM; Mass on Sunday, April 13 at 9:00 AM.

Monday, April 14 - Mass at 9:00 AM.

Tuesday, April 15 - Mass at 9:00 AM.

Wednesday, April 16 - Mass at 9:00 AM. Eucharistic Adoration from 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM. Confessions at 12:30 PM. Stations of the Cross at 1:00 PM. Benediction at 5:00 PM.

Holy Thursday, April 17 - Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00 PM. Church open for prayer after Mass. Night Prayer at 9:00 PM.

Good Friday, April 18 - Morning Prayer at 9:00 AM. Liturgy of the Lord's Passion at 3:00 PM.

Holy Saturday, April 19 - Morning Prayer at 9:00 AM. Blessing of Easter Food at 2:30 PM. No Easter Vigil at St. Gabriel Church.

Easter Sunday, April 20 - Mass at 9:00 AM.

ST. ALOYSIUS CHURCH

Palm Sunday, April 13 - Vigil Mass on Saturday, April 12 at 5:15 PM. Masses on Sunday, April 13 at 7:30 AM, 10:15 AM and 11:30 AM.

Holy Thursday, April 17 - Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00 PM.

Good Friday, April 18 - Liturgy of the Lord's Passion at 3:00 PM.

Holy Saturday, April 19 - Easter Vigil Mass at 8:00 PM.

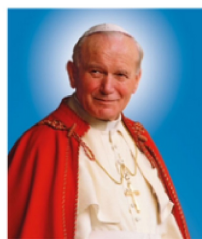
Easter Sunday, April 20 - Masses at 7:30 AM, 10:15 AM and 11:30 AM.



St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish is on a journey to know, love, and serve Christ better and thrive! **WE WANT TO HEAR FROM OUR PARISHIONERS! Complete the Disciple**

Maker Index (DMI) survey. The survey assesses our unique strengths and opportunities. Share your perspective now to help strengthen St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish and better prepare us for the future! The Disciple Maker Index (DMI) survey link is <https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/x8akyx>. For those who cannot access the link, paper surveys are available in Church. Return to Maria Boyer, DRE. Deadline is April 10. Please continue to pray for this intention and for the growth and protection of our parish.

The Corner



"Lent is a time of truth. Christians, called by the Church to prayer, penance, fasting, and self-sacrifice, place themselves before God and recognize themselves; they rediscover themselves."

---Pope St John Paul II

An Invitation from Archbishop Pérez

Learn more about a new way forward together for the Catholic Church of Philadelphia



MISSIONARY HUB PLANNING PROCESS: The Archdiocese Strategy Office and Catholic Leadership Institute released videos to answer questions about the Missionary Hub Planning Process, which was announced earlier this year through Archbishop Perez' Pastoral Letter. To read the letter visit www.trustandhope.org. Topics of the videos are:

What is a Missionary Hub?

What is a Parish Life Director?

What goes into a Parish?

Parish Planning Approaches.

Aren't a Parish and the Church the same?

To access the videos go to vimeo.com/luxlabproduc



The Jubilee Year 2025 offers pilgrims in their own local area opportunities for reconciliation, indulgences, and prayerful opportunities to receive the sacraments, strengthen their relationship with Jesus, and enrich their lifelong faith journey. One way to observe the Jubilee Year is by pilgrimages. Several Shrines within the Archdiocese are places to obtain the Jubilee indulgences. Visit www.archphila.org/hollyear for more information.

Adult Faith Formation Presents

Triduum: What is it all about?

HOLY THURSDAY **GOOD FRIDAY** **HOLY SATURDAY**
EASTER SUNDAY

Triduum: A Spiritual Pilgrimage is a beautiful, 30 minute contemplative documentary. This film cinematically walks through the locations of the Holy Week story, re-presenting the most important days of human history.

Join us to view this beautiful video and learn how to help everyone in your family prayerfully enter into the most important liturgical days, both at home and in church.

Thursday, April 10
7:00-8:30p.m.
Lower Level of Gathering Center

Saint Aloysius Parish, 223 Beech St., Pottstown Contact Sophie Schneible for more Information: SSchneible@saintaloyusius.net

SAINT ALOYSIUS ADULT FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM

GET TO KNOW THE CHURCH'S NEWEST SAINT!



CARLO ACUTIS

CARLO ACUTIS WILL BE CANONIZED ON APRIL 24. COME LEARN ABOUT THE AMAZING LIFE OF THIS MILLENNIAL SAINT AND ALSO ABOUT THE CANONIZATION PROCESS

**SAINT ALOYSIUS CHURCH
LOWER LEVEL OF
GATHERING CENTER**

APRIL 28, 2025
7:00-8:30PM

FOR MORE INFO:
Sophie Schneible
610-326-5877 ext. 426
SSchneible@saintaloyusius.net

walking with purpose

Women's Bible Study


Begins **April 23**. Just 6 weeks!

**ROOTED AND RADIANT:
A STUDY OF COLOSSIANS**

Rooted and Radiant was written for any woman who wants to live her life grounded in Jesus Christ. In this Bible study, we learn the book of Colossians verse by verse. We will seek to understand the challenges that faced the Colossians, recognizing that they are remarkably similar to our own challenges today.

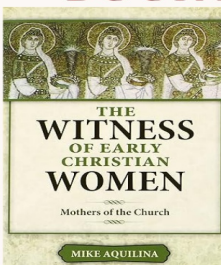
Two Sessions:
Wednesdays 9:30-11 a.m.
OR
Wednesdays 7:00-8:30p.m.

Cost: \$27
For more info or to register: scan or contact Sophie Schneible, SSchneible@saintaloyusius.net 610-326-5877 ext. 426



ST. ALOYSIUS' ADULT FAITH FORMATION

EASTER SEASON BOOK DISCUSSION



**The Witness of Early Christian Women:
Mothers of the Church**
by Mike Aquilina

When: Mondays 11:30 a.m.
April 28, May 5, 12, and 19

Where: St. Aloysius Parish
Lower Level of Gathering Center

For more information or to register contact Sophie Schneible: 610-326-5877 ext. 426 SSchneible@saintaloyusius.net

Participants will need to purchase their own book.


Saint Teresa of Calcutta

Trivia Night

Saturday, April 26th
7PM Doors open at 6PM
\$20 per person (max 8 per table)

- 21+
- BYO food & drinks
- 8 rounds of trivia
- Prizes for each round
- Cash prize for overall winning team

- Door prizes
- 50/50
- Raffles



For all details and tickets visit www.stteresacalcutta.com

Questions - Contact Marie Beehler at mariebeehler@gmail.com


Easter Season Bible Study

AND INTRO TO LECTIO DIVINA

We will be reading and discussing the Mass readings for the upcoming Sunday, and practicing Lectio Divina, or Divine Reading, to encounter God's word in a personal and transformative way.

Morning and evening options!
Thursdays
April 24-June 5
9:30 a.m.
OR 7:00 p.m.
St. Aloysius Parish Lower Level of Gathering Center

No Registration needed, come as you are able!
For More information contact Sophie Schneible, 610-326-5877 x426 SSchneible@saintaloyusius.net




LENTEN DINNER at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Stowe on Fridays during Lent. Fish and Fries, Shrimp and Fries, and a weekly Special Lenten Meal are offered. Contact Franco (484-433-9160) for more information.

SUNDAY MORNING BREAKFAST on April 6 at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Stowe. Pancakes, French Toast, Sausage, Bacon, Scrapple, Eggs your way, a variety of Omelets and different types of Breakfast Bowls. Breakfast served from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM.



Maybe, for just one day, I would like to be a bus driver. In particular, I think that I might like to be a tour bus driver.



Noah is now behind us. The bus was filled with happy travelers off to see its performance on the stage at *Sight & Sound Theatre* in Amish Country. The story of *Noah* is known...the story of the bus drivers not so much. I had the opportunity to speak with two of them for a bit. One was from Virginia, he was preparing for his three and a half hour journey back with his



group of Japanese tourists. He was looking forward to his dinner stop and praising ever delicious Amish style chicken while licking his lips. Our own bus driver, Kerwin, was a nice fellow and thoughtful enough to take the back roads on a most beautiful, sunny day. The Amish and Mennonite folks were out and about with their horses and buggies as well as their “scooter” bikes. Passing by a school at recess, we saw some boys playing while donned in their black garb and wearing straw hats. The lay of the land just looks different when looking down upon it from a tour bus. *What a quaint little town*, I thought as we made our way back to home and church. Then, there is the tour bus, itself. It was new – less than a year old. The ten year-old boy in me was excited. I was impressed by its size, but even more so, at the driver’s compartment. It looked like an airplane cockpit with all kinds of buttons and screens. Could there have been a monitor for altitude as well? How cool to be a bus driver! Traveling highways and back roads; going distances long and short; meeting all kinds of folks from all over the country



and the world! As we begin to round out our Lenten Journey this year, perhaps it’s true to say that we’re all like bus drivers – and it’s all about the Journey. Who have **you** met along the way? And did you notice the beautiful countryside? If not, the trip’s not quite over! There’s still time! It **is** all about the Journey – and all of us are on it! The return home



will be that much more joyful when we’ve relished the road trip along the way noticing the beauty of the countryside of our Church and our Faith while taking the time to banter with our fellow travelers and bus drivers, too, all the while looking forward to that most delicious Banquet Dinner to come and licking our lips in anticipation! *Noah* was great! The Journey was even better! Enjoy your Trip!

Peace!
Fr. Wilson