

# THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## 14 DECEMBER 2025

**Readings for Sunday, December 14:** Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11.

In the person of Jesus, God has come to heal and save us. Patiently, yet joyfully, we await the fulfillment of his advent.

**Readings for Sunday, December 21:** Isaiah 7:10-14; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-24.



**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>
15 Dec. MON. 9:00 AM	Gormley, Yeager, Campbell & McQue Families	
16 Dec. TUE. 9:00 AM	Bernard Shinko	John & Loretta Gauger
17 Dec. WED. 9:00 AM	Joyce Mahon	Husband, Charles
18 Dec. THU. 9:00 AM	Philomena Weil	Great-Grandchildren, Madison & Tyler
20 Dec. SAT. 4:00 PM	Karen Burke	Husband, Len
21 Dec. 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, especially MARY KARVOSKI.

**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 Devotions.

**THE PARISH OFFICE** will be closed on Friday, December 19.



**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.



**2026 MASS BOOK** - Requests for Mass Intentions to be offered in 2026 can be made at the Parish Office. There is a limit of one weekend Mass per person requesting the Mass Intention. This is necessary due to the limited number of weekend Masses available.

LOST WEEK

# Collections at PPC thank you

**DEPOSIT FOR DECEMBER 7, 2025**..... \$4,117  
2025-2026 Year to Date Collections..... \$94,363

**SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND, DECEMBER 20 AND 21** will be the Gold 50/50 Envelope to support Religious Education.

### “ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK”

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

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

### MASS ATTENDANCE for December 6/7:

4:00 PM Mass - 125  
9:00 AM Mass - 154  
Total Attendance - 279



**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](mailto: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 fundraiser for the parish. We encourage each family to purchase at least one ticket each month. Your support is greatly appreciated.**

### LOTTERY RAFFLE TICKET WINNERS

- December 1 - #160 - unsold
- December 2 - #200 - unsold
- December 3 - #801 - unsold
- December 4 - #141 - unsold
- December 5 - #799 - unsold
- December 6 - #493 - unsold
- December 7 - #126 - unsold

## Because of *You*— They are Ready to Lead.



### Support the formation of our future priests.

Your gift to the St. Charles Borromeo Seminary Appeal prepares them to lead the Church with wisdom, compassion, and the heart of Christ.



Donate Today at [scs.edu/appeal](https://scs.edu/appeal) or Scan Here

If you prefer to give by check, mail your gift to St. Charles Borromeo Seminary  
CL# 5315, P.O. BOX 95000-5315, Philadelphia, PA 19195-0001



## MINISTRY SCHEDULE - DECEMBER 20/21

### 4:00 PM Mass

Lector - Nester

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

Altar Server - Morris

Greeter - DiMarco

### 9:00 AM Mass

Lector - LaRosa

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

Altar Servers - Nagel & Francis

Greeter - Hildebrand



**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 Corner



"As Jesus comes into the world, so God peers into the very depths of our condition. He knows the worldly desires that prevent us from seeing ourselves as we truly are."

---Fr Gary Caster "the Little Way of Advent"



**American Red Cross**

**AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE** on December 15 from 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM in the social hall. Consider donating blood for those in need. Call 1-800-RED CROSS or visit [www.RedCrossBlood.org](http://www.RedCrossBlood.org).



**CHRISTMAS WAFERS** will be available at the Parish Office beginning Tuesday, December 9. Five wafers per packet. A donation of \$3.00 per packet or \$5.00 for 2 packets is requested.



### OUR ADVENT GIVING TREE

will be in the vestibule of Church beginning Saturday, November 29 until Sunday, January 4. We are collecting items for Birthright of Pottstown. Items needed are: size 3 diapers, hooded bath towels, crib sheets, onesies size 0-3 month and 3-6 month, and baby bottles.

Decorate our Giving Tree

by placing an ornament on the tree for each gift you give. Ornaments are in the box next to the Giving Tree.



### CONFESSIONS

Saturday, December 13 - 3:00 PM to 3:45 PM

Saturday, December 20 - 3:00 PM to 3:45 PM

Saturday, December 27 - 3:00 PM to 3:45 PM

### CHRISTMAS MASSES

Wednesday, December 24 at 4:00 PM

Thursday, December 25 at 9:00 AM

### SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD MASSES

Wednesday, December 31 at 4:00 PM

Thursday, January 1 at 9:00 AM

**NO ADORATION OF BLESSED SACRAMENT ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24 AND WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31.**

**ST. GABRIEL OF THE SORROWFUL MOTHER PARISH MEMORIAL FUND DONATION** received in memory of: **PHILOMENA BRACAGLIA** from Maria, Steve & Tyler Boyer.

**2026 PARISH CALENDARS** are available at the Church entrances.



**REDNER'S REGISTER TAPES:**

Thank you to everyone for collecting the Redner's register tapes for our parish. Money we receive from this program are put towards our Parish Religious Education

Program (PREP). Just a reminder that the register tapes only count when you use a Save-a-Tape card and the information prints out at the bottom of your receipt. A container for the register tapes is in the vestibule of Church.



**HANDMADE BABY BLANKETS**

are being sold by the Women's Society. Cost is \$10.00. The blankets make a very nice gift for a new baby. To purchase a blanket, please contact the Parish Office.



**LIVE NATIVITY** at

Cedarville UMC, Pottstown on Sunday, December 21 from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

Interactive story with walk-through scenes, live animals, children's

activity, refreshments, handicap accessible, optional canned food drive. FREE - our gift to your family. For more information visit [www.cedarvilleumc.org](http://www.cedarvilleumc.org) or call 610-326-4173.

**WOMEN'S SOCIETY NEWS**

As we move into a new year, the Women's Society wanted you to see what a difference you make when you support our fund raising activities.

Thank you for helping us with projects that do not deplete the general fund.

We are so very grateful for all your generous hearts. God bless you all!

Projects completed by the Women's Society:

- Freezer for kitchen
- 3 cassock for altar servers
- Upholstered priest chair on altar
- Hanging Christmas baskets
- Nativity set with stable and surroundings
- Pulpit scarves
- Sanctuary banners - ordinary time, advent and confirmation
- New frame for Madonna of the Streets in lobby
- Copper cross for Gazebo
- Street directional signs - Jefferson Street and Grosstown Road
- Altar candle wreaths for changing seasons
- Funeral pall for casket and urn
- Green altar cloth and fancy altar cloth
- All candle sticks and vases refinished and polished
- Restored glittery altar cloth
- Donation to Fr. Joseph to transport donated items to Rwanda
- Baby statue for unborn
- Benches BVM statue, moved gazebo and repaired patio
- Gifts for First Holy Communion and Confirmation yearly
- New kitchen items
- Easter Jesus statue
- Air conditioner for PREP
- New microwave
- \$2,000 donation to Parish during COVID
- Purchased 100 chairs and 12 round tables for the Social Hall



I have a friend that lives close to where he works. If he were a runner, he could easily jog it. He probably doesn't even have heat in his car before he arrives. With his short daily commute, my friend had no problem driving two hour for Thanksgiving Day dinner with his sister. I joined them on T-Day. It was an hour's drive for me. I found it rather interesting that he had already arrived before me – and after a wonderful, quite-filling meal – he than left after me. And he had to work the next day – Black Friday! He obviously didn't mind the two hour drive. Having had an early Thanksgiving dinner at about two in the afternoon, I just wanted to leave in some daylight knowing that I had that hour drive. All of this had me thinking. When was the last time that I didn't have to drive on any given day? I believe that it was when I was on vacation last summer. I didn't pack my car in my suitcase. Besides, the grope-free-this-time TSA wouldn't have allowed it on the plane anyway. Wow! That was way back in July! So for me, it was rather historic that I didn't have to get into a car and drive anywhere for a twenty-four hour period on the day before Thanksgiving this year. And not only that, but history repeated itself on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving on our "kind of" snow day, which had enough of a wintry mix to cause school closings and delays while prompting many folks just to stay homebound for the day. I was among them! It was glorious! At dinner, I even partook of some of the fruit of the vine to celebrate! It paired well with my warm soup and pumpkin pie dessert. Afterwards, I caught up on some missed episodes of a TV series about a fictional and very dysfunctional royal family. I still can't believe that I had a second twenty-four period of "downtime" with no car, no driving, and key-fob resting comfortably on my bureau. It cried out to me once or twice in the course of the day, but I resisted. It would be a no-drive day! It's good to know that the Holy Family didn't own a minivan or SUV. Can you imagine? The whole story would be different. There would be Joseph using some choice words while stuck on the Bethlehem beltway. Then, there would be the Blessed Virgin Mary urging him to slow down (!) and to watch his language in front of the very Son of God. Yes, for *Christ's* sake, Joseph! And the whole nativity scene would have taken place in some budget motel room right off of the 422 of the day. Christmas would just not be the same – nor would Advent. Preparing for the coming of Our King involves oh so much preparation. There is the driving to work to earn money to pay for all of the holiday festivities, while at the same time working harder and longer to get things done before the cherubim and seraphim are singing of His birth. Then there is the driving involved in going to the store to buy those things Amazon didn't deliver. Our Advent preparation today involves a lot of driving. In fact, life today involves a lot of driving. In the midst of it all, many of us need to take time and make time to slow down, pause, and leave the key-fob on the kitchen counter. A fictional royal family of imperial dysfunction may not be waiting for your attention, but your real family with all of its quirks and idiosyncrasies is - and so is a King most perfect! It's almost Christmas – keep in mind for *Christ's* sake it's not – but for *yours* and for *mine*! Enjoy **your** next drive-free day as together, we continue our Advent journey!



Peace!

Fr. Wilson