

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## 20 DECEMBER 2020

**Readings for Sunday, December 20:** 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38.

David's posterity shall endure forever. His kingship finds its fulfillment in the son of Mary, Jesus the Christ. To him be glory and praise forever.

**Readings for Sunday, December 27:** Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3; Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Luke 2:22-40.

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**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.**

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### MASSES FOR THE WEEK

<u>Date</u>		<u>Intention</u>	<u>Requested By</u>
21 Dec.	MON. 9:00 AM	Wendel & Elizabeth Miklusak & John Rudy	Granddaughter, Mary Lenhardt
23 Dec.	WED. 9:00 AM	John T. & Irene Bernhard	Ron & Kathy
24 Dec.	THU. 9:00 AM	Decd. Members of Minotto Family	Ginny & Dick Linderman
24 Dec.	THU. 4:00 PM	People of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
25 Dec.	FRI. 9:00 AM	Mary & George Harbacs	The Family
26 Dec.	SAT. 4:00 PM	People of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
27 Dec.	SUN. 9:00 AM	Timothy Reilly	Mom & Dad

**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](mailto:contact@sgsm62.org)).

The Parish Office will be closed Thursday, December 24 and Friday, December 25.

**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.

**2021 MASS BOOK** - Requests for Masses to be offered on a specific day for January to June 2021 are now being accepted. Mass stipend is \$10.00. Please call the parish office to schedule Masses.



## ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

By now all registered parishioners should have gotten a copy of the Christmas mailing. If you didn't, please call the office so we can make sure you're on the list and get you a copy. As I mentioned in the letter, the printers ask for that letter in August because of how much time they need to print everything and get the volume mailed in time. Fun fact: we already got word a couple weeks ago that it's time to start thinking about the Easter mailing.

Likewise, we have deadlines for the parish bulletin as well. In any given parish, if something unexpected happens at the end of a week, it's not going to be reflected in that Sunday's bulletin, since the bulletin was probably finalized the previous Tuesday. At the end of the year, bulletin deadlines are even earlier than usual because of the holidays. Some weeks we're working on two bulletins at once, and the bulletin for some Sundays is done almost two weeks before you get it. (Side note: it's a time of year to be especially nice to parish secretaries and bulletin editors, because keeping up with all the deadlines and dates is enough to make your head spin.)

I write all of the above for a reason. In this time of pandemic, we are dealing with much uncertainty. Regulations and guidelines may change with barely a moment's notice. Schedules may be adjusted without notice. With such rapid change, information in our printed materials may be out-of-date before you even get it. So please be sure to visit our parish website and Facebook page regularly, because the most up-to-date information will be there. You do not need a Facebook account to view our page.

As I said a couple weeks ago, we also signed up with Flocknote so we can e-mail and text people important information. We're working on adding information we have for the parish, but you can help us. All you have to do is text STGABRIELSTOWE to 84576. You'll get a response with further instructions. Please note that message and data rates may apply if you do this. You can also sign up by going to [stgabrielstowe.flocknote.com](http://stgabrielstowe.flocknote.com) and adding your e-mail address and cell phone number. If you're not one for text messaging on a cell phone, you don't have to give a phone number.

One schedule change we can print here: **Starting January 1, the Daily Mass schedule is going to be adjusted.** Mass will now be celebrated Tuesday – Friday, with no Mass on Monday. Eucharistic Adoration will move to Wednesdays, at the same time. There are several reasons why I'm making this change, but I'm running out of space to explain everything here (and remember, we're trying to keep the secretary happy right now, so a column that's too long is a big no-no), but we did poll some of the usual Daily Mass crowd and those who come to Adoration regularly, and they were okay with the change.

**Also, there will not be a Vigil Mass at 4pm on New Year's Eve. Mass will be celebrated on January 1 at 9am.** The mailing indicated we would have a vigil.

Like I said, early deadlines. I'm not even sure which Sunday this is going to appear in print, so, uhh, Happy [blank] week of Advent!

Fr. Steven W. Kiernan

*Parish Support*

WEEKLY BUDGET.....	\$5,000
DEPOSIT FOR DECEMBER 13, 2020.....	\$0,000
Regular Sunday Collection -	\$0,000
Parish Giving -	\$000
WEEKLY DEFICIT.....	(\$00)
Year to Date Budget.....	\$120,000
Year to Date Collections.....	\$00,000
Average per week Collection	\$0,000
Year to Date Deficit.....	(\$00,000)
Average per week Deficit	(\$0,000)

*DECEMBER 15, 2019*

Deposit.....	\$0,000
2019-2020 Deficit to Date.....	(\$00,000)
Difference from previous year.....	(\$0,000)

Due to an early print schedule, figures from the December 13 collection will be printed in the December 27 bulletin.



**PARISH LOTTERY RAFFLE TICKET**

based on the PA Pick 3 Evening Raffle Drawing 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. JANUARY LOTTERY TICKETS ARE ON SALE THROUGH THE PARISH OFFICE. PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO PURCHASE TICKETS.**

**REDNER'S 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 tapes only count when you use a Save-A-Tape card. 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 at the Parish Office.

**HAND-MADE BABY BLANKETS** are being sold by the Women's Society. The cost is \$10.00. The blankets make a very nice gift for a new baby or as an additional something when giving a gift card. Contact the Parish Office to purchase the blankets.

**ADVENT ACTIVITY - "THANK YOU, FATHER"** - Serra would like to introduce the program called "THANK YOU, FATHER" to show our appreciation, affection, and support for our wonderful priests. Parishioners please send a letter or email of gratitude for the remarkable priest in your life by December 31, 2020. Tell us how he made an impact by God's grace. Include your name, contact information, and Parish. All letters will be sent to corresponding priest. The Vocation Office, on social media, may post select letters. Please send you letter to: Attn: Thank You, Father, Serra Missions, 100 E. Wynnewood Road, Wynnewood, PA 19096 or email to [cynthiaarlenebrown@gmail.com](mailto:cynthiaarlenebrown@gmail.com).

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

**"ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK"**

**MISHOCK PHYSICAL THERAPY & ASSOCIATES**  
610-327-2600

**ST. GABRIEL OF THE SORROWFUL MOTHER PARISH MEMORIAL FUND DONATIONS** received in memory of:

HILDA CIABATTONI from Jack & Margie Bucciaglia and family;

MARYANN SMITH from Jack & Margie Bucciaglia and family;

JOSEPH LA ROSA from Pete & Lori LaRosa.

## READINGS FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20

### First Reading - 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

When King David was settled in his palace, and the Lord had given him rest from his enemies on every side, he said to Nathan the prophet, "Here I am living in a house of cedar, while the ark of God dwells in a tent!" Nathan answered the king, "Go, do whatever you have in mind, for the Lord is with you." But that night the Lord spoke to Nathan and said: "Go, tell my servant David, 'Thus says the Lord: Should you build me a house to dwell in?'" "It was I who took you from the pasture and from the care of the flock to be commander of my people Israel. I have been with you wherever you went, and I have destroyed all your enemies before you. And I will make you famous like the great ones of the earth. I will fix a palace for my people Israel; I will plant them so that they may dwell in their place without further disturbance. Neither shall the wicked continue to afflict them as they did of old, since the time I first appointed judges over my people Israel. I will give you rest from all your enemies. The LORD also reveals to you that he will establish a house for you. And when your time comes and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your heir after you, sprung from your loins, and I will make his kingdom firm. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me. Your house and your kingdom shall endure forever before me; your throne shall stand firm forever."

### Responsorial Psalm

Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

### Second Reading - Romans 16:25-27

Brothers and sisters: To him who can strengthen you, according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret for long ages but now manifested through the prophetic writings and, according to the command of the eternal God, made known to all nations to bring about the obedience of faith, to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ be glory forever and ever. Amen.

### Gospel - Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. "Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son,

and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" And the angel said to her in reply, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God." Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.



### OUR ADVENT-CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

will be in the vestibule of church until Sunday, January 3. We are collecting items for Birthright of Pottstown. Items most needed are: Preemie baby girl clothing, diapers sizes Newborn to 3, baby clothing sizes 12 month and 18 month, Maternity clothes sizes XL and XXL, Maternity leggings all sizes, Maternity tops size S. They can also use any other baby items. Help us decorate our Giving Tree by placing an ornament on the tree for each gift you give. Ornaments are in a box next to the Giving Tree.

### CHRISTMAS WAFERS are available at the parish office.

There are 5 wafers per packet. A donation of \$3.00 per packet or \$5.00 for 2 packets is requested. Please call the parish office before coming for your wafers. Wafers available on a first come-first serve basis.



### CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

#### Christmas Mass Schedule

Thursday, December 24 - 4:00 PM

Friday, December 25 - 9:00 AM

#### Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Mass Schedule

Friday, January 1 - 9:00 AM