

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

21 DECEMBER 2025

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

Jesus is Emmanuel, "God with us," risen from the dead. He is the king of glory.

Readings for Sunday, December 28: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Colossians 3:12-21; Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23.



**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>
22 Dec.	MON. 9:00 AM	John R. & Mary Louise Schwenk	Great-Grandchildren
23 Dec.	TUE. 9:00 AM	Pearl Dori	John & Allen
24 Dec.	WED. 9:00 AM	Monica Bauer	Kathy Bernhard
24 Dec.	WED. 4:00 PM	Parishioners of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
25 Dec.	THU. 9:00 AM	Parishioners of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
27 Dec.	SAT. 4:00 PM	Parishioners of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
28 Dec.	SUN. 9:00 AM	William Roeder	John & Mariann Willemssen



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 Devotions.

THE PARISH OFFICE will be closed on Tuesday, December 23, Wednesday, December 24 and Thursday, December 25.



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 PPG *thank you*

DEPOSIT FOR DECEMBER 14, 2025. \$
2025-2026 Year to Date Collections..... \$
Figures from the December 14 collection will be printed
in the December 28 bulletin.

“ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK”

CATAGNUS FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION CENTER
610-323-4440

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



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.

ST. GABRIEL OF THE SORROWFUL MOTHER PARISH MEMORIAL FUND DONATION received in memory of: ANNA M. GEORGE from Jack Bucciaglia and family.

2026 PARISH CALENDARS are available at the Church entrances.



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.**



American Red Cross

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD

DRIVE on January 5 and 19 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.



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.



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.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE - DECEMBER 27/28

4:00 PM Mass

Lector - Nester

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

Altar Server - Wasylkowski

Greeter - Gambino

9:00 AM Mass

Lector - LaRosa

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

Altar Servers - Logaivau & Logaivau

Greeter - Hildebrand



CONFESSIONS

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.

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

The Corner



"The grace of God has appeared, saving all and training us to reject godless ways and worldly desires and to live temperately, justly, and devoutly in this age as we await... our savior Jesus Christ...
--- Titus 2:11-13



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.

DECEMBER 21, 2025 - 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

Holidays and holy days each create a certain atmosphere around them. To mix them up, or to confuse them, is a mistake. So, for instance, decorating your home with all kinds of red, white and blue stressing patriotism does not really show the spirit of Christmas with its red and green.

The weak secular appraisal of Christmas event as mainly a call to reignite brotherhood among nations is just atheism trying to suppress Christ's coming. A much worse error than mixing up colors.

The simple and straightforward telling of the birth account of Jesus in St. Matthew's gospel puts forth the truth and nothing but the truth. A baby was born to a Jewish couple of humble origins as part of a long held and well prepared for plan to save mankind from sin and invite him to turn back to God.

The consequent atmosphere is one of true peace and deep joy that comes with renewed hope. Optimism rekindled. Pessimism banished. So, there is no place for raucous shouting and revelry. Much less a frenzy over who gets what as a gift under the artificial evergreen.

The calendar this year has given us a few days after this Fourth Sunday of Advent to stop, look and really listen to the gospel message. To energize our faith in the God who proved His love for us by sending His own Son to save us. As a result of the first Christmas, for the first time in history, men had to look down to see heaven, for heaven lay in a manger.

Remember the distraught man in Mark's gospel whose son was possessed? When Jesus asked him "Do you believe? (I can do this?) the man's answer becomes a prayer for all of us many times in life, even at Christmas: "Lord, I believe! Help my unbelief."

God love you and yours and have a blest Christmas.

Reading I: Isaiah 7:10-14

The name of the Savior to come, "Immanuel," is Hebrew for "God is with us." It signifies both of His natures in one person.

Reading II: Romans 1:1-7

These introductory verses of Paul's Letter finds him calling himself a "slave" for Christ. What this means is that he has made his whole life a gift to Christ. For Paul, the gospel bears a message long prefigured in the Hebrew Scriptures, which we Christians call "The Old Testament."

The Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24

The birth account of Jesus includes the betrothal period of Joseph and Mary, a time more meaningful than our modern engagement understanding, which could only be ended by divorce. We see Joseph as a man of sterling moral character, committed to the Law of Moses and to Mary.