

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

22 DECEMBER 2024

Readings for Sunday, December 22: Micah 5:1-4a; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45.

From Bethlehem shall come one who will rule Israel. Born of Mary, the servant of the Lord, he will protect and save us, offering himself once and for all in doing the Father's will.

Readings for Sunday, December 29: 1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28; 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24; Luke 2:41-52.



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>	
23 Dec.	MON.	9:00 AM	Richard Daily	Jack & Lori Carr
24 Dec.	TUE.	9:00 AM	Monica Bauer	Kathy Bernhard
24 Dec.	TUE.	4:00 PM	Parishioners of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
25 Dec.	WED.	9:00 AM	Parishioners of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
26 Dec.	THU.	9:00 AM	Michael F. Labik, Jr.	John & Diane Sowell
28 Dec.	SAT.	4:00 PM	John & Mary Louise Schwenk	Shawn & Jack Shoher
29 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.
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.

NO ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT OR BENEDICTION on Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25.

THE PARISH OFFICE will be closed:
 Monday, December 23 from 12:00-3:00 PM,
 Tuesday, December 24,
 Wednesday, December 25,
 Thursday, December 26 from 12:00-3:00 PM,
 Friday, December 27.



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.

LOST WEEK

Collections ©JPPC *thank you*

DEPOSIT FOR DECEMBER 15, 2024. \$
2024-2025 Year to Date Collections..... \$
Figures from the December 15 Collection will be printed
in the December 29 bulletin.

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

“ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK”

O’DONNELL, WEISS & MATTEI, P.C.
610-323-2800



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 DONATIONS received in memory of: DOMENICA MARIA GRAZIANI from Pete & Lori LaRosa; Jack Buccigliaglia; Diana Gulotta.



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.



American Red Cross

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVES on January 6 and 20 from 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM in the social hall. The American Red Cross faces challenges during the winter holidays because donors are taking time away to enjoy the holiday.

Call 1-800-RED CROSS or visit www.RedCross.org to donate blood.

WOMEN’S SOCIETY NEWS

Santina Kitchen Gift Certificates will be available the entire month of December. Certificates at \$15 and aside with helping with dinner, will make great Christmas or exchange gifts and last minute stocking stuffers. They are also available in the Parish Office daily.

Nativity Set - The Women’s Society was happy to be able to purchase the beautiful new nativity and stable. When you come to church on Christmas, take some time to see the wonderful workmanship and detailed painting. This was a project in the making for several years and was completed with the help of everyone who supports the Women’s Society. We can do great things with your continued support. Thank you for all your help.



2025 MASS BOOK - Requests for Masses to be offered in 2025 can be made at the Parish Office. There is a limit of one Mass on weekends per person requesting the Mass Intention. This is necessary due to the limited number of weekend Masses available.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE - DECEMBER 28/29

4:00 PM Mass

Lector - Warzeski

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

Altar Server - Pomponio

Greeter - Gambino

9:00 AM Mass

Lector - Willemsen

Ministers of Holy Communion - Front, Deacon; Break, Boyer & C. Buccaglia

Altar Servers - Francis & Nagel

Greeter - Hildebrand



The Corner

We welcome the Son of God as our Savior. Most of us use many words to say nothing, but God speaks One Word and says everything. Merry CHRISTmas!



ARCHDIOCESAN OPENING OF THE JUBILEE YEAR is December 29, Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul at the 11:00 AM Solemn Mass. Archbishop Nelson J. Perez - Celebrant and Homilist. All will gather for this Mass in Sister Cities Park across the street from the main entrance to the Cathedral Basilica. A ceremonial cross will lead the "Pilgrims of Hope" to the main entrance of the Cathedral Basilica at which point the Archbishop will invite all to venerate it. The ceremonial cross will be placed in the Cathedral Basilica all throughout the Jubilee Year.



OUR ADVENT GIVING TREE will be in the vestibule of Church beginning Saturday, November 30 until Sunday, January 5. We are collecting items for Birthright of Pottstown. Items most needed are:

Diapers size 2 and 3; Wipes; Bottles; Neutral pants sizes 0-3 and 3-6 months; Winter clothes sizes 6-9, 12 months and 18 months; Footie PJs sizes newborn through 18 month; Diaper rash cream; Receiving blankets; Crib sheets; Bibs; Burp cloths; Small soft infant toys; Socks size 6-12 and 12-24; Maternity leggings all sizes; Nursing tops; Giant and Redner's Gift cards (denominations \$25 or less). Decorate our Giving Tree by placing an ornament on the tree for each gift you donate. Ornaments are in a box next to the tree.



CHRISTMAS WAFERS are available at the Parish Office. Five wafers per pack. A donation of \$3.00 per pack or \$5.00 for 2 packs is requested.



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Confessions:

Saturday, December 28 from 3:00 PM to 3:45 PM

Christmas Mass Schedule:

Tuesday, December 24 - Mass at 4:00 PM

Wednesday, December 25 - Mass at 9:00 AM

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Mass Schedule:

Tuesday, December 31 - Mass at 4:00 PM

Wednesday, January 1 - Mass at 9:00 AM

Local Confessions:

Advent Confessions at St. Columbkil Parish on Sunday, December 22 at 7:00 PM

*A Message
From The
Pastor*

©JPPC

Most folks have their favorite. As our celebration of Christmas is now imminent, many find themselves humming them. They may have even become like earworms at this point – but that’s



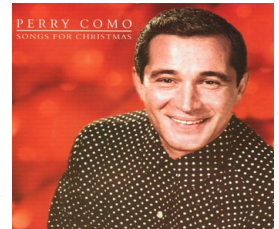
okay. I believe that it’s important to have a song on our lips and in our hearts at Christmas. The hard part is carrying that song with us throughout the New Year beyond December 25th. One of my favorite Christmas songs is probably not even on the list for most folks. Favorite Christmas songs and hymns can transport us back to happy childhood Christmas memories of long ago as well as renew our hope for the future that we see in the



children and young people of today. One of my favorites is a Perry Como song. I discovered it on an album that my parents had. That album was a soundtrack of a movie - *The Odessa Files*. This



movie was a thriller released in 1974 based on a novel by the same name. I would have been a bit young for it at the time and maybe my parents went to go see it on one of those Friday nights when my grandfather was babysitting yours truly. Actually, I don’t ever recall seeing it myself. Maybe I should try to find it online and watch it one night over the holidays. It is



the song, *Christmas Dream* that brings back so many memories for me. I remember it being this time of year and sitting on the floor of our little dining room where the stereo was of which my father was so proud. It was kind of a large floor model that he purchased from a co-worker. I remember



holding the album cover and listening to the song again and again. The words spoke to me. There was a stanza in German by a children’s choir. It reminded me of my heritage and always made me think of family and friends overseas. One verse always



had me thinking of Our Lord. It didn’t reference the events of Incarnation and Christmas, but that of the other great mystery that we celebrate in the spring. *Du stirbst um zu leben und nimmst um zu geben. You die in order to live and take in order to give.* *Christmas Dream* had me dreaming. It had me dreaming of Christmas Day and Santa and presents. It had me dreaming of snow and sledding and days off school. It had me dreaming of my future and making time and taking time for all kinds of



things that I wanted to do and see. It had me thinking about what dying to live and taking to give really meant. It filled me with hope and with happiness. It still does. I suppose that’s why it’s one of my favorites and why I still dream my Christmas dream. Merry Christmas to you and your loved ones – and sweet dreams this Christmas and beyond!

Peace,
Fr. Wilson