

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

4 DECEMBER 2022

Readings for Sunday, December 4: Isaiah 11:1-10; Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12.

Reform your lives; live in God's peace so that justice may flourish.

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



**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>
5 Dec.	MON. 9:00 AM	Marie Dellaquila	Husband & family
6 Dec.	TUE. 9:00 AM	Caroline Maddaloni	Villano Family
7 Dec.	WED. 9:00 AM	Michael J. Rudy	Kathy & Ron
7 Dec.	WED. 7:00 PM	Dean Gulotta	His Wife
8 Dec.	THU. 9:00 AM	Parishioners of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
10 Dec.	SAT. 4:00 PM	Regina Tucker	The Family
11 Dec.	SUN. 9:00 AM	Parishioners of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	

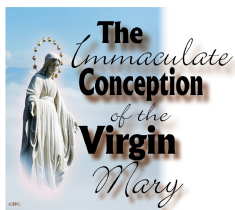


ETERNAL REST grant unto them, O Lord. May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace, especially EDMUND SLABY.

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.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING on Tuesday, December 6 at 6:30 PM in the PREP Building.



THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF MARY, DECEMBER 8, IS A HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION. Mass Schedule: Vigil Mass on Wednesday, December 7 at 7:00 PM; Mass on Thursday, December 8 at 9:00 AM.



2023 MASS BOOK - Requests for Masses to be offered on a specific day in 2023 can be made at the parish office. Mass stipend is \$10.00 and must be paid at the time you request the Mass. There is a limit of 2 weekend Masses per person requesting the intentions.

MAGNIFICAT ADVENT COMPANION BOOK & WORD AMONG US ADVENT ISSUE - copies are available at the church entrances. There is no charge for the books. Feel free to take a copy home with you.

THE PARISH OFFICE will be closed Friday, December 9.

DEPOSIT FOR NOVEMBER 20, 2022.	\$4,643
2022-2023 Year to Date Collections.	\$83,203
2021-2022 Year to Date Collections.	\$81,061
DEPOSIT FOR NOVEMBER 27, 2022.	\$4,906
2022-2023 Year to Date Collections.	\$88,109
2021-2022 Year to Date Collections.	\$85,472

WINNER OF MONTHLY 50/50 GOLD ENVELOPE to support Religious Education:

NOVEMBER DRAWING - Philomena Bracaglia - \$277.00.

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

"ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK"

ON THE THIRD DAY
610-705-0130

MASS ATTENDANCE for November 19/20:

4:00 PM Mass - 110
9:00 AM Mass - 113
Total Attendance - 223

MASS ATTENDANCE for November 26/27:

4:00 PM Mass - 117
9:00 AM Mass - 94
Total Attendance - 211



AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE on December 19 from 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM in the social hall. Please call 1-800-RED-CROSS to make an appointment.



All parishioners are welcome to use the free FORMED.org service provided by our parish. Go to our parish website and click on the FORMED.org picture on the home page. Follow prompts to find many books, talks, movies and Bible Studies for all age groups.

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE at St. Teresa of Calcutta Parish on Wednesday, December 14 at 7:00 PM.



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

November 14 - #906 - James Bracaglia - \$50.00
November 15 - #682 - Kathy Bernhard - \$50.00
November 16 - #855 - unsold
November 17 - #721 - Diane Sowell - \$50.00
November 18 - #325 - unsold
November 19 - #931 - unsold
November 20 - #231 - unsold
November 21 - #808 - unsold
November 22 - #877 - unsold
November 23 - #895 - unsold
November 24 - #963 - unsold
November 25 - #752 - unsold
November 26 - #075 - unsold
November 27 - #366 - unsold

The Corner

On Thursday we celebrate **The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**. Did you know that this is the "Patronal Feastday of the United States of America?" As we start our Advent season, reflect on this message from Pope Francis.

"Mary sustains our journey toward Christmas for she teaches us how to live this Advent Season in expectation of the Lord. For this time of Advent is a time of waiting for the Lord, who will visit us all on the feast, but also, each one, in our own hearts. The Lord is Coming! Let us wait for Him!"



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



A VISIT FROM ST. NICK - Please join us on Sunday, December 11 after the 9:00 AM Mass for fellowship in the social hall. At this time, we will celebrate St. Nicholas. There will be crafts, games, card making, and music. Please bring some baked goods to share and your camera for any photos with St. Nicholas. **ALL**

ARE WELCOME! If your child is not in our PREP program, please call, text or email (610-506-2455 or mboyer@sghsm62.org) to let us know how many children you will be bringing, so St. Nicholas has enough treats for everyone.

WOMEN'S SOCIETY EVENTS



The Women's Society next themed basket will be for Christmas. We will be selling chances after Masses until December 18 when the winner will be pulled. Chances will be sold for \$1 each or 6 for \$5. The Christmas Basket is valued at approximately \$150. Stop by the church lobby to see it and take a chance. The Women's Society thanks you for your continued support!

Women's Society Christmas Cookie Sale - December 10 and 11 after Masses. Due to the rising cost of candy supplies, we will not be making candy this year. All cookies and Pizzelles will sell for \$5 a dozen. Trays may be mixed or all the same and will contain at least a dozen or more cookies. Anyone interested in baking only cookies (no cakes please) drop them off in the church lobby before Mass on December 10 or 11. No need to price them, but indicate the type of cookies on tray. Any and all help is appreciated!



Women's Society Christmas Party - Sunday, December 18 at 1:00 PM at the Sunflower Café, North Charlotte St., Pottstown. \$30 per member; \$35 non-member. Entree choices:

Slow cooked beef short ribs with red wine over egg noodles, served with roasted vegetables OR Sautéed chicken breast with raisins, capers, pine nuts, white wine and lemon served with creamy cheesy polenta and roasted vegetables. **ALSO INCLUDED** soup, dessert, and cold and hot beverages. **BYOB.** Reservations with entree choice and payment by December 10 to Lori at 610-326-6030. Checks payable to Women's Society or cash. Women of all ages invited to attend.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE - December 10/11

4:00 PM Mass

Lector - Warzeski

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

Altar Server - Holmes

Greeter - Gambino

9:00 AM Mass

Lector - Iannozzi

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

Altar Server - Donnelly, Wasylkowski & Francis

Greeter - Neiman



OUR ADVENT-CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

will be in the vestibule of church until Sunday, January 8. We are collecting items for Birthright of Pottstown. Items most needed include: Girls' winter outfits in all sizes from Newborn to 18 month; Boy's winter outfits in sizes

Newborn and 0-3 month; Boys shirts size 18 month; Sleep Swaddlers; Diapers size 3; socks in size 0-3 month; Maternity leggings; Walmart or Target gift cards that we can use for formula. Decorate our Giving Tree by placing an ornament on the tree for each gift you give. Ornaments are in a box next to the tree. All donations are greatly appreciated.

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. Wafers available on a first come-first serve basis.

WOMEN'S ROSARY AROUND THE WORLD - On December 8, a public women's rosary is being initiated around the world. We will be honoring the Blessed Virgin Mary by publicly uniting women in defense of churches, life, motherhood, the family and to proudly proclaim "we are daughters of Blessed Virgin Mary and want to follow her example." St. Gabriel Church invites women of our parish to join us at noon on Thursday, December 8 at our Blessed Mother's Grotto (weather permitting) to pray the rosary together. We will also be inviting other parishes near us to join us. In case of inclement weather, we will pray the rosary inside the church. Hopefully, afterwards, we can have a little snack together. For more information call Lori Carr (610-731-7012).



I was the only boy. It was my Aunt Gert that had invited me to the weekend Girl Scout Camp that she would help chaperone. *I ain't going*, I said in protest! My parents encouraged me. *It'll be fun! There'll be a lake for swimming and fishing. You'll be camping out in the woods and staying in a pop-up camper with your aunt. She'll be with you the whole time!* Well, all the girls did make a fuss over me – cute little tike that I was. I didn't dare let them know that I thought girls were sort of icky. It was kind of fun at first with the hiking and swimming and fishing...but then came the raspberries...the wild raspberries. We had been hiking and picking them. Back at camp, I washed up and began to eat some. Suddenly, I had a funny, warm feeling. Then, I wasn't feeling too well at all. I felt like I might vomit. Then, I did. This



cute kid's beautiful, youthful olive skin began to itch becoming bumpy and red. My whole body became lumpy and bumpy, itchy and red. I began to look like Frankenstein! The rest of camp was awful! Now, I was the icky one! Although I still love the woods and hiking, to this day I'm not overly enamored with camping and I definitely still



have a fear of raspberries...everything from wild raspberries to raspberry flavored anything! I think back to that weekend at a Girl Scout Camp with my aunt and the icky little Frankenstein that I had become. Fear can be a great motivator. Psychologists know all about the notion of "fight or flight" that is rooted in it. Fear motivates many today. Almost all of the problems in our world seem due to it. We fear that which is different. We fear the other. We fear opinions that are not our own. We fear giving witness to our beliefs. We fear loss – of power, pride, wealth, or position. We fear loss against our opponents – especially if they happen to

be from a certain football loving city in Texas...or even some tiny little town in Judea! If only we could overcome all our fears! Advent *is* a time to overcome fear – whatever those fears may be. God, Himself, demonstrates this in lowering Himself fearlessly and coming among us as a man – a man that many, for all of the above reasons, would begin to fear. But fear would be overcome for good on a future Friday afternoon. It is the Love that is our Faith that overcomes all fear in the end. Get ready! That same Love will lie so soon innocent in a manger. Go to the manger! There one will discover something – a Child, a Son, and a Savior. There one will discover Love itself in the form of a Little Child. His is a Love that, in the end, overcomes *all* fear! Just don't offer the poor kid any wild raspberries!



Peace!

Fr. Wilson

2022 DAY OF SANCTIFICATION FOR PRIESTS

The priests of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia assemble each year for a day of prayer and reflection on the Sacred Priesthood. This year our priests will gather with the Archbishop at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary on Monday, December 5, for the *2022 Day of Sanctification for Priests*. Please pray for all priests of the Archdiocese, especially this weekend and Monday, with the following prayer from the *Roman Missal*:

*Lord our God, who in governing your people
make use of the ministry of Priests,
grant to these men
a persevering obedience to your will,
so that by their ministry and life
they may gain glory for you in Christ,
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen.*