

# FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

## 21 FEBRUARY 2021

**Readings for Sunday, February 21:** Genesis 9:8-15; 1 Peter 3:-18-22; Mark 1:12-15.

Mindful of his covenant, the Lord promises never to destroy creation again by flood waters. The waters of baptism bring salvation and forgiveness through the death of Christ. After fasting forty days and being put to the test, Jesus begins his public ministry.

**Readings for Sunday, February 28:** Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Romans 8:31b-34; Mark 9:2-10.

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**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 7:00 PM in the Church.**

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### MASSES FOR THE WEEK

<u>Date</u>		<u>Intention</u>	<u>Requested By</u>
23 Feb.	TUE. 9:00 AM	Emma Colasanti	Barbara & Michael Hipszer
24 Feb.	WED. 9:00 AM	Rev. James Gormley	
25 Feb.	THU. 9:00 AM	Pam Henderson	Tony Vitacco
26 Feb.	FRI. 9:00 AM	Richard Leister	Boyer Family
27 Feb.	SAT. 9:00 AM	Decd. Members of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
27 Feb.	SAT. 4:00 PM	People of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
28 Feb.	SUN. 9:00 AM	Nancy Valinoto	Jim & Anna Baldasano

**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, especially EVELYN SEGNERE.

**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)).

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

**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** - There are still openings in the Mass Book for weekday Masses from April thru June. Mass stipend is \$10.00. Please call the parish office to schedule Masses.

## ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

First, a calendar reminder: don't forget that Saturday is the celebration of our Parish Feast Day. There will be a Mass for the Feast Day at 9:00 am.

Lent has begun! As we make this journey over the next six weeks, we're all asked by the Church to reflect on our lives and to find ways to turn from worldly and sinful inclinations and turn back to the Lord through Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving. We try to find increased opportunities for prayer. We fast from food and other good things to discipline ourselves, ridding ourselves of our attachment to earthly things to focus more on the things of Heaven. And we engage in works of mercy and charity so that we can use the good things that we have been given to benefit others.

With regard to that last category, almsgiving, we of course have our parish collection of items going to support the homeless being sheltered over to at St. Aloysius parish. Some people have already commented about that outreach and were very glad to see that we are helping in that effort. We are also, as usual, participating in Operation Rice Bowl, by which parishioners are asked to support efforts to feed the hungry. One way this can be done is by saving your change in the bowl every time you spend cash, which can accumulate nicely over Lent. Nowadays, many of us aren't using cash the way we used to, which means less spare change. One suggestion for the Rice Bowl is to have a simple meal as a family and donate the money that would have been spent on something more elaborate and expensive to help the poor. I'm sure you can be creative and find other ways as well.

Another important charity that needs to be highlighted is the Catholic Charities Appeal of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. This appeal is used to provide funding for a number of ministries and programs within the Archdiocese, including programs of Special Education, Social Service agencies, Child Nutrition programs, Housing and Homeless Services, Foster Care services, programs and support for persons with disabilities, care for elderly and retired priests, and more. The Catholic Charities Appeal is the single largest fundraising effort in the Archdiocese. Our parish was given a goal to raise \$12,000 for the appeal. As of my writing this, we have raised \$7,600 toward that goal, with 70 families participating. Can we do better than that? More information about the Catholic Charities Appeal, including a video and information on how to donate, can be found on our website. Thank you for your generosity!

On other Lenten suggestion. Instead of watching TV or a movie, use that entertainment time for something that can be a bit educational and help you learn something more about our faith. Our parish now has a subscription to Formed.org – an online treasure trove of educational and formative videos. You can find movies about the lives of saints, different series that will help you study the bible, even cartoons for children (and those adults who are still children at heart). The parish has purchased a subscription for all our parishioners, so there is no cost to you. If you're like me and find yourself frustrated because you can't find anything interesting in the TV listings, take a look at some of the content on Formed for something different. For more information on how to sign up, check out our website.

Hope to see you Saturday at the Mass for St. Gabriel's Feast Day!

Fr. Steven W. Kiernan



**PARISH LOTTERY RAFFLE TICKET** based

on the PA Pick 3 Evening Number.

**Raffle Drawing** 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. MARCH LOTTERY TICKETS ARE ON SALE THROUGH THE PARISH OFFICE. PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO PURCHASE TICKETS.**

*Parish Support*

WEEKLY BUDGET.....	\$5,000
DEPOSIT FOR FEBRUARY 14, 2021.....	\$3,751
Regular Sunday Collection -	\$3,346
Parish Giving -	\$405
WEEKLY DEFICIT. ....	(\$1,249)
Year to Date Budget.....	\$165,000
Year to Date Collections.....	\$141,052
Average per week Collection	\$4,274
Year to Date Deficit. ....	(\$23,948)
Average per week Deficit	(\$726)

*FEBRUARY 16, 2020*

Deposit. ....	\$3,768
2019-2020 Deficit to Date. ....	(\$19,075)
Difference from previous year.....	(\$4,873)

**LOTTERY RAFFLE TICKET WINNERS**

- February 8 - #759 - unsold
- February 9 - #386 - unsold
- February 10 - #789 - unsold
- February 11 - #206 - unsold
- February 12 - #502 - unsold
- February 13 - #769 - unsold
- February 14 - #530 - Bob Zomolsky - \$100.00

**SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND**, February 27 and 28 will be the St. Gabriel Feast Day Collection.

**2020 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS:** Requests can be made by email ([contact@sgsm62.org](mailto:contact@sgsm62.org)) or phone (610-326-5127). Statements are available for registered parishioners (those who receive and use their envelopes). Statements will be mailed or can be picked up at the parish office.

**"ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK"**

**AMITY SELF STORAGE**  
610-385-1222



**ST. GABRIEL OF THE SORROWFUL MOTHER FEAST DAY - SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27.**

Join in our celebration of our Parish Feast Day - Mass at 9:00 AM in church. Devotions and Blessing with the Relic of St. Gabriel at 4:00 PM Mass on Saturday, February 27 and 9:00 AM Mass on Sunday, February 28.

**MASS ATTENDANCE for February 13/14:**

- 4:00 PM Mass - 103
- 9:00 AM Mass - 59
- Total Attendance - 162

**RAFFLE** sponsored by Knights of Columbus Father Bally Council for a trip for 4 to Walt Disney World for a week. Included is airfare, hotel on site, park tickets. Raffle tickets are \$25.00 and only 800 tickets will be sold. Helps K of C charitable works. Drawing on March 21. Contact Ozzie Mest ([Omest@att.net](mailto:Omest@att.net)), Chris Owens (484-347-0756) or Gary Huster for tickets.

## READINGS FOR SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

### First Reading - Genesis 9:8-15

God said to Noah and to his sons with him: "See, I am now establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you and with every living creature that was with you: all the birds, and the various tame and wild animals that were with you and came out of the ark. I will establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all bodily creatures be destroyed by the waters of a flood; there shall not be another flood to devastate the earth." God added: "This is the sign that I am giving for all ages to come, of the covenant between me and you and every living creature with you: I set my bow in the clouds to serve as a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth, and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the covenant I have made between me and you and all living beings, so that the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all mortal beings."

### Responsorial Psalm

℟ Your ways, O lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

▶ Your ways, O LORD, make known to me; teach me your paths. Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my savior. ℟

▶ Remember that your compassion O LORD, and your love are from of old. In your kindness remember me, because of your goodness O LORD. ℟

▶ Good and upright is the LORD, thus he shows sinners the way. He guides the humble to justice, and he teaches the humble his way. ℟

### Second Reading - 1 Peter 3:18-22

Beloved: Christ suffered for sins once, the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous, that he might lead you to God. Put to death in the flesh, he was brought to life in the Spirit. In it he also went to preach to the spirits in prison, who had once been disobedient while God patiently waited in the days of Noah during the building of the ark, in which a few persons, eight in all, were saved through water. This prefigured baptism, which saves you now. It is not a removal of dirt from the body but an appeal to God for a clear conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers subject to him.

### Gospel - Mark 1:12-15

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him. After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."

## LENT 2021

**Minimum Obligations for Fasting:** Fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday for ages 18 to 59 - Fasting is defined as one main meal and two smaller meals with no food in between. Abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent for ages 14 and up.

**Other ideas for Fasting** - Find a personal sacrifice that will be meaningful to you and help you on your own spiritual journey. Check out resources on Formed.org instead of watching TV or movies.

**Sacrament of Penance/Confession** - Sundays from 8:00-8:45 AM. Wednesdays from 6:00-6:45 PM. Saturdays from 3:00 -3:45 PM.

**Eucharistic Adoration** - Wednesdays from 9:30 AM to 7:00 PM.

**Stations of the Cross** - Wednesdays at 7:0 PM and Fridays at 1:00 PM.

**Operation Rice Bowl** - Provide food for the hungry by donating spare change or making a cash donation to Operation Rice Bowl. Rice Bowls are in the vestibule of church.

**Lenten Homeless Outreach** - Support the local interfaith homeless community outreach from February 17 through March 28. Parish collection of "basics" will be collected in the Church vestibule. Donations will be given to Al's Heart Warming Center, run by Pottstown LIFT. Items most needed are: disposable food service gloves, N95 or KN95 masks, paper towels, underwear - men's and women's sizes M-XL, Leggings/base layer/thermals/ men's and women's sizes M-XL, tampons, gloves, non-perishable snacks (the healthier the better).

**Lenten Devotional Books** - The Magnificat Lenten Book and The Word Among Us Lenten Book are available in the Church vestibule. Please take a copy home with you.