

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

23 FEBRUARY 2025

Readings for Sunday, February 23: 1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23; 1 Corinthians 15:45-49; Luke 6:27-38.

In baptism we are called to mirror and image the mercy and forgiveness the Lord has won for us. As David would not harm Saul, his enemy, so we are challenged to love and pardon those who wrong us.

Readings for Sunday, March 2: Sirach 27:4-7; 1 Corinthians 15:54-58; Luke 6:39-45.



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>
24 Feb.	MON. 9:00 AM	Cay & John Francis	Jane Perkins
25 Feb.	TUE. 9:00 AM	Kathryn Sarnak	M/M Joseph Viola, Sr.
26 Feb.	WED. 9:00 AM	David DeFrancesco	Jack Buccigliaglia & family
27 Feb.	THU. 9:00 AM	Parishioners of St. Gabriel Parish In Honor of the Feast Day of St. Gabriel	
1 Mar.	SAT. 4:00 PM	Parishioners of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
2 Mar.	SUN. 9:00 AM	Those Enrolled in St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish Memorial Fund	



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.



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.



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



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.

join in these Marian Devotions.

LOST WEEK

Collections ©JPPC *thank you*

DEPOSIT FOR FEBRUARY 16, 2025 \$
2024-2025 Year to Date Collections. \$
Figures from the February 16 collection will be printed
in the March 2 bulletin.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND, March 1 and 2 will be the Gold 50/50 Envelope to support Religious Education.

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



The Catholic Charities Appeal is a time for our parish to come together to extend our love, generosity, and concern to those who need it most. When you give to the Appeal, your gift is

transformed into hope, providing education, food, shelter and medical assistance to our brothers and sisters and neighbors right here in the Greater Philadelphia Area. For those who have not yet contributed to the Appeal, please prayerfully consider showing your support to this great call for action. Taking care of those in need is one of the most important things we can do as Catholics, and it is important that together, we, as a community, reach the needed \$10 million goal. Envelopes for the Appeal are at the entrances to Church or you can use the envelope mailed to your homes.



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@sasm62.org).



CHURCH MAGNETS are available at the Parish Office. They can be placed on your car or refrigerator. Cost is \$5.00 each.



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.**

"ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK"

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

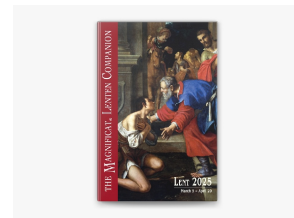


AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD

DRIVES on March 3 & 17 from 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM in the social hall. The American Red Cross faces challenges maintaining a sufficient blood supply during the winter. When a shortage happens it can delay essential medical care. Call 1-800-RED CROSS or visit www.RedCross.org to donate blood.

WOMEN'S SOCIETY NEWS

Santina & Douglassville Café Gift Certificates continue to be sold. Pick them up at the Parish Office for \$15.00 each. The Café serves breakfast and lunch and is now open for dinner on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.



MAGNIFICAT LENTEN COMPANION BOOKS

will be available at the Church entrances next weekend, March 1 and 2. There is no charge for the book. Feel free to take a copy home with you for Lenten Reflection.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE - MARCH 1 & 2

4:00 PM Mass

Lector - Warzeski

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

Altar Server - Wasylkowski

Greeter - Gambino

9:00 AM Mass

Lector - LaRosa

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

Altar Servers - Nagel & Tran

Greeter - Neiman



FEAST DAY OF OUR PATRON, SAINT GABRIEL OF THE SORROWFUL MOTHER

is on Thursday, February 27.

Saint Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother, pray for us!

The Corner

On Thursday we observe the Memorial of St. Gregory of Narek. Who was he? Little is known, except that he spent most of his life in the monastery of Narek in what is now Turkey, being ordained in 977. He was a monk, professor of theology, and a poet who described his *Book of Prayer* as "an encyclopedia of prayer for all nations." The original Armenian text has been translated into 30 languages. Pope Francis named him a Doctor of the Church in 2015.

IMPORTANT ST. ALOYSIUS AND HOLY TRINITY CEMETERY INFORMATION:

St. Aloysius and Holy Trinity cemeteries will begin the Spring/Lenten Clean up process on Monday, March 3. If there are items currently on your loved one's gravesite that you would like to save, we ask that you kindly remove the items by Sunday, March 2. Everything remaining will be removed and disposed of on Monday, March 3 by our cemetery crew.

MEATBALL AND SAUCE SALE

Sponsored by the Women's Society

Saturday, March 1

Note pick-up times!

#1 Saturday, March 1 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

#2 Saturday, March 1 after 4:00 PM Mass

No Sunday pick-up

Please circle pick up time

1 dozen Meatballs - \$13.00

How many _____ \$Total _____

½ dozen Meatballs - \$7.00

How many _____ \$Total _____

1 quart of Sauce - \$7.00

How many _____ \$Total _____

NAME _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

Orders and payment due by February 23.

Checks payable to St. Gabriel Women's Society

ST. ALOYSIUS LENTEN BOOK DISCUSSION

THE RETURN OF THE PRODIGAL SON

A STORY OF HOMECOMING



HENRI J. M. NOUWEN

Participants will need to purchase the book on their own

The Return of the Prodigal Son
by Henri Nouwen



When: Mondays 11:30 a.m.
March 10, 17, & 24

Where: St. Aloysius Parish
Lower Level of Gathering Center

For more information or to register contact Sophie Schneible:
610-326-5877 ext. 426
Sschneible@santalloysius.net

POSITION AVAILABLE - St. Teresa of Calcutta Early Learning Center and Child Care, in Limerick Township is looking for a caregiver/teacher to work with infants and/or Preschoolers. This is a year-round position that could start now or in the summer months. Contact Tara Melville, Child Care Director at childcare@stteresaofcalcutta.com or call 610-287-2500 ext. 3 for more information.

2025 College Fair

At
Pope John Paul II High School

No Registration Required! Free!!



Open to the Public! Bring a Friend!

Date: Tues. March 4, 2025
Time: 6-8PM

Location:
Main Gym
181 Rittenhouse Rd
Royersford PA
19468

Contact:
Doreen Bell at
dbell@pjphs.org
with questions

Scan to see a list of Participating Colleges





SUNDAY MORNING BREAKFAST on March 2 at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Stowe. Serving Pancakes, French Toast, Sausage, Bacon, Scrapple, Eggs your way, a variety

of omelets, and different types of Breakfast Bowls. Breakfast is served from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

SING WITH US!

Saint Eleanor Concert Choir is open to all parishioners in the Philadelphia Archdiocese.



SAINT ELEANOR
CONCERT CHOIR

Rehearsals:
March 6, 13, 20, 27
7:00 pm

Taizé Prayer
Lenten Holy Hour
March 30, 7:00 pm

Spring Concert Choir presentation

More information and registration forms available at Steleanor.com
Contact Elizabeth at ECalabro@steleanor.com with questions.

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS at the National Centre for Padre Pio, Barto on March 1 beginning at 9:30 AM. Devotions consist of the opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Mass, the blessing of religious articles, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, devotional prayers, Benediction, Rosary, and veneration of the relic glove of Padre Pio. For more details visit www.padrepio.org or call 610-845-3000.



17TH ANNUAL MAN UP PHILLY

Men's Spirituality Conference on Saturday, March 8 at Cardinal O'Hara's St. John Vianney Hall Theater. All men are encouraged to attend - fathers, sons, brothers, friends. Take part in the Holy Year by Becoming a Pilgrim of Hope to your family, parish and community. Speakers include Ward Fitzgerald, Ed Morris and Msgr. Federico Britto. Keynote Speaker is Brian Dawkins. Mark Forrest will lead our Eucharistic Adoration. Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available. Conference will conclude with Mass celebrated by Archbishop Nelson Perez. For more information or to register, visit www.manuphilly.com.

RETREAT - THE PASCHAL MYSTERY AND EVERYDAY LIFE

on Saturday, March 1 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the Mother Boniface Spirituality Center, Philadelphia. Retreat will offer personal prayer time and sharing with other retreatants. Cost is \$55.00 (includes continental breakfast and lunch). Speaker is Stephanie McCarthy. To register go to www.msbt.org/mbsc/retreats-and-workshops or call 267-350-1830.



H.O.P.E.

Hope Offered Prayerfully for Everyone



Presented by
Sister Anne Philip Buehler, IHM

We will spend the day leaning into compassion for ourselves and others who are mourning in times of loss. Sister Anne will offer her experience with grieving and the ways to move through these challenges with H.O.P.E. The day includes Mass and lunch.

Thursday,
March 6, 2025

8:45 am - 2:30 pm

\$60 per person*

*You may opt to stay overnight the evening of Wednesday, March 5, for an additional \$95.

Villa Maria by the Sea Retreat Center
101 11th Street, Stone Harbor, NJ 08247
Register by February 26th
at www.VMbytheSea.com or call 609-964-7700

FEBRUARY 23, 2025 -7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Reflections by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

Expansion, like many words and ideas, can have multiple and quite disparate meanings. Often this is the source of good humor. When we think of the expansion long ago by then President Thomas Jefferson in making the Louisiana Purchase, he doubled the size of our country with the stroke of a pen. So wide was the territory that Jefferson sent Lewis and Clark to explore and map it.

Contrast that noble historic event with the notion of an expanded waistline that afflicts most of us after 40, and we have a happening in our personal history that demands will power, or in some cases, injections of expensive drugs to combat.

But today I wish to reflect on an expansion Our good Lord made of the concept of charity. To the questions: "Who is to be the object of love of neighbor?" The answer comes in the Gospel for this last Sunday of February. Who did Jesus say we have to love? In a word, everybody!

Wow! Of course, we believers have heard it before. But it can be just as disconcerting to our pre-conceived plan of behavior and just as annoying as it was for Christ's first hearers. With Lent being just 10 days away, I would think this is a priority task for most of us in any effort at penance and self-reform.

You may think that the need for such is foreign to the life of a priest. Let me assure you that it is not. Responding positively to Our Lord's expanded idea of love expressed in Luke chapter 6 is just as hard for us as for anyone. Personally speaking, many years ago a priest much younger than I spoke negatively about me to our authorities with no justification. It shocked me at the time because I thought I had bent over backwards to be kind to this man. To this day he has no idea of the hurt and disappointment he caused. I must see him at most diocesan events and never let on. I must refrain from even a hint whenever I'm in the company of those who know him. The devil on my shoulder has urged me to reveal, but this gospel passage stops me. Like David with Saul, I must forgive and respect the teachings of my king and yours, Jesus our Lord.

Somehow over the years that have followed, regarding this incident and others (for priests can be cruel to one another via their tongues) I have come to realize that Our Lord is so right. Absorbing pain when the gospel truth demands it is one sure way of making small amends for the pain of Our Savior on His cross. And it helps us all to think big for a change. I found this line from an anonymous source: "Forgiveness is a funny thing. It warms the heart and cools the sting."

God love you and give you His peace.

Reading I: 1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

Refusing to harm his jealous enemy Saul, David slips into Saul's own tent and retrieves his weaponry but does the man no harm. So deep is David's respect for the office of king.

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 15:45-49

Paul draws the contrast between Adam and Christ, preaching that by nature we all receive a physical body from Adam, but by grace we receive a spiritual body from Christ. This spiritual body is destined to live forever.

The Gospel: Luke 6:27-28

Continuing the Sermon on the Plain, Jesus widens the scope of charity and commands a radical love that reaches out to everyone even our enemies.