

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

26 FEBRUARY 2023

Readings for Sunday, February 26: Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11.

Like Adam and Eve, Jesus was tempted, but did not sin. Our sinfulness is acquitted through one man, Jesus Christ, in whom we are justified.

Readings for Sunday, March 5: Genesis 12:1-4a; 2 Timothy 1:8b-10; Matthew 17:1-9.



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>
27 Feb.	MON.	9:00 AM	Beverly Mazurkiewicz
28 Feb.	TUE.	9:00 AM	Dennis Bolonski
1 Mar.	WED.	9:00 AM	Ron & Carol Fry
2 Mar.	THU.	9:00 AM	Jack & Lori Carr
4 Mar.	SAT.	9:00 AM	Jack & Lori Carr
5 Mar.	SUN.	4:00 PM	Sally Bloodsworth McGeoghegan
		9:00 AM	Parishioners of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish
			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.



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 them.



We welcome PAUL and DAPHNE METZGER who recently joined St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish.

THE PARISH OFFICE will be closed from 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM on Friday, March 3.

MAGNIFICAT BOOKS - Those who purchased the Magnificat can pick up their MARCH issue at the Parish Office.

WOMEN'S SOCIETY MEETING on Thursday, March 2 at 6:30 PM in the Social Hall. Hostesses: Marie Hildebrand and Anna Baldasano.

Just a reminder: Now collecting dues of \$3.00. Can place in collection basket if you are unable to make the meeting. We are always looking for new members. Meetings are announced in the bulletin. We hope to see some new faces at the March Meeting. Please consider joining us.

LOST WEEK

Collections ©PPC *thank you*

DEPOSIT FOR FEBRUARY 19, 2023. \$3,797
2022-2023 Year to Date Collections. \$146,823
2021-2022 Year to Date Collections. \$142,008

SECOND COLLECTION next weekend, March 4 and 5, will be the Gold 50/50 envelope to support Religious Education.

2022 CHURCH CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS - Requests can be made by email at contact@sgsm62.org or by phone at 610-326-5127. Statements are available for registered parishioners (those who receive and use their church envelopes).

MASS ATTENDANCE for February 18/19:

4:00 PM Mass - 149
9:00 AM Mass - 97
Total Attendance - 246



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

February 13 - #766 - unsold
February 14 - #928 - unsold
February 15 - #567 - unsold
February 16 - #772 - unsold
February 17 - #084 - unsold
February 18 - #660 - unsold
February 19 - #974 - unsold



THE CATHOLIC CHARITIES

APPEAL: 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. To make your donation, visit www.catholiccharitiesappeal.org or use the envelope mailed to your home.

"ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK"

DRY TECH WATERPROOFING SOLUTIONS

1-888-5DRY-TECH



AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVES

on March 6 and 20 from 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM in the social hall. Please call 1-800-RED-CROSS to make an appointment.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE - March 4/5

4:00 PM Mass

Lector - Nester

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

Altar Server - Holmes

Greeter - Scheidt

9:00 AM Mass

Lector - Boyer

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

Altar Server - Griffin & Donnelly

Greeter - Neiman

The Corner

What strikes us about today's Gospel is this: the devil knows Scripture! But Jesus is not fooled by the taunts and promises, and isn't goaded into "proving" His divinity to the devil. Jesus quotes the Old Testament right back to him with every temptation the devil proposes, and tells him ***"Get away, Satan!"*** Let's aspire to know Scripture as well as the devil does.

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



Corn Hole Tournament and Pizza on Saturday, March 11 after the 4:00 PM Mass. Get your teams and boards ready and let the fun begin. 2 players per team, double elimination. Child or adult teams. This is a non-professional tournament but

we will have prizes. Come as a spectator to cheer on your team and have some pizza. Sign-up sheets for teams and spectators in the church lobby. This is a special Lenten event, free of charge sponsored by St. Gabriel Women's Society. Please call if you have boards we can borrow (Lori @ 610-326-6030 or Melanie @ 267-688-6063).

VOCATION PRAYER

God our Father,
in Your plan for our salvation
You provide shepherds for Your
people. Fill Your Church in the
Archdiocese of Philadelphia,
especially St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish,
with the Spirit of courage and love.
Raise up from our families future
priests: worthy ministers for Your
altars, generous and ardent
servants of the Gospel.
We ask this through
Christ our Lord. Amen.

ST. GABRIEL OF THE SORROWFUL MOTHER PARISH MEMORIAL FUND DONATIONS received in memory of:

DORIS SMITH from Kay & Kathy Stoudt, Anne Chizauskie,
Jack & Lori Carr;

SARA "SISSY" FRITZ from Ron & Carol Fry;

HELEN G. LEFLAR from Tony & Theresa Vitacco.

IMPORTANT CEMETERY INFORMATION

St. Aloysius and Holy Trinity Cemeteries will begin the Spring/Lenten Clean up process on Monday, March 6. If there are items currently on your loved one's grave site that you would like to save, we ask that you kindly remove the items by Sunday, March 5. Everything remaining will be removed on Monday, March 6 by our cemetery crew and disposed of. Thank you.

A LENTEN RETREAT with Fr. Isaac Haywiser, OSB- THE WOUNDS OF CHRIST: The Source of our Healing and the Joy of our Salvation on Sunday, March 5 from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM at St. Thomas More Parish, Pottstown. Meditation, Eucharistic Adoration, Confession, Evening Prayer and Benediction. In the midst of our lives, we know that there are many times we experience pain and suffering. Christ comes to heal us and offer us salvation.

WOMEN'S LENTEN RETREAT - Silence Yourself to Hear God's Word on Saturday, March 11 from 9:00 AM to Noon at St. Teresa of Calcutta Church, Schwenksville. Guest speaker - Fr. John Pidgeon. 9:00 AM Mass, Light continental breakfast, Guest speaker, Q&A session, Rosary, Confession will be available. RSVP by March 6 to stcwings.retreat@gmail.com. Include your name and phone number. Cash donations will be accepted for the Missionary Sisters of Charity. Retreat hosted by WINGS (Women in God's Spirit).

JOB OPENINGS AT ST. MARY OF PROVIDENCE CENTER, Elverson:

FULL-CHARGE BOOKKEEPER with QuickBooks experience for about four hours per week. Can start immediately. PART-TIME (20 hours per week) GROUNDS & MAINTENANCE TEAM MEMBER.

Please contact 610-942-4166 or send resume or message to providence@stmaryprov.org.



15TH ANNUAL MAN UP PHILLY MEN'S SPIRITUALITY CONFERENCE on

Saturday, March 4. *"The Road to Emmaus - Finding Christ in the Breaking of the Bread."* Held at Cardinal O'Hara High School. Speakers: Timothy Cardinal Dolan, Jim Wahlberg, Deacon James Mahoney and Mark Houck. Mark Forrest will lead our Eucharist Adoration. Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available and the Conference concludes with Mass celebrated by Archbishop Nelson Pérez. For more information and to register visit www.manupphilly.com.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD - A Place to Heal From Abortion on March 3-5 at IHM Spirituality Center, Malvern. Rachel's Vineyard Retreats bring healing and God's forgiveness to the trauma and darkness of abortion for those who think they have committed the unforgivable sin. To register or questions, call Susan (610-716-4795) or Georgeann (484-955-4278).



Sometimes I falter at first. Call it a natural nervousness. It sometimes leads to my giving up or others giving up on me. There was the golf team try-out in high school. It's not that I couldn't play golf. I had been playing since early grade school, but I never had to "try-out." I never had to "prove" myself before others, so I was nervous to say the least. A kid with whom I went through grade school, also tried-out. Tusky was even shorter than I was, but was much taller in his confidence. He also belonged to the local country club, whereas I didn't. I'm sure that helped. Tusky made the team. I did not. I think that my father was more dejected than I was. I felt a certain sense of relief. At least I wouldn't have to try to "outperform" Tusky on the course each week. Some of us, perhaps, just need a chance to grow comfortable and grow in confidence. My grand Spelling Bee foray in grade school is another example. Tusky never even made



that team. Unfortunately, being nervous on stage and in front of an audience, I tripped over the very first word and was disqualified. My father hadn't even gotten into the school auditorium yet after parking the car. Wondering why I didn't seem to be participating, my mother finally had to explain to my incredulous father. *What?!? He's out already?!?* It's not like I couldn't spell. The seminary is another story of "faltering." Obviously, I wasn't "disqualified." However, I did need

a good bit of time to accept being accepted. My rather patient spiritual director very much seemed to understand - but my pastor, at the time, not so much. I guess he was more of a *just-do-it* type of guy. Nevertheless, he told me to simply keep the cassocks and breviary that he had presented to me quite confident that I would indeed soon enough be making use of them.

There are some folks who simply exude confidence. They appear readily comfortable in just about any situation. I'm not among them. The reality is that over-confidence can be a fault, too, just as its lack can be.

We see this among all those that the Lord has chosen. We see this among the Twelve. Jesus knows us better than we know ourselves.



Sometimes it's a matter of being humbled with proud Peter or at other times, ever encouraged with the youthful John. Lent is a time of having confidence tempered as suits our individual needs. It is a time to overcome that which we lack in order to join and become part of a team. The Coach wants each one of us, because He knows already, that each one of us have something of great value to contribute leading in the end to that one putt "gimme" on the green and a Championship won come Easter Sunday morning!

Peace!

Fr. Wilson