

## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT 28 FEBRUARY 2021

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

Abraham offers the ultimate sacrifice of thanksgiving, the gift of his very son. This sacrifice prefigures the sacrifice of Jesus who died for us all. In his transfiguration, Jesus discloses a suffering messiahship.

**Readings for Sunday, March 7:** Exodus 20:1-17; 1 Corinthians 1:22-25; John 2:13-25.

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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>
2 Mar.	TUE. 9:00 AM	Joan L. Polischek	Tony Vitacco
3 Mar.	WED. 9:00 AM	Gormley, Yeager, Campbell & McQue Families	
4 Mar.	THU. 9:00 AM	Marcella Maxwell	Maria Boyer & family
5 Mar.	FRI. 9:00 AM	Rev. Thomas J. Furey	Ron & Carol Fry
6 Mar.	SAT. 4:00 PM	People of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
7 Mar.	SUN. 9:00 AM	Those Enrolled in St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish Memorial Fund	

**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.  
**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)).

The Parish Office will be closed Wednesday, March 3 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

**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

Happy Feast Day! We entrust ourselves this weekend to our patron, St. Gabriel, and ask his intercession for all of us to keep us safe from harm and help us grow in holiness.

A couple weeks ago, we received a phone call from the American Red Cross about hosting a blood drive at the parish. Over the past year, they've faced challenges scheduling blood drives. Many of their usual facilities are not compatible with the sanitation and distancing protocols now in place. I offered them the social hall if they wanted it. A representative toured the room to assess the logistics, and I'm proud to say she really liked the space and even said it was one of the more ideal spaces they've seen recently. (I think it was the elevator that clinched it.)

Mark your calendars; we will be hosting several blood drives here in the coming months. So far they are scheduled for April 19 and May 13-14. More information will follow if you'd like to sign up. We will need to rearrange the tables and chairs in the social hall to accommodate their needs, so, expect that we might be asking for some volunteers to help with that at some point in April. (I may regret saying that as you now all have over a month to come up with excuses as to why you can't lend a hand....)

Last week I mentioned that our parish has purchased a subscription to Formed.org and gave some basic sign-up information. I'm very edified to see that we had around 20 people register. One, that shows that people are looking for ways to learn more about their faith and helps validate the investment we made in that platform. Two, it means there are people who actually do read this column! If you would like more information, check out our website.

In the past few months, we've done quite a bit with technology to help us better serve you. We've implemented the Flocknote e-mail system, we've upgraded our website, and we added Formed. There is one more project in the works. We are in the process of installing the needed technology so we can livestream our celebration of Mass. I'm hoping that by the time you read this, some of the installation will have started already, and we may be ready to go live in a couple weeks.

The goal in adding this technology is for us to be able to reach those who want to be here but are unable. We have many parishioners who have not seen the inside of their church building in nearly a year because of the pandemic. We also have many parishioners who are unable to be present because of ill health or mobility issues. This technology will allow them to feel more of a connection to the parish, even if it is only virtual. It will also be beneficial for special celebrations like funerals and First Communion so more distant friends and family can still take part in some way in the celebration. I'm really excited that we can start to offer this and can't wait to have more information to give you on what it will look like.

One final note for this week. Earlier this week I took a look at the donation box for the homeless outreach and was stunned to see how much was already dropped off. Our PREP students also amazed Mrs. Boyer and me with all the quarters they brought in. Wow! Wonderful generosity! Keep up the great work, everyone!

Fr. Steven W. Kiernan

*Parish Support*

WEEKLY BUDGET.....	\$5,000
DEPOSIT FOR FEBRUARY 21, 2021.....	\$4,014
Regular Sunday Collection -	\$2,982
Parish Giving -	\$160
Ash Wednesday Collection -	\$872
WEEKLY DEFICIT.....	(\$986)
Year to Date Budget.....	\$170,000
Year to Date Collections.....	\$145,066
Average per week Collection	\$4,267
Year to Date Deficit.....	(\$24,934)
Average per week Deficit	(\$733)
 <i>FEBRUARY 23, 2020</i>	
Deposit.....	\$4,476
2019-2020 Deficit to Date.....	(\$19,599)
Difference from previous year.....	(\$5,335)



**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.**

**LOTTERY RAFFLE TICKET WINNERS**

- February 15 - #160 - unsold
- February 16 - #036 - unsold
- February 17 - #064 - unsold
- February 18 - #100 - unsold
- February 19 - #062 - unsold
- February 20 - #941 - unsold
- February 21 - #005 - Naomi Hersh - \$100.00

**SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND**, March 6 and 7, will be the March 50/50 Gold Envelope Collection to support Religious Education.

**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"**

**CATAGNUS FUNERAL HOME**  
610-323-4440

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

- EVELYN SEGNERE from Patrick & Charlotte Segner, Betty Skokowski;
- DAVID GUADAGNO from Mary Lenhardt.

**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.

**MAN UP PHILLY** 2021 Virtual Conference on Saturday, March 6. The virtual conference will be available via a webcast and tickets are available for a reduced cost of \$10. All men are encouraged to join this inspiring day of faith and fellowship. Visit [www.MANUPPHILLY.com](http://www.MANUPPHILLY.com) for more information or to register.

**MASS ATTENDANCE for February 20/21:**

- 4:00 PM Mass - 80
- 9:00 AM Mass - 96
- Total Attendance - 176

## READINGS FOR SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28

### First Reading - Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18

God put Abraham to the test. He called to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am" he replied. Then God said: "Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him up as a holocaust on a height that I will point out to you." When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. Then he reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the LORD's messenger called to him from heaven. "Abraham, Abraham!" "Here I am!" he answered. "Do not lay your hand on the boy," said the messenger. "Do not do the least thing to him. I know now how devoted you are to God, since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son." As Abraham looked about, he spied a ram caught by its horns in the thicket. So he went and took the ram and offered it up as a holocaust in place of his son. Again the LORD's messenger called to Abraham from heaven and said: "I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you acted as you did in not withholding from me your beloved son, I will bless you abundantly and make your descendants as countless as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore; your descendants shall take possession of the gates of their enemies, and in your descendants all the nations of the earth shall find blessing – all this because you obeyed my command."

### Responsorial Psalm

℟ I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

- ▶ I believed, even when I said, "I am greatly afflicted." Precious in the eyes of the LORD is the death of his faithful ones. ℟
- ▶ O LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant, the son of your handmaid; you have loosed my bonds. To you will I offer sacrifice of thanksgiving, and I will call upon the name of the LORD. ℟
- ▶ My vows to the LORD I will pay in the presence of all his people, in the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem. ℟

### Second Reading - Romans 8:31b-34

Brothers and sisters: If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him? Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us. Who will condemn? Christ Jesus it is who died – or, rather, was raised – who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

### Gospel - Mark 9:2-10

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them. As they were coming down from the mountain, he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant.