

# FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## 7 FEBRUARY 2021

**Readings for Sunday, February 7:** Job 7:1-4, 6-7; 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23; Mark 1:29-39.

Job's cry of hopelessness stands in marked contrast to the hope of those who put their trust in Jesus, who "heals the broken hearted and binds up their wounds." Such are the blessings of the good news.

**Readings for Sunday, February 14:** Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46; 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1; Mark 1:40-45.

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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 4:00 PM in the Church.**

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### MASSES FOR THE WEEK

<u>Date</u>		<u>Intention</u>	<u>Requested By</u>
9 Feb.	TUE. 9:00 AM	Daniel & Katherine Lubreski	Tony Vitacco
10 Feb.	WED. 9:00 AM	Sr. Carolyn OSF	Tony & Theresa Vitacco
11 Feb.	THU. 9:00 AM	Nicholas Falcone, Jr.	Jack & Lori Carr
12 Feb.	FRI. 9:00 AM	Walter & Ruth Catalinas	Tony Vitacco
13 Feb.	SAT. 4:00 PM	People of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
14 Feb.	SUN. 9:00 AM	Pauline Harbach	Husband, Joe

**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)).

**2021 MASS BOOK** - Requests for Masses to be offered on a specific day for January to June 2021 are now being accepted. There are only weekday Masses still available. Mass stipend is \$10.00. Please call the parish office to schedule Masses.

**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.

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

## ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

As I'm writing this, snow has been falling for quite some time, and it's really piling up. The decision was made late Monday to move the 9am Tuesday Mass to 4pm, hoping some people might be able to dig out and attend by that point. Communicating the change was a challenge, but a few phone calls to the "regulars" and an e-mail blast hopefully got the message out to as many people as possible. Fortunately, we are a smaller community, so it didn't take a ton of effort. I know of some parishes that have had to outright cancel Masses recently because the priests were exposed to Covid. Some of these changes happened at the last minute. Getting the word out about that must have been even more difficult, and I wouldn't be surprised if people showed up on a Sunday expecting there to be Mass and had to go home disappointed or find another parish.

Emergency schedules and cancellations like this require quick communication so I'll make another plug to ask for everyone to sign up for Flocknote. Information on how to sign up is on our website ([stgabrielstowepa.org](http://stgabrielstowepa.org)). The system allows us to reach you quickly by e-mail and/or text message. You don't need to be a parishioner to sign up; if you're reading this, then you have enough of a connection to the parish that you should sign up to keep informed!

We are a week and a half away from the start of Lent! Ash Wednesday is going to look a little different this year. More information on that next week. There is an insert in the bulletin this week that gives an overview of some opportunities in the parish to help in your observance of Lent. A few highlights:

- We are extending Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 7:00 pm on Wednesdays. We still need people to sign up to pray in church, so please call the office if you can help out.
- There are two additional opportunities for Confession each week: Wednesdays at 6:00 pm and Sundays at 8:00 am.
- Stations of the Cross will be prayed on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 and Friday afternoons at 1:00. Hopefully you can join us.
- We are engaging in a parish-wide outreach to help the local homeless community. A group of local churches runs a program that provides shelter for the homeless during the winter months. As a parish, we are looking to collect some basic essentials for their benefit: toiletries, socks, undergarments, gloves, hats, etc. Our PREP students will be joining in by assembling laundry kits – and having a little inter-class competition as they do. More info to follow.

To help you in your Lenten journey, we are making available some Lenten devotional books. We have some copies of both *The Word Among Us* and the *Magnificat* Lenten books. Both provide you with daily readings and a brief reflection point for each day. We will have them in the back of the church next weekend. The parish has purchased these for your benefit; please take one. At the same time, we do not have an unlimited supply, so please only take one if you're actually going to use it, and please limit yourself to one book or another so we can ensure everyone has a chance to get them. (Donations to help pay for the books are, of course, welcome but not necessary.)

I mentioned a couple weeks ago that the parish was getting a subscription to Formed.org. That's been set up, and we got a nice discount for the first year to boot! There is no cost to you to have access to all the material they offer. For more information on Formed, including how to sign up, please check out our website and look to future bulletins.

Fr. Steven W. Kiernan

*Parish Support*

WEEKLY BUDGET.....	\$5,000
DEPOSIT FOR JANUARY 31, 2021.....	\$4,061
Regular Sunday Collection -	\$2,914
Parish Giving -	\$110
Fuel Collection -	\$1,037
WEEKLY DEFICIT.....	(\$939)
Year to Date Budget.....	\$155,000
Year to Date Collections.....	\$132,959
Average per week Collection	\$4,289
Year to Date Deficit.....	(\$22,041)
Average per week Deficit	(\$711)
 <i>FEBRUARY 2, 2020</i>	
Deposit.....	\$5,617
2019-2020 Deficit to Date.....	(\$16,336)
Difference from previous year.....	(\$5,705)

**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 available by January 31, 2021.

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

THOMAS MARCHESKIE from M/M Tom Palladino, Ron & Kathy Bernhard, Jim & Helyne Mich, Barbara & Daniel Shinskie, Cliff & Barb Keller, Maria, Steve & Tyler Boyer, Mark & Lisa Shaffer, Chris, Gene & Domenic Gerasimowicz and Lucy D’Emilio, Pete & Lori LaRosa, Anna & John Nester;  
LUBA GERASIMOWICZ from Kathy & Ron Bernhard, Maria, Steve & Tyler Boyer;  
SANDRA BACZOR from Maria, Steve & Tyler Boyer;  
VINCENT P. (PRINCE) LOMBARDI from John & Donna Roncase.

**MASS ATTENDANCE for January 30/31:**

4:00 PM Mass - 80  
 9:00 AM Mass - 82  
 Total Attendance - 162

**“ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK”**

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

**LOTTERY RAFFLE TICKET WINNERS**

January 25 - #283 - unsold  
 January 26 - #509 - Bonnie Stankunas - \$50.00  
 January 27 - #490 - unsold  
 January 28 - #161 - unsold  
 January 29 - #792 - unsold  
 January 30 - #950 - unsold  
 January 31 - #877 - unsold  
 JANUARY FIGURES: 225 tickets sold - \$1,125.00.  
 Payout to winners - \$450.00. Cost of tickets - \$100.00. Profit for January - \$575.00. Thank you to everyone for your support!

**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 7

### First Reading - Job 7:1-4, 6-7

Job spoke saying: Is not man's life on earth a drudgery? Are not his days those of hirelings? He is a slave who longs for the shade, a hireling who waits for his wages. So I have been assigned months of misery, and troubled nights have been allotted to me. If in bed I say, "When shall I arise?" then the night drags on; I am filled with restlessness until the dawn. My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle; they come to an end without hope. Remember that my life is like the wind; I shall not see happiness again.

### Responsorial Psalm

℟ Praise the Lord, who heals the broken hearted.

▶ Praise the LORD, for he is good; sing praise to our God, for he is gracious; it is fitting to praise him. The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem; the dispersed of Israel he gathers. ℟

▶ He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. He tells the number of the stars; he calls each by name. ℟

▶ Great is our Lord and mighty in power; to his wisdom there is no limit. The LORD sustains the lowly; the wicked he casts to the ground. ℟

### Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23

Brothers and sisters: I preach the gospel, this is no reason for me to boast, for an obligation has been imposed on me, and woe to me if I do not preach it! If I do so willingly, I have recompense, but if unwillingly, then I have been entrusted with a stewardship. What then is my recompense? That, when I preach, I offer the gospel free of charge so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel. Although I am free in regard to all, I have made myself a slave to all so as to win over as many as possible. To the weak I became weak, to win over the weak. I have become all things to all, to save at least some. All this I do for the sake of the gospel, so that I too may have a share in it.

### Gospel - Mark 1:29-39

On leaving the synagogue Jesus entered the house of Simon and Andrew with James and John. Simon's mother-in-law lay sick with a fever. They immediately told him about her. He approached, grasped her hand, and helped her up. Then the fever left her and she waited on them. When it was evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by demons. The whole town was gathered at the door. He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons, not permitting them to speak because they knew him. Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed. Simon and those who were with him pursued him and on finding him said, "Everyone is looking for you." He told them, "Let us go to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come." So he went into their synagogues, preaching and driving out demons throughout the whole of Galilee.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

*"The priesthood is the love of the heart of Jesus.  
When you see a priest, think of Our Lord Jesus Christ."  
Saint John Vianney, Patron Saint of Priests*

We are humbled when we recall the men who offered their lives in service as priests of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Through lives of pastoral service and sacramental ministry, our priests have mediated God's presence, and His kindness to us and our world. In parish communities, schools, and institutions, our priests have served so that we might experience the enduring kindness of our loving God.

Today, one third of our priests are retired. Many priests continue to assist parishes with their pastoral ministry. Others, due to advanced age and declining health have been compelled to withdraw from active ministry. These priests continue to minister through many hours of prayer, interceding for you the people of God that they have faithfully served over many years. Many of our priests reside at Villa Saint Joseph, Darby, and Regina Coeli, Warminster, where they continue to exemplify a message of hope to all by their dedicated lives of prayer and sacrifice offered for the people of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. These priests now require care themselves. Your prayerful and financial support is needed at this time of their life.

The **annual Collection for the Care of Aging and Infirm Priests** of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia will be taken in all parishes on the weekend of February 13-14, 2021. This collection is an opportunity for the faithful to express their gratitude for the many blessings received through the ministry of priests.

Your kindness will be remembered daily in their prayers. I ask that you continue to remember our retired priests in yours. May God bless you and may your loved ones know the blessing of God's presence and the abundance of His grace today and always. Thank you for your generous response to this annual appeal.

Sincerely in Christ,

**+Most Reverend Nelson J. Pérez, D.D.**

Most Reverend Nelson J. Pérez, D.D.  
Archbishop of Philadelphia

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL** - This weekend marks the kick-off of the 2021 Catholic Charities Appeal. Please join us in supporting the Appeal as it continues to impact those in need all over the Greater Philadelphia Area. A mailing has been sent to your homes with information for donating to the Appeal. You can also visit [www.catholiccharitiesappeal.org](http://www.catholiccharitiesappeal.org) to make your donation.