

## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT 16 MARCH 2025

**Readings for Sunday, March 16:** Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18; Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 9:28b-36.

Abram's faith is sealed with a covenant initiated by God, our light and our salvation. The transfiguration of Jesus prefigures the transformation in glory to which we are called by our sharing in the paschal mystery – the dying and rising of Jesus.

**Readings for Sunday, March 23:** Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15; 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12; Luke 13:1-9.



**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>	
17 Mar.	MON.	9:00 AM	Betty Lou Brown	Ron & Carol Fry
18 Mar.	TUE.	9:00 AM	Domenica Maria Graziani	St. Gabriel Women's Society
19 Mar.	WED.	9:00 AM	Yvonne Stamm	Tony & Theresa Vitacco
20 Mar.	THU.	9:00 AM	Marie Labik	Tony & Theresa Vitacco
22 Mar.	SAT.	4:00 PM	Frances Georgine Grutza	Claude & Angela Shelton
23 Mar.	SUN.	9:00 AM	Parishioners of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	



**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.

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** on Tuesday, March 18 at 6:30 PM in the PREP Building.



**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 join in these Marian Devotions.

**2025 MASS BOOK** - Requests for Masses to be offered in 2025 can be made at the Parish Office. Only weekday Masses are still available.

LOST WEEK

# Collections ©JPPC *thank you*

**DEPOSIT FOR MARCH 9, 2025**..... \$4,933  
2024-2025 Year to Date Collections..... \$160,225

## **WINNER OF THE GOLD 50/50 ENVELOPE DRAWING to support Religious Education:**

MARCH DRAWING - Jamelle Foster - \$308.00.

### **THE CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL**



The Catholic Charities Appeal's 2025 overall goal of \$10 million is vital to the efforts of the human service programs in the five-county Philadelphia area. The appeal funds hundreds of beneficiary organizations that serve thousands. Contributing to our parish's individual goal of \$20,000 allows you to be an active part of the success of this year's appeal. Thank you to those who have given and to those who have not yet, prayerfully consider how you can help by supporting the 2025 Catholic Charities Appeal. Know that your gift is transformed into hope, giving food to the hungry, shelter to the homeless, and shining a light in the darkness for millions of lives. 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@sgsm62.org](mailto:mboyer@sgsm62.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.**

### **LOTTERY RAFFLE TICKET WINNERS**

- March 1 - #387 - unsold
- March 2 - #663 - unsold
- March 3 - #091 - unsold
- March 4 - #437 - unsold
- March 5 - #816 - unsold
- March 6 - #152 - unsold
- March 7 - #136 - unsold
- March 8 - #173 - Lori Carr - \$50.00
- March 9 - #537 - unsold

### **MASS ATTENDANCE for March 8/9:**

- 4:00 PM Mass - 157
- 9:00 AM Mass - 131
- Total Attendance - 288

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

### **"ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK"**

**ST. GABRIEL LODGE**  
610-326-4137



**AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE** on March 17 from 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM in the social hall. Save lives and empower your health! In March, the Red Cross will perform A1C testing on successful donations. Give March 1-31 and get a \$10 Amazon.com gift card by email. See [rcblood.org/March](http://rcblood.org/March) for details. Call 1-800-RED CROSS or visit [www.RedCross.org](http://www.RedCross.org) to donate blood.

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE - MARCH 22/23

4:00 PM Mass

Lector - Nester

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

Altar Server - Pomponio

Greeter - Bell

9:00 AM Mass

Lector - Iannozzi

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

Altar Servers - Francis & Griffin

Greeter - Neiman

## WOMEN'S SOCIETY NEWS

**Santina Kitchen Gift Certificates** continue to be sold. Pick them up at the Parish Office for \$15.00 each. You can also call Lori (610-326-6030) to order them. Leave a message stating which Mass you will be at - pick up after that Mass. Please have correct amount of \$15.00. **ATTENTION: Certificates are only good at Santina's Kitchen. They are no longer valid at Douglassville Café.**

**ATTENTION:** For all Women's Society members who have not paid their 2025 Dues, please submit \$3.00 if interested in remaining a member. Please place your dues in an envelope and drop it in Collection Basket.

## LENTEN PARISH OUTREACH

Ash Wednesday March 5, through Palm Sunday April 13

Parish-Wide outreach program to help **Birthright of Pottstown**



Right now, they need donations of the following:

- Diapers: Sizes Newborn, 2 and 3
- Baby Wipes
- Baby Clothes (new or gently used – sizes 0-18 months)
- Hooded Towels and Washcloths
- Winter coats/snowsuits (sizes 0-18 months)
- Infant footed pajamas (sizes 0-3 months)
- Maternity leggings
- Sanitary pads
- Pregnancy Books
- Bottles

A Collection Box is in the vestibule of the church for donations.

We will deliver the donations weekly.

**PREP Challenge** – students are collecting coins weekly to donate to a family in need and the winning class will receive a prize!

**Let's come together as a parish and make a big difference in our community through this important work of mercy this Lent.**



## FAST & ABSTINENCE

### DURING LENT

The Bishops of the United States prescribe, as minimal obligation, that all persons who are 14 years of age and older are bound to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all the Fridays of Lent. Further, all persons 18 years of age and older, up to and including their 59<sup>th</sup> birthday, are bound to fast by limiting themselves to a single full meal on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, while the other two meals on those days are to be light.

### ACTS OF PENANCE FOR LENT

All the faithful are encouraged, when possible, to participate at Mass and to receive the Holy Eucharist daily, to celebrate frequently the Sacrament of Penance, to undertake spiritual reading, especially the study of the Sacred Scripture, and to participate in parish Lenten Devotions. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is especially recommended.

### OPERATION RICE BOWL

All are encouraged to participate in Operation Rice Bowl which has aided countless hungry persons here in the Archdiocese as well as throughout our nation and our world. Operation Rice Bowls are available at the entrances to Church.



## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

### DURING LENT

Wednesdays at 1:00 PM.

Fridays at 5:00 PM.

### CONFESSIONS DURING LENT

Wednesdays at 12:30 PM.

Saturdays from 3:00 PM to 3:45 PM.



St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish is on a journey to know, love, and serve Christ better and thrive! **WE WANT TO HEAR FROM OUR PARISHIONERS! Complete the Disciple Maker Index (DMI) survey**

**beginning on Ash Wednesday, March 5.** The survey assesses our unique strengths and opportunities. Share your perspective now to help strengthen St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish and better prepare us for the future! For the Disciple Maker Index (DMI) survey link, visit <https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/x8akyx>. For those who cannot access the link, paper surveys are available in Church. Paper forms are to be returned to Maria Boyer, DRE. Deadline to submit on-line or paper forms is Sunday, April 13. Please continue to pray for this intention and for the growth and protection of our parish.

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

## The Corner



On Wednesday we observe the Solemnity of St Joseph, Spouse of The Blessed Virgin Mary. Let us all strive to be as obedient and trust in God as he did. **“When St Joseph was told by the angel to flee into Egypt with Jesus and Mary, he did not worry about a dwelling-place, but set off at once as he was told.”**

---Blessed Anne Catherine Emmerich



**MISSIONARY HUB PLANNING PROCESS:** The Archdiocesan Strategy Office and Catholic Leadership Institute released videos to answer questions about the Missionary Hub Planning Process, which was announced earlier this year through Archbishop Perez’ Pastoral Letter. To read the letter visit [www.trustandhope.org](http://www.trustandhope.org). Topics of the videos are:  
 What is a Missionary Hub?  
 What is a Parish Life Director?  
 What goes into a Parish?  
 Parish Planning Approaches.  
 Aren’t a Parish and the Church the same?  
 To access the video go to [vimeo.com/luxlabproduc](https://vimeo.com/luxlabproduc)

**HOMEMADE HALUSKY AND FROZEN PIEROGI SALE**  
 Sponsored by the Women’ Society

**Saturday, April 5**

**Note Pick-up Times!**

- #1 - Saturday, April 5 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
- #2 - Saturday, April 5 after 4:00 PM Mass

**Please circle pick-up time.**  
 Pick-up in Church Social Hall

1 Quart of Halusky - \$8.00  
 How many \_\_\_\_\_ \$ Total \_\_\_\_\_

1 Dozen Frozen Pierogi - \$10.00  
 How many \_\_\_\_\_ \$Total \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$Amount of Order \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

**Orders and payment due by March 21.**  
**Check payable to St. Gabriel Women’s Society.**



The Jubilee Year 2025 offers pilgrims in their own local area opportunities for reconciliation, indulgences, and prayerful opportunities to receive the sacraments, strengthen their relationship with Jesus, and enrich their lifelong faith journey. One way to observe the Jubilee Year is by pilgrimages. Several Shrines within the Archdiocese are places to obtain the Jubilee indulgences. Visit [www.archphila.org/hollyear](http://www.archphila.org/hollyear) for more information.

**ALL YOU CAN EAT BREAKFAST** sponsored by the Pottstown-Stowe Lions Club on Sunday, March 30 from 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM at the Goodwill Fire Co., Pottstown. \$10 - Adults; \$8 - Seniors, Veterans, 1<sup>st</sup> Responders; \$6 - Children age 4-11; Free - Children under age 4. Pancakes, Sausage, Scrambled Eggs, Juice, Milk and Coffee.

**SAINT ALOYSIUS PARISH TRIVIA NIGHT**

**ALL DECKED OUT!**  
TRIVIA THROUGH THE  
**DECADES**

**SATURDAY MARCH 22 2025**

**WIN PRIZES!**

Trivia begins at 7:00 PM  
Saint Aloysius parish school gym  
844 N. Keim Street, Pottstown

**DOORS OPEN AT 6PM**

**\$25/PERSON**  
TEAMS OF 4-10 PEOPLE  
MUST BE 21 AND OVER TO PLAY

MORE INFO [WWW.SAINTALOYSIUS.NET](http://WWW.SAINTALOYSIUS.NET)  
EMAIL - [REMICK@SAINTALOYSIUS.NET](mailto:REMICK@SAINTALOYSIUS.NET)

Pick a decade 50's, 60's, 70's, 80's  
50/50 Dress your best! Raffle Baskets

Trivia Registration Form available at [www.saintaloyusius.net](http://www.saintaloyusius.net)

Accepted forms of payment: Checks payable to Saint Aloysius, cash or VENMO @SaintAloysius-SchoolPottstown

You may bring your own food and drinks.  
Alcohol is permitted.

**EVENTS AT NATIONAL CENTRE FOR PADRE PIO, BARTO**

**Another Patrick: Lenten Day of Recollection** on Monday, March 17 from 9:30 AM to 3:15 PM. Celebrate another Patrick as we learn of the remarkable true-life story of Venerable Patrick Peyton. There is no cost to attend however it is a ticketed event. Register at [www.padrepio.org](http://www.padrepio.org) by clicking the event calendar for March 17. Bring your own lunch or pre-order and pre-pay \$20.00 for a boxed lunch when registering for our ticket on-line. Deadline to order lunch is March 10.

**Respect Life Day of Prayer with Sister Diedre Byrne, P.O.S.C.** on Saturday, March 29. Join us for a day of prayer and reflection as we view Sister Diedre's documentary film on Euthanasia. No cost to attend however it is a ticketed event. Register at [www.padrepio.org](http://www.padrepio.org) by clicking on the event calendar for March 29. Bring your own lunch or pre-order and pre-pay for a boxed lunch when registering on-line. Deadline to order lunch is March 22.

walking with purpose


**Women's Bible Study**  
Begins April 23. Just 6 weeks!

**ROOTED AND RADIANT:  
A STUDY OF COLOSSIANS**

Rooted and Radiant was written for any woman who wants to live her life grounded in Jesus Christ. In this Bible study, we learn the book of Colossians verse by verse. We will seek to understand the challenges that faced the Colossians, recognizing that they are remarkably similar to our own challenges today.

Two Sessions:  
Wednesdays 9:30-11 a.m.  
OR  
Wednesdays 7:00-8:30p.m

Cost: \$27  
For more info or to register: scan or contact  
Sophie Schneible,  
SSchneible@saintaloyusius.net  
610-326-5877 ext. 426



Adult Faith Formation Presents

**Triduum:**  
What is it all about?

HOLY THURSDAY GOOD FRIDAY HOLY SATURDAY  
EASTER SUNDAY

Triduum: A Spiritual Pilgrimage is a beautiful, 30 minute contemplative documentary. This film cinematically walks through the locations of the Holy Week story, re-presenting the most important days of human history.

Join us to view this beautiful video and learn how to help everyone in your family prayerfully enter into the most important liturgical days, both at home and in church.

**Thursday, April 10**  
7:00-8:30p.m.  
Lower Level of Gathering Center

Saint Aloysius Parish, 223 Beech St., Pottstown Contact Sophie Schneible for more Information: [SSchneible@saintaloyusius.net](mailto:SSchneible@saintaloyusius.net)

**RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT** on March 28-30 at IHM Spirituality Center, Malvern. Rachel's Vineyard Retreats provide a space for healing and God's forgiveness to those who feel burdened by the trauma and darkness of abortion. To register contact Susan (610-716-4795) for Georgeann (484-955-4278).

**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND** on March 28-30 at Daylesford Abbey, Paoli. Worldwide Marriage Encounter is an enrichment program for married couples. For more information contact Al & Mary Liz (610-449-1859).



There is a friend of mine that regularly attends Mass. Our birthdays are near one another, though I'll have to wait awhile before we might ever go out to share a celebratory drink at some local watering hole. My friend



is just a wee bit younger than me. In fact, although he will be celebrating his first birthday in June, he's already made quite the impression at church – especially with the ladies! Henry's quite the ladies' man alright! He's also quite the man of Faith...already! Often attending weekday Mass with his mother, he usually makes his presence known.



He's wont to pray out loud using words known but to him and God. However, no one complains at all and Father often finds himself suppressing a grin. Henry even often comes to adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Receiving a blessing from the Lord, Himself, is truly great. Receiving a big smile from Henry afterwards makes that Divine Blessing even more divine. Henry, along with his mother and



father, are setting a beautiful example for all of us. Perhaps, little Henry can help all of us set a tone for our Lenten Journey as well. First of all, it's never too early to sow Seeds of Faith (nor is it ever too late, by the way!) We might consider where we need to sow some Seeds this Lent. Maybe Seeds might need to be sown within as we participate in some of our Lenten activities or devotions here at Saint Al's or Saint Gabe's. Perhaps some Seeds need to be scattered among our family or friends. Little Henry at his young age is now already familiar with the sights, sounds, and even the smell of Mass – the singing and the music;



the different liturgical colors of altar and tapestries along with the vestments of both priest and deacon; then there's the smell of Benediction with the aromatic incense that wafts and billows through the air. It's rather interesting that even though some might get sleepy during Mass, young Henry is usually wide awake. I suppose that's because he's already familiar with the *Rhythm of the Mass*. There's a Lenten question that each one of us can ask ourselves. *Am*



*attuned to the Rhythm of the Mass such that my Faith is invigorated as by a beautiful song and I'm prepared to sing the Song of a Sower?* All of us this Lent should strive to go before Our Lord in all childlike innocence – much like Henry, looking forward to the greetings shining forth from all those familiar faces after Mass and in the end



looking forward to that True Celebratory Birthday Drink – the One had with Our Lord, Himself together with all the Saints! Here's to you, Henry! Cheers, my friend!

Peace!  
Fr. Wilson