

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

2 MARCH 2025

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

The fruit of our speech and actions will wither and die unless we first recognize the plank in our own eye. By humbly admitting our own sins, we can more fruitfully persevere in the work of the Lord.

Readings for Sunday, March 9: Deuteronomy 26:4-10; Romans 10:8-13; Luke 4:1-13.



**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>
3 Mar. MON. 9:00 AM	William J. Lennartz, Sr.	Dave & Linda O'Brien
4 Mar. TUE. 9:00 AM	Angelina DeMario	Jim & Anna Baldasano
5 Mar. WED. 9:00 AM	Paul Barr	St. Gabriel PREP Students & Staff
6 Mar. THU. 9:00 AM	Rita Bernas	Husband & Children
8 Mar. SAT. 4:00 PM	Parishioners of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
9 Mar. SUN. 9:00 AM	Stanley Salkowski	Wife, Cathy



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 ©IPPC thank you

DEPOSIT FOR FEBRUARY 16, 2025 \$3,950

2024-2025 Year to Date Collections. \$145,467

DEPOSIT FOR FEBRUARY 23, 2025 \$4,883

2024-2025 Year to Date Collections. \$150,350



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.**

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND, March 8 and 9 will be the Collection for the Church in Latin America.

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

FEBRUARY DRAWING - M/M Stephen Hersperger - \$280.00.

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

THE CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL

Consider a donation to help those most in need in the Philadelphia Area. 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. Envelopes for the Appeal are at the entrances to Church or you can use the envelope mailed to your homes.



LOTTERY RAFFLE TICKET WINNERS

- February 10 - #558 - unsold
- February 11 - #656 - unsold
- February 12 - #376 - unsold
- February 13 - #662 - unsold
- February 14 - #216 - James Zeigler - \$100.00
- February 15 - #940 - unsold
- February 16 - #523 - Maria Boyer - \$50.00
- February 17 - #336 - unsold
- February 18 - #285 - unsold
- February 19 - #157 - unsold
- February 20 - #953 - unsold
- February 21 - #684 - unsold
- February 22 - #530 - Bob Zomolsky - \$50.00
- February 23 - #862 - Elaine Norman - \$100.00

"ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK"

ON THE THIRD DAY

610-705-0130

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).

MASS ATTENDANCE for February 15/16:

4:00 PM Mass - 90
9:00 AM Mass - 132
Total Attendance - 222

MASS ATTENDANCE for February 22/23:

4:00 PM Mass - 147
9:00 AM Mass - 119
Total Attendance - 266

MINISTRY SCHEDULE - MARCH 8/9

4:00 PM Mass

Lector - Nester

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

Altar Server - Pomponio

Greeter - Wade

9:00 AM Mass

Lector - Iannozzi

Ministers of Holy Communion - Front, Deacon; Break, Boyer & C. Bucciaglia

Altar Servers - Miller & Griffin

Greeter - Carr

WOMEN'S SOCIETY NEWS

Women's Society Meeting on Thursday, March 6 at 6:30 PM in the Social Hall. Hostess - Marie Hildebrand.

Santina & Douglassville Café 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.



American Red Cross

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.



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 will be available in Church. Please continue to pray for this intention and for the growth and protection of our parish.



ASH WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5 - Mass at 9:00 AM at St. Gabriel Parish. Masses at 12 Noon and 7:00 PM at St. Aloysius Parish. Ashes will be distributed at all Masses.

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 59th 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 beginning March 12 at 1:00 PM.

Fridays beginning March 7 at 5:00 PM.

CONFESSIONS DURING LENT

Wednesdays beginning March 12 at 12:30 PM.

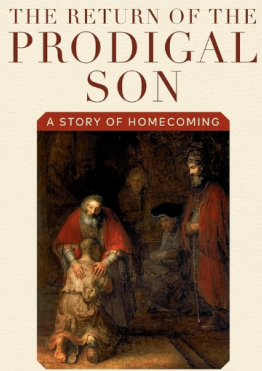
Saturdays from 3:00 PM to 3:45 PM.

MAGNIFICAT LENTEN COMPANION BOOKS are available at the Church entrances. There is no charge for the books. Feel free to take a copy home with you for Lenten Reflection.

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.

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.


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@saintaloyusius.net

2025 College Fair
At
Pope John Paul II High School

No Registration Required! Free!!



Open to the Public!
Bring a Friend!

Scan to see a list of Participating Colleges



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

SAINT ALOYSIUS PARISH TRIVIA NIGHT

ALL DECKED OUT!
TRIVIA THROUGH THE
DECADES

SATURDAY MARCH 22 2025

WIN PRIZES!

MORE INFO WWW.SAINTALOYSIUS.NET
EMAIL - 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

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.

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



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.

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

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

Spring Concert Choir presentation



SAINT ELEANOR CONCERT CHOIR

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

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, 1st Responders; \$6 - Children age 4-11; Free - Children under age 4. Pancakes, Sausage, Scrambled Eggs, Juice, Milk and Coffee.

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. 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.manuphillly.com.

The Corner



"The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God." --- 1 Corinthians 1:18

An Invitation from Archbishop Pérez

Learn more about a new way forward together for the Catholic Church of Philadelphia



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.

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

MAJOR EVENTS OF THE CANONIZATION JUBILEE CALENDAR

- Opens on March 3, 2025, the feast day of Saint Katharine Drexel
 - Solemn Novena at the Cathedral Basilica precedes the feast
- April 27, 2025 Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament Gala- 3:00 p.m.
- September 28, 2025 Concert and Social at the Cathedral Basilica- 3:00 p.m.
- October 5, 2025 Archdiocesan Celebration
 - Archbishop Perez, celebrant, 11:00 am Solemn Mass/ Cathedral Basilica
 - October 1, 2025, is the Twenty-fifth anniversary of canonization

For more information, please visit:
 • cathedralphila.org/drexel/ • katharinedrexel.org

The Cathedral Basilica is a Sacred Jubilee Site and provides the clergy and faithful the opportunity to obtain the gift of the Jubilee Indulgence.



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 for more information.

FIRST FRIDAY MASS WITH EUCHARISTIC ADORATION on Friday, March 7 at Our Lady of Grace Chapel at the National Centre for Padre Pio, Barto. Mass at 10:30 AM. Confessions available prior to Mass from 9:30 AM to 10:15 AM. Visit www.padrepio.org for more details or call 610-845-3000.

*A Message
From The
Pastor*

As I write this, Pope Francis remains in the hospital and people throughout the world are praying for him. One of the



things that I will always remember about Pope Francis, aside from his visit to Philadelphia in 2015, is a devotion that he introduced. Francis undertook some studies for a time in Germany. While there, he had an opportunity to visit Augsburg. In one of the churches, he encountered a painting of the Blessed Mother in which she was enveloped by a rope with knots in it. He learned of a local devotion bringing it to Argentina when he returned there and to the world's attention when he became Pope. The Blessed Mother as *Our Lady, Undoer of Knots*, can and certainly will intercede for us as we make effort to untie the various "knots" that we inevitably experience in our lives. There can be "knots" of anger or lust or impatience. One might have "spiritual knots" such as dryness in prayers or a listless Faith. Perhaps one's "knots" might



be a physical ailment of some sort. I actually had an opportunity myself to see that painting in Augsburg and the image has always stuck with me. All of us have our own



"knots" and Mary certainly can help us to untie them. A friend of mine also recently gave insight to undoing knots and helped me to untie one quite literally. A drawstring on a pair of sweatpants was so tightly knotted that I simply couldn't undo it. I tried and I tried, but the darn thing wouldn't give. Without the drawstring, my old, comfy sweats would be useless to me since they would fall to the floor from around my waist. My friend told me to try a hammer. *Huh?* He said that he had seen some *YouTube* short or *Tik-Toc* video where impossible knots could be "tamed"

and made manageable by giving them a pounding with a hammer. *Are you serious?* He said that he, himself, had never tried it, but hey, it couldn't hurt. It might even work. I set my knotted sweats on the floor and gave a little pounding with my old, trusty hammer. Well,



guess what! *Voila!* It does indeed work! The slight tapping of a hammer loosened the tightly wound knot and enabled me to undo it! This had me thinking that this might be a very good tip for our upcoming Season of Lent. Next time that I'm in Augsburg, I'll have to take a closer look at that painting of *Our Lady, Undoer of Knots*. I'll have to see if she's wielding a hammer! Although we may not see it in her hands, there is a hammer that Our Lady bears. It is actually the Hammer of her Son – the Hammer of the Cross. It is this Hammer that ultimately loosens all "knots" enabling them to be undone. As we soon begin the Season of Lent and seek to untie our various "knots", remember the devotion proclaimed

by the Pope. Remember to turn to *Our Lady, Undoer of Knots* and take the Hammer of the Cross in hand in order to loosen the "knots" making an "old pair of sweats" like new!

Peace!

Fr. Wilson