

## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

### 20 MARCH 2022

**Readings for Sunday, March 20:** Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15; 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12; Luke 13:1-9.

From the burning bush, Moses is called by God to lead his people out of slavery into freedom. The parable of the fig tree speaks, on the one hand, of God's patience, but, on the other, of the urgency of the call to conversion. Like the Hebrews of old, we too have failed to heed God's call, thinking ourselves to be self-righteous.

**Readings for Sunday, March 27:** Joshua 5:9a, 10-12; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32.



**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.**



Date		Intention	Requested By
21 Mar.	MON. 9:00 AM	Sally B. McGeoghegan	Jack & Lori Carr
22 Mar.	TUE. 9:00 AM	Marie & John Bolonski	Dennis & Paula Bolonski
23 Mar.	WED. 9:00 AM	Frank J. Varga	Chuck & Joyce Mahon
24 Mar.	THU. 9:00 AM	Diane M. Martz	Tony & Theresa Vitacco
26 Mar.	SAT. 4:00 PM	Parishioners of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
27 Mar.	SUN. 9:00 AM	Mary & John Voychik	Barbara & Michael Hipszer



**ETERNAL REST** grant unto them, O Lord. May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace, especially STANLEY SALKOWSKI.

**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.



**CONGRATULATIONS** to our PREP Students (Owen, Maria, Liam and Logan) who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation this weekend.



All parishioners are welcome to use the free FORMED.org service provided by our parish. Go to our parish website and click on the

FORMED.org picture at the top of the home page. Follow prompts to find many books, talks, movies and Bible studies. There are resources for all ages!

**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.



Our PREP students are preparing to receive **Confirmation on Tuesday, March 29 at 5:00 PM.** We ask that you pray for Daniel, Grace, Logan, Maddie, Natalie, Owen, Rylee and Victoria as they prepare to become full members of the Church. All are welcome to attend the Confirmation Mass.



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Amidst the violence and war-mongering of the times in which we live, as we engage our own Lenten penitential battles, perhaps now is a moment to seek some solace. We turn to the one to whom children always turn in times of pain, sorrow, and distress. We turn to our Mother. We turn to Mary. Our Mother, like all mothers, is always waiting and



ready to console us. This Third Week of Lent is an especially good moment to do so. This Friday is her Feast of Annunciation. The Angel Gabriel speaks to her and nine months later, she will give birth to a Son - a Joyful Mystery indeed. Our church is home to a most unusual portrayal of our Blessed Mother. The large painting in the back of church above the confessional room shows Mother and Child. Portrayals of Mary and the Child Jesus throughout Church history are common enough. There are usually artistic indicators such as halos, a gold sphere around the head, a child with the face of an adult, and somewhere the

color blue that has come to be associated with the Mother of God. There are none of these indicators in our portrait, but that is not what makes it unusual (although is the Mother's outer garment perhaps a very dark blue?) Back in the early 1980's, Frank Strunk (a local banker) received a call from Mary Merritt. Mary and her husband Robert, were avid art dealers. Mary requested permission to store some valuable artwork temporarily in the vault of Mr. Strunk's bank. In gratitude, since he would take no remuneration himself, the Merritts decided to donate a religious painting to Mr. Strunk's church in his honor in February 1984. As one of our parishioners has so correctly written, "this just goes to show us all that sometimes the greatest gifts come from the smallest actions of assistance and they can live on for years and years for the benefit of many people." The kindness of Mr. Strunk and the Merritts benefit us all, beautify our church, and make our church unique. Our Saint Gabriel image of Mother and Child is unique and outstanding because of the action it portrays. Yet, how natural and how beautiful! It is an intimacy that only a Mother Most Blessed could know! Over the centuries, it has been discretion that had been the artistic rule when it come to *this* Mother and Child. Our portrayal breaks the rule. Maybe we should as well. For far too long perhaps, we have been oh so discreet when it comes to our prayers and our Church. We have been too discreet with our Catholic Faith. If we are going to win our Lenten battles, defeat violence, and make peace present in our world, then we are going to have to renew the intimacy that True Faith requires. Our most beautiful and unique painting in our church can remind us of just that. It shows a Mother lovingly and intimately feeding her Son. The reality is that it is He, Who most intimately and lovingly feeds us. That is what Eucharist is all about and that is what makes for true and lasting Peace!



Peace!

Fr. Wilson



**SYNOD SURVEY** - St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish is participating in a parish-wide survey! Please help us by participating in a 10-15 minute survey online. It asks you to reflect on your own spiritual growth and provide feedback on our parish's efforts to help you grow. All responses will be *confidential*, as we plan for the future and strive to be the best disciples we can be. Survey is available until April 4, 2022. Visit

<https://portal.catholicleaders.org/dmi/survey/ya1a4y>. Paper copies and envelopes are available in the vestibule of church.

**UNIVERSAL SYNOD ON SYNODALITY** - Archbishop Pérez is inviting all Catholics to attend a listening session offered in English and Spanish throughout the Archdiocese in March and April. Don't miss the opportunity to participate in the synodal process! For more information or to register, go to [www.archphila.org/synod](http://www.archphila.org/synod) - sessions are available in person or virtually.

# Collections ©JPPC *thank you*

DEPOSIT FOR MARCH 13, 2022..... \$3,291  
2021-2022 Year to Date Collections..... \$154,558  
2020-2021 Year to Date Collections..... \$158,360

**WINNER OF THE MONTHLY 50/50 GOLD ENVELOPE**  
**DRAWING to support Religious Education:**  
MARCH DRAWING - M/M Robert Fitch - \$269.00.

**2021 CHURCH CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS** - Requests can be made by email at ([contact@sgsm62.org](mailto:contact@sgsm62.org)) or by phone (610-326-5127). Statements are available for registered parishioners (those who receive and use their church envelopes).



**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

March 7 - #643 - unsold  
March 8 - #803 - Phyllis Villano - \$50.00  
March 9 - #928 - unsold  
March 10 - #983 - unsold  
March 11 - #421 - unsold  
March 12 - #424 - unsold  
March 13 - #676 - unsold

## "ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK"

**STOWE OIL COMPANY**  
610-327-3744

## MASS ATTENDANCE for March 12/13:

4:00 PM Mass - 71  
9:00 AM Mass - 83  
Total Attendance - 154

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE - March 26/27

### 4:00 PM Mass

Lector - Mich

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

Altar Server - Holmes

Greeter - Gambino

### 9:00 AM Mass

Lector - LaRosa

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

Altar Server - Gerasimowicz

Greeter - Neiman

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

ALBANIA "PINA" TERPOLILLI from Bob & Vivie Fitch, Jeannine Ferrante, Pete & Lori LaRosa, Anna & John Nester;

MONICA BAUER from Bob & Vivie Fitch, Barbara & Michael Hipszer, Anna & John Nester, Rose Klingerman, Pete & Lori LaRosa, Blanche & Jeff Lesik;

RODNEY MILLER from Tony & Theresa Vitacco.

## WOMEN'S SOCIETY NEWS & EVENTS

### VALENTINO'S RESTAURANT VOUCHERS



are being sold by the Women's Society. Vouchers are for a 10" personal cheese pizza or any small 8" hoagie (except supreme).



Vouchers will expire on April 30, 2022. All vouchers are \$9.00. Vouchers will be available after Mass on March 26/27, April 9/10 and April 23/24. Vouchers are also available at the parish office.

**TRIP TO NATIONAL CENTRE FOR PADRE PIO** on Tuesday, March 22 for rosary and stations. Leaving parking lot at 10:45 AM or meet there for 11:30 AM start. Possibility of car pooling.

## The Corner

Find comfort and encouragement in these words:  
God knows your sins, but calls you by name.  
Satan knows your name, but calls you by your sins.



**Confessions:** Wednesdays, March 23, 30, April 6, 13 at 12:30 PM. Saturdays, March 26, April 2, 9 from 3:00-3:45 PM.

**Stations of the Cross:** Wednesdays, March 23, 30, April 6, 13 at 1:00 PM. Fridays, March 25, April 1, 8 at 7:00 PM.

**Fast & Abstinence:** All persons who are 14 years of age and older are bound to abstain from eating meat on all the Fridays of Lent (**with the exception of Friday, March 25, which is the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord**) and Good Friday. 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 Good Friday, while the other two meals are to light. 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 Scriptures; and to participate in parish Lenten devotions as well as Lenten education programs. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is especially recommended. All our 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.

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

**ST. ALOYSIUS PARISH SCHOOL EARLY CHILDHOOD:** Preschool 3, Pre-K4 and Kindergarten Programs available. Play, Learn and Grow Together at Saint Aloysius. To tour the school visit [www.saintaloyssiusschool.com](http://www.saintaloyssiusschool.com) or call 610-326-6167. For Admissions visit: [www.saintaloyssiusschool.com/admissions-process](http://www.saintaloyssiusschool.com/admissions-process) or call 610-326-6167.

**PARISH MISSION** at St. Thomas More Parish, Pottstown on March 27, 28, 29 and 30 at 7:00 PM. Theme: The Word of God: Igniting Our Hearts. Join Fr. Stephen DeLacy for Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction, Confession on Tuesday evening and Mass on Wednesday evening.



Join the Catholic Charities Appeal for a Special Mass celebrated by Archbishop Pérez on Monday, March 21 at 7:00 PM at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter & Paul, Philadelphia. All are welcome to attend as we come together for this special gathering to support the vital mission of the Appeal.

**PRAY ACROSS AMERICA - A LENTEN EVENING RETREAT FOR WOMEN** on the Seven Sorrows of Mary. Tuesday, March 22 at 7:00 PM at St. Thomas More Parish, Pottstown. For more information email [officestthomasmoreparish@gmail.com](mailto:officestthomasmoreparish@gmail.com).

**THE HOLY FACE OF JESUS** at the National Centre for Padre Pio, Barto on Saturday, March 26. Traditional Latin Mass at 10:30 AM, Rosary at 11:30 AM, Presentation 12:00-1:30 PM including "Q & A" session. Guest Presenter is Tamara Klapatch. For more details visit [www.padrepio.org](http://www.padrepio.org) or call 610-845-3000.

**SPIRITUAL BOOK CLUB** at the National Centre for Padre Pio, Barto on Wednesday, April 13 from 10:00 AM to 11:15 AM - *A Padre Pio Profile*. For more information or to register contact [angela@p0adrepio.org](mailto:angela@p0adrepio.org). Purchase your book from the gift shop at the Centre or on-line store at [www.padrepio.org](http://www.padrepio.org).

**CATHOLIC CINEMA SUNDAYS FOR CHILDREN** at the National Centre for Padre Pio, Barto. Sunday, April 3 at 12:00 PM - *Bernadette: Princess of Lourdes*. Children must be accompanied by an adult to participate. For more details contact [angela@padrepio.org](mailto:angela@padrepio.org).

**ST. MARY POLISH AMERICAN SOCIETY EASTER FOOD SALE** - Food items include Babkas, Pierogi and Kielbasa. Deadline for food orders is Wednesday, March 30. Order pick-up will be on Friday, April 8 and Saturday, April 9 from 1:00-4:00 PM at St. Mary Catholic Church Hall, Conshohocken. To place orders: call Dorothy Swedkowski (610-630-0861) or email [smipas@stmarypolish.org](mailto:smipas@stmarypolish.org).

**PHILADELPHIA MARCH FOR LIFE** on Saturday, March 26. Begins with Mass at 8:30 AM at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter & Paul. For more information visit [www.proflifeunion.org/2022-mfl](http://www.proflifeunion.org/2022-mfl).

**MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT DAY** presented by Marriages of Grace on Saturday, April 2 from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM at Cardinal O'Hara High School, Springfield. For details or to sign up visit [www.phimarriagesofgrace.org/events](http://www.phimarriagesofgrace.org/events).

**PHILLY ADORATION FOR VOCATIONS** - Held each Thursday between 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM in Sacred Heart Chapel at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary. Catholics are invited to spend time before our Lord praying for vocations. To sign-up for a day/time to pray, visit [www.Heedthecall.org/Phillyadores](http://www.Heedthecall.org/Phillyadores). For more details email [Phillyadoration@gmail.com](mailto:Phillyadoration@gmail.com). Specific details emailed to adorers on Wednesday before the scheduled prayer time.