

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

## 27 MARCH 2022

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

Having arrived in the promised land, the Hebrews celebrated their deliverance from affliction and distress in the Passover. Christ, our Passover, has entrusted to us the message of reconciliation: let us forgive one another and celebrate the unconditional and abundant love of God our Father.

**Readings for Sunday, April 3:** Isaiah 43:16-21; Philippians 3:8-14; John 8:1-11.



**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
28 Mar.	MON.	9:00 AM	Eddie Farrell
29 Mar.	TUE.	9:00 AM	Mary Calcasacco
30 Mar.	WED.	9:00 AM	Special Intentions of Madison Porter
31 Mar.	THU.	9:00 AM	Lawrence C. Vitacco
2 Apr.	SAT.	4:00 PM	Parishioners of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish
3 Apr.	SUN.	9:00 AM	Those Enrolled in St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish Memorial Fund



**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.



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.

**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.



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 on the home page. Follow prompts to find many books, talks, movies and Bible studies. There are resources for all ages!

**THE PARISH OFFICE** will be closed Tuesday, March 29 from 12:00-3:00 PM and Thursday, March 31 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

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



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The stories told were few and heavily redacted. In one there was a very loud rumble. The earth shook as trees rustled and swayed. A long turret suddenly emerged and recoiled releasing its death. The noise of the report caused momentary deafness. Time stopped. Life paused. A teenager was frozen and unable to move. The deadly projectile, in a strange, slow motion sort of way, headed directly towards him. He saw the face of his mother weeping at his departure from home. He felt the warm kiss of his girlfriend at the end of their last dance. He recalled his brother and all their antics during summers spent working on Uncle Fred's farm. The explosion behind him woke him from his trance. The missile passed over him not unlike that Old Testament Angel of Death of which Moses warned. He would live to see another day. The several buddies behind him would not. Though my father survived that day, the teenager he had been lay dead on the field. Called merely a "police action" at the time, history would rightly later name Korea a war. Hollywood has tended to glamorize war. John Wayne was cool. Just ask my father. Today's online gaming and graphics don't help. There is no joy in war itself. There is only joy with war's end. Peace isn't simply the absence of war. It's the absence of Lent and in its place an Eternal Easter Day. We need do our part to end war, to end Lent, and to usher in Easter Eternal. This past Friday was the Feast of the Annunciation of Our Lord (March 25). On this day our Holy Father, our Archbishop, and bishops throughout the world consecrated Russia, Ukraine, and all of humanity to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. It was a prayer – a plea really – for an end to war. It was a prayer for Peace. Lent is often likened to a battle. Say a prayer for Peace. Pray that Lent might soon end and the Easter Day and a Risen Lord might forever reign!

Peace!

Fr. Wilson

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#### Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Basilica of St. Peter

March 25, 2022

O Mary, Mother of God and our mother, in this time of trial we turn to you. As our mother, you love us and know us: No concern of our hearts is hidden from you. Mother of mercy, how often we have experienced your watchful care and your peaceful presence! You never cease to guide us to Jesus, the prince of peace.

Yet we have strayed from that path of peace. We have forgotten the lesson learned from the tragedies of the last century, the sacrifice of the millions who fell in two world wars. We have disregarded the commitments we made as a community of nations. We have betrayed peoples' dreams of peace and the hopes of the young. We grew sick with greed, we thought only of our own nations and their interests, we grew indifferent and caught up in our selfish needs and concerns.

We chose to ignore God, to be satisfied with our illusions, to grow arrogant and aggressive, to suppress innocent lives and to stockpile weapons. We stopped being our neighbor's keepers and stewards of our common home. We have ravaged the garden of the earth with war, and by our sins we have broken the heart of our heavenly Father, who desires us to be brothers and sisters. We grew indifferent to everyone and everything except ourselves. Now with shame we cry out: Forgive us, Lord!

Holy Mother, amid the misery of our sinfulness, amid our struggles and weaknesses, amid the mystery of iniquity that is evil and war, you remind us that God never abandons us, but continues to look upon us with love, ever ready to forgive us and raise us up to new life. He has given you to us and made your Immaculate Heart a refuge for the church and for all humanity. By God's gracious will, you are ever with us; even in the most troubled moments of our history, you are there to guide us with tender love.

We now turn to you and knock at the door of your heart. We are your beloved children. In every age you make yourself

known to us, calling us to conversion. At this dark hour, help us and grant us your comfort. Say to us once more, "Am I not here, I who am your Mother?" You are able to untie the knots of our hearts and of our times. In you we place our trust. We are confident that, especially in moments of trial, you will not be deaf to our supplication and will come to our aid.

That is what you did at Cana in Galilee, when you interceded with Jesus and he worked the first of his signs. To preserve the joy of the wedding feast, you said to him: "They have no wine" (Jn 2:3). Now, O Mother, repeat those words and that prayer, for in our own day we have run out of the wine of hope, joy has fled, fraternity had faded. We have forgotten our humanity and squandered the gift of peace. We opened our hearts to violence and destructiveness. How greatly we need your maternal help! Therefore, O Mother, hear our prayer.

Star of the Sea, do not let us be shipwrecked in the tempest of war.

Ark of the New Covenant, inspire projects and paths of reconciliation.

Queen of Heaven, restore God's peace to the world.

Eliminate hatred and the thirst for revenge, and teach us forgiveness.

Free us from war, protect our world from the menace of nuclear weapons.

Queen of the Rosary, make us realize our need to pray and to love.

Queen of the Human Family, show people the path of fraternity.

Queen of Peace, obtain peace for our world.

O Mother, may our sorrowful plea stir our hardened hearts. May the tears you shed for us make this valley parched by our hatred blossom anew. Amid the thunder of weapons, may your prayers turn our thoughts to peace. May your maternal touch soothe those who suffer and flee from the rain of bombs. May your motherly embrace comfort those forced to leave their homes and their native land. May your sorrowful heart move us to compassion and inspire us to open our doors and to care for our brothers and sisters who are injured and cast aside.

Holy Mother of God, as you stood beneath the cross, Jesus, seeing the disciple at your side, said: "Behold your son" (Jn 19:26). In this way, he entrusted each of us to you. To the disciple, and to each of us, he said: "Behold, your Mother" (Jn 19:27). Mother Mary, we now desire to welcome you into our lives and our history.

At this hour, a weary and distraught humanity stands with you beneath the cross, needing to entrust itself to you and, through you, to consecrate itself to Christ. The people of Ukraine and Russia, who venerate you with great love, now turn to you, even as your heart beats with compassion for them and for all those peoples decimated by war, hunger, injustice and poverty.

Therefore, Mother of God and our mother, to your Immaculate Heart we solemnly entrust and consecrate ourselves, the church and all humanity, especially Russia and Ukraine. Accept this act that we carry out with confidence and love. Grant that war may end and peace spread throughout the world. The "fiat" that arose from your heart opened the doors of history to the Prince of Peace. We trust that, through your heart, peace will dawn once more. To you we consecrate the future of the whole human family, the needs and expectations of every people, the anxieties and hopes of the world.

Through your intercession, may God's mercy be poured out on the earth and the gentle rhythm of peace return to mark our days. Our Lady of the "fiat," on whom the Holy Spirit descended, restore among us the harmony that comes from God. May you, our "living fountain of hope," water the dryness of our hearts. In your womb Jesus took flesh; help us to foster the growth of communion. You once trod the streets of our world; lead us now on the paths of peace. Amen.



**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 20, 2022..... \$3,549  
2021-2022 Year to Date Collections..... \$158,107  
2020-2021 Year to Date Collections..... \$162,612

**SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND**, April 2 and 3, will be the Easter Flower Donation Collection.

**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 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 14 - #585 - unsold  
March 15 - #579 - Cliff & Barb Keller - \$50.00  
March 16 - #186 - unsold  
March 17 - #399 - unsold  
March 18 - #167 - unsold  
March 19 - #933 - unsold  
March 20 - #234 - unsold

## "ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK"

**GAMA PRINTING CO.**  
610-945-4263

## MASS ATTENDANCE for March 19/20:

4:00 PM Mass - 100  
9:00 AM Mass - 116  
Total Attendance - 216



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

**Stations of the Cross:** Wednesdays, March 30, April 6, 13 at 1:00 PM. Fridays, 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 Ash Wednesday, 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.

## 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.

## The Corner

Do you find yourself avoiding confession? There are many reasons why we do! Sometimes we think that we want to "hide" our sins, and we don't want to admit them to the priest. But in reality, we are actually "hiding" from the love God always wants to give to us. Take heart from the Prodigal Son. He repented and returned to his father, and his father rejoiced and welcomed him back with open arms. We can do the same in **The Sacrament of Reconciliation.**