

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

27 NOVEMBER 2022

Readings for Sunday, November 27: Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:37-44.

Let us rejoice in the Lord's peace; let us live honorably as we await his return.

Readings for Sunday, December 4: Isaiah 11:1-10; Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12.



**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>
28 Nov.	MON. 9:00 AM	Walter Katalinas	Tony Vitacco
29 Nov.	TUE. 9:00 AM	Helyn & Andrew Pessaro	Jane Perkins
30 Nov.	WED. 9:00 AM	Monica Bauer	Tony & Theresa Vitacco
1 Dec.	THU. 9:00 AM	Special Intentions of Julia Porter	
3 Dec.	SAT. 4:00 PM	Parishioners of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
4 Dec.	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.

WOMEN'S ROSARY AROUND THE WORLD - On December 8, a public women's rosary is being initiated around the world. We will be honoring the Blessed Virgin Mary by publicly uniting women in defense of churches, life, motherhood, the family and to proudly proclaim "we are daughters of Blessed Virgin Mary and want to follow her example." St. Gabriel Church invites women of our parish to join us at noon on Thursday, December 8 at our Blessed Mother's Grotto (weather permitting) to pray the rosary together. We will also be inviting other parishes near us to join us. In case of inclement weather, we will pray the rosary inside the church. Hopefully, afterwards, we can have a little snack together. For more information call Lori Carr (610-731-7012).

FINANCE COUNCIL MEETING on Monday, November 28 at 6:30 PM in the PREP Building.



AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVES on December 5 and 19 from 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM in the social hall. Please call 1-800-RED-CROSS to make an appointment.

MAGNIFICAT ADVENT COMPANION BOOK & WORD AMONG US ADVENT ISSUE - copies are available at the church entrances. There is no charge for the books. Feel free to take a copy home with you.

THE PARISH OFFICE will be closed Thursday, December 1.



A VISIT FROM ST. NICK - Please join us on Sunday, December 11 after the 9:00 AM Mass for fellowship in the social hall. At this time, we will celebrate St. Nicholas. There will be crafts, games, card making, and music. Please bring some baked goods to share and your camera for any photos with St. Nicholas. **ALL**

ARE WELCOME! If your child is not in our PREP program, please call, text or email (610-506-2455 or mboyer@sghsm62.org) to let us know how many children you will be bringing, so St. Nicholas has enough treats for everyone.

WOMEN'S SOCIETY EVENTS



The Women's Society next themed basket will be for Christmas. We will begin selling chances after Masses on December 3 until December 18 when the winner will be pulled. Chances will

be sold for \$1 each or 6 for \$5. The Christmas Basket is valued at approximately \$150. Stop by the church lobby to see it and take a chance. The Women's Society thanks you for your continued support!

Women's Society Christmas Cookie Sale - December 10

and 11 after Masses. Due to the rising cost of candy supplies, we will not be making candy this year. All cookies and Pizzelles will sell for \$5 a dozen. Trays may be mixed or all the same and will contain at least a dozen or more cookies. Anyone interested in baking only cookies (no cakes please) drop them off in the church lobby before Mass on December 10 or 11. No need to price them, but indicate the type of cookies on tray. Any and all help is appreciated!



Women's Society Christmas Party - Sunday, December 18 at 1:00 PM at the Sunflower Café, North Charlotte St., Pottstown. \$30 per member; \$35 non-member. Entree choices:

Slow cooked beef short ribs with red wine over egg noodles, served with roasted vegetables OR Sautéed chicken breast with raisins, capers, pine nuts, white wine and lemon served with creamy cheesy polenta and roasted vegetables. ALSO INCLUDED soup, dessert, and cold and hot beverages. BYOB. Reservations with entree choice and payment by December 10 to Lori at 610-326-6030. Checks payable to Women's Society or cash. Women of all ages invited to attend.



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.**

MINISTRY SCHEDULE - December 3/4

4:00 PM Mass

Lector - Mich

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

Altar Server - Holmes

Greeter - Wade

9:00 AM Mass

Lector - Boyer

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

Altar Server - Donnelly & Griffin

Greeter - Carr



OUR ADVENT-CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

will be in the vestibule of church until Sunday, January 8. We are collecting items for Birthright of Pottstown. Items most needed include: Girls' winter outfits in all sizes from Newborn to 18 month; Boy's winter outfits in sizes

Newborn and 0-3 month; Boys shirts size 18 month; Sleep Swaddlers; Diapers size 3; socks in size 0-3 month; Maternity leggings; Walmart or Target gift cards that we can use for formula. Decorate our Giving Tree by placing an ornament on the tree for each gift you give. Ornaments are in a box next to the tree. All donations are greatly appreciated.

CHRISTMAS WAFERS will be available at the parish office beginning Tuesday, November 29. There are 5 wafers per packet. A donation of \$3.00 per packet or \$5.00 for 2 packets is requested. Wafers available on a first come-first serve basis.



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Okay, okay. I'll just come out and say it. I'm calling for insurrection. I suppose the DHS/FBI may burst through the door any moment. Now not the insurrection of the type alleged to have happened on January 6th and of which I very much have my doubts. I mean, certain summer peaceful protests were more insurrectional in nature. The insurrection that I'm advocating is an Intellectual Insurrection grounded in Faith. You've heard of "Antifa," well let's take to the streets as "Insurrefa" - a revolution fought with critical thinking under a banner of belief. Now is the time for such a battle. It ought to be a cause célèbre. As we begin the season of Advent with its hopeful longing, unfortunately there is much darkness all about us. Truth is twisted and left for dead. A disfigured and grotesque distortion of it takes its place. There are countless examples. There has been the promotion of safe and effective vaccines that suddenly aren't. Genders, pronouns, and which restrooms to use become confused. Marriage



is then necessarily redefined. Human life has become utilitarian and relative - to be terminated when useless. Integrity is on life support and although not everyone questions election outcomes, there can be no doubt over machines malfunctioning and outcomes highly unusual if not seemingly statistically impossible. "Disinformation," "misinformation," and "malinformation" are today's buzzwords used by those who oppose "my information." Confront lies with truth - and in particular, the Truth that is our Faith. Advent is a time for proclaiming that Truth anew and even more importantly, living that Truth anew. The Truth came among us as a little child and entrusted



Himself to us. He comes among us once again this Advent. Prepare to hold Him and caress Him and protect Him from the Herods of our day. To do so, I would say is quite revolutionary - an insurrection of sorts - an Intellectual Insurrection of Faith. And then, in that Advent moment, it is He that will hold, caress, and protect you! O Come, O come Emmanuel!

Peace!

Fr. Wilson

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND - The annual appeal for the Retirement Fund for Religious will be held in our parishes during the weekend of December 3-4, 2022. As you consider this year's appeal, reflect on the role of religious in your own life. Perhaps a woman or man religious nurtured your faith as a young student or your vocation to the priesthood or to sacramental marriage. Or you may have witnessed the dedication of religious serving in Catholic schools, hospitals, parishes, or social services. Many of these women and men religious are now elderly, and too often their religious congregations do not have adequate funding for their care. The appeal is to give what you can. Most importantly, is that we join together in prayer for God's continued blessing on our nation's elderly sisters, brothers and religious order priest.

The Corner

"Advent has a twofold character, for it is a time of preparation for the Solemnities of Christmas, in which the First Coming of the Son of God to humanity is remembered, and likewise a time when, by remembrance of this, minds and hearts are led to look forward to Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. For these two reasons, Advent is a period of devout and expectant delight." —*The Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and General Roman Calendar*

