

THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

14 SEPTEMBER 2025

Readings for Sunday, September 14: Numbers 21:4b-9; Philippians 2:6-11; John 3:13-17.

“Just as Moses lifted up the serpent, so must the Son of Man be lifted up.” “God highly exalted him” and made him Lord! How unforgettable are his deeds!

Readings for Sunday, September 21: Amos 8:4-7; 1 Timothy 2:1-8; Luke 16:1-13.



**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>
15 Sept.	MON. 9:00 AM	Alfred Dori	John & Allen
16 Sept.	TUE. 9:00 AM	Decd. Members of Sunday, Shellenberger and Cyran Families	Jack Bucciaglia & family
17 Sept.	WED. 9:00 AM	Catherine Sands	St. Gabriel Women's Society
18 Sept.	THU. 9:00 AM	Charlie Miller	Tony & Theresa Vitacco
20 Sept.	SAT. 4:00 PM	Bradley Burke	Fr. Wilson
21 Sept.	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, especially JAMES BALDASANO and RONALD BERNAS.

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.

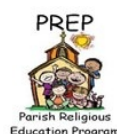


NOVENA IN HONOR OF OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL on Mondays after the 9:00 AM Mass. All are welcome to join in this special Marian Devotions.

FINANCE COUNCIL MEETING on Monday, September 15 at 6:30 PM in the PREP Building.



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.



PREP (Parish Religious Education Program) 2025-2026: New Families with school age children Pre-K to Grade 8, are encouraged to register their children for PREP. **Registration for new students is taking place now.** Please contact Maria Boyer, DRE at 610-506-2455 or mboyer@sgsm62.org to register.

LOST WEEK

Collections ©JPPC *thank you*

DEPOSIT FOR SEPTEMBER 7, 2025 \$3,301
2025-2026 Year to Date Collections. \$38,590

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND, SEPTEMBER 20 AND 21 will be the Gold 50/50 Envelope to support Religious Education.

“ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK”

CATAGNUS FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION CENTER
610-323-4440

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

MASS ATTENDANCE for September 6/7:

4:00 PM Mass - 121
9:00 AM Mass - 132
Total Attendance - 253



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).



CHURCH MAGNETS are available at the Parish Office. They can be placed on your car or refrigerator. Cost is \$5.00 each.

FINANCE COUNCIL HAPPENINGS

Several parish members have expressed an interest in learning more about the various projects at Saint Gabriel Church. Well, sit back and enjoy the many accomplishments listed below as well as additional projects being worked on. These projects have been accomplished in the Fiscal Year beginning on July 1, 2024 and ending on June 30, 2025: Performed Power washing and caulking to the façade of the church, new sidewalks and steps around the church, new toilet and sink in the men’s bathroom in the church, striped and waxed the church floors, new air conditioning unit in the school (daycare is our Tenant), replaced and repaired some of the stain glass in the church and put a new floor and lighting in the PREP Building. All of these projects were completed at a cost of \$53,762.88. Father Wilson in conjunction with your Finance Council, is working diligently to continue this effort. Our goal for the next fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026 are the following: Replace the sound system in the church, replace the control panel which operates the church bells, upgrade the lighting in the front of the church and paint the interior of the church. The total to complete these projects is approximately \$56,000. All these projects and others are being considered; however, we need funding in order to complete these projects. Saint Gabriel Church has always been blessed with generous people, both members and non-members. If you are interested in helping to keep these projects going, please feel free to speak with Father Wilson or you may drop an envelope in the weekly collection basket marked “Church Projects” or also feel free to stop by the parish office to drop your donation off. We look forward to your help in completing these much-needed projects.



American Red Cross

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

on September 15 and October 6 and 20 from 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM in the social hall. Emergency Alert: Type O donors needed now! Consider donating blood for those in need. Call 1-800-RED CROSS or visit

www.RedCrossBlood.org.

WOMEN’S SOCIETY NEWS

Santina Kitchen and Douglassville Café Gift Certificates continue to be sold. Certificates are available at the Parish Office. Pick them up for the summer.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE - SEPTEMBER 20/21

4:00 PM Mass

Lector - Warzeski

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

Altar Server - Wasylkowski

Greeter - DiMarco

9:00 AM Mass

Lector - LaRosa

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

Altar Servers - Logaivau & Logaivau

Greeter - Neiman

**ZOOK'S FAMOUS HOMEMADE
APPLE DUMPLINGS, CHICKEN POT PIE
AND CHOCOLATE WHOOPIE PIES**



**Due to lack of freezer
space, pick up
Saturday, October 4
12:00 PM to 2:00 PM ONLY**



NAME _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

Apple Dumplings (large enough to share) - \$5.00

Quantity _____ Cost _____

6" Chicken Pot Pie (12 oz.) - \$6.00

Quantity _____ Cost _____

9" Chicken Pot Pie (32 oz.) - \$11.50

Quantity _____ Cost _____

Chocolate Whoopie Pies (6 pack) - \$10.00

Quantity _____ Cost _____

Total Cost of Order _____

All items are delivered frozen.

Checks payable to St. Gabriel Women's Society.

Last day to order is September 21.

Prices same as last year.



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

September 1 - #762 - unsold

September 2 - #094 - unsold

September 3 - #233 - unsold

September 4 - #272 - unsold

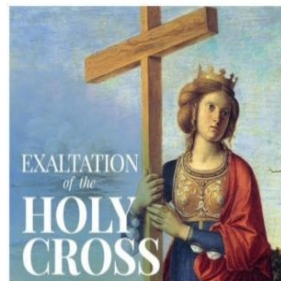
September 5 - #469 - unsold

September 6 - #354 - unsold

September 7 - #681 - unsold

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

The Corner



St. Helena was a Roman empress and the mother of the emperor Constantine the Great. After converting to Catholicism, she made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, where she had churches built and is credited with the discovery of the True Cross of Christ during one of those constructions.

"We adore You O Christ, and we praise You, because by your Holy Cross, You have redeemed the world." ---St Alphonus de Liguori



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.



KNIGHTS OF
COLUMBUS



**FATHER BALLY COUNCIL
#1192**

2025 Family Picnic

FOR MEMBERS/FAMILIES OF COUNCIL, LADIES AUXILIARY, FULTON J. SHEEN ASSEMBLY, AND LOCAL PARISHES
IF YOU ARE NOT A KNIGHT, COME BRING YOUR FAMILY AND SEE WHAT WE ARE ABOUT!

- DATE:** Sunday, September 21, 2025
- TIME:** 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm
- PLACE:** Picnic Grove, 675 Constitution Avenue, Stowe
- COSTS:** Bring a side dish/dessert to share.
Free Hamburgers/Hot Dogs/Soda/Water.
Cash Bar for Beer/Mixed Drinks.

MUSIC & FUN FOR ALL AGES!
games, 50-50 chances

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
Franco Vella-Gatt 484-433-9160 francovg51@outlook.com

walking with purpose

Women's Bible Study

Touching the Divine: A Study of the Gospel of John

Thursdays 9:30-11:00a.m.
beginning September 25, 2025

Cost: \$50
For more info or to register, scan here:

St. Aloysius Church, Lower Level of Gathering Center

Questions? Sophie Schneible
Sschneible@saintaloyusius.net
610-326-5877 ext. 426

HOSTED BY

MARCH FOR LIFE

PENNSYLVANIA Family Institute
Protect the Family. Restore the Future.

keep marching for life in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania!

Monday, Sept 22nd
Rally 11 a.m. | March 12 p.m.

DIVINE DANUBE: A Classical Cruise with Four Spirited Fathers - Join Fr. Jeff Rott, Fr. Jim DeGrassa, Fr. Matt Tralies and Fr. Zachary Navit for an unforgettable 8-day, 7-night luxury experience aboard the Amadeus Nova, sailing the scenic Danube River from April 22-30, 2026. Discover the spiritual and cultural treasures of Passau, Linz, Melk, Vienna, Bratislava, Esztergom and Budapest, with daily Mass and guided tours included. You can also extend the fun with an optional pre-cruise stay in Prague, April 20-23, featuring a visit to the renowned Infant of Prague. Want to learn more? Join us for an informational session on Thursday, October 2 at 6 PM at Saint Teresa of Calcutta Education Center/School in the Art Room. For more information, including the brochure and online registration, visit www.cloverdaletravel.org or contact Michael at Cloverdale Travel (215-469-1505 or info@cloverdaletravel.org).

PERMANENT DIACONATE INFORMATION SESSION on Thursday, September 25 at 7:00 PM at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary, Ambler. This session is intended for Catholic men between the ages of 29 and 55, both married and single, who feel called to serve the Church through the unique vocation of the Permanent Diaconate. Wives of married men are strongly encouraged to attend, as the journey of discernment and formation is one shared in family life. For more information visit SECLERGY@archphila.org or call 215-587-4532.

ABBAY FEST will be held at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa on September 20. Join us for a day of faith, family and music. For more details visit www.theabbeyfest.com.

SEPTEMBER 14, 2025 - EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

You can easily picture the scene. A parade down Main Street of “Any Town, USA” to honor the local Medal of Honor winner. There she sits, dressed in her military uniform, riding atop the back seat of a shiny convertible, festooned with red, white, and blue, smiling and waving to the crowds at the curbside. We could say that, for a time, she is being “exalted.”

Today’s Feast gives us a spiritual time to honor the instrument of our salvation, the Holy Cross on which Our Savior died for our salvation. Such exaltation would have shocked our earlier sisters and brothers in the early Church. It took a few centuries before they would ever think of the Cross as deserving of praise, much less in a place of honor in a church. They knew it only as the instrument of cruel Roman punishment for criminals.

Just for the sake of understanding, consider if Christ came to earth in modern times and was executed in the electric chair. It would take a lot of convincing to get us to decorate our churches with replicas of that chair. Or sewn on to priestly vestments!

Over time, the Church began to see that the once awful item was really the greatest sign of God’s love. An instrument of His decision to save us from eternal damnation. After all, our human ancestors, Adam and Eve, had chosen through weakness to sin the Paradise Garden away and hear the clang of shutting gates behind them as they left. When the onlookers at Calvary heard the bang of hammers on nails thrust through the divine Hands and Feet, they had no idea that this was necessary to save them and all of us. With time and prayer, they would learn what we know now.

Today is a good day to ask you: do you have a crucifix on display in your home? Does it hang on the first floor, where visitors can see it? In other words, do you personally “exalt” the cross as the truest sign of love ever given?

You see, this is one easy way to evangelize, that is, spread the gospel in the world. It takes very little effort. We must be more adept at making clear to the apathetic world we live in that faith in Christ and thanks to His inestimable love is the main reason we have for living, for getting up from sleep each new morning with a trustful outlook. In other words, we need to remember what Steven Covey, the gifted motivational speaker once said, namely that “the main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing.” That way, we can one day join the parade in the new Paradise, with no fear that the parade will pass us by.

Happy 70th Birthday, Pope Leo XIV, and God grant you many more!

Reading I: Numbers 21:4b-9

The Lord prescribes an antidote to the venomous snake attacks on the people. He tells Moses to mount a bronze serpent to a pole and tell the people to look at it and be healed. An allegory about the Cross of Christ whereby sinners who look upon it with faith will be spared the sting of death.

Reading II: Philippians 2:6-11

This is probably an early Christian hymn. It follows the story line of Christ’s mission and sets Him forth as the model of Christian living.

The Gospel: John 3:13-17

Jesus sees the relic from Moses’ time of the bronze serpent mounted to save the Israelites as an image of His crucifixion meant to save mankind from sin and bring healing to a rebellious world.