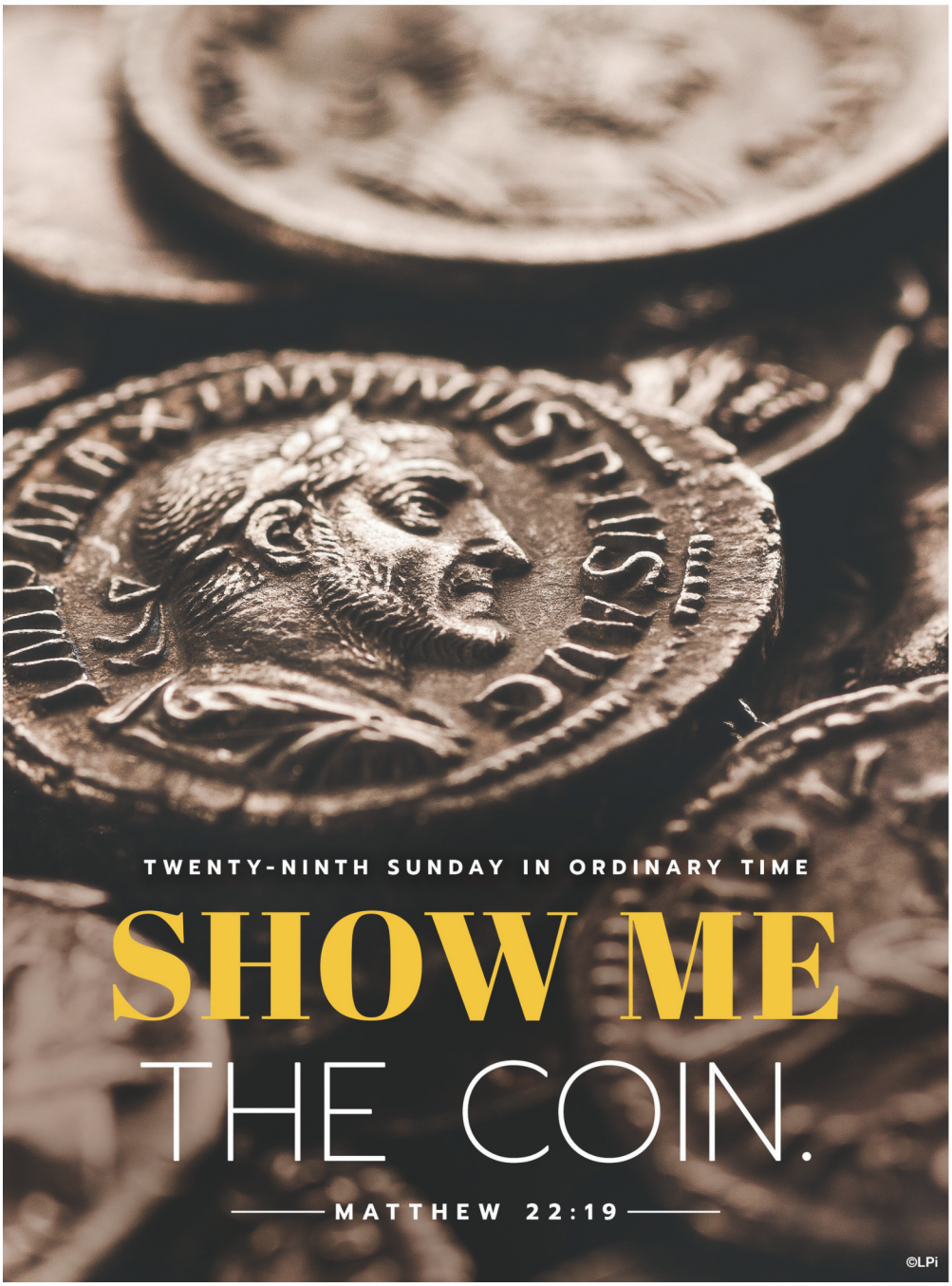
ST. GABRIEL THE ARCHANGEL
CATHOLIC CHURCH

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026



BELONG, BELIEVE, BECOME

Here at St. Gabriel, we strive to embrace these values:

Belong (You are loved here) *Believe* (Discover Christ with us)

Become (Be transformed)

Whoever you are, wherever you are in faith or life, if church is new to you, or you've been away – you are always welcome here. When you feel called to make this place your spiritual home, we warmly invite you to join our parish family by visiting, calling, or emailing the parish office.

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend Masses

Saturday | 5:00pm (Vigil)
Sunday | 8:00am, 10:00am
11:30am, 6:00pm*

*6:00pm Mass is not celebrated during the summer months

Weekday Masses

Monday | 9:00am
Tuesday | 6:30am*, 9:00am
Wednesday | 6:30am*, 9:00am
Thursday | 6:30am*, 9:00am
Friday | 9:00am
Saturday | 9:00am
Holy Days | See bulletin for schedule

*6:30am Mass is not celebrated during the summer months

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Pastor Emeritus

SOCIAL MEDIA

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FROM FR. FRANK

I want to devote this column to our Blessed Mother, Mary – why we honor her as Catholics, why is October her "month," and the *what* and *why* of the Rosary. So, right out of the gate, let's get theologically *deep*.

Mary was the first and most perfectly redeemed by Christ through his Passion, Death on the Cross, and glorious Resurrection. Yes, Mary, the sinless, ever-Virgin Mother of God, the Immaculate Conception, was *herself* redeemed by her own Son!

How's that work? Even though Mary was conceived without original sin (through natural means by her parents), she *still* needed a Savior. Mary was redeemed in *advance*, preserved from original sin from the very first moment of her existence through Christ's saving Death and Resurrection. God applied the saving grace of Christ to Mary in *anticipation* of what her Son would accomplish for all humanity. Wow!

This isn't some modern-day invention by the Church. The early Church always recognized Mary's extraordinary holiness.

Look at the Annunciation in Luke's Gospel. When Gabriel greets Mary, he calls her "*full of grace*." The Greek word used in the New Testament is *kecharitomene*. It comes from a verb meaning "to favor" or "bestow grace," and it suggests that Mary has already been graced by God, with the effects of that grace continuing in her life. The Church sees in Gabriel's greeting a beautiful biblical foundation for understanding Mary's unique holiness and the grace she received from the very beginning of her existence.

First, let's be clear: **Catholics do not worship Mary**. Worship belongs to God alone: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. But we *honor* Mary because of her unique relationship with Jesus Christ. She is the Mother of God! And everything we believe about Mary ultimately points us toward her Son.

Look at what happens when Mary visits her cousin Elizabeth, shortly after Gabriel announces that she will be the Mother of the Savior. Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, exclaims: *"And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?"* (Luke 1:43).

Think about that! Elizabeth is essentially saying, *"Who am I that I should receive such an honor?"* And notice, she calls Mary *"the mother of my Lord."* She's recognizing something *extraordinary* about Mary *herself*, precisely because of the Child Mary carries in her womb. And remember, Elizabeth says this while filled with the Holy Spirit!

Elizabeth goes on to say, *"Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."* (Luke 1:45). Mary is the *perfect* disciple, follower of Jesus. Why? Because she believed. She said yes to God without knowing where that would lead. She trusted when she couldn't *possibly* understand everything that would follow. She followed her Son throughout his life, stood faithfully at the foot of his Cross, and remained with the disciples in prayer as they waited for the Holy Spirit. She listened, believed, pondered, suffered, persevered, and remained faithful.

And Mary herself declares in her beautiful song, the Magnificat, *"From now on will all ages call me blessed."* (Luke 1:48). So, when Catholics honor Mary, we're doing precisely what Scripture tells us we would do!

And now, October – the Month of the Holy Rosary.

Apart from Mass, the *greatest* prayer – the Rosary is one of the great prayers in the treasury of the Church. It is simply a meditation on the life of Christ, through the eyes of his Mother. Through the Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful, and Glorious Mysteries, we reflect on Christ's birth, public ministry, suffering, death, and Resurrection.

The Rosary is in Scripture and the living tradition of the Church. The Our Father? Jesus himself. The Hail Mary? Gabriel at the Annunciation and Elizabeth at the Visitation. The Glory Be? An ancient Christian prayer to the Holy Trinity, expressing the faith we find throughout Scripture.

The second part of the Hail Mary, asking the Mother of God to pray for us sinners, developed through the Church's tradition over the centuries. The Hail, Holy Queen is a beautiful medieval prayer, and the Fatima Prayer, said after each decade, comes from the 20th c. apparitions at Fatima.

But why October?

The Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, October 7, traces its origins to the Battle of Lepanto in 1571. The Ottoman Empire was expanding its influence throughout the Mediterranean, threatening Christian territories in Europe. Pope Pius V helped organize a coalition of Catholic powers known as the Holy League to confront the Ottoman naval forces.

But he did something else. He called upon Catholics throughout Europe to pray the Rosary, asking for Mary's intercession.

On October 7, 1571, despite facing a formidable Ottoman fleet, the Holy League won a decisive naval battle at Lepanto. Pius V and the Catholic faithful attributed the victory to the intercession of the Blessed Mother.

While sailors and soldiers were risking their lives hundreds of miles away, ordinary Catholics, who were seemingly **powerless** over what was happening on the Mediterranean Sea, believed that their prayers could make a difference. And they did!

I don't have to remind you how **powerless** we feel when we look at the state of our world today. And I'm always reminding myself of the importance of a both/and mentality. I almost never believe that "thoughts and prayers" are the only response, although they should never be dismissed! Yes, we must work for peace; we must perform real, corporal works of mercy; we must speak up when human dignity is violated.

But there are some things over which we simply have very little control.

Continued on Page 3...

THE KNIGHTS CORNER

The Saint Gabriel's Knights were honored at last week's 10am Mass. It was a very meaningful occasion for all of us and we thank Father Ron for his **special blessing at the end of Mass**. Also, the Knight of the Year Award was presented to one of our brothers, **Sir Knight Michael Mazza**. Mike currently serves as our Deputy Grand Knight; a position he has faithfully held for a number of years. Among other things, Mike is responsible for coordinating our annual donations to local charities. Congratulations and thank you, Mike, for all you do for the council and the parish.

The winner of the **Saint Gabriel statue** that was raffled off as a thank you to the parish for your **30 years of supporting the Knights of Columbus** was won by **Robert Lahita**. Congratulations Dr. Bob!!

After the morning Masses on **Sunday, October 25**, the Knights will be hosting our first **coffee social** of the season. (Thank you to Brighton Gardens for providing the coffee social in September!). This will be a great opportunity to **meet some new fellow parishioners** and to catch up with old friends. We hope to see you there.

Please remember to **sign up for the blood drive on 10/24** if you are able. Each pint donated saves three lives!

If you are interested in **joining the St. Gabriel's Knights of Columbus**, contact a current member or send us an email at knights@stgabrielsr.org.

Did you know? The Feast Day of **Saint John Paul II** is celebrated on October 22. Born Karol Jozef Wojtyla, he **served as pope for 27 years** and was the first non-Italian pope in 455 years. Before entering a clandestine seminary, he worked as a manual laborer in a quarry and chemical plant, and performed in and wrote for theater productions.

Continued on Page 4...

FROM FR. FRANK (CONTINUED)

Russia/Ukraine; Israel/Gaza; Sudan, where civil war has displaced millions and created an enormous humanitarian crisis; Haiti, where gang violence has left so many living in fear; Christians being slaughtered or persecuted for their faith as we speak; the mistreatment of women in parts of the world; the discrimination and violence experienced by LGBTQ+ people in those same parts, and perhaps even in our own backyard. (And maybe this is where our "both/and" approach of prayer and concrete acts of mercy needs to come into play!); natural disasters and its effects; political division, anger, and hatred (no political party or ideology has a monopoly on that!); the Army psychiatrist turned terrorist murdering thirteen people in Texas. An awful, inexcusable act of violence. Convicted and sentenced to death, his execution by firing squad has been scheduled for December. But there's actual discussions of livestreaming the execution. *Livestreaming?! Really?!* Is this a reflection of our culture's bloodlust? (And perhaps this is one situation where we aren't so powerless. The power of a letter, an email, or our voices as Catholic citizens might actually make a difference.)

Really, what can any of us do about all these situations?
And yet, we CAN pray.
Never minimize the power of prayer, especially the Mass and Rosary!

Prayer is never wasted. Even when we don't see immediate results and when the problems of the world seem so much bigger than anything we could possibly do about them. God hears us. Mary intercedes for us. The grace of God is at work in ways we may never fully see or understand.

And so, here's my invitation to you.

This week, Monday through Thursday, October 19–22, we'll be gathering in church each evening from 7 to 7:30pm to pray the Rosary together. Come one night, or all four! Bring your family, bring a friend, and bring whatever intentions are weighing on your heart – that stuff above, or situations personal and proximate to you.

Our Lady of the Rosary, pray for us!

Friends, know you are loved.
Fr. Frank

The Sacrament of Baptism
We're delighted to welcome your child into the life of Christ. **Baptisms are celebrated on the first and third Saturdays of each month at 12:00pm** *(not celebrated during Lent, except in cases of serious need)*. First-time parents are required to attend a Baptism Preparation class.

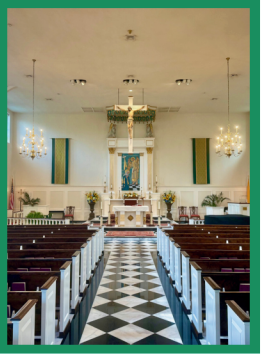
The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA)
Adults seeking Baptism, Confirmation, or Eucharist are invited to contact Frances Ferraro.

The Sacrament of Marriage
Congratulations! To begin marriage preparation, contact Fr. Frank Fano.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturdays 4:00–4:45 PM, or by appointment.

Ministry to the Sick & Homebound
If you or a loved one would like Holy Communion brought to your home, please contact the parish office.

Frances Ferraro: frances.stgabes@gmail.com
Fr. Frank Fano: ffano@stgabrielsr.org





CHILDREN'S CHURCH IS BACK AT THE 10:00AM MASS!

Children ages 4 to 10 are invited to join us for a fun and faith-filled experience designed especially for them.

THE KNIGHTS (CONTINUED)

Brother Mike Mazza was recently chosen the 2025-2026 Knight of the Year.

Mike (below right) was presented the award, for which he was voted unanimously, by Grand Knight Randy Vlasak. Well done Sir Knight!





GIVE THE GIFT OF LIFE!

The Knights of Columbus invite you to their 2nd Annual Community Blood Drive on **Saturday, October 24, from 9:00am–3:00pm** in the Kavin Center.

Every donation can help save up to three lives and last year, our community helped save 120 lives!

Appointments are encouraged.

Scan the QR code to reserve your spot.
Please bring a photo ID and eat a healthy meal before donating.

Snacks and drinks will be provided to all donors.

Bring your family and friends and help make a life-saving difference!
For more information: Frank Weihenig
frankstgabes@gmail.com

FINANCIAL REPORT

This week's financial report was not ready at the time of publication and will be posted in next week's bulletin.

Thank you for your ongoing generosity and support.

ParishSOFT Online Giving

Just aim your phone camera at the QR Code & follow the link.
Thank you for your support!

REPORT FINANCIAL MISCONDUCT CONFIDENTIALLY

If you suspect financial misconduct, use EthicsPoint, an independent and confidential reporting tool that helps the Archdiocesan community address issues while promoting positive parish, school and workplace environments.
Visit **www.rcan.org** for the hotline and reporting link.

COME PRAY THE ROSARY WITH US!

Join us in the church at 7:00pm, October 19–22, as we pray the Rosary together in honor of October, the month of the Holy Rosary.

- Monday: Joyful Mysteries
- Tuesday: Sorrowful Mysteries
- Wednesday: Glorious Mysteries
- Thursday: Luminous Mysteries

Come for one evening or all four!
Each gathering is less than 30 minutes.
Bring your intentions and join us in prayer!

Prayer sheets will be available.



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday: October 17, 2026
9:00am † John Surless, JR - r/b John and Roxanne
5:00pm Intentions of the Amorino Family - r/b Susan Taite-Malone

Sunday: October 18, 2026
8:00am † Evelyn M Marron - r/b Ed Marron
10:00am † Kevin Sutliffi - r/b Cathy Sutliff
11:30am † Richard Stefanacci - r/b Carol Stefanacci
6:00pm † Arturo Benemerito - r/b Juliet Benemerito

Monday: October 19, 2026
9:00am † Joan Sirard - r/b Doris Jergensen

Tuesday: October 20, 2026
6:30am For the people of the parish
9:00am † Mary Ellen Hellerman - r/b Maureen

Wednesday: October 21, 2026
6:30am For the people of the parish
9:00am † Marco Minuto - r/b Cathy Sutliff

Thursday: October 22, 2026
6:30am For the people of the parish
9:00am † Seweryna Szymanska - r/b Family

Friday: October 23, 2026
9:00am † Joan Kenney - r/b The Betsy Family

Saturday: October 24, 2026
9:00am † Ted Pintard - r/b Kay Higgins
5:00pm Living and deceased members of the Taite and Nobile Family - r/b Susan Taite -Malone

Sunday: October 25, 2026
8:00am † Patricia and John Halliwell - r/b Pam Corry
10:00am † Rich Grinchunas - r/b Mary Dalton
11:30am † Jacqueline Taite and Deceased members of the Taite Family - r/b Susan Taite -Malone
6:00pm † Ariana Diaz and Christopher Diaz - r/b Christopher Diaz

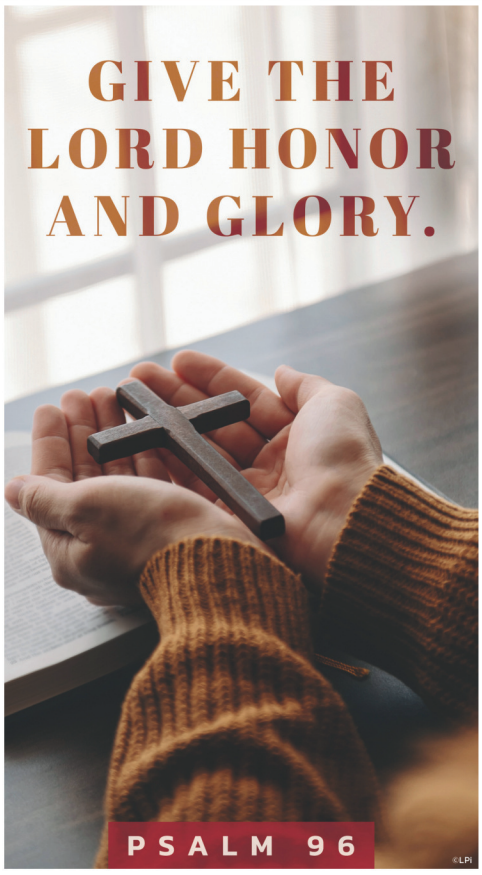
IN LOVING REMEMBRANCE

The Altar Bread and Wine consecrated during the week of October 18th is requested for Beverly & Alfred Nash requested by Lori.

The Sanctuary Lamp at the Blessed Sacrament and the Altar Bread and Wine consecrated during the week are available as memorials for loved ones. To arrange, please contact the parish office at (201) 327-5663.

OUR PARISH COMMUNITY HOLDS IN PRAYER ALL WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND.

Salvatore Averso
Daniel Castillo
Dawn Conguis
Ada Fields
Meg Gallagher
Grace Gilbert
Bob Kleinknecht
Joan Massotti
Nicole Trotta
Merilyn Wolf
Patrick Scheid Scorese



PRESIDERS' SCHEDULE

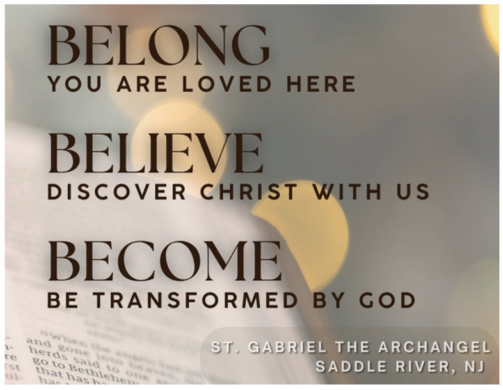
October 17-18
Sat 5:00pm- Fr. Frank
Sun 8:00am- Fr. Ron
Sun 10:00am- Fr. Frank
Sun 11:30am- Fr. Frank
Sun 6:00pm- Fr. Ron

October 24-25
Sat 5:00pm- Fr. Ron
Sun 8:00am- Fr. Frank
Sun 10:00am- Fr. Anthony
Sun 11:30am- Fr. Ron
Sun 6:00pm- Fr. Frank

FLOCKNOTE: NEVER MISS A PARISH EVENT AGAIN!

Stay connected with St. Gabe's through parish news, events, announcements, reminders, and schedule updates, delivered right to your inbox!





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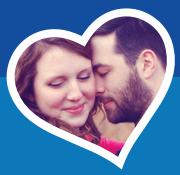

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