

ST. GABRIEL THE ARCHANGEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2026

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

I AM THE GATE.

— JOHN 10:9 —



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

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

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FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

CALLED BY NAME

It isn't a shock that we're experiencing a lack of priestly vocations in the western world, especially in Europe and North America. Interestingly, in places like the Philippines, Africa, and parts of South America, vocations seem to thrive. But, I don't buy the idea that God somehow stopped calling, *here*. It's just harder to hear his voice. There's too much noise. Our culture is loud. It keeps preaching that happiness comes from money, success, comfort, status...keeping all your options open, *forever*. The priesthood asks for something very different: something very *counter-cultural*, celibacy, etc.

But I think there are other real reasons, too. Families are smaller now. Parents understandably want security for their kids. They want stability. They want the family name to continue. Priesthood can feel like a *strange* choice in a world that measures success by income and visible achievement.

And young people today are carrying a lot – anxiety, fear about the future, financial pressure, student debt, uncertainty about commitment in general. If marriage itself feels like a huge lifelong leap, imagine how priesthood can feel! Especially as a celibate!

There's also the reality that many young people simply haven't had enough real contact with joyful, normal, healthy priests. If the priesthood is only seen from a distance, or through scandal headlines, it becomes harder to imagine *yourself* there.

When I was ordained in 2011, there were 15 men in my ordination class. Fifteen! That wasn't ancient history. Now, looking ahead, there is a very real possibility that within the next two years, our Archdiocese may have no one to ordain. Perhaps the first time in Newark's history. That should wake all of us up!

Part of me has wondered – and I could be wrong, because if anybody claims to *fully* know the heart, mind, and will of God (that's a pretty big claim), but *maybe* part of this dearth of vocations is God pushing the Church to be more creative? I don't know...but maybe this is also an opportunity to be reminded that discipleship, evangelization, and leadership do not rest *solely* on priests.

We need **strong** lay leadership. We need disciples who take ownership. We need people, like you, who understand that the Church belongs to all of us. That connects directly to *We Are His Witnesses* and the work happening across our Archdiocese right now. But let's also be clear: we still need priests: for the Eucharist, for Confession, for the Anointing of the Sick, for the preaching of the Gospel and helping people encounter Christ. The sacramental life of the Church depends on it.

So, of course, we pray for vocations. But pray should lead us to some type of action: encourage vocations in your family, in your personal circles.

One *simple* way we can do that is what Cardinal Tobin is asking us to do this weekend with **"Called By Name."** Think of a young man you know (a son, grandson, nephew, godson, altar server, or just someone in the parish, outside) who has a real love for God, a generous heart, the kind of character that makes you think, *"maybe Christ is calling him to something more."*

You'll submit his name on the card provided, drop in the collection basket, and we'll send those over to Cardinal Tobin and the Vocations Team of the Archdiocese, and they will reach out personally with a letter, encouragement, and an invitation to some vocation events to help them discern.

Friends, God is still calling through the voice of the Good Shepherd. But Christ never stops borrowing our voice "to speak" and "to do!"

...continued from previous column

FIRST COMMUNIONS

Congratulations to our 34 young disciples who celebrated First Holy Communion these past two weekends. What a great joy for our parish! You should have seen them – the boys looked like little mafiosi, and the girls like angels, queens, or brides of Christ! And the joy and excitement on their faces could make you cry!

There's something beautiful about watching a child come to the altar for the first time, and how Jesus himself invites them into a lifelong (eternity-long) relationship with him. Same for us. Why does he do this? Simple. Because he loves us, period. Congratulations, children and parents!

I want to thank Amanda, our Director of Religious Education, our 2nd grade catechists, Lori Caruso and Kathy Kennedy for introducing these children to Christ!

Related: First Communion Children (come in their First Communion outfits), and any child present for the 10am Mass next Sunday are invited to 1) Participate in Children's Church, 2) Participate in the May Crowning which will take place before the Offertory.

NEW ADULT DISCIPLES!

Today at the 10:00am Mass, we celebrate another beautiful moment as Nicholas Frei, Anita Mathew, and Linda Strobeck are received into full communion with the Catholic Church, and along with Luca Kiss, who is already Catholic, will all be confirmed and receive the Eucharist.

Linda Strobeck, one of our candidates, wrote something that was really impactful: *"Jesus is my guide and my source of strength. This past year, I've grown closer to Him by learning to slow down, listen, and trust that I'm being led exactly where I'm meant to be. It's been a beautiful journey. Being part of St. Gabriel's community has connected me with others who are on the same path, which has been incredibly meaningful. It's helped me feel supported, deepen my faith, and grow closer to Jesus alongside a community that understands and shares that journey. I feel truly blessed and grateful to be part of such a loving, supportive community."* WOW.

BETHLEHEM HANDICRAFTS

Next weekend we'll welcome Bethlehem Handicrafts, who support Christian families in Bethlehem by selling handmade olive wood religious articles. This is timely, considering all that is going on in the part of the world.

CARDINAL TOBIN VISITS SAINT GABRIEL!

I'm very happy to share that Cardinal Joseph Tobin has graciously accepted my invitation to come celebrate the Eucharist with us on **Sunday, May 24 at 11:30am**. It is Pentecost Sunday, one of the great celebrations of the Church, and it will be a beautiful and joyful day for our parish.

I am personally grateful for the Cardinal – for his fatherly guidance, his kindness, and the real love he has shown me as one of his priests. I'm also grateful that he entrusted me with this wonderful parish family of St. Gabriel.

So please, make every effort to PACK this church when he arrives! I know it's Memorial Day Weekend, and many people travel, but if you normally attend another Mass, I ask you to consider making the 11:30am Mass your Mass that weekend. Let's give him a warm St. Gabriel welcome and celebrate Pentecost in a big way.

Friends, know you are loved!
Happy Easter!

Fr. Frank





THE KNIGHTS CORNER



Recent data shows that more than **1 billion people worldwide live with mental health disorders**. As stigma continues to surround mental illness, the Catholic Church is

increasing its efforts to promote mental health awareness and care through prayer and education. With this in mind, the Knights of Columbus will don their yellow vests and **"shake the can"** after all Masses on the weekend of May 9 & 10. Each year, our Council members collect funds in **support of those with special needs due to cognitive disabilities**. Your past support for this annual event has been outstanding. Please continue to help us support those in need.

The **May coffee social will be replaced by Munchkins for Moms** and will be held after all Masses on **Mother's Day, May 10th**. Please join us to celebrate all the St. Gabriel's Moms and those that play a mothering and nurturing role in our lives.

The **next Saint Gabriel's Knights of Columbus council meeting** is scheduled for Monday, May 11, starting with a social gathering at 6:30pm, followed by our business meeting at 7:00pm. The officers have made a commitment to do their best to end each business meeting by 8:00pm. We encourage all Brother Knights to attend, especially those we haven't seen in a while.

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? Caterina di Jacopo di Benincasa, known as **Catherine of Siena**, was a 14th-century Italian mystic, pious laywoman, and diplomat who engaged in papal and Italian politics. **Born into a massive family (she was one of 25 children)**, she had profound visions from age 6, later becoming a key figure in influencing the papacy while living as a consecrated layperson rather than a nun. **Her feast day is April 29** and she is the **Patroness of nurses**, the sick, and those who care for them, due to her service during the plague.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The amount of the collection for 4/19 was \$11,723.75.

Thank you for your generosity and God bless you and your families.

CALLED BY NAME

HONORING FAITHFUL YOUNG MEN IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK

Dear friends,

Cardinal Tobin is asking us to identify faithful young men (ages 15-35) who exhibit a love of God and neighbor, and who may be open to learning more about the priesthood.

To submit names, please visit newarkpriest.com.

The men whose names you submit will simply receive a letter of encouragement from Cardinal Tobin, invitations to discernment events, and support from the Archdiocesan Vocation Team. Thank you for supporting vocations!

Fr. Frank



NEWARK
PRIEST



ANNUAL ²⁰²⁶ APPEAL

We've reached our stretch goal! THANK YOU! Even more encouraging, we've seen an increase in donors from this time last year. Together, we've surpassed both our goal of \$78,840 and our stretch goal of \$102,492.

If we keep this momentum through June 30, we may qualify for a 2% reduction in our parish assessment or a rebate which directly supporting future parish projects.

Please prayerfully consider participating.

Online: rcan.org/sharing (select our parish), or scan the QR code.



COME PRAY THE ROSARY WITH US!

May is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, a special time to grow in faith through prayer.

Join us for a parish Rosary as we reflect on the life of Christ through the Mysteries. We will gather in the church *Monday, May 18 through Thursday, May 21 at 7:00 PM*, praying a different set of Mysteries each evening. Prayer sheets will be available.

Spend a peaceful half hour in prayer with our parish community. **ALL are welcome!**



Children's Church God's word, Kid-sized

Ages: 4-10

Parents, please invite your children to come forward and make the 10:00am your family Mass.



FLOCKNOTE: NEVER MISS A PARISH EVENT AGAIN



Join us on FLOCKNOTE! The fastest and most reliable way to share parish news, upcoming events, and last-minute schedule changes.

Sign up at

<https://stgabrielsr.flocknote.com/home> or scan the QR Code!

PRESIDERS' SCHEDULE

April 25- 26

Sat 5:00pm- Fr. Frank

Sun 8:00am- Fr. Frank

Sun 10:00am- Fr. Frank

Sun 11:30am- Fr. Anthony

Sun 6:00pm- Fr. Charlie

May 2- 3

Sat 5:00pm- Fr. Frank

Sun 8:00am- Fr. Frank

Sun 10:00am May Crowning- Fr. Frank

Sun 11:30am- Fr. Charlie

Sun 6:00pm- Fr. Frank



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

Salvatore Averso

Dawn Conguis

Meg Gallagher

Bill Hamilton

Joan Massotti

Nicole Trotta

Patrick Scheid Scorese

Daniel Castillo

Ada Fields

Grace Gilbert

Bob Kleinknecht

Marco Minuto

Merilyn Wolf





Sunday, April 26, 2026 | Fourth Sunday of Easter

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday: April 25, 2026

9:00am † Elizabeth Lawson - r/b The Bigley Family
5:00pm † Jerry Mattessich - r/b The Tarabocchia Family

Sunday: April 26, 2026

8:00am † Walter Mueller - r/b Ron and Camille Giancristofaro
10:00am † Mark Cockcroft and Deceased members of the Taite family - r/b Susan Taite-Malone
11:30am † Catherine Montgomery - r/b Dave Stuhr
6:00pm † Anthony Favaloro - r/b Audrey Galletti

Monday: April 27, 2026

9:00am † Priscilla Sue Mulligan - r/b John & Blanche Carabuena

Tuesday: April 28, 2026

6:30am For the people of the parish
9:00am † Carmela Cosentino - r/b John & Blanche Carabuena

Wednesday: April 29, 2026

6:30am For the people of the parish
9:00am † Anne Marie Haggerty - r/b The Laviano Family

Thursday: April 30, 2026

6:30am For the people of the parish
9:00am † Suzanne Snart - r/b Pat O'Brien

Friday: May 1, 2026

9:00am † Edward Stuhr, Jr - r/b Dave Stuhr

Saturday: May 2, 2026

9:00am † Joyce MacDonald - r/b Roxanne
5:00pm † Robert Mattessich - r/b Mr and Mrs Robert Zakrzewski

Sunday: May 3, 2026

8:00am † Ronald Sinkovitz - r/b John Bauerlein & Family
10:00am † Sue Tommasino - r/b The Salvitelli Family
11:30am † Richard Stefanacci - r/b The Stefanacci Family
6:00pm † Anthony J. Oliveri - r/b The Gallucci Family



IN LOVING REMEMBRANCE

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.



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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.



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