

DECEMBER 10, 2023 | SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

WELCOME! PARISH OFFICE

804-639-6712 (p) | 804-639-6591 (f) www.saintgabriel.org

Monday-Thursday | 8:30am-3:30pm Friday | 8:30am-1:30pm

Sacramental Emergencies 804-639-6712 Ext. 1

Anointing of the Sick

Contact the parish office for arrangements. In an emergency, call 804-639-6712 and dial ext. 1.

Ministry to the Sick

Catholics in our area who are seriously ill or their family members may contact the office for prayer requests. To request a prayer shawl, contact Becky Robinsonbbtsmi@aol.com.

Baptism

Please visit saintgabriel.org/Baptism register for preparation and celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism. It is recommended to contact the parish office six months in advance to prepare for the sacrament.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

The sacrament is available each Sunday from 8:15-8:45 a.m. and 10:15-10:45 a.m. You may also approach

The priest after the 5:30 p.m. Mass on Saturday, following the 9 a.m. Masses Wednesday—Friday or call the parish office for an appointment.

Marriage

Couples need to contact the pastor before scheduling a wedding at the parish. The presider will coordinate all preparation needed. It is recommended couples schedule this at least one year in advance to give adequate time to prepare.



MASS SCHEDULE

ST. GABRIEL

Wed. 9:00am Thu. 9:00am

Fri. 9:00am Sat 5:30nm

Sun. 9:00am & 11:00am

GOOD SAMARITAN

Sat. 4:00pm

Sun. 4:00pm (Hispanic)

PARISH STAFF

Pastor—Rev. Dr. Felix Rex Amofa | Ext. 1 | famofa@richmonddiocese.org

Parish Business Manager

Therese Venti | Ext. 2 | therese.venti@saintgabriel.org

Director of Adult Formation & Pastoral Care/RCIA Lisa Gorton | Ext. 8 | lisa.gorton@saintgabriel.org

Director of Children, Youth & Young Adult Formation Carole Cox | Ext. 4 | carole.cox@saintgabriel.org

Music Coordinator

Barbara Chandler | Ext. 5 | barbara.chandler@saintgabriel.org

COUNCILS

Pastoral Council—Jim Haug | pastoral.council@saintgabriel.org

Finance Council—Susan Yost | finance.council@saintgabriel.org

Knights of Columbus—Stephen Freeby | sfreebyir@yahoo.com

NEW TO THE PARISH? Welcome! We are blessed to have you with us. Whether you are visiting us for a brief time, looking for a new parish home, are returning to the practice of your Catholic faith or are interested in finding out more about the Catholic Church you are welcome. You can find out more about the parish on our website, www.saintgabriel.org or by calling the parish office at 804-639-6712.

SAINT GABRIEL

8901 Winterpock Road Chesterfield, VA 23832

GOOD SAMARITAN

13441 Patrick Henry Highway Amelia, VA 23002 Saint Gabriel and Good Samaritan Catholic Churches

PARISH VISION STATEMENT

St. Gabriel announced the coming of Jesus Christ. The community of Saint Gabriel announces the Good News alive today through our commitment to be a parish of welcome and hospitality through the stewardship of our gifts. Through our worship, outreach, formation, compassion and forgiveness, we are called to pause and reflect on our relationship with God and one another as we live the gospel each day of our lives.

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Sick Parishioners Names will appear for <u>3 months</u> after notification. Please resubmit if needed.

Florence Black
John Cimmino
Maria Estremera
Tina Shashaty Fuchs
Tim Kirkbride
Mary Kozlowski
Julio Pons
Leah Robinson
Patrick Salerno
Casey Stemper
Mary Stump
Lori Sullivan

Pat Martonik

Mass Intentions at time of publication

Wed., Dec. 13, 9:00 am Mass Intention Available
Thurs., Dec. 14, 9:00 am Mass Intention Available

Fri., Dec. 15, 9:00 am
Sat., Dec. 16, 5:30 pm
Surre Mieles
Sun., Dec. 17, 9:00 am
John Stemper

Sun., Dec. 17, 11:00 am For the parish and the entire universe

Beware of Scams— Always consider that uninvited contact from people or businesses, whether by phone, mail, email, in person or on a social networking site may be a scam. If it looks too good to be true or seems like an odd request, it probably is. Never give your personal information or monetary donations to anyone without verifying that the request is coming from a legitimate source.

HELP FOR VICTIMS OF ABUSE

Child Protective Services Hotline | 1-800-552-7096 Attorney General's Clergy Abuse Hotline | 1-833-454-9064 Victim Assistance Reporting Line | 1-877-887-9603 richmonddiocese.org/reporting-of-child-sexual-abuse-and-sexual-harassment/



Join Flocknote. With Flocknote, we are able to text everyone who joins or just a specific group. Join Flocknote and keep in touch with us via text and email. Text "GABRIELVA" to 84576

Please Note:

Kindly bring any items or written material(s) you would like to distribute to the community to the office for approval.

Do Not Leave items in the church or commons.

WEEKLY MASS & EVENT SCHEDULE

For the full Parish Calendar go to saintgabriel.org & click on "Events: Parish Calendar".

Sunday, December 10

8:00 am | Rosary 9:00 am | Mass 11:00 am | Mass

12:00 pm | Richmond Friends of the Homeless

PB&J Lunches

1:00 pm | PreK-1st Grade Faith Formation

1:00 pm | RCIC

3:00 pm | 2nd-5th Grade Faith Formation

Monday, December 11

11:00 am | Rosary

Tuesday, December 12

9:00 am | Rosary

9:00 am | Centering Prayer

6:30 pm | Confirmation Preparation

6:30 pm | ROCK- Raising our Catholic Kids

7:00 pm | Lectionary Study

7:30 pm | Fishermen

Wednesday, December 13

8:15 am | Rosary

6:00 pm | Cantor/Musician Practice

7:00 pm | Choir Practice

Thursday, December 14

8:15 am | Rosary 9:00 am | Mass

Friday, December 15

8:15 am | Rosary 9:00 am | Mass

10:00 am | Praying Hands Prayer Shawl

Ministry

Saturday, December 16

10:00 am | Rosary 5:30 pm | Mass

Sunday, December 17

8:00 am | Rosary 9:00 am | Mass 11:00 am | Mass

1:00 pm | High School Faith Formation 3:30 pm | Middle School Grade Faith

Formation

7:00 pm | Advent Musical Concert

NOTE: Parish Offices will be closed from Fri., Dec. 22 at Noon through Mon., Jan. 1 in observance of Christmas and New Year's celebrations. Offices will reopen on Tues., Jan. 2.

Your Parish Needs You... and You Need Your Parish!

By registering at St. Gabriel, you are declaring your desire to be part of a Catholic faith community. If you have recently moved to the area or if you are a long-time resident, make it official. **All information is kept confidential.**

Registering is easy!

Just scan this QR code or complete the form at www. saintgabriel.org.

Top Reasons to Register

- A sense of belonging and identity in the community.
- It is a commitment to practice your faith.
- Registration enables our pastor, staff, and community to get to know you better, to welcome and minister to you.
 This is especially important during a time of crisis so that the pastoral staff can attend to your spiritual needs and the needs of your family.
- Registration helps you stay connected with your parish and helps your parish stay connected with you. Providing your contact information is important so that parishes provide you with timely updates via email, direct mail, phone, etc. Also, in supporting your parish, if you use offertory envelopes or online giving, you will also receive a year-end statement of your donations for income tax purposes. Once you are registered, please notify the parish office of any changes in address or phone number.
- For the parish to record sacraments, as required by church law, and faith formation for your household, you need to be registered.
- Registered active members are eligible for sponsor/ godparent validation.
- Census numbers may determine how many priests are assigned to a parish and how many Masses and enrichment programs are planned and scheduled.

Register your Kroger Plus Card for St. Gabriel

We have **151** households that have registered their Kroger Plus Card for



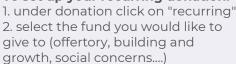
St. Gabriel. *Let's continue to grow that number!* It's SO simple...go to www.kroger.com/communityrewards and use St. Gabriel's organization number, 82387. Every time you shop at Kroger with your Kroger Plus Card it raises money for our parish! We just received a quarterly rebate check for \$642.14, bringing our total for fiscal year 2023/24 to \$1,314.42



Go Green - Enroll in Electronic Giving

One way to keep our parish going and growing is by consistent giving. An easy, convenient, secure and environmental friendly way is by using *E-Giving*. When you choose to give online, your donation will transfer directly to the parish. It is a convenience for you as you no longer need to bring your envelope, stop by an ATM or have your checkbook on you. It helps the parish as recurring donations provide consistency and efficiency.

To set up your E-Giving account, use this QR code or visit www.saintgabriel.org/E-giving.
To set up your recurring donation:



- 3. input your dollar amount
- 4. click on the recurrence time (weekly, bi-weekly, monthly) 5. you can do more than one fund by clicking on
- "+ Add Donation"
- 6. input how you would like to donate, credit/debit card or bank account
- 7. input your payment information
- 8. submit

It's that easy. At any time you can change your donation, do a special one-time donation. You manage your account. Please contact the parish office to let us know to stop sending envelopes. Thank you!



Shop with Scrip from your phone with the RaiseRight app!

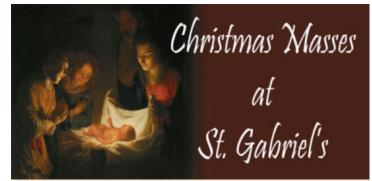
- 1. Download the RaiseRight mobile app from the app store using your smartphone or tablet
- 2. Enter the enrollment code to join. Call office for enrollment code.
- 3. The brand gives back to St. Gabriel the moment you buy a gift card—at no extra cost to you! **Have questions?** Call the ShopWithScrip Customer Support team at 1-800-727-4715 Option 3.





Richmond Friends of the Homeless Bagged Lunches Sun, Dec. 10

Following the 11 a.m. Mass meet us in the kitchen to make 150 peanut butter & jelly sandwich lunches for the homeless in Richmond. This is a great family activity. Youth can earn community service hours. It is monthly outreach activity Many hands make light work.



Mark your calendars:

Sunday, December 24,

4 p.m., 6:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Doors open at 3 p.m., 5:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

Monday, December 25, 10 a.m. Mass

NOTE: There will be a 4th Sunday of Advent Vigil Mass on Sat. Dec. 23, at 5:30 p.m. and 4th Sunday of Advent Dec. 24, 9 a.m. Mass only.

There will be no Masses Wed.—Fri., Dec. 27-29, 2023



March for Life Fri, January 19

Join St. Gabriel's parish in support of the Right to Life at the

March for Life in Washington, D.C. on Friday Jan. 19, 2024. We will start with Mass at 7:30 a.m., followed by Adoration for those not able to make the trip. The bus, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, will depart at 8:30 a.m. There is a fee of \$10.00 per person/\$20.00 per family to cover the cost of water and snacks on the bus. Please bring your own lunch. Sign-up sheets and additional details will be available in the Commons

after Mass the weekends of December 16/17, January 6/7 and 13/14. Please make all checks payable to St. Gabriel Catholic Church. Use the QR code if you would like to register online.





Please join us for an Advent Musical Concert on Sunday, Dec. 17 at 7 p.m. This is an opportunity to prepare our hearts for Christmas by hearing Scripture readings, choral and instrumental music provided by parish and other local musicians, and singing some familiar carols. Refreshments will be served afterward. Offered in partnership with music ministry and St. Gabriel Knights of Columbus Council 13170.

St. Gabriel Catholic Church is seeking a Part-Time Administrative Assistant (16 hrs. a week)

One Sunday a month the Administrative Assistant will supervise the use of the church building and media equipment for Children's Formation and 12 Monday evenings during the year for Sacramental preparation. They will also have office hours to handle production of bulletins, website, emails, parish census records and sacramental records. Maintains safe environment materials, assist with office and church inventories and assist parishioners with general questions. Provides phone coverage while in the office. Related associate/bachelor's degree preferred, strong computer skills, working knowledge of various computer software, and confidence in learning new software. Must possess effective verbal/written communication skills, planning and organizational skills, interpersonal skills and be able to maintain confidentiality. Please send resume and diocesan application (found on Richmond Diocese website) to St. Gabriel Catholic Church, Therese Venti, 8901 Winterpock Road, Chesterfield, VA 23832; or email to therese.venti@saintgabriel.org.



Advent Reconciliation Services

Tues., Dec. 12. Noon – St. John Neumann Catholic Church

Wed., Dec. 13, 7pm – St. Edward the Confessor Catholic Church

Fr. Felix hears confessions each Sunday from 8:15-8:45a.m. and 10:15-10:45a.m. You may also approach Fr. Felix after the 5:30p.m. Mass on Saturday or after the 11:00a.m. Mass on Sunday, during First Friday Holy Hour or call the parish office for an appointment.



Looking for ways to grow this Advent Season?

Visit the parish website page at www.saintgabriel.org —Advent Resources page to see the many opportunities available for you and for your family.

Also, don't miss the 2024 calendars on the welcome table in the Commons—please take just one per household.



New Friday Morning Bible Study begins Fri. Jan. 5, 9:45 a.m.

David the King with Bishop Barron

David is the paradigm of the good king in the Old Testament. His kingship recalls that of Adam in the Garden of Eden, and yet it points toward the King of kings, Jesus Christ. The video-based study program contains seven 90-minute sessions to explore the Davidic themes of kingship in the Old Testament and their fulfillment in Christ. If interested visit saintgabriel.org/Bible-Studies or contact Lisa Gorton at 804-639-6712 or sign up at the Adult Formation Table in the Commons. Directions will be given on how to purchase your \$20 study guide after you sign up.



Celebrate the **Solemnity** of Mary, The Holy Mother of God on Monday, January 1 at 10 am. Encounter Jesus at the end of the Mass with Exposition. Adoration and Benediction as we pray for the new year.



Liturgical Ministry Training Sat. Jan. 13, UVV 1:30-5 pm., 5:30 p.m. Mass commissioning

Please consider serving as a Eucharistic Minister, Lector, Usher or Altar server. You set your Mass preference and availability. It's a great way to get to know members of the community! If interested, visit https://www.saintgabriel.org/training or call Lisa Gorton at 804-639-6712.

We are in great need of Eucharistic Ministers and Ushers. Please consider joining!



Collection Catholic Charities was

Commonwealth Catholic Charities believed that the collective

found over a century ago

Catholic Charities

efforts of the church to faithfully serve people in need could change the course of poverty in our nation. Their mission includes affordable housing, food & nutrition, intergraded health, disaster relief, immigration and refugee support to name a few. At all Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day there will be a second collection to support their incredible and loving work. If you can, please consider making a donation.

Liturgical Life

CATHOLIC

The World Is Pregnant

There is a character, Rose of Sharon, in John Steinbeck's Grapes of Wrath who is pregnant with her first child. As her impoverished family migrates from their native Oklahoma to California, Rose of Sharon's all-consuming preoccupation is her unborn child. Everything she eats, every drink she lets pass her lips, every action she takes — none of it is done without thought for the child that is still so small as to make his mother's expectancy barely discernible to the naked eye.

"For Rose of Sharon was pregnant," wrote Steinbeck. "And the world was pregnant to her."

It is the same for us Christians in the Advent season. We can feel a change coming, and the hope of this change consumes us. It shapes our actions and our plans, we feel it in our hearts and in our souls and in our limbs. From the food we eat to the clothing we wear to the words we use, the unseen Child lives and breathes and works in every small part of this blessed season.

Even the commercial clamor that is the secular "Christmas holiday" cannot fully distract us from the holy sense of anticipation we have. We are baptized, and so it is inside of us, this voice that cries out in the desert. When we hear it, we cannot help but listen.

The Virgin is pregnant, and the world is pregnant to us.

"We await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells." — 2 Peter 3:13

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading

The prophet Isaiah offers comfort and hope to the Israelites who were captive in Babylon in proclaiming that the glory of the Lord is returning to Israel. Do you have family or friends who could use words of encouragement from you?

Second Reading

Peter speaks of being at peace while we wait for the promise of new heavens and a new earth when Christ returns. What gives you peace of mind these days?

Gospel Reading

Fulfilling the prophecies of Isaiah, John the Baptist proclaimed the arrival of Jesus, "one mightier than I...(who) will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." Where do you sense the Holy Spirt present in your life?

Scripture for the Week of 12/10

Sun: Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85:9-14; 2 Pt: 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

Mon: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 5:17-26

Tues: Zec 2:14-17 or Rev 11:19a, 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bc,

19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Wed: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30 **Thurs:** Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13b; Mt 11:11-15

Fri: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19

Sat: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2-3,15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13 **Next Sun:** Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-50, 53-54; 1 Thes 5:16-

24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Interested in Vocations? "A voice is calling." Is Christ calling you to let Him manifest His love in you as a priest or consecrated religious? Talk to your priest or reach out to the Office of Vocations at (804) 359-566lor via email: vocations@richmonddiocese.org.

Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Christ is making a journey into each of our hearts this Advent. Clear away whatever blocks his way. Make straight the path. Invite him in.



John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. - Mk 1:4 Apareció en el desierto Juan el Bautista predicando un bautismo de arrepentimiento, para el perdón de los pecados. - Mc 1, 4

16 de diciembre a las 4 pm: Intención de misa disponible 17 de diciembre a las 4 pm: Intención de misa disponible

10 de diciembre 2023— ¿Interesado en las vocaciones? "Una voz está llamando". ¿Te está llamando Cristo a que le permitas manifestar su amor en ti como sacerdote o religioso consagrado? Hable con su sacerdote o comuníquese con la Oficina de Vocaciones al (804) 359-5661 o por correo electrónico: vocations@richmonddiocese.org.

The December luncheon will be held on Wed., Dec. 20 at Yen Cheng Chinese restaurant at noon.

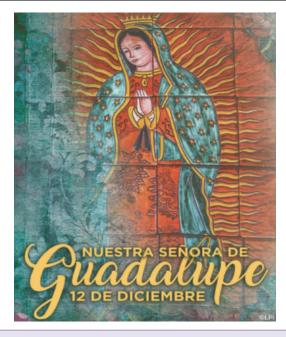
Mass Intentions:

December 16 at 4 pm: Mass intention available December 17 at 4 pm: Mass intention available

Baptisms: Visit www.saintgabriel.org/gsbaptismform for information regarding how to prepare for and celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism. It is recommended that parents submit the baptism form or contact the parish office six months in advance to prepare for the sacrament.

Weddings: Are you engaged and would like to plan your wedding? Congratulations and know we are excited to share in the planning of your Sacrament of Marriage. Please note that wedding dates cannot be scheduled before a couple meets with the presider. Contact the parish office at 639-6712 for an appointment at least one year in advance of the proposed wedding.

Quinceaneras: Is your daughter celebrating her Quinceanera this year? Quinceanera must be registered with the church coordinator before it can be scheduled. Forms are available on the parish website or in the coordinator's office. Register today!



Bautismos: Visite www.saintgabriel.org/gsbaptismform para obtener información sobre cómo prepararse y celebrar el sacramento del bautismo. Se recomienda que los padres envien el formulario de bautismo o comuníquese con la oficina parroquial con seis meses de anticipación para prepararse para el sacramento.

Bodas: ¿Estás comprometido y te gustaría planificar tu boda? Felicitaciones y estamos emocionados de participar en la planificación de su Sacramento del Matrimonio. Tenga en cuenta que las fechas de la boda no pueden ser programadas antes de que una pareja se reúna con el celebrante. Comuníquese con la oficina parroquial al 639-6712 para una cita al menos un año antes de la boda propuesta.

Quinceañeras: ¿Tu hija está celebrando su Quinceañera este año? La Quinceañera debe registrarse con el coordinador de la iglesia antes de que pueda programarse. Los formularios están disponibles en el sitio web de la parroquia o en la oficina del coordinador. ¡Regístrese hoy!





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AD CREATOR STUDIO



Mark Ruggieri — Parishioner
Golf Instructor & Playing Coach
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