

DECEMBER 31, 2023 | THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

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.

Visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ StGabrielCatholicChurch/

MASS SCHEDULE

ST. GABRIEL

7:00am Thu. 9:00am Fri 9:00am

Sat. 5:30pm

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 | sfreebyjr@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

PARISH VISION STATEMENT

St. Gabriel announced the coming of Jesus Christ. The

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Sick Parishioners Names will appear for 3 months after notification. Please resubmit if needed.

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

Pat Martonik

Mass Intentions at time of publication

Wed., Jan. 3, 9:00 am Mass Intention Available Mass Intention Available Thurs., Jan. 4, 9:00 am

Fri., Jan. 5, 9:00 am Bruce Brandfon Sat., Jan. 6, 5:30 pm Carla Powell

Sun., Jan. 7, 9:00 am For the parish and the entire universe

Sun., Jan. 7, 11:00 am Souls in Purgatory

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.



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

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-sexualharassment/

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 31

8:00 am Rosary

9:00 am | Mass with Consecration to the Holy

Family

11:00 am l Mass

Monday, January 1, Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God-Parish Offices Closed

10:00 am | Mass with Benediction

Tuesday, January 2

9:00 am Rosary

9:00 am | Centering Prayer 7:00 pm | Lectionary Study

Wednesday, January 3

8:15 am | Rosary 9:00 am **I** Mass 9:45 am **| WINGS**

6:00 pm | Cantor/Instrumental Rehearsal 6:30 pm | Respect Life Ministry Meeting

7:00 pm | Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 4

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

7:00 pm | RCIA/Candidates Gathering | Knights of Columbus Meeting 7:00 pm

Friday, January 5

8:15 am Rosary 9:00 am **I** Mass 9:45 am

| Bible Study

10:00 am | Praying Hands Prayer Shawl

Ministry

Saturday, January 6

10:00 am Rosary

5:30 pm | Mass with Food Pantry Collection

Sunday, January 7

8:00 am Rosary

| Mass with Food Pantry Collection 9:00 am | Mass with Food Pantry Collection 11:00 am | Richmond Friends of the Homeless 12:15 pm

PB&J Lunches

Interested in Vocations? "I am a shield

to you; Your reward shall be very great." If you feel God is offering you the gift of a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life as a sister, brother, or consecrated virgin, talk to your priest or reach out to the Office of Vocations at (804) 359-5661or via email: vocations@richmonddiocese.org.



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.

WANT TO JOIN?

We are happy to have you make the parish your new spiritual home. Please register by visiting www.saintgabriel.org/Newcomer-Registration or stop by the parish office.

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

Consider signing up for one of the many ministries of the parish. It is a great way to get to know more people, give back and grow in your faith. See the many ways you can serve Christ in the world by visiting www.saintgabriel.org/Time or call the parish office.

WANT TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH?

Or are you considering becoming a Catholic or do you need to complete your initiation sacraments? Wherever you are in your inquiry, know the Catholic Church welcomes new members of all ages. We would love to hear from you and help you discern the next step on your faith journey. To learn more about Catholicism and about the process of joining the Catholic faith, you can contact Lisa Gorton at 639-6712 or email lisa.gorton@saintgabriel.org.



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.

24th Week of Fiscal Year 2023-24 FINANCIAL INFORMATION NOT AVAILABLE AT TIME OF PUBLICATION



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:

- 1. under donation click on "recurring" 2. select the fund you would like to give to (offertory, building and growth, social concerns....)
- 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!

Register your Kroger Plus Card for St. Gabriel

We have **157** 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 \$619.29, bringing our total for fiscal year 2023/24 to \$1,933.71.



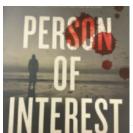


Celebrate the **Solemnity**of Mary, The Holy
Mother of God on Monday, January 1 at 10 am. Encounter Jesus at the end of the Mass with Exposition, Adoration and Benediction as we pray for the new year.



Food Pantry Weekend, Jan. 6 & 7

Please bring items for the food pantry for both St. Gabriel and Good Samaritan parishes. Donations may be left on the table by the library in the Commons at any of the Masses. Any financial donations can be placed in the basket marked Food Pantry at the entrance to the worship space. Visit https://www.saintgabriel.org/Food-Pantry for a list of what is needed. While all donations are appreciated, only items listed are needed, we kindly ask that you check the list before bringing your donation. Also, please check the expiration dates on the items you are donating. We cannot distribute items with an expired date. Thank you so much for supporting those in need in our community.



Explore "Person of Interest: Why Jesus Still Matters in a World that Rejects the Bible" at the Book Discussion Group on Sat. Jan. 20, 10 a.m. in the Commons

Join cold-case detective, J. Warner Wallace, as he uncovers

the truth about Jesus using the same approach he employs to solve real murder cases. Wallace describes his own investigative journey from atheism to Christianity as he sifts through the evidence from history alone, without relying on the New Testament. In this book, you'll: understand how Jesus changed the world and why he still matters today... learn how to think like a cold-case detective by using an innovative and unique "fuse and fallout" investigative strategy, which you can also use to examine other claims of history... and explore and learn how to respond to common objections to Christianity.

Sign up on the clipboard at the Adult Formation Table in the Commons or visit www.saintgabriel.org/book-discussion-group to take part.



New Friday Morning Bible Study, 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.



Richmond Friends of the Homeless Bagged Lunches Sun, Jan. 7

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



Liturgical Ministry
Training, Sat. Jan. 13,
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!

Check out the Parish Library!

Use this QR code to see by author all of the great materials available to help you grow in your faith. To check out a book, just take the book home and put in one of the baskets on the shelves when you are done.





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.





The need is constant. The gratification is instant. Give Blood.

St. Gabriel Blood Drive Come Join Us To Save A Life

Monday, January 22, from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: GABRIEL to schedule an appointment. Maximize your blood donation. Help more patients. If you are an eligible type O,B- or A- donor, consider making a Power Red donation. Red blood cells are the most commonly transfused blood component.



Jesus is calling us deeper

The National Eucharistic Revival is a movement to restore understanding and devotion to this great mystery here in the United States by helping us renew our worship of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist Check out the resources at the Eucharistic Revival Site at **saintgabriel.org/eucharistic-revival** to see what the parish is offering, and other online resources to build your relationship with Christ in His Holy Eucharist.



Uncork a bottle of your favorite vintage and join us as we continue this year of Eucharistic Revival with the Jesus and the Eu-

charist Series. We will begin in fellowship with wine and appetizers and then dive into these videos specifically designed for our year of Parish Revival. Don't miss a great opportunity to explore the richness of our Eucharistic faith. Just bring a bottle of wine and/or appetizers to share, and prepare to grow closer to Jesus alongside your fellow parishioners. The Series is offered monthly from 6:30—8 pm on Wed., Jan. 31, Feb. 28, Mar. 20, Apr. 24 and May 22. Sign up online at saintgabriel.org/eucharistic-revival or at the Adult Formation Table in the Commons.



Winter Warmth Drive for Commonwealth Catholic Charities

Please join our Middle School Faith Formation class in donating **new** wool socks, winter hats, gloves or scarves to Commonwealth Catholic Charities for the homeless in our area. All donations must be new (nothing handmade please). A collection bin will be at the Children & Youth Ministry table in the Commons throughout January. All donations must be received by January 28th for delivery to CCC on the 29th. Thank you for sharing the warmth of St. Gabriel with our less fortunate brothers and sisters.

CATHOLIC

The Sword and the Family

In the first few weeks of parenthood, the tears flowed fast and freely, and with very little provocation.

Sometimes I wept because it was getting dark out, and sometimes because the sun was coming up. Sometimes I wept because the days were so unbearably long. Sometimes I wept because they were so cruelly short and slipped past so quickly, bearing away with them forever these inaugural moments of my daughter's life — moments I knew I would long for on my deathbed.

So, the inclusion of the Presentation of Christ in the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary has always struck me. The Blessed Mother, just a few weeks after giving birth, standing at the holy temple: Is she tired? Is she emotional? Is she frightened? Is she happy? We cannot know for sure, but if she is anything like most of the postpartum women I know, she is all four. But she stands there dutifully, offering her baby to the Lord, and this is what she is told, "A sword shall pierce your heart."

Joyful? I would have snatched the baby back, called the police and sobbed for a week.

But Mary knows that Simeon speaks the truth, and she cannot receive God's will with anything less than joy, even if it means a pierced heart.

Family means love, but love means — what, exactly? Pleasure, fulfillment, contentment? Yes, but so much more, too. Love means you have much to lose.

How full is family life with these beautiful moments which, on the surface, look and feel painful — but hold within them the opportunity to be like Mary, to bow our heads and once again say "Yes, Lord."

"Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another..." — Colossians 3:12

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

HAPPY NEW YEAR'S! MAY YOUR LIFE BE BLESSED AS YOU SEE GOD BRING FORTH NEW THINGS IN THE COMING YEAR.



As a community, we strive to support survivors of child sexual abuse on their journey toward healing and wholeness.

For those who have suffered abuse by clergy residing in the Catholic Diocese of Richmond, we invite you to join virtually, January 3, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. Spouses and affected community members are also welcome. These gatherings, led by an independent facilitator, will offer a safe environment for participants to connect, share, support, and heal.

These meetings will be held the first Wednesday of each month.

If you would like more information, or the virtual meeting link, please call the Victim Assistance Coordinator at (877) 887-9603 or email dana@atreeplanted.org.

Scripture for the Week of 12/31

Sun: Sir 2-6, 12-14 pr Gn 15:1-6, 21:1-3: Ps 128:1-5 or 105:1-5, 8-9; Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17, or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17

-19; Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

Mon: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk

2:16-21

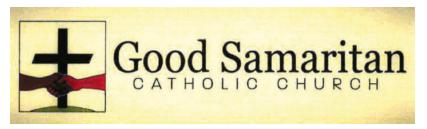
Tues: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28 **Wed:** 1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Ps 98:1-3, 6; Jn 1:29-34 **Thurs:** 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42 **Fri:** 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1-5; Jn 1:43-51

Sat: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Mk 1:7-11 or Lk

3:23-28 or 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38

Next Sun: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a,

5-6; Mt 2:1-12





Questions of the Week Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading

Abraham and Sarah relied on their faith in the Lord as they struggled with family matters. When have you needed to rely on faith when it comes to your family?

Second Reading

Hebrews teaches us that at every challenge in his life, Abraham consistently trusted and obeyed God. When have you had to surrender complete trust to God?

Gospel Reading

In their purification ritual in the Jerusalem Temple, Mary and Joseph learn news from Simeon and Anna about their newborn baby, Jesus. In your family, how do you deal with startling or unsettling news?

Financial information for the week ending Dec. 17 was not available at time of publication

Mass Intentions at time of publication:

January 6 at 4 pm: Mass intention available January 7 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!

La información financiera para la semana que finalizó el 17 de diciembre no estaba disponible al momento de la publicación

6 de enero a las 4 pm: Intención de misa disponible

7 de enero a las 4 pm: Intención de misa disponible

31 de diciembre 2023— ¿Interesado en las vocaciones? "Yo soy un escudo para ti; Tu recompensa será muy grande". Si sientes que Dios te está ofreciendo el regalo de una vocación al sacerdocio o a la vida consagrada como hermana, hermano o virgen consagrada, habla con tu sacerdote o comunícate con la Oficina de Vocaciones al (804) 359-5661

Bautismos: Visite www.saintgabriel.org/gsbaptismform para obtener información sobre cómo prepararse y celebrar el sacramento del bautismo. Se recomienda que los padres envíen 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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