



# Saint Gabriel the Archangel Parish

**Rev. Laurence V. Brault / Pastor**  
**Rev. Sagar Gundiga / Assoc. Pastor**

OFFICE HOURS:  
MONDAY – FRIDAY  
9:15 AM – 4:00PM  
508-603-1430  
Fax-1-508-529-1629

#### LITURGY SCHEDULE

**Lord's Day:** 5:00 (Vigil)  
8:00, 10:30, 12:00 and 5:30 PM  
**Weekdays:** 8:30 AM (Rosary at 8:00 AM)  
**Saturday:** 8:00 AM  
**Holy Days:** 7:00 PM (Vigil)  
8:30 AM and 7:00 PM  
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
Tuesdays 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM

#### SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturdays at 4:00 PM or by appointment. Those wishing spiritual direction should phone the Parish Office for an appointment.

#### CHRISTIAN INITIATION

(For Infants) Baptisms can be celebrated during or apart from Sunday Mass. For information concerning our parent and god-parent preparation program, please contact the Parish Office. (For Adults) The R.C.I.A. is for Non-Catholic and Catholic Adults who wish full initiation into the Catholic Church through Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. The R.C.I.A. is an ongoing process designed to meet individual needs. The R.C.I.A. Faith Sharing Community meets regularly on Tuesday evenings at 7:00.

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE :** contact Pastor for information at least 6 months prior to designated wedding date

#### WELCOME TO NEW PARISHIONERS

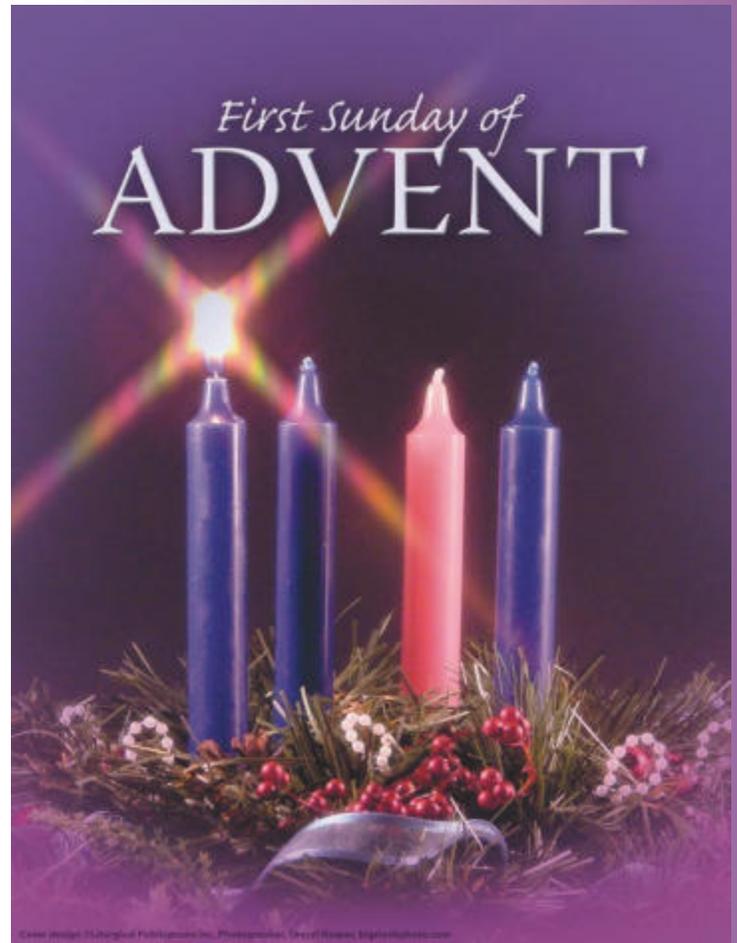
We are always happy to welcome new people into our parish family. If you have discovered our Church and like what you experience, why not become a member? Contact the Parish Office for more information.

#### PARISH BULLETIN

All items must be e-mailed to [crooney@stgabrielma.org](mailto:crooney@stgabrielma.org) or proposed in writing and left at the Parish Office by 9:00 AM Monday or one week early for holidays.

#### PASTORAL CARE

Arrangements for the reception of the sacraments at home can be made by contacting the Parish Office. Please also notify the Parish Office when a parishioner is in the hospital or otherwise



**Director of Religious Education**  
**Simone Caron** [scaron@stgabrielma.org](mailto:scaron@stgabrielma.org)

**Parish Administrative Assistant**  
**Colette Rooney** [crooney@stgabrielma.org](mailto:crooney@stgabrielma.org)



## MASS INTENTIONS

Sat., Nov 27	8:00	
	5:00	Ricky Scalise, Req by Tate Family
Sun., Nov 28	8:00	Laurence Delgrego , req by Joan Varney
	10:30	
	12:00	Jim LeBlanc, req by Jim and Kathy Langin
	5:30	
Mon., Nov 29	8:30	For the Holy Souls in Purgatory, req by St Gab's Redemption Ministry
Tues., Nov 30	8:30	
Wed., Dec 01	8:30	For the Holy Souls in Purgatory
Thurs., Dec 02	8:30	
Fri., Dec 03	8:30	For the Holy Souls in Purgatory
Sat., Dec 04	8:00	
	5:00	
Sun., Dec 05	8:00	Joseph Gorman, Sr., req by Varney Family
	10:30	
	12:00	Maurice and Pauline Capistran, req by Family
	5:30	

## 1st Sunday of Advent

Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

**Blessed first Sunday in Advent to each of you!**

Advent and Lent are the two penitential seasons of the church year. However, Advent is a season in anticipation of the birth of Christ in time. Now, what is meant by "the birth of Christ in time"? Our four Sundays of Advent are not just Sundays in preparation for the birth of a child destined to become the Savior of the nations, but the birth of a child every day in the hearts of every Christian and the future return of the second coming in time where everything will be taken back by our God.

In today's Gospel, for some this reading might strike fear into their hearts: "...perplexed by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will die of fright." Even today, we hear about doomsday sayers professing the end of the world on a particular date. To be sure, the end of the world will come! However, we truly do not know the time. Only God knows when God will call everything to return to him.

In the final lines of today's Gospel we are told to "be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent."

This first Sunday in the season of Advent is a time for us to joyfully await the coming of Christ for the first time, at birth; for the second time, into our everyday lives; and looking forward to the last time when he will come to take all of creation back to his Father



**CHECK WITH OFFICE TO SEE IF EVENT CANCELLED OR HAS BEEN RE-SCHEDULED:**

Mon., (all)	Bible Study	10:00am
Mon., (all)	Marian Rosary Group	4:00 pm
Thurs, 2nd of each Month	Healing prayer service	
Thurs., 3rd of each Month	Grief Group Mtg.,	7:00 pm in Parish Hall
Sun., 3rd of each Month	Peace & Social Justice Mtg.	7:00 pm (Will be announced when resuming)
Thurs. Nov 25	THANKSGIVING	Mass 8:30 am
Fri., Nov 26	OFFICE CLOSED	
Sat/Sun Dec 4/5	Women's Club Christmas Fair	
Sat/Sun Dec 4/5	Trees for Hope	
Tues., Dec 08-	Mass for the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	



**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

Mass times are as follows for this Holy Day of Obligation.

Tuesday Dec. 7th @ 7:00 pm  
Weds., December 8th @ 8:30 am , 7:00pm

# FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CORNER:

**Confirmation:** Any High School student who who is 10th Grade or above and would like to be confirmed in the Spring should contact Simone **BEFORE** mid December.

### NOVEMBER RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Nov. 14, 21	Gr. 1, 3, 4, 5, 6	9:05-10:20
Nov. 1, 15, 29	Gr. 7-11	6:00-8:00
Nov. 14	Retreat Team Meeting 6:30-8:00 pm	

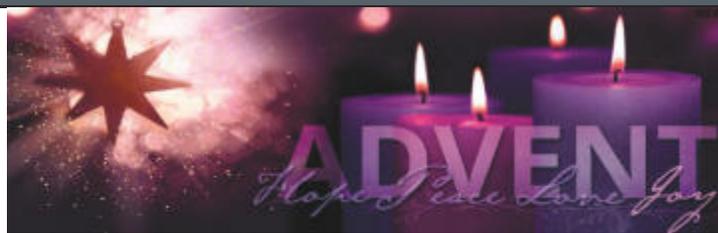
The Religious Education schedule for the 2021-2022 school year has started and is posted on St. Gabriel's web-site.

### ATTENTION MILITARY FAMILIES IN UPTON

The Upton Bloomer Girls and the Upton VFW are looking for names and addresses of Upton residents serving in the US Armed Forces in the US and abroad for the purpose of sending a holiday care package and to say thank you for their service. Please email the information to [elainef5454@gmail.com](mailto:elainef5454@gmail.com) or phone 508-361-9297. You may also contact any Bloomer Girl or mail to Upton Bloomer Girls, PO Box 121, Upton MA 01568.



### 1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT



### November 28, 2021: 1st Sunday of Advent

Staying awake can often be a challenge, especially when we are exhausted. Life's demands have a way of zapping every last bit of energy out of us. When we are tired it affects us not only physically, but psychologically and spiritually as well. All of our senses are dulled and diminished. We can overlook details, become disinterested, lethargic and apathetic, and detached. Getting sufficient physical rest only helps so much. We need to be rejuvenated, refreshed, and reenergized in other ways. If we are psychologically exhausted, we need to understand what is draining our emotions and taxing our relationships. If we are spiritually tired, we need to find the necessary "shot in the arm" to put us back in touch with God. Unfortunately, exhaustion is seldom limited to just one part of who we are. When we lack energy and zeal it is usually the case that everything suffers. We not only are affected physically, but psychologically and spiritually as well. In short, when we run out of gas the engine stops.

And yet, our Lord's directive is clear, "Be vigilant at all times." Even Jesus knew what "the anxieties of daily life" can do to us. One day pours into another and time quickly flies by. Any one of us can take a moment and reflect on how many wonderful, creative opportunities we miss because there is always so much "stuff" to do and so little time to do it. Usually these are missed moments of love, and if we are missing love encounters we are also missing God. Sleepwalking through life, we check the boxes next to our list of "must and have to dos" and justify it all by convincing ourselves that tomorrow is another day and there'll be more time. It may surprise us, but tomorrow is here, and time is running out. While we may like to believe that we have an "eternity" of time to do all those things that require the focus, energy, and desire we do not currently have, we don't. We're on a limited ride and time is short. Jesus is also clear on another point. "That day [will] catch you by surprise like a trap." If we are going to be judged on love and so easily justify not having all that much time to do so, then it seems we must shift focus a bit. St. Teresa of Calcutta tells us, "We desire to be able to welcome Jesus at Christmas-time, not in a cold manger of our heart, but in a heart full of love and humility, a heart so pure, so immaculate, so warm with love for one another." Getting to this place doesn't "just happen." It requires vigilance and discipline both with a knowledge of what is really of importance and what really needs to be the focus of our energy and time. Pray, starting now and not tomorrow, that we can stay alert, be strengthened in our faith, and prepared for whatever will come. Don't miss another opportunity to love.

**Grief Support Meeting:** The next meeting of the grief support group ministry will be **December 16th. At 7:00pm.** The primary mission of this ministry is to help bring healing to the wounds caused by grief. Meetings consist of listening to a reflective reading followed by optional sharing. All are welcome to attend whether you are grieving the loss of a spouse, child, sibling or friend and regardless of whether the loss was recent or long ago. For more information please do not hesitate to contact Fr. Larry or Christine Baldiga at [Chrisdave12@gmail.com](mailto:Chrisdave12@gmail.com) or call 508-320-6654 and feel free to leave a message.



**Worldwide Marriage Encounter**

To support married couples during this time of social distancing, Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring virtual marriage experiences. Some are on weekends and are seven sessions on weekdays from 7:00pm to 9:30pm. Couples will explore their individual personality styles, improve listening and communication skills, understand God's plan for their marriage, and learn how to keep their relationship a priority. Registration is limited and a \$100 application fee is required. For more information or to apply, call at or visit them at <https://www.mema.org/>. "May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all." Do you want to learn how to love your spouse better? Join us on the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience.



**Football Mania Week 2 2021 Winner**

Congratulations to Don Cook who won \$25 in Week 2 of St Gabriel's Knights of Columbus Football Mania sweepstakes fundraiser. We're now heading into week 3 of the Football Mania 10 week season. 8 more weeks to go, means 8 more winners, PLUS the big winner to be announced at the end of the season!

"Thank you" to all who purchased tickets to help St Gabriel's Knights of Columbus raise over \$1,200 to assist with our annual "Coats for Kids" program and the sponsorship of Seminarian, Michael Hoye of Sutton. Please keep the less fortunate of our community and Michael, our K of C sponsored Seminarian, in your prayers.



**Altar Sodality** is in need of a person who would like to help keep the worship areas clean. Cleaning is done on Thursdays from 10:00 to 11:30 or so. This is a wonderful group who enjoy spending time together while keeping our church sparkling for our Lord. If you are interested please call Betsy Gorman's 508-529-3752 or 508-626-5695.



**WOMEN'S CLUB CHRISTMAS FAIR**

St. Gabriel Women's Club will hold their Christmas

Fair on Sat., December 4<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 2pm upstairs in the church hall. In an effort to keep everyone's welfare in mind, **masks will be required for everyone** attending the fair. We will plan to sell the **Wreaths and Cemetery Baskets** outside, the raffle tickets for the **Theme Baskets** and **Lottery** in the narthex. The rest of the fair will be in the church hall including the **New Gift Table**, **Christmas Crafts, Jewelry, Olde Tyme Christmas** and **Bake Table**. The flea market, toys and luncheon have been eliminated this year to allow more space for comfortable distancing. A great way to start the holiday season is to come to our Christmas Fair. We missed everyone last year. ***Hope to see you all on December 4<sup>th</sup>!***

**TREES FOR HOPE FESTIVAL**

Register now to donate a decorated artificial tree for charities!

SATURDAY, DEC. 4, 2021 9AM-7PM  
SUNDAY, DEC. 5, 2021 9AM-1PM

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT:  
**DetecTogether**  
alzheimer's association

ST. GABRIEL THE ARCHANGEL PARISH  
151 Mendon Street, Upton, MA 01568

FOR DETAILS: Contact Penny Bentley at [bentleyp@charter.net](mailto:bentleyp@charter.net)

# FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## Tuesday Adoration



My friend an appeal from My Sacred Heart. Would you please take an hour or a half-hour of your precious time to come and visit me in the Blessed Sacrament on **Tuesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.** So many are trying to deal with problems alone-without me and my help. They seem to have no time for me. I am here for you and want you to come to me. Your friend, Jesus.

## Food Pantry



Once again we need to ask for your help. The Food Pantry needs pasta sauce, tuna fish, canned spaghetti, small cans of bake beans, and laundry detergent. Those who visit our Food Pantry are very grateful for your generous gifts. Your kindness gives each visitor the opportunity to experience God's love in their everyday life.

### Do you wish to obtain a prayer shawl?

If you wish to obtain a prayer shawl for someone who needs a "hug from God" (for loss, comfort, illness, surgery, military, etc.) please fill our a request form found in the entrance of the church. Occasionally the forms will be inserted into the weekly church bulletin. Please send it or take it to the parish office. We will call you when it is ready to be picked up. The shawls are FREE! Donations of yarn and/or money for supplies are very much appreciated.

## FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

The Lord invites us personally to spend time with Him during adoration. Let's accept His invitation! Being still and setting aside an hour to adore Him may be a hard thing to do; but, it may be the most important. The times when you need God the most are when you don't think you **December 3rd**. If you are able to spend some quiet time in prayer, please sign the sheet by Mary's Chapel for Friday Adoration.



## Marian Prayer

We encourage any parishioner who so desires to join us for our Marian prayer on Monday evenings at 4:00 p.m. This prayer, seeking the intercession of Mother Mary is offered for the continued strength and vibrancy of the faith community here at St. Gabriel's.

### Thank you! Thank you!! Thank you!!!

Our 4th grade CCD class would like to say a huge thank you to all our wonderful parishioners who supported our lemonade stand. Due to your incredible generosity we were able to raise \$402.00 to donate to St. Anne's Parish in Haiti. An amazing thank you to our last donor who found out we had raised \$360 and handed us another \$40 so we would reach \$400! Such generosity. Our class said this was the best CCD class ever and they learned a very important lesson on the spirit of giving.

## Grief Support Meeting



The next meeting of the grief support group ministry will be **December 16th**. The primary mission of this ministry is to help bring healing to the wounds caused by grief. Meetings consist of listening to a reflective reading followed by optional sharing. All are welcome to attend whether you are grieving the loss of a spouse, child, sibling or friend and regardless of whether the loss was recent or long ago. For more information please do not hesitate to contact Fr. Larry or Christine Baldiga at [Chrisdave12@gmail.com](mailto:Chrisdave12@gmail.com) or call 508-320-6654 and feel free to leave a message.

## Preparing the Manger

Where do you fall in the "Christmas-songs-in-November" debate — do you like them, tolerate them, or outright hate them? There's no theological problem with Christmas songs in November outside of worship, even if it's not everyone's cup of tea. But there is a problem with getting so caught up in the baggage of the season — the trimmings, the gifts, the celebrations, all of which are marvelous in their own way — that you forget to prepare the manger.

Every good Catholic knows that Lent is a penitential season. It's hard to miss that point — Lent doesn't even have any fun songs you can groove to on the radio. We are pretty good at recognizing that Lent calls us to examine ourselves. To deny ourselves. To give of ourselves. And most of all, Lent calls us to prepare, as a good steward does, for the return of our master.

It's harder for us to remember that with Advent, but Advent is just as much of an opportunity for penance, preparation, and reconciliation to God — and just as much reason, too. The very name of the season — "advent" — encourages us to focus on what is coming, not what is already here. Be on guard, the readings tell us today, "so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and (the coming of the Lord) catch you unexpectedly, like a trap."

So let us not forget — our master's advent is upon us. And let us ask ourselves: how can we prepare the manger

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