

Saint Gabriel Church

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December 2018

Dear St. Gabriel Parishioner,

Happy *Advent*, [and an early *Merry Christmas!*] What a joy it is to enter into the mysteries of the coming of the Lord, announced by our Patron, the Archangel Gabriel. I hope and pray that your preparation for the coming of our Lord has been spiritual and not too stressful in these hectic days.

This year seems to have flown by. This is also my 5th Christmas with you. Believe me when I tell you that to know you is to love you, and I feel privileged each day to have been given the great gift of being your pastor. Amidst change our parish continues to grow and flourish. We welcome a new Parochial Vicar, Fr Mariusz Olbrys. He looks forward to getting to know you and serving you. We have celebrated Marriages, Baptisms, Funerals, 1st Holy Communion, Confirmation, and Reconciliation. We have lived life in Christ in the Grace of the Sacraments, and have especially experienced the blessings of Our Lady through our monthly 2000 *Hail Marys*. I was blessed to spend time on pilgrimage to Ireland this year, where I got to pray for you at the Shrine of Our Lady of Knock. In the New Year I will be going on pilgrimage to the Holy Land, and will carry your prayers to the place where it all began.

Christmas is truly a wonderful time of year, when we Catholics let our joy be known in our greetings, our decorating, our cooking—all the joyful preparation of this Holy Season. It has been a joy growing in the Faith with you, the wonderful people of this Parish. I look forward to continuing our journey of Faith in the new year of 2019.

Know that you are in my prayers each day at the altar and in all the other prayers I offer. I count on your prayers as I count on your greeting and warmth. Enclosed you'll find an envelope you can use for your Christmas gift to your parish. St. Gabriel Parish relies on your generosity during these Holy Days to help us cover the many expenses which continue to rise, and to continue to offer the services and ministries by which we serve the Lord. Please be as generous as possible. May the blessings of the newborn King be yours in abundance and may 2019 come in with joy which lasts throughout the year.

Love and peace,

CHRISTMAS ~ NEW YEAR ~ MASS SCHEDULE 2018-2019

CHRISTMAS-THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Christmas Eve - Monday, December 24th

4 pm 5:15 pm 10 pm

Christmas Day - Tuesday, December 25th

11 am

NEW YEAR- BVM, THE MOTHER OF GOD

New Year's Eve - Monday, Dec. 31st

4 pm

New Year's Day - Tuesday, Jan. 1st

11 am