

* Week of January 14, 2018 *

MONDAY

1 Sm 15:16-23 * Ps 50:8-9,16-17,21-23 * Mk 2:18-22

TUESDAY 8:00am Word/Communion

1 Sm 16:1-13 * Ps 89:20-22,27-28 * Mk 2:23-28

WEDNESDAY 8:00am Mass

1 Sm 17:32-33,37,40-51 * Ps 144:1-2,9-10 * Mk 3:1-6

THURSDAY 8:00am Mass

1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7 * Ps 56:2-3,9-14 * Mk 3:7-12

FRIDAY

1 Sm 24:3-21 * Ps 57:2-4,6-11 * Mk 3:13-19

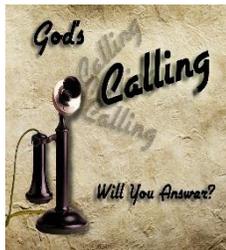
SATURDAY 4:30pm Mass

2 Sm 1:1-4,11-12,19,23-27 * Ps 80:2-3,5-7 * Mk 3:20-21

SUNDAY 9:30am Mass

Children's Liturgy of the Word & Nursery

Jon 3:1-5,10 * Ps 25:4-9 * 1 Cor 7:29-31 * Mk 1:14-20



* Parish Activities *

Mon., Jan. 15 6:15pm Religious Education

6:30pm Bible Timeline

Tues., Jan. 16 10:00am Scripture Study

6:30pm RCIA

6:30pm Quilters-West Campus

Thurs., Jan. 18 6:00pm PTO Meeting

7:00pm School Committee

RCIA Blessing & Anointing of the Catechumens: At next Sunday's Mass, we will celebrate the Rite of Blessing and Anointing with our Catechumen, Chris Krueger. This Rite is a sign of God's love and the Church's tender care. The blessing is given so that Chris will receive courage, joy and peace as he proceeds along his journey to baptism. The anointing with oil symbolizes his need for God's help and strength not only as he prepares for baptism but throughout his entire life.

From the Bench 🎵: Cantors – next scheduling session Mon., Jan. 22, 6:00pm. We will schedule for January 28 thru March 17. If you are unable to attend, please email unavailable dates to Sue by Sun., Jan. 28.

Summer Mission Trip: All high school and college students (age 20 and younger) are invited to participate in our summer mission trip to St. Vincent Mission in David, Kentucky, where we will be doing home-improvement projects for needy families in Appalachia! We can take a maximum of 16 youth (1st come-1st served) and 4 chaperones. To learn more about the trip, pick up a Summer Mission Trip 2018 info packet available at both church entrances, and prayerfully consider if Jesus is calling you to be his hands and feet in David, KY this summer. Contact Christine Sellnow at 662-6861 or parishoffice@auburnac.org with questions.

* Stewardship *

Weekly Target: \$11,538.47 * Offering: \$13,546.51

Contribution Statements: All registered parishioners were mailed a statement this week of donations given to the parish during 2017. Any questions or concerns about the statement should be directed to our bookkeeper, Janet. You are reminded that C.S.A. is a separate record. Any questions about the financial report of the parish should be directed to the pastor.

Children's Good Deeds: My Good Deed was...

- ...sharing my lunch with Savannah who forgot hers.
- ...sang Lord I hope this day is good to my family.
- ...shoveling the driveway and help babysitting my baby cousin.

* Education/Formation *

Family Talk Time Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families, Sara McGinnis Lee

What is something extraordinary about the ordinary in your life?

► **Reflecting on the Word:** As the Church returns to Ordinary Time, we are met with the excitement of the disciples as they recognize and follow Jesus. Ordinary Time in the liturgical year is anything but typical or "ordinary." While we return to the color green and move away from the excitement of the manger, we are met with stories about the ministry of Jesus. As we hear of Jesus' teaching and healing, we learn what it means to be daughters and sons of God. It is in the "ordinary time" that our lives are truly lived out and our missions completed.

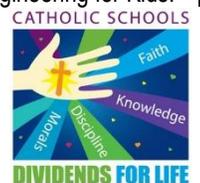
► **Living the Word:** With your family, look back through today's Gospel at the many promises God makes us through the names that Jesus is called. Words and phrases like *Rabbi* and *Messiah*, and the *Lamb of God* stand out. Using the Bible, see if you can find more images or phrases to describe God (Hint: Jesus uses many in his parables). Invite each family member to depict and image through action, a poem or a drawing. Come together to share your reflections. Encourage family members to explain why they chose a word or phrase.

* Auburn Area Catholic School *

► **Over the Christmas Holiday** Mrs. Thompson and her kindergarten students collected pajamas and story books for all the children at the Good Samaritan Rescue Mission in Bay City.

► Did you know AACCS offers:

- + A faith-based education from Preschool – 5th Grade.
- + Bi-monthly Masses.
- + Small class sizes with an average of 18 students per classroom.
- + iPads and laptops available for student use.
- + Smart boards in the K-5th grade classrooms.
- + Participating in the Dow STEM program and Engineering for Kids.
- + Progress monitoring to individualize instruction
- + Service Projects and Community Outreach
- + Athletics beginning in preschool.
- + Before / after school care
- + Extended Day Preschool for 4-year-olds.
- + PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions & Support)



* The Parish in the Community *

► **Free-Throw Championship:** Boys and girls ages 9-14 are invited to participate in a Free-Throw Contest sponsored by the Knights of Columbus #3590 Auburn on Jan. 20, 11:00am at St. Brigid Church (gym) in Midland. Call Ed Piotrowski at 859-8504 with questions.

► **A Special Gift for Michiganders:** The Spirituality of Blessed Solanus Casey, Presented by Fr. Dan Fox, OFM Cap., Sat., Jan. 27 at the Center for Ministry. Time: 9:30-11:30am followed by optional lunch. Cost: \$10 without lunch; \$20 with lunch. Registration deadline is Thurs., Jan. 18. For information and to register, call 989-797-6607.

January Wedding Anniversaries

- 40 years or more..... James & Paula Zoller
- 30 years or more..... William & Janette Deshano
Jimmy & Ann Wegener
- 10 years or more..... John & Kathleen Gardai
- Less than 10 years..... Terry & Kimberly Luptowski
Michael & Andrea Shelagowski



We thank you, O God, for the love You have implanted in our hearts. Bless our marriage, O God, with peace and happiness. Amen

Ordinary Time

We cannot speak of Ordinary Time without speaking of Sunday. The every seven-day celebration of the Lord's Day is the basic structure upon which the Church Year is built. The great liturgical seasons of Advent-Christmas and Lent-Easter are more expansive celebrations of particular aspects of the one paschal mystery which we celebrate every Lord's Day. These special seasons focus our attention upon critical dimensions of one mystery, a mystery so overwhelming that we are compelled to separate out its various elements for particular attention. These seasons in no way minimize the critical importance of the Sunday celebration throughout the rest of the year. Ordinary Time is not very ordinary at all. Ordinary time, the celebration of Sunday, is the identifying mark of the Christian community which comes together, remembering that on this first day of the week the Lord of Life was raised up and creation came at last to completion. Sunday as a day of play and worship is a sacrament of redeemed time. How we live Sunday proclaims to the world what we believe about redeemed time now and forever.

What happens in our churches every Sunday is the fruit of our week. What happens as the fruit of the week past is the beginning of the week to come. Sunday, like all sacraments, is simultaneously a point of arrival and departure for Christians on their way to the fullness of the kingdom. This is not ordinary all. This is the fabric of Christian living.

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sr. Mary McGlone, [Celebration](#)

Today's readings invite us to consider the macro and micro dimensions of our individual vocations. The idea of vocation brings us to the heart of our relationship with God; it is based on an assumption that everything we do finds its meaning with the context of that relationship. The macro dimension refers to the life decisions we each make; the choice of career, spouse, way of life. The talents God has given us, combined with our deepest desires and the needs of our times, lead us to discern the macro choices for how to live our vocation. Those choices set the context for all our micro decisions, decisions about our daily opportunities to contribute to the extension of God's reign among us.

Today's Gospel invites us to share the adventures of vocation with two of John the Baptist's disciples. They thought they had found the teacher who would give them the answers they sought. Then that teacher pointed to another, someone they did not know, and said, "Behold the Lamb of God." John loved them enough that their fulfillment mattered more to him than their companionship. His utter lack of egotism inspired them to try to catch up with Jesus as he walked along.

That was when Jesus turned to them and asked the most important question of their life: "What are you looking for?"

Rather than get tongue-tied or philosophical, they answered with a statement and a question. They made their statement by calling him "Rabbi," acknowledging that they were looking to him as a teacher. Their question, "Where are you staying?" was a way of saying, "We want to know more."

"Come and you will see," was the invitation into dialogue. When the Gospel tells us it was around four in the afternoon, the implication is that the two disciples went home with Jesus, ate and spent the evening. We could call this the day of their "first Communion." It was the first time they heard Jesus talk about his vocation, his dreams and his mission. It was the first time they broke bread with him. The Gospel lets us know that they were changed forever by what they encountered in him.

Today's Gospel asks, "What are you looking for?" We respond to that question through all our choices, large and small. As people baptized and thus consecrated to God, we also must look to God and ask, "What are you looking for?" God responds through the Scriptures

and the needs of our times. It is ours to decide if we want to accept the invitation to come and see – and be changed forever.

Samuel's Call

Sr. Mary McGlone, [Celebration](#)

Samuel's story offers multiple takeoff points for reflections on vocation. We could compare Hannah's dedication of her infant to our practice of baptizing children. Hannah understood, more intensely than many other parents, that her child was a gift from God and belonged to God even more than to herself and her husband. Parents who bring their children for baptism are playing the dual roles of Hannah and Eli, as they accept the responsibility to raise their children with an awareness of their relationship to God, giving them the freedom to follow the vocation to which they are called.

Another line of reflection on this story invites us to remember how we have been called to live our own vocations. Samuel's story presents God as wooing us insistently, calling us from sleep and leading us to others who can help us learn how to recognize the voice of God in our lives. The story invites us to reflect how God is trying to awaken us today.

The culmination of the story is Samuel's willingness to listen to God's voice. He responded with the very words Eli had given him. We understand that response better when we recall that, in biblical terms, the equivalent to that response is obedience. Thus, Samuel's response invites us to offer ourselves to God with the simple refrain: "Here am I, Lord, I come to do your will."



Respect the Body – Everybody (St. Paul)

[Celebration](#)

If we apply Paul's teaching to questions of racism or discrimination, we come to the inevitable conclusion that the denigration of any person is a denigration of the Creator. When Paul says that the Lord is for the body and the body for the lord, he is talking about every body: male, female, large, small, black, brown, red, yellow, white, typical or atypical in abilities. Every body is created for union with Christ. If we accept that the human person is made in the image of God, prejudice must then be understood as sacrilege and/or idolatry. It is sacrilege because it disrespects the temple of the Holy Spirit; anything that maligns a person, any act of disrespect, is a desecration of that temple. It is idolatry because it falsely sacralizes a deficient and purposely constricted image of the Divine.

This Gospel and Discipleship

[Celebration](#)

This reading presents two examples of how people enter into a life of discipleship. First, we see the disciples John sent to follow Jesus. Of them Jesus asks, "What do you seek?" Implying that they wanted to spend time with him, they asked where he lived, to which Jesus simply replied, "Come and see." Whatever they saw in that one night was enough to convince Andrew to go tell his brother they had discovered the Messiah.

One thing we learn from this reading is that when someone encounters Jesus, the inevitable response is to tell others about it. Discipleship is thus understood as a willingness to seek, to be called forth and to be sent. Underneath it all is an attitude that seeks more than one already knows about the meaning of life. It implies an ongoing willingness to learn and to tell others what you have found. As we will see in all the Gospels, both learning and proclaiming who Jesus is will be the essential and ongoing dimensions of the life of discipleship.

"Lord, let me be open and responsive to your call."