



84 W. Midland Rd., Auburn, MI 48611  
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 Facebook: St. Gabriel Parish, Auburn, Michigan  
 MyParish App: St. Gabriel Parish, Auburn, Michigan

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**LAY MINISTERS**

Anne Dearington	Cheryl Gedraitis	Marilyn Welz
Kellie Deming	Tim Hadd	Dave Willsie
Connie Kaczynski	Karen Willsie	Pam Graul-Gwizdala

**PRAYER LINE**

Mary Jane..... (989) 513-5137 [vicmaryj@hotmail.com](mailto:vicmaryj@hotmail.com)

Sisters of St. Clare ..... [srsclare.com/prayer](http://srsclare.com/prayer)

**BEFRIENDER**

Mary Ellyn Gushow ..... (989) 662-6745

**COMMUNION FOR HOMEBOUND**

Pam Graul-Gwizdala ..... (989) 513-3027

**MASSES**

Saturday 4:30 PM      Wednesday 8:00 AM (Not July)  
 Sunday 9:30 AM      Thursday 8:00 AM (Not July)

**WORD & COMMUNION SERVICE**

Tuesday 8:00 AM (Labor Day through Memorial Day)

**NEW PARISHIONERS**

Contact Parish Office for appointment to register.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Celebrated the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend each month. (Please check with parish office for current schedule) Must be active, registered member of parish family. Contact the Parish Office.

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE**

Arrangements should be made by contacting Parish Office at least six months in advance. Must be active, registered member of parish family.

**SACRAMENT OF THE SICK**

Notify Parish Office of parishioners experiencing serious illness, injury, or hospitalization. Communal Anointing of the Sick is celebrated annually in the Fall.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Available 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday each month at 11:00 AM in the Sacristy at St. Gabriel Parish \*Please call Parish Office for appointment.

**AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
 114 W. Midland Rd., Auburn, MI 48611  
 Phone.: (989) 662-6431 Fax: (989)662-3391  
[www.auburnacschool.org](http://www.auburnacschool.org)  
 Clark Switalski, Principal ..... [cswitalski@auburnac.org](mailto:cswitalski@auburnac.org)  
 School Office..... [schooloffice@auburnac.org](mailto:schooloffice@auburnac.org)

**SCHOOL ENDOWMENT  
 SPREADING THE SPIRIT FUND**

Clark Switalski, School Principal..... (989) 662-6431

**WEATHER POLICY**

If Bay City Public Schools or AACS close due to inclement weather, daytime (8:00 AM – 4:00 PM), parish activities are canceled. Cancellation of evening activities will be announced by 3:00 PM. Closures will be posted on TV: NBC 25, ABC 12, CBS 5.

## Week of January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021

### MONDAY

317: 2 Sm 5:1-7, 10 Ps 89: 21-22, 25-26 Mk 33:22-30

### TUESDAY 8 am Word and Communion

519: Acts 22:3-16 Ps 117:1bc, 2 Mk 16:15-18

### WEDNESDAY 8 am Mass

520: 2 Tm 1:1-8 Ps 96:1-3, 7-8a, 10 319 Mk4:1-20

### THURSDAY 8 am Mass

320: 2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29 Ps 132:1-5, 11-14 Mk 4:21-25

### FRIDAY 9 am School Mass

321: 2 Sm 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17 Ps 51:3-7, 10-11 Mk 4:26-34

### SATURDAY 4:30 pm Mass

322: 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17 Ps 51:12-17 Mk 4:35-41

### SUNDAY 9:30 am Mass

72: Jer 1:4-5,17-19 Ps 71:1-6,15,17 1 Cor 12:31--13:13 Lk 4:21-30



## UPCOMING PARISH ACTIVITIES

Monday, January 24<sup>th</sup> – RCIA 6 pm

Choir Practice – 6:30

Friday, January 28<sup>th</sup> – School Mass – 9 am

Saturday, January 29<sup>th</sup> – Rite of Welcome – 4:30 pm Mass

## STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Target: \$10,962 Offering: \$8430.25

Food Pantry: \$50

~ In Memory of Jean Kaczmarek - \$100 ~

Children Good Deeds

... No children's envelopes this week ...

## AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Clark Switalski, Principal



The students enjoyed a longer than expected weekend last week. We were closed on Thursday, Friday and Monday to clean the classrooms. There haven't been clear cut answers along the way in this pandemic, but I do think that sometimes just putting your foot out and moving forward one step at a time, trying to do the best for our students, is the only answer.

After proclaiming the passage from Isaiah, Jesus announces that he is the one the prophet had foretold. Can you imagine the response of his hearers? Do you think that they had a hard time believing the messiah was in their midst? Would they want to wait for another to come? Have there been times that it is hard to believe that God is in your midst?

...God Bless...

## Free Throw Championship

All boys and girls ages 9 to 14 are invited to participate in the 2022 Knights of Columbus Council 3590 Free Throw Championship. The Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship is sponsored annually, with winners progressing through local, district, and state competitions.

WHEN: Sunday, January 30 from 1 – 2 pm

WHERE: St Anthony Gym (West Campus)

QUESTIONS: Contact Tim Hall - 989-859-8087 or Ed Piotrowski - 989-859-850



## EDUCATION / FORMATION

**Family Talk Time** Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families, Sara McGinnis Lee  
Do you know anyone who is a lector at your parish? What is required of someone who wants to proclaim the Scriptures at Mass? One who proclaims the Scripture, like Jesus, must be a living witness to them.

## Reflecting on the Word:

Jesus proclaims the passage he read from Isaiah “is fulfilled in your hearing.” He declared himself to be chosen by God, the Messiah. Jesus began the work mentioned in Isaiah, but we know there is still more work to do. We are called to continue the work of Jesus. Jesus began this work in his hometown and spread to other towns. We can begin to spread God’s Word among those who are close to us and perhaps, one day share it with those who might be strangers and faraway.



## Living the Word:

In 2020, Pope Francis designated the Third Sunday in Ordinary time as “Word of God Sunday.” The Pope encourages all of us to take some time today to read a passage of Scripture and reflect on its meaning in our own lives. Gather as a family today and choose a Scripture passage to proclaim and reflect on together. Then decide on how you will respond to God’s Word.

## Congratulations on your baptism!



**Valorie Marie Robbins**

Daughter of  
Jonathon & Kendra Robbins

## RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (R.C.I.A.) – RITE OF WELCOME

Next Saturday, we will celebrate the Rite of Welcome with Sarah Gwizdala, Nick Jennings & Kaileigh Melnik. Since



October they have been attending inquiry sessions. This period of preparation has given them time to respond to the stirrings within to seek out life with Christ in this community of Catholic Christians. They are now ready to publicly declare their intention to continue their journey of faith toward full initiation in the Catholic Church. This rite marks the end of their inquiry time and welcomes them into the next stage of initiation – preparation for reception of the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. From this time on we embrace them as our own. Coffee and donuts will be served after mass on Saturday to offer you the opportunity to welcome them.

## Reminder...

There will be choir practice *every* Monday for the foreseeable future. Please call Sue LeVasseur with any questions or concerns, 989-205-4322





## FROM FR. TOM'S DESK

### Third Sunday Ordinary Time: Sr. Mary McGlone, Celebration

It began normally enough as he read passages they had heard scores of times before. Jesus proclaimed the prophet's comforting promises. People remembered how the Spirit had been with Isaiah. They mulled over the ancient dreams about good news to the poor, freedom from slavery, freedom from slavery, the recovery of sight. Some of the elders may smiled contentedly, thinking, "No matter how far he wandered, he is our son. He treasures the tradition."

Then Jesus rolled up the scroll. People were watching, awaiting his commentary. He looked at them and, in a sense, said, "This is happening right here, right now."

His statement blew like frigid wind chilling their quiet contentment and nostalgia. He was taking the Scriptures out of the context of the past and acting as if they were referring to their own times! Quick thinkers got it: He was speaking as if *he* were the anointed one. He was acting as if he believed it.

Today's Gospel selection ends here. Next week, we will pick up the story and hear how his scandalized and jealous neighbors reacted. But today's Liturgy of the Word stops at this point, leaving us in the same position as Jesus' astounded audience.

### Reason to Celebrate (Nehemiah 6): Celebration

Although the Liturgy of the Word rarely includes selections from the Book of Nehemiah, this wonderful, holy man is well worth knowing. He was the cup bearer to King Artaxerxes of Persia, and around 450 B.C.E. he obtained the king's permission to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. He organized the people to restore their city and then called them all together to renew their commitment to God. The elaborate celebration of that recommitment is the subject of today's first reading.

Nehemiah describes the scene of the celebration with careful detail. As on national holiday, everyone came together—including children who had reached the age of reason. This was a formal assembly of people who had collaborated with Nehemiah, who had braved enemy attacks and labored by hand to rebuild the city of God. The principal celebrant was the Ezra, the scribe. People prepared a wooden stage where he would be seen, and the scroll could be enthroned.

For six hours, Ezra read and explained the law to them. The celebration, as emotional as it was long, was the sort of event that unites people and lives on in their memory.

After the reading, Ezra called them out of their remorse. They had once been unfaithful, but that was in the past. Now was a time to rejoice in the God who brought them back together, who sent Nehemiah, and who renewed the covenant with them despite their sin. They were to treat the day as a holy day of celebration, a day when wealthy and poor would enjoy rich food and good wine.

### One Body, Many Members (1Corinthians12): Service

This passage continues last Sunday's reading in which Paul reminded the Corinthians of the existence of a variety of gifts of the Spirit, all of them more valuable than the glossolalia that had engaged their attention. In today's selection, he wishes to show how it is possible for different Christians to receive different gifts in different ways. His simile of the human body was not an uncommon one in his day. It was used most often as a political metaphor. Paul, however, reverses the usual approach. Instead of explaining how many persons can form one body, he emphasizes how one body can have many different members; indeed, it cannot be a body

without that differentiation. Consequently, he insists more on the duties of the members than on their rights. Paul concludes by stating the obvious point of these verses: No one member can perform all the functions necessary for well-being of the body.

### Time of Arrival (Luke 1 and 4): Service

The passage from chapter four continues the themes of the Lord's baptism of two Sundays ago and of the Cana miracle of last Sunday. Since there were no "ordained ministers," it was the custom to invite anyone of sufficient learning to take part in the performance of the synagogue services. The Sabbath service began with the *Shema* (cf. Deuteronomy 6:4-9), and included prayers, an assigned passage from the law, a variable reading from the prophets, a sermon (delivered seated) and a final blessing. Since Jesus was invited to preach, he could choose the passage for the variable reading. He reads Isaiah 61:1-2 and turns the occasion into a public proclamation of his messiahship. What the prophet promised is now realized in the people's midst (v.21). Jesus stands before them as the Lord's servant with a mission of amnesty and pardon.

### Telling our Story: Grace Works, Dallas Texas

In the strongest terms, hearing the story of Jesus, telling the story of his life, death, and resurrection, celebrating his love at the table of bread and wine is also telling our story. We, too, are called to be God's healing and liberating presence. We are God's arms and hands, eyes and ears to declare God's favor for all who dare believe they are loved both now and forevermore.

So, what does that mean for us this Lord's Day? At the very least, it means that the stories we tell and into which we live are important stories to hear, tell, and really become. Your story is no less important than mine. It will be different, uniquely yours, but not any less important on God's work or of lesser importance in God's church. Truth be told, there are persons in your circle of friends, family, and work associates who may never hear a sermon or experience a worship service. But every time you come into their presence, you become to them, through the story of your life, all that is good and lovely and hopeful, because you follow our Lord Jesus Christ. In that moment, "the Spirit of the Lord" can be expressed through you.

So, on this day when we again hear and tell the story of God's work among us, tell your story. Tell it by showing how God's Spirit has come to you, how God has gifted you to be that one, unique person that only you can be to God's greater glory.

### Prayer and Scripture: Douglas Fisher, Service

Henri Nouwen in *With Open Hands* describes a method of prayer which could be about listening to Scripture. In this quote, where he has "prayer," substitute "listening to Scripture" "Praying means being constantly ready to let go of your certainty and to move further on from where you are now. It demands you take to the road again and again...Praying demands poverty, that is, the readiness to live a life in which you have nothing to lose so that you may always begin afresh...But this demands courage. If you are to make real all the consequences of a prayerful life, you might well be frightened and wonder if you should dare. Then it is vital to remember that courage also is a gift from God."

Let's listen to and read the bible in a new way. Let's not see Scripture as dealing with God and not us. Let's read it the way Jesus did—in a manner which changes our hearts, changes our lives, and leaves us open to the great things the Lord will do with us.

*"As a member of the Body of Christ, Lord, may I do my part"*





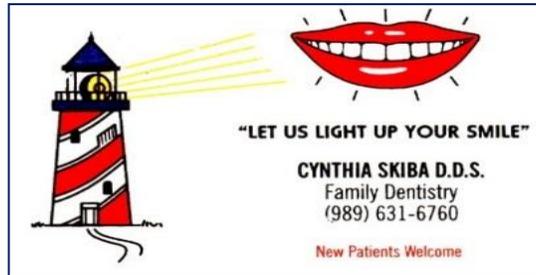
**Update for CMA...**  
 Here is the latest update for CMA. A recent report from the diocese indicates that **\$59,609** approximately **85%** of our target has been pledged/donated toward our parish target of **\$69,796**. With **234** of our parishioners that have participated. We are getting so close! So, if you have already participated we thank you and if not we wholeheartedly encourage you to do so and we can reach our goal!

John D. McNally 989-662-6952

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**St. Anthony Cemetery 4485 S. Eleven Mile Rd., Auburn**



COLUMBARIUM	Parishioner	Non-Parishioner
Single (1 Urn)	\$1,000	\$1,500
Double (2 Urns)	\$1,400	\$1,750
Inurnment	\$ 250 per niche	\$ 300 per niche
CEMETERY	Parishioner	Non-Parishioner
Plot	\$ 500	\$1,200
Burial	\$ 650	\$ 850
Burial of Cremains	\$ 150	\$ 175
Saturday Burial	\$ 200 additional	\$ 200 additional
Foundation	\$ 0.40 per sq. inch	\$ 0.40 per sq. inch

**Contact St. Gabriel Parish Office at 989-662-6861**