



84 W. Midland Rd., Auburn, MI 48611
 Ph.; (989) 662-6861 Fax: (989) 662-0064
www.auburnac.org
 Facebook: St. Gabriel Parish, Auburn, Michigan
 MyParish App: St. Gabriel Parish, Auburn, Michigan

PASTOR

Rev. Thomas E. Sutton tsutton@auburnac.org

PARISH STAFF

Office, Kim Grant parishoffice@auburnac.org
 Bookkeeper
 Janet Woronoff bookkeeper@auburnac.org
 Director of Religious Education (989) 662-4335
 Sandy DesJardins faithformation@auburnac.org
 Music Director
 Sue LeVasseur musicdirector@auburnac.org
 Youth Minister
 Misty Michelle youthff@auburnac.org

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
 Sisters of St. Clare 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 2nd 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 1st Saturday each month at 11:00 AM (Not July) in the Sacristy at St. Gabriel Parish 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
 Clark Switalski, Principal cswitalski@auburnac.org
 School Office schooloffice@auburnac.org

**SCHOOL ENDOWMENT
 SPREADING THE SPIRIT FUND**

Clark Switalski, School Principal (989) 662-6431

WEATHER POLICY

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

Week of January 31st ,2021

MONDAY

323:2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13 Ps 3:2-7 Mk 5:1-20

TUESDAY 8 am Word and Communion

324: 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30—19:3 Ps 86:1-6 Mk 5:21-43

WEDNESDAY 8 am Mass

524: Mal 3:1-4 Ps 24:7-10 Heb 2:14-18 Lk 2:22-40

THURSDAY 8 am Mass

326: 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12 (Ps) 1Chr 29:10-11b, 11d-12 Mk 6:7-13

FRIDAY

327: Sir 47:2-11 Ps 18:31, 47, 50-51 Mk 6:14-29

SATURDAY 4:30 pm Mass

328:1 Kgs 3:4-13 Ps 119:9-14 Mk 6:30-34

SUNDAY 9:30 am Mass

75:ls 6:1-2a, 3-8 Ps 138:1-5, 7-8 1 Cor 15:1-11 Lk 5:1-11



PARISH ACTIVITIES

Catholic Schools Week

Monday, January 31st – Cantor Practice 6 pm

Choir Practice 6:30 pm

Saturday, February 5th – Confession 11 am

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Target: \$10,962 Offering: \$8,709

Food Pantry: \$20

Children's Good Deeds

...Held the door open for someone...

AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Clark Switalski, Principal

This is the official start of Catholic Schools Week! A week where we can celebrate our commitment to our Catholic School. We have a duty and a responsibility to help our children grow in their faith and build a strong Catholic foundation. AACCS is a place where that can happen on a daily basis through prayer, service, and knowledge. The goal in life is to reach heaven through living a virtuous life and being a better person every day.

In life, your biggest fans are often your harshest critics. Jesus was questioned by those who knew him from when he was growing up and they recognize him as Joseph's son, not as the Son of God. The people had a pre-conceived notion about Jesus because of his history in the village. Seeing people for what they are is often skewed by our own preconceived notions, prejudices, or personal bias. Looking authentically at the gifts people bring to the situation is the best way for all of us to keep perspective in our daily lives and the interactions we have.

...**God Bless...**



Catholic Schools
Faith. Excellence. Service.

EDUCATION / FORMATION

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

Think about gifts and talents. How are you using them to do God's work? Think about how Jesus' neighbors reacted to him. Are there times when trying to follow Jesus makes some of your friends angry with you? Do your actions challenge them?

Reflecting on the Word:



Today's Gospel continues where last week's left off. Jesus had just read from the Scripture and declared that he was the one that the passage was referring to. Everyone who was listening knew Jesus and wondered how

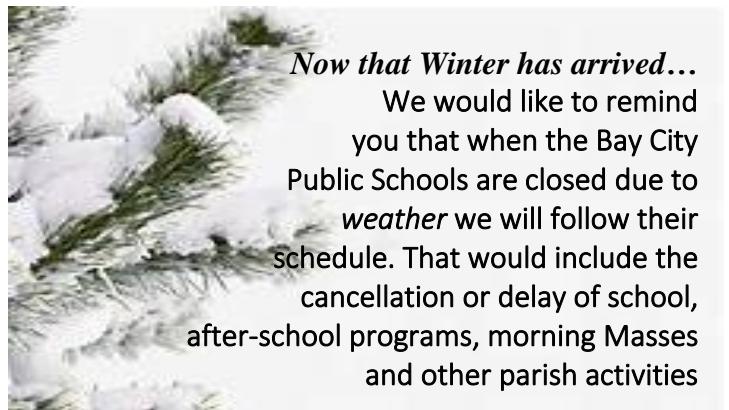
someone so ordinary could claim to be someone so great. The people became so angry with Jesus they wanted to throw him off a cliff! Jesus was admitting to who he truly was. Each one of us, as we reflect on God's Word, are called to be more than we already are: to grow as children of God and not be afraid to proclaim it.

Living the Word:

Create acrostic poems that reflect your family's gifts and talents. Write a family member's name, one letter on each line, vertically on a sheet of paper. For each letter, choose descriptive words or phrases that best describe that person. Display the poems in your prayer space and let them be reminders of each person's gifts and talents. How will you support one another to use them to bring about the kingdom of God?

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

Welcome to Sarah Gwizdala, Nick Jennings & Kaileigh Melnik. As they continue their journey of faith into the Church, please keep them in your prayers.



Now that Winter has arrived...

We would like to remind you that when the Bay City Public Schools are closed due to *weather* we will follow their schedule. That would include the cancellation or delay of school, after-school programs, morning Masses and other parish activities



FROM FR. TOM'S DESK

Fourth Sunday Ordinary Time: Dr. Dorothy Irvin, *Celebration*

There are times to dream of the future and imagine things to be other than they are now. There are times to be concerned with others in distant places, knowing they too are our brothers and sisters. The word says today, “Never as an escape—never those *other* times and places as salvation, at the expense of seeing Jesus in *this* time and place, in *these* people.” From patterns of faithfulness, acceptance and patient hope close to home comes the strength to be effective, world-changing prophets.

So, the scriptures open our eyes today to the feast of salvation before us. How wonderful to know that this hour of worship, as well as the rest of the week, is the time of salvation.

In the mundane moments, even in painful transitions, God’s promise to us through the prophet Jeremiah is fulfilled: “This day I have made you a fortified city, a pillar of iron. I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord.” Even now, during winter, God serves us a feast. Let us partake!

Our Call: (Jeremiah 1): *Celebration*

All that God said and promised to Jeremiah, God says to us. Whether our call is to teach, to preach, to nurse, to build, to manage, to fight fire or to uphold the law, the God who formed us, who knows us, who consecrated and appointed us is with us every step of the way. What greater qualifications could we have? What better resume’?

God also gives us the grace of integrity. Who we are before God is the same person we are before others. Jeremiah, whose life spanned the late seventh and early sixth centuries B.C.E., lived in perilous times. He prophesied his best; he cajoled, he pleaded, and he prayed. He used vivid imagery to convey his message. He promised a new and everlasting covenant of love with God—but in the end, he had to watch as his words went unheeded, and Jerusalem fell to Babylon’s armies.

Hyman of Love (I Corinthians 12 & 13): *Service*

Love is that quality which admits that my gift is of value only if it recognizes its necessary connection with every other gift and member of the community. In the first section of the hymn (13:1-3), Paul says that the gifts of tongues, knowledge, and faith are nothing without love. What he means by this is that they are nothing when used in isolation or as individual blessings. In the second part of the hymn (13:4-7), love is described. Notice, however, how the description is primary negative. What love is *not* are those things which would set an individual apart from the body: jealousy, snobbery, self-seeking, and brooding over wrongs. Love aims at keeping the body together. The final section (13:8-13) shifts to an eschatological perspective: love alone will last. All the other gifts which the Corinthians are fighting over will pass away when the end comes. What will last is love. Love will last because the Body of Christ will last. The body cannot live without love. Love is the very bonding which ties the members of the body together whether in this age or the next.

If at First: *Celebration*

Despite the rejection he experienced, Jesus remained resolute. His courage and determination to continue his work are clear in the fact that even though an angry crowd wanted him dead, he passed through their midst and continued on his way (v.30). Some scholars suggested that Jesus’ action was reminiscent of Deutero-Isaiah’s prophecy regarding the mission of the word of God: “So shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but shall do what pleases me, achieving the end for which I sent it” (Isa 55:11).

Jesus is the incarnate word of God spoken into this world. In all he said and did, Jesus carried out the will of the God who sent him. Today, Jesus’ followers are sent and spoken by God into the world, to heal, to preach, to teach and to establish God’s justice, peace, and truth.

Quotable: Deacon Dick Folger, *Celebration*

In the story from the Gospel today, Jesus invites us to understand who he is. When he announced, “This scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing,” his own townspeople rejected him and his claims.

“A Story That No One Can Beat” was the original title of Dr. Suess’ first children’s book, renamed “And to think I Saw It on Mulberry Street.” Suess said that he nearly burned the manuscript after it was rejected by 27 publishers. But his determination led to success, and today, 75 years later, they’re still printing his books and making movies about his characters.

Suess overcame rejection and told his readers, “Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don’t matter, and those who matter don’t mind.”

Your Gift: Robert Hamme, *Service*

For Jeremiah and Jesus, the role of prophet was one which eventually cost them their lives. For us, it is more likely to cost us in ways that are less dramatic but yet painful. It may be the pain of rejection or ridicule, or it may be the pain of sacrifice. It will require of us the patience, kindness, humility, forgiveness, and generosity that Paul describes in today’s second reading. Each of us has a unique gift to give as parents, as children, as workers, as husbands, as wives, as parishioners, as neighbors and as citizens. Each of us is called to be a prophet to each of these audiences by our words and deeds. Each of us must seek our own unique way of speaking and acting on God’s behalf. Only by dwelling on God’s love and knowledge of us can we discover the unique gift we have to offer.

Prophetic Role: Anthony Marinelli, *Service*

Every Christian, by virtue of baptism, has a prophetic role in the world. Put simply, this means that our first and last loyalty must be obedience to God’s will and openness to God’s Spirit. Sometimes this will place conflict with our families, friends, communities, and country. This prophetic dimension can be easily lost in a country where the vast majority of the people are baptized in their infancy as Christians and the culture has become so absorbed in their lives that they can no longer tell cultural values from Gospel values.

Reel Love: *Grace Works*, Dallas Texas

At the very least, **we confess that the word “love” is hard to define.** The New Testament uses three different words to define our English word “love.” In that sensuous, first century culture, most people first understood love as eros, from which we get the word “erotic.”

Eros is love with all the lights on self: my wants, my desires, my lusts, my passions. Eros is not the word Paul uses here. The second word the Greeks used for love was phileo which we would define as “brotherly love,” or love given and received in friendship with others. Phileo is reciprocal or exchanged between human beings, expressing well-being, a profound delight in or élan for the other as the other expresses well-being for us. But phileo is not Paul’s word here.

The word Paul uses is agape, or self-less, self-giving love. Agape is the love the New Testament champions as God’s gift to us. Agape is not a self-centered or even reciprocal reality. Rather, agape is love given to another with no expectation of receiving anything in return. The “more excellent way” Paul lifts up here in Corinthians is the way of agape. This entire chapter is Paul’s extended attempt—one in which he eventually runs out of words—to define the character of agape; a reality in which God calls us all to live.



Lay Ecclesial Ministry Informational Meeting

Is God calling you? Are you looking for something more? Do you feel a desire to strengthen and deepen your relationship with God? Are you interested in expanding your knowledge of Scripture and Catholic Theology? The Lay Ecclesial Ministry Program may be just what you are looking for! Sign up to learn more about this program at one of our upcoming virtual informational meetings.

- Virtual meetings are planned for:
Tuesday, February 15, 2022, 6:30-8:00 PM
Wednesday, March 9, 2022, 6:30-8:00 PM
Saturday, April 23, 2022, 1:30-3:00 PM


To register for any of these informational meetings or for more information about the Lay Ecclesial Ministry Program, please contact **Deb Popielarz**, Coordinator of Lay Ecclesial Ministry, at dpopielarz@dioceseofsaginaw.org or (989) 797-6660.

Update for CMA...

Here is the latest update for CMA A recent report from the diocese indicates that \$64,255 approximately 91% of our target has been pledged/donated toward our parish target of \$69,796. With 250 of our parishioners that have participated. Please keep making your pledges and thank-you for your stewardship!



Michael Kaczynski
 Painting/Carpentry
 989-662-7747
 Cell: 303-242-2650
mckaczynski@sbcglobal.net
 201 Weber St.
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St. Anthony Cemetery 4485 S. Eleven Mile Auburn, MI 48611

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