

* Week of February 4, 2018 *

MONDAY

1 Kgs 8:1-7,9-13 * Ps 132:6-10 * Mk 6:53-56

TUESDAY 8:00am Word/Communion

1 Kgs 8:22-23,27-30 * Ps 84:3-5,10-11 * Mk 7:1-13

WEDNESDAY 8:00am Mass

1 Kgs 10:1-10 * Ps 37:5-6,30-31,39-40 * Mk 7:14-23

THURSDAY 8:00am Mass

1 Kgs 11:4-13 * Ps 106:3-4,35-37,40 * Mk 7:24-30

FRIDAY 9:00am School Mass

1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19 * Ps 81:10-15 * Mk 7:31-37

SATURDAY 4:30pm Mass

1 Kgs 12:26-32;13:33-34 * Ps 106:6-7,19-22 * Mk 8:1-10

SUNDAY 9:30am Mass

Children's Liturgy of the Word & Nursery

Lv 13:1-2,44-46 * Ps 32:1-2,5,11 * 1 Cor 10:31 – 11:1 * Mk 1:40-45



* Parish Activities *

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| Mon., Feb. 5 | 9:00am Bulk Mailing |
| | 6:15pm Religious Education |
| | 6:30pm Choir Practice |
| Tues., Feb. 6 | 6:30pm Bible Timeline |
| | 10:00am Scripture Study |
| | 6:30pm RCIA |
| Thur., Feb. 8 | 6:30pm Commission Meetings |
| | 7:30pm Parish Council Meeting |
| Sun., Feb. 11 | 6:00pm Youth Ministry |



Rite of Sending of the Catechumens for Election:

Next Sunday at the 9:30am Mass, we will celebrate the Rite of Sending for Election. This rite offers the community the opportunity to express its approval and confirm the readiness of the catechumen and to send him forth to the celebration of the Rite of Election with Bishop Cistone on the First Sunday of Lent. Before the Bishop, Chris Krueger will declare his intention to seek full communion with us.

Summer Mission Trip: The deadline to sign up (by returning the forms in the info packet to the parish office) is Monday, February 12!

Small Group Scripture Sessions for Lent: You are invited to attend the six-week Small Group Scripture Sessions for Lent starting Sun., Feb. 18, 6:30-8:00pm at the parish center. Advanced registration by Feb. 12 is helpful. You can use the sign-up sheet located at the Café kiosk; call the parish at 662-6861; or email Connie Kaczynski at adulted@auburnac.org.

Small Group Lenten Reflection Booklets – *Around the Lenten Circle*, by Ann Naffziger – are available at the church entrances. These booklets are designed to be used in a group setting with others to reflect and talk about the Lenten Sunday readings. Everything you need is provided: prayer, scripture passages and reflection questions. The booklet can also be used individually for private use.

* Restaurant Days *

at the Auburn Hotel

Friday – Sunday, February 9-11, 2018

Redeem this coupon at the Auburn Hotel and AACCS will receive 10% of your food & non-alcoholic beverage purchase.

Valid for dine-in or take-out.

Valid for breakfast, lunch or dinner.



PRAYER IN THE GOSPELS: We hear that Jesus prayed by himself, early in the morning and often in an out-of-the-way place. It seemed that he had a pattern and it was a habit, something he did regularly.

Tips for growing a healthy prayer life: Catechist, Feb. 2018 Vol 51 No 5.

Frequent the Sacraments: If you can make daily Mass even once a week besides Sunday Mass, you have doubled your access to the greatest gift ever given humanity. If you go to confession at least monthly, you are surely going to get a multitude of graces. Put these on your calendar so you don't skip them.

Establish Good Habits: You should be able to rely on your habits to help you not hurt you, in your prayers. Experts recommend that a good habit takes about 66 days to establish.

Try Different Types of Prayer: We all have different tastes in prayer. Try out different types of prayer and see which ones work for you. One caveat: Don't give up too soon. It might take a long time to discover whether a particular method is good for you or not.

Fast Regularly: There is great power in fasting. We see it in Scripture when Jesus fasts. When we have more control over the desires of our bodies, we can pray better.

Overcome Distractions: The simple way to overcome a distraction is to not give in to it. Once you realize you are distracted, turn your heart and mind back to your prayer, not the distraction. This simple act is the easiest way to defeat distractions.

Get quiet: Our modern lives are filled with noise. We need to quiet ourselves to hear God – both internally and externally. Find a peaceful and quiet place to pray.

Prioritize Prayer: Schedule your prayer time. Bump something else. Get up early. Do whatever you need to do, but don't let a day go by without spending time with the most important person in your life.

Don't wait to start: Procrastination is the enemy of prayer.

If you feel called to pray, don't put it off.



➔ **Blood Drive:** Our next blood drive will be February 21, 1:30-6:30pm at the Auburn Library. You can sign up at the main church entrance or by calling the parish office at 662-6861.

* Education/Formation *

Family Talk Time *Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families*, Sara McGinnis Lee
Why did Jesus heal people? Why did Jesus spend time in prayer before healing people?

► **Reflecting on the Word:** "For this purpose have I come," Jesus said. Jesus preached and healed. He did not build anything, or rule, or invent anything. Through his preaching and healing, other things were set into place. People who have been healed and have heard the Good News no longer live in fear or want. Communities who have heard the Gospel will come together to take care of each other's needs. We must have confidence in the good that flows from faith.

► **Living the Word:** Gather the family in the prayer space, light a candle, and ask for petitions for anyone who is unwell in any way. If it is appropriate, the family also can make cards or put a message in a get-well card to let the individual know that you are praying for them. Discuss the power of prayer, and how Jesus still heals our bodies, minds and souls. Tell the children that we take part in Jesus' healing ministry when we care for others.

* Auburn Area Catholic School *

► **KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP and ALL SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE!**
Preschool-5th grade,

Thursday, February 22, 6pm.

► **Restaurant Weekend:** February 9-11.

Clip the coupon for this event.

Thanks for your support!!



NEXT WEEKEND...

Food Pantry: Items most needed are Kleenex, toilet paper, toothpaste & brushes, shampoo, deodorant, dish detergent, cleaning products, pancake mix & syrup and cereal.

Plus – New members, please join us for **Coffee & Donuts!!**
We would love to meet you and get to know you!!!

* Stewardship *

Weekly Target: \$11,538.47 * Offering: \$8,098.06

Children's G@d Deeds: My Good Deed was...

- ...reading a book to my sister.
- ...I helped a classmate during a hard time.
- ...I taught my Grandma how to dance.

* From Father Tom's Desk *

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sr. Mary McGlone, [Celebration](#)

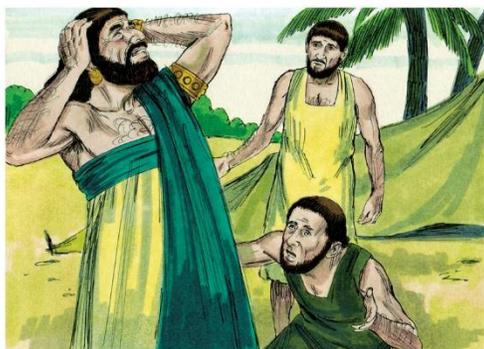
Today's Liturgy of the Word invites us to spent time with three of our ancestors in faith. Job the theologian will caution us about any sense of entitlement, reminding us that nothing we can do merits life and the love of God. We can only receive them as free gifts. Paul the passionate apostle challenges us to evaluate whether our way of life and the messages we proclaim are true to who we are and God's life in us. Peter's mother-in-law leads the way in showing us how to be faithful images of the Master. She demonstrates that sharing God's love can be as simple as setting the table and enjoying communion with anyone who comes.

Just Like Job?

[Celebration](#)

When we meet Job this weekend he is lamenting his fate. He who once had everything, now finds himself poor, sick and abandoned. His crisis seems to make him realize, perhaps for the first time, that there is real, innocent suffering in life. This is the test of his faith.

For the first time in his life, instead of seeing things from the vantage point of someone who has everything, he was forced to see life from the perspective of people



who suffer. He heard his friends theologize, asserting that God blesses the good and punishes the wicked, but their arguments did not hold water. Job has come up against the hardest question a believer can face: Is it possible to praise God from the depths of misery?

For the moment, Job seems to just sit in his gloom. But in reality, he is complaining, and that is a sign of life. We find his theme echoed by the prophets Jeremiah and Ezekiel as well as in the Book of Psalms. When Job cries out to God, he is making the only act of faith he is capable of at that moment. His complaint prepares him for the revelation he will eventually receive. When God answered him, there were no excuses, just the reminder that Job is not God, that he cannot comprehend God's ways.

Today's reading doesn't take us through Job's entire drama. We hear no more than his sorry assessment of humanity's lot. The reading

prepares us for the Gospel by using Job as the symbol of the world and its people at the time of Christ's coming. There was unexplained and often undeserved suffering. Jesus' mission to make the reign of God present in the world, to incarnate and give witness to God's love, is the final answer to the question of suffering.

Woe Is Me?

[Celebration](#)

"Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel!" That's Paul's basic explanation for everything he is doing. Woe is a pretty strong word in Scripture. Jeremiah (23:1) and Ezekiel (34:2) shouted woe to the self-serving shepherds of God's flocks. In Luke's Gospel, Jesus contrasted the blessed with their rich, well-fed, well-entertained and popular counterparts, for all of whom he predicted long-lasting woes. Jesus also predicted woe for all whose exercise of authority caused suffering and who preached what they did not practice.

From those contexts, we can conclude that woe is the result of being untrue to oneself and one's God-given vocation. When Paul says "Woe to me if I do not preach," he's saying that the Gospel has taken such a hold in him that he cannot be himself if he does not preach it. Preaching the Gospel has become his very nature, and if he does not do it, he is lost to himself and will lose his relationship to God.

Because of that, Paul can refer to himself as a slave or a steward. Not only that, his responsibility to preach overrides his own personal preferences. He will bend to anyone's needs if that will facilitate the spread of the Gospel.

The First Disciple?

[Celebration](#)

As Mark introduces us to Jesus, he presents him as the victor over demons and a healer. It is striking that the first person Jesus healed was a woman – quite likely a widow and one whose social standing came through her daughter's husband. In other words, she was one of the lowly. And what do we know of this lowly woman? Only that upon being healed, she "waited on them." The word for "waited on" comes from the Greek *diakoneo* which we immediately recognize as the root for deacon. It is not a common word in Mark's Gospel, in fact, it is used only twice more. After this verse, Mark 10 shows Jesus reprimanding the disciples who were seeking the first places at his right and left sides. He told them that he had not come to be served, but to serve. The only other people whom Mark presents as servers are the women who remained with Jesus when he went to the cross (15:41). Mark presents this woman, the first person healed by Jesus, as the first to understand his message and the implications of following him.

Importance of Prayer-Time

[Celebration](#)

Before dawn, Jesus escaped to a deserted place where he prayed. This is the first of three times that Mark will depict Jesus at prayer. The second comes after the sharing of the loaves among the crowd in Mark 6; the third is in the Garden of Gethsemane. Mark gives us the idea that Jesus' prayer at the beginning of his ministry was a key to discerning what he was to do. He was an overnight sensation, and Peter and the disciples seemed to be ready to be his managers. But rather than defer to public expectations, rather than be caught up in fame, Jesus chose to extend his reach.

By way of explanation for his decision to go to other villages, Jesus says, "For this purpose I have come." Here, Jesus indicates that he knows his purpose, he has come forth for more than popularity in a small place. As Peter's mother-in-law foreshadowed, his mission is to serve.

"Lord, let me be your servant."