

St. Gabriel Parish

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 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
 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 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 February 21st, 2022

MONDAY

341: Jas 3:13-18 Ps 19:8-10, 15 Mk 9:14-29

TUESDAY 8 am Word and Communion

535: 1 Pt 5:1-4 Ps 23:1-6 Mt 16:13-19

WEDNESDAY No Mass

343: Jas 4:13-17 Ps 49:2-3, 6-11 Mk 9:38-40

THURSDAY No Mass

344: Jas 5:1-6 Ps 49:14-20 Mk 9:41-50

FRIDAY 9 am School Mass

345: Jas 5:9-12 Ps 103: 1-4, 8-9, 11-12 Mk 10:1-12

SATURDAY 4:30 pm Mass

346: Jas 5:13-20 Ps 141: 1-3, 8 Mk 10:13-16

SUNDAY 9:30 am Mass

84: Sir 27:4-7 Ps 92:2-3, 13-16 1 Cor 15:54-58 Lk 6:39-45



UPCOMING PARISH ACTIVITIES

Monday, February 21st – Choir Practice – 6:30

Wednesday, February 23rd – BLOOD DRIVE – 1:30-6:30 PM

Thursday, February 24th – School Open House 6:30 pm

Friday, February 25th – School Mass – 9 am

Sunday, February 27th – CLOW/Nursery 9:30 am

Religious Ed 10:45 am

Youth Ministry 6 pm

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Target: \$10,962 Offering: \$8611.02

Food Pantry: \$170

~Souper Bowl Collection for the East Side Soup Kitchen: \$1284~

Children G☺☺D Deed

...I played with my cat ...Dropped off a gift...Being kind to sister...

...Keeping my little sister safe...Held door for Dad...

...Picked up toys without being asked...

AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Clark Switalski, Principal

Open house is this Thursday, February 24th. If you or someone you know are interested in joining the Pre-school or school, please encourage them to attend our open house. We have 4-year-old preschool 5 days a week, a junior kindergarten program (young 5's), before and aftercare, and a faith filled atmosphere focused on building disciples in Christ. 180 days of school equals 180 opportunities to set the foundation of our future church. It comes with sacrifices, but I can tell you that the individualized time with the teachers is well worth it!

Next month, the school is taking part in "Go for the Gold" as our theme for **March is reading month**. We have several fun activities planned for the children to help support a love for reading! Reading is a part of every subject and part of life, so the more we can do to encourage the students to become better readers, the better they will do in school later!

...God Bless...

Cantor practice and Scheduling...

Monday, February 28th at 6 pm we will be setting our schedule for March 2nd thru April 25th, including Wednesday evening Masses during Lent. If you are not available please email Sue at musicdirector@auburnac.org by Sunday, February 27.

EDUCATION / FORMATION

Family Talk Time Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families, Sara McGinnis Lee
Does being compassionate and merciful make us weak? Does it mean we should let people take advantage of us? Or are we called to rise above pettiness and take the first step toward being as generous as God is? Think of one person you have trouble getting along with. Pray for that person. Beginning today, try to change the way you relate to that person.

Reflecting on the Word:

These are challenging words and probably not easy ones for everyone to put into action. Jesus begins by setting apart those "who hear" from those who do not. Being we're comfortable with. We must be open to Jesus' words, not just the ones that make us comfortable, but especially those that make us uncomfortable. The difficult words of Jesus are the ones for which Jesus is our best example & model.

Living the Word:

Make a chart of Jesus' teachings in today's Gospel and challenge your family to practice these in the coming weeks. Display the chart in a prominent place or at your prayer table. Place a smiley face sticker on the chart every time someone follows Jesus' teachings. See how many acts of kindness and love your family can do!



Sacrament of Confirmation

February 1st Bishop Gruss informed us that discernment and preparation for the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation should begin at a minimum age of 12 to 14 years old and not be tied to a specific grade level. This approach is based on the readiness of an individual youth. The formation process will take place over a minimum of two years and will be responsibility of the parish. Helping young people learn how to discern with guidance of the Holy Spirit will be a key component of the first year of preparation. As soon as we learn more about this process, we will let families know.

Souper Bowl Collection: Thank you to all who donated! We had a great response!! We collected \$1,284.00 for the East Side Soup Kitchen in Saginaw.



Lenten Scripture Study will be on

Tuesdays, March 8, 15, 22, 29 & April 5, 10 –11:30 am at the Parish Center. Everyone is welcome to gather with to share and discuss the Sunday

readings of Lent. We will be using "Around the Lenten Circle" as our resource. Our morning will include prayer, scripture passages, questions for reflection and sharing. If you have any questions contact Sandy, 989.662.4335 or faithformation@auburnac.org

♪ Notes from Fr. Tom

For the record... To fully understand the bishop's letter which has been made available over the past few weeks. You should know that I asked him that I might continue in the parish for another year. When a priest reaches 70 years of age the appointment is for a year at a time. The bishop denied my request. At ordination a priest promises obedience to the bishop, whatever that may be. So, case closed. Que sera, sera !

Vacationing: I am taking a few days off next week and going to Cape Coral, Florida. My sister Deb and her husband Mike are down there for 6 weeks. My sister Susan, who lives in Boulder, Colorado will be joining us for a little family reunion. My brother Pat and his wife Lisa will be down there for the month of March. As a result of my absence there will be no Mass on Wednesday or Thursday. There will be a School Mass at 9 am on Friday, open to everyone.



FROM FR. TOM'S DESK

Seventh Sunday Ordinary Time: Patricia Sanchez, *Celebration*

Today, the challenge set before the community is very demanding. In the gospel, believers in Jesus are called to "Love your enemies."

Something of love is anticipated in today's first reading (1 Samuel), wherein David is featured as not taking an opportunity to kill Saul. However, David's motivation was not necessarily love, but mercy and respect for God's anointed. In today's second reading, Paul reminds his readers that Jesus' calls and challenges become possible for those who remember in whose image they are made—not only Adam's, but God's. It was Jesus who made God's image and ways to come to life for us.

This call is the most radical in the gospel and yet the clearest expression of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. Love for one's enemies is the touchstone of being a Christian. Nor did Jesus simply leave his call at "love your enemies," for, surely, he knew the human penchant for finding loopholes in seemingly impossible challenges. Jesus understood all too well how human beings could lift that challenge out of the realm of reality and relegate it to some sterile and abstract void from which a person might reason, "Well, I'll love my enemies, but I won't like them!" Such reasoning is an evasive maneuver; it is faceless, feeling-less mental alibi rather than the personal and positive engagement Jesus called for when he qualified the way enemies are to be loved: "do good to those who hate you...bless them...pray for them...turn the other cheek," etc.

Power of Mercy (1 Samuel 26): *Celebration*

This story reveals David's character and theology. There is no doubt that his life was in danger and that Saul would have rewarded anyone who killed him. Nevertheless, when Saul fell unwittingly under David's power, David refused to harm him out of respect for the fact that God had appointed him.

The story of David sparing Saul offers historical background to Jesus' teaching about love of enemies. Although David may not have been full of affection for Saul, he respected God's sole right to give him life or death (26:10). David's clemency engendered greater respect than killing Saul would have brought. David chose the power of mercy and reverence over the lesser power of violence and thereby proved himself the stronger of the two men.

Transformation (1 Corinthians 15): *Celebration*

In this section of his reflection on the resurrection of the dead, Paul is trying to help the Corinthians understand resurrection in ways that go beyond their typical thought patterns. Greek philosophy had a generally poor opinion of the physical world in comparison to what they saw as spiritual.

Therefore, the idea that a dead person would be brought back to bodily life rather than simply freed from the confines of limited, corruptible bodily existence seemed primitive and rather disgusting to people who understood resurrection as the revivification of a corpse. (They were thinking more in terms of Halloween than Easter.) Nevertheless, the resurrection of the body—as we proclaim in the Apostles' Creed—was vitally important to Paul. His challenge was to get people to think beyond their crude categories.

Essential to his argument is the idea that resurrection is transformation, not resuscitation. That is what he is driving at in the distinction between Adam and Christ. Adam represents earthly life with all its frailty and potential. That material life is exactly what Christ took on in the incarnation, and frail as it is, Paul wants us to remember that God took it on in love and thereby revealed its value.

Hard Sayings (Luke 6):

Good News

III. Lk 6:27-38. This is the head-shaking gospel, not easy to accept or put into practice. It is nonetheless the teaching of Jesus, no matter how we seek to qualify it or put conditions upon it. We must pay attention and cultivate the attitudes of generosity and compassion that he endorses. Beyond doubt it is a difficult teaching, but the reward is very great. For those who struggle to follow his teaching, the kingdom of God comes closer.

True Leadership: *Grace Works, Dallas, Texas*

Kings in Israel were not elected by democratic process. That model of government would be many centuries in the making. Israel's first kings were selected by the mysterious hand of God and picked out among their peers by the anointing of holy oil at the hands of a prophet. So, David, unlike Saul before him, always saw his relationship as a gift and a responsibility from God. He did not spend anxious hours courting the latest public opinion poll. In short, because he did not forget the feeling of holy oil running down his face, he was not afraid of those he led. A good leader exercises great compassion towards those she or he leads, to be sure. Leaders are not lords. But good leaders also know that to lead they must be able to draw their strength from their inner character, their faith, and their ethics. The need for the public approval, to get reelected, to be applauded by the adoring mob, has been the downfall of many a politician, as it has many a preacher and many a CEO. If you have been gifted by God to lead (leadership is a gift from God, according to Romans 12:8), THEN LEAD. Lead with compassion and with courage. Lead with the respect for others that you would want extended to you. Lead as one who is himself led by the One who called you forth by sheer grace and place you in a position to make a positive difference in the world.

Compassion: *Good News*

We are not to condemn, because we don't know the hearts of others. Instead, Jesus tells us, in public and private, politically, and personally, we are to think and act with compassion because it is the way of justice. But compassion is a truly dangerous thing because it removes our barriers of self-righteousness, of self-seeking, of prejudice and fear of public opinion. It pushes us beyond facile self-interest, to honesty about our motives, to humility before God and humanity. Compassion forces us to make decisions which, while they will never be fully and totally good, because that kind of wisdom is not in the nature of ourselves or our world, bring to every situation a god-like quality.

That means our personal decisions but also our political ones. It means what reasons we have for our voting, for our career choices, our choices as investors and as consumers. All of these are occasions when we can choose to be violent, or not to be, to have the compassion to seek justice, or to reject compassion because its risks are too great. The words of Jesus are a demand for a depth of compassion that is indeed god-like, and seems beyond us, but we are made in the image of God, and so what Jesus is asking us to do is to live up to our true selves. God knows how hard that is, but we only must turn on the TV or open a newspaper to realize why Jesus said it and how necessary it is that we should hear it.





Update for CMA...

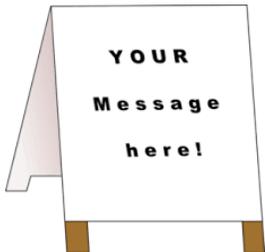
As of February 17th, here is the latest CMA report. **We have reached our goal!** The report from the diocese indicates that **\$70,277.60**, or over 100% of our goal, has been pledged/donated toward our parish target of **\$69,796**. With **261** of our parishioners, **53%**, that have participated. Thank-you so much for your stewardship and please continue to pay your pledges.



Handy Man Service

General maintenance inside and out!
 Plumbing, Heating, Air Conditioning
 Electrical, Dryer Vent Cleaning/Install.
 Call Terry Matuszewski (989) 493-4862

"LET US LIGHT UP YOUR SMILE"
CYNTHIA SKIBA D.D.S.
 Family Dentistry
 (989) 631-6760
 New Patients Welcome



Space Available for Advertising!

NAPA
AUTO PARTS **FICK'S**
AUTOMOTIVE
 "Serving Auburn for over 30 years"
989-662-4469
 1021 W. Midland Rd, Auburn
 (On the Corner of Midland & Garfield Rd)
 Weekdays: 8:00-6:30, Saturday 8:00-2:00, Sunday 10:00-2:00

SEEKING ADVERTISING SPONSORS

St. Gabriel Parish is always looking for advertisers for our weekly bulletin. Support your parish bulletin and promote your business!. These advertisements are viewed on printed copies, plus online on the parish website and MyParish app affiliated with St. Gabriel Parish. **For more info contact the Parish Office at (989)-662-6861 or parishoffice@auburnac.com**

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