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 MyParish App: St. Gabriel Parish, Auburn, Michigan

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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 April 4, 2022

MONDAY

251: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 Ps 23:1-6 Jn 8:12-20

TUESDAY 8 am Word and Communion

252: Nm 21:4-9 Ps 102:2-3, 16-21 Jn 8:21-30

WEDNESDAY 8 am Mass

253: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95 (Ps) Dn 3:52-56 Jn 8:31-42

THURSDAY 8 am Mass

254: Gn 17:3-9 Ps 105:4-9 Jn 8:51-59

FRIDAY 7 pm Stations of the Cross

255: Jer 20:10-13 Ps 18:2-7 Jn 10:31-42

SATURDAY 4:30 pm Mass

256: Ez 37:21-28 (Ps) Jer 31:10-13 Jn 11:45-46

SUNDAY 9:30 am Mass Palm Sunday

37:Lk 19:28-40 38:Is 50:4-7 Ps 22:8-9,17-18,19-20,23-24

Phil 2:6-11 Lk 22:14—23:56



EDUCATION / FORMATION

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

Why is it so easy to criticize and condemn others? Instead of concentrating on others faults and failings, can we try to identify with the person and have empathy? How is Jesus' action in today's Gospel a model of empathy and compassion?

Reflecting on the Word:



In today's Gospel, Jesus challenges us to look at our own failings before pointing out those of others. Jesus, who was without sin, set an example for us by not condemning the woman. Yet Jesus does not ignore the duty to exhort

the woman to sin no more. We must also be aware of times when we are tempted to sin and ask Jesus to be with us to help us resist.

Living the Word:

The Pharisees in this Gospel talk about the law of Moses. Moses has given us the commandments of God that we are to follow. Together with your children, make a list of the Ten Commandments, discussing examples of how to obey each one. Make a plus sign next to the ones that are easy to obey and a negative sign next to the challenging ones. Choose one to work on this week and check in with the whole family on how well they are following the commandments.

UPCOMING PARISH ACTIVITIES

Monday, April 4th – RCIA – 6 pm / Choir Practice – 6:30 pm

Tuesday, April 5th – Lenten Scripture Study 10-11:30 am

Wednesday, April 6th – Soup Supper 6 pm

Communal Penance 7 pm

Thursday, April 7th – Commission Meetings 6:30 pm

Parish Council 7:30 pm

Friday, April 8th – Synod Listening Session 10 am

Sat/Sun, April 9-10th – Scrip/Food Pantry /Coffee & Donuts

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Target: \$10,962 Offering: \$8184

Food Pantry: \$15 Catholic Relief Services: \$989

Children Good Deed

...I helped my mom go grocery shopping...

AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Clark Switalski, Principal

This month the school will go through accreditation. Outside individuals will come into the building, look at several items I have uploaded virtually, then come to a consensus about our school's accreditation. It is a lengthy process and is good for 5 years before schools are asked to renew their accreditation.

"Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." There isn't a human being on this Earth that is perfect and without sin. In all of time, only 2 people have been without sin. Reminding ourselves of this helps us to work at being better people and doing the right thing in any situation. The easiest thing usually isn't the right thing to do, and it takes work to hone the skill of discernment between right and wrong. However, we are all capable of making the same choices Jesus made in how we compassionately treat other human beings and react to tough situations.

...God Bless...

There are two ballot initiatives that set up a scholarship opportunity for individuals looking for educational help. The petition will be located on the school table across from the school office along with a letter from the Diocese and Michigan Catholic Conference. If you would like to participate, please take an envelope and the letter pack from the table, and follow the instructions provided.

Food Pantry Requests:

During the month of March, we gave away **54 boxes** of food! We added 5 new families who needed food assistance. The rising costs of food and gas have forced many families make tough decisions and ask for help which they might not have had to do before. If you can, please help us, help them...



Boxed Pasta	Spaghetti	Canned Pasta
Sloppy Joe Mix	Jelly	Paper Towels
Laundry Soap	Tuna Helper	Hamburger Helper
Pancake Mix	Syrup	Mashed Potatoes
Canned Fruit	Pasta Sides	Deodorant

Thank-you in advance for your help!

From Fr. Tom's Desk:



Breaking News!!!

Bishop Gruss has reconsidered my assignment and has appointed me as Pastor of St. Gabriel for an additional year!



FROM FR. TOM'S DESK

Fifth Sunday of Lent:

Patricia Sanchez, *Celebration*

The visceral love of God is underscored in each of today's sacred texts. Isaiah was a comforter of his people and their companion during their years of exile in Babylonia. He promised that God would repeat the wonders of their exodus from Egypt and lead the Israelite home. When the circumstances threatened their hope and it seemed that all was lost, God, with great mercy, encouraged the people not to dwell on or drown in the sins of their past: "I am doing something new!" This newness meant forgiveness and reconciliation for all who would welcome God into their lives and would be faithfully responsive to God's overtures of love and mercy.

In his letter to his beloved Philippians, Paul shares his love for and commitment to Jesus. Mercifully, the risen Lord had appeared to him on the Damascus Road, and Paul allowed himself to be transformed; the persecutor of Jesus' followers became the preacher of the good news of salvation. He had become aware—and he shared that awareness with others—that salvation was not based on any righteousness of his own that came from the law, but on the merciful gift of God, mediated by Christ on the cross, appropriated by faith.

In today's Johannine Gospel we see the mercy of God incarnate in the words and actions of Jesus. While others were willing and even eager to stone the woman for adultery, Jesus asked them to look within themselves, to see themselves for who they were—sinners. He challenged them to look beyond the law, which legislated such an action, and to look to God. If they stood in truth before God, could they, in all honesty, condemn and execute a fellow sinner? How often had they known God's mercy? Shouldn't they allow the woman mercy too? Elsewhere in the Gospel, Jesus would say, "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. Do not judge and you will not be judged. Do not condemn and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven."

If we dare to pray to "Our Father" and profess to belong to Christ, then there can be no other way for us than the way of mercy. "This mercy of God is the beating heart of the gospel, which in its own way must penetrate the heart and mind of every person...It is absolutely essential for the Church and for the credibility of her message that she live and testify to mercy" (Pope Francis)

Something New (Isaiah 43):

Celebration

The prophet of mercy and consolation encouraged his people to look to the future and to the new beginning God would affect for them, instead of dwelling on what would soon be their past (exile). To that end, he urged them also to prepare themselves not only for a repetition of God's wondrous acts but for the continuation of the process of redemption, which began with the exodus. Deutero-Isaiah did not want the people to look at themselves and what happened to them as historic occurrences. He described the circumstances in which they found themselves in terms of a relationship endangered by infidelity, but one in the process of being healed and made strong once again. This reconciliation would require their sincere efforts at repentance as well as God's merciful forgiveness. The realm of the sacred does not impose the mold of the past on those suffering under the weight of the present. Instead, it reveals to the people a vision of the new thing God would do. "Now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" presents a challenge. The exiled Judahites must be open to what God can do and be humbly receptive to the opportunity to turn over a new leaf that God affords them.

Like Christ (Philippians 3):

Celebration

For Paul, faith in Jesus meant becoming like him in every thought, word, and deed, and that entailed "sharing his suffering by being conformed to his death" (v.10). "Conformed to" was a term which indicated that such formation involved an essential, radical conformity to or solidarity with the sufferings of Jesus. This conformity could not be achieved by the law, nor was it automatic at baptism. Rather, it is a gradual process of knowing and becoming like Christ expressed in continuous conversion. Paul's subtle analogy of the runner in the race ("straining forward," "continuing my pursuit toward the goal," vv. 13-14) is an apt illustration of the gradual, rigorous process of being formed into the pattern of Jesus' life, passion, death, and finally resurrection.

Moment of Mercy (John 8):

Celebration

Alone with the woman, Jesus exercised his authority—not as judge and jury, but as Savior. Without denying or ignoring her sin ("do not sin anymore," v.11), Jesus pardoned her. He who transcended the law invited the woman to do the same. She was sent on her way contrite and resolute, not only to obey the law for the sake of the law but to be renewed in her conscience and to reform her behavior in accord with the loving mercy that had been shown her. God affords each of us this same mercy. Let us rejoice in the fact, and instead of being quick to condemn one another, let us rejoice when God's mercies are shown to them, as well.

Way Found:

Deacon Dick Folger, *Celebration*

The theme of last Sunday's parable of the prodigal son continues this Sunday, but with a woman who has been caught in the act of adultery. Instead of the prodigal son's father, we have Jesus, who asks her, "Has no one condemned you?" She replies, "No one." Jesus forgives her: "Then neither do I condemn you. "Jesus hears the woman's confession and then absolves her: "You may go. But from now on avoid this sin."

By intervening, Jesus rescued the woman from stoning, lifted her up and set her on a new path. Lent presents us with the chance to look more deeply at our own lives. In the Rite of Reconciliation, we, like the woman, receive counsel, absolution, and a penance. The sacrament reveals Jesus offering us mercy and showing us a path forward that will avoid the consequences of sin that can rain down like stones upon us.

On Passing Judgement:

Deacon Ross Beaudoin, *Celebration*

Jesus challenges the scribes, Pharisees and others to take inventory of themselves, not of other people. For some, that was a new thought—not passing judgement on others and instead making an honest judgement of your own life. Is that not a difficult task for any of us, even in our "enlightened" age? How much easier (even satisfying?) it seems to be for us to pass judgement on other people. How hard it is for us to see our own true selves.

We live in a complex and conflicted world. We have to make value judgements all the time. But that is different from judging the lives and motives of others. Our egos are so needy that we often seek approval by declaring that others are not right or valuable.

The "new thing" that we learn from the scriptures today is: "Let the one...who is without sin cast the first stone." Judgement is mine, says the Lord. And fortunately, that judgement of God is done with compassion and mercy.



"Let me, Lord, keep an eye on the finish line"

"Journeying Together"

Some of you have already participated in a listening session. If you have not, prayerfully consider signing up today. Listening is the first step, but it requires an open mind and heart, without prejudice. How is God speaking to us through voices we sometimes ignore? How are the laity listened to, especially women and young people? What facilitates or inhibits our listening? How well do we listen to those on the peripheries? How is the contribution of consecrated men and women integrated? What are some limitations in our ability to listen to those who have different views than our own? What space is there for the voice of minorities, people who experience poverty, marginalization, or social exclusion?



Let us trust in the Holy Spirit, and let us enter this synod with joy, hope, and a new energy for the future of the church! More information can be found in the brochures available at church entrances or the parish website along with The Synod Prayer. For questions or to volunteer to help with implementing the upcoming listening sessions, contact Kelly Hadd (tkhadd@hotmail.com, 989-295-5339).

CMA Update:

The most recent report from the Diocese indicates that \$71,643.60 has been pledged/donated, by 54% of parish families, toward our target of \$69,796. Of that amount, \$6,868.70 remains unpaid. Once all pledges have been paid, St Gabriel will receive \$1,847.60 back.

Soup Suppers

Next week will be our last soup supper for the Lenten Season. We hope you had a chance to enjoy at least one. They were well received by many who attended. Special thank-you to the Commission members, Youth Ministry and Parish Council who all helped and especially Pat Knieper who graciously organized the kitchen.



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Inurnment

CEMETERY
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Burial of Cremains
Saturday Burial
Foundation

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Parishioner	Non-Parishioner
\$1,000	\$1,500
\$1,400	\$1,750
\$ 250 per niche	\$ 300 per niche

Parishioner	Non-Parishioner
\$ 500	\$1,200
\$ 650	\$ 850
\$ 150	\$ 175
\$ 200 additional	\$ 200 additional
\$ 0.40 per sq. inch	\$ 0.40 per sq. inch

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