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Connie Kaczynski	Karen Willsie	Pam Graul-Gwizdala

PRAYER LINE

Mary Jane.....(989) 513-5137 vicmaryj@hotmail.com
 Sisters of St. Clare srsclare.com/prayer

BEFIENDER

Mary Ellyn Gushow (989) 662-6745

COMMUNION FOR HOMEBOUND

Pam Graul-Gwizdala (989) 513-3027

**SCHOOL ENDOWMENT
 SPREADING THE SPIRIT FUND**

Clark Switalski, School Principal (989) 662-6431

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

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 MAY 3RD , 2021

MONDAY

561: 1 Cor 15:1-8 Ps 19:2-5 Jn 14:6-14

TUESDAY 8 am Word and Communion

286: Acts 14:19-28 Ps 145:10-13b, 21 Jn 14:27-31a

WEDNESDAY 8 am Mass

287: Acts 15:1-6 Ps 122:1-5 Jn 15:1-8

THURSDAY

288: Acts 15:7-21 Ps 96:1-3, 10 Jn 15:9-11

FRIDAY

289: Acts 15:22-31 Ps 57:8-10, 12 Jn 15:12-17

SATURDAY 4:30 pm Mass

290: Acts 16:1-10 Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5 Jn 15:18-21

SUNDAY 9:30 am Mass

56: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48 Ps 98:1-4 1 Jn 4:7-10 Jn 15:9-17



EDUCATION / FORMATION

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

What does it mean to “remain” in someone? You will hear it several times in the Gospel.

Reflecting on the Word:

Jesus is the one true vine, flowing through us—creating, connecting, and nourishing us. When we are broken or cut off from Jesus, we wither. If we remain connected to Jesus the source from which all goodness flows, we keep him as the center of our lives always. We must choose to be connected to God every day.



Living the Word:

If you have a houseplant, place it on a table. Have the children observe the plant. Which part is the “vine”? Which are the “branches” what is the “fruit”? How are they connected? What makes them grow? Which parts of the plant are Jesus? Which part are we? Which part comes out of us because of our connection with Jesus (for examples, what we do, say, or think). With cotton swabs or cotton balls and a small bowl of water, have the children gently wipe the leaves clean. How can we take care of ourselves and be ready for Jesus? What would happen if we split the plant to grow in two pots? Would the second plant still be part of same vine?

UPCOMING PARISH ACTIVITIES

Thursday, May 6th — Funeral

Sunday, May 9th — Happy Mother's Day!

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Target: \$10,962 Offering: \$8,167.64

Catholic Relief Services: \$10.

Children G😊😊d Deed

...I shared my ice with my sister when she hurt herself...

... I vacuumed the house...Cleaned the family room...

...I gave comfort to a friend who was scared...

...I played with my cousin...

AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Clark Switalski, Principal

Happy First Eucharist to our families in the parish! We have been virtual this week due to a couple of COVID cases. We are actively trying to keep school open, but we need to be safe and put our staff and students' health as a priority. This year has been anything but normal, but we are trying to do the best for the staff, students, and parents, so patience and prayers are very much appreciated.

In the Gospel this week, Jesus talks about the vine and its branches. Those who remain in him, will bear much fruit and be capable of amazing things, but those who do not, will be cast away. The key concept to me is that this is a choice. Many times, when we are led down a path, we have a few monumental choices that we must make. Do we always know which choices will be the most important?

Unfortunately, we do not. We only know through our experiences after the choice has been made whether it was the correct one or not. The hope is that when faced with the choice later, we can draw upon our memory of the previous experience to make a better, or more informed choice. Remaining in Jesus is a choice, and the Grace he gives us is powerful and can really help us with making these monumental choices.

God Bless

Thank-you to everyone who donated at the Blood Drive last week! We had 31 successful donations which will go to help 93 people! Thanks again for coming together to help save lives, that is what it is all about!



Baptism Preparations Sessions

We have a wonderful team offering two preparations sessions: Prep I session is for first time parents & Prep II is for those parents who have already attended a Prep I session. We are currently offering these sessions in-person and virtually. Contact Sandy, 662-4335 or

sdesjardins@auburnac.org to register for a preparation session and set your celebration date.

Mark Your Calendars:

**Graduation Mass Sunday, June 6th
@ 9:30 a.m. Mass**



**Vacation Bible School
July 27, 28 & 29**



Diocese Announcement:

If you are a victim/survivor of clergy abuse or know of someone who is, you are urged to make direct contact with local law enforcement and the Michigan Attorney General's investigation hotline at 844-324-3374. You can contact The Victim Assistance Coordinator at 989-797-6682 or victim.assistance@dioceseofsaginaw.org and they can assist victims in obtaining counseling services. If you have cause to suspect a child or young person is being neglected or abused by anyone, immediately contact the Michigan Department of Health and Human services at the 24/7 hotline 855-444-3911. If you are witness to child abuse or neglect, call 911.



**FROM
FR. TOM'S
DESK**

Bearing Fruit: (John 15)

Celebration

Jesus' usage of the vine imagery is unique in that he himself claimed to be the true vine and the source of life for his disciples. Because of the more intimate relationship with God afforded to humankind in Jesus, neither race nor nationality, nor gender, social status or ancestral heritage would ever again factor into God's saving plan. Jesus' declaration affirmed the fact that union with him, in loving and faithful discipleship, would constitute the true vine of which God is the vine grower.

As branches in the one true vine, Jesus' disciples are to "remain" or "abide" in him. In doing so, disciples experience both a privilege and a responsibility. Remaining in Jesus means sharing his very life and relationship with God, but this sharing charges the disciples to bear much fruit. Bearing fruit will require faithfulness to the words of Jesus and willingness to translate his message into ministry. But all of us are not grapes. Some of us are apples, oranges, bananas, and even red-hot chili peppers. Therefore, the fruit that we bear and the ministries we exercise in accordance with Jesus' words will be varied. If we are humble enough, these services will also complement one another so as to serve the needs of the entire vine, which includes all of humankind.

Importance of Connection: Grace Works, Dallas, TX

No one can say, "I believe in Christ," while shunning a Christian brother or sister—or worse, ignoring the common life of the Church. We worship the risen One who gave his life that we would be God's people and then share that life with others.

To celebrate the resurrection of our Lord in these Sundays of Eastertide is to glory in God's triumph of life over death. In profound and personal ways, it is also to hear again at the deepest levels of our lives that our Lord's death and resurrection were not special effects in the great film of God's work, but rather history-altering events that show us the eternal love of God and the invitation this God of love gives to us to be God's people. "I am the vine, you are the branches. My Father is glorified in this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples." We are never more like our Lord, becoming his disciples, than when we live **with** others, and **for** others, in the love of Christ.

Necessary Pruning: Celebration

But how does the branch live a life attached firmly to the vine, and how do believers live in Christ and allow Christ to live in them? Jesus answers this by bidding his own to let his words stay a part of them. These words constitute a daily challenge to love, to rejoice, to abide and, when necessary, to submit to the pruning that is inherent in discipleship. Just as pruning bushes and trees often results in what appears to be a near-death experience, one that leaves the pruned plant looking bereft of any breath of life, so also those life experiences that knock us to our knees and leave us gasping for breath are the very experiences through which God will make us more fruitful. There is challenge in our belonging to Christ. Do we dare remain in him and he in us? Shall we live in him and him in us? If so, there will be pruning, but with the pruning shall come fruit. Fruit that will last.

Christ's Mission Appeal(CMA): The latest report received indicates we have passed our target in donations and pledges received. We have not, however reached our target. The balance donated is in pledges not yet completed. We now have been informed by the diocese that this years drive will go through August, so there is plenty of time remaining. Those with pledges not yet fulfilled are asked to keep this uppermost in their mind. \$75,665 has been **pledged** (106%) of target by 310 families/parishioners (59%).



Fifth Sunday of Easter:

Patricia Sanchez, Celebration

The vine was an image with which Jesus' contemporaries would have been quite familiar. The twisted branches of a growing vine exhibit formidable strength. Each branch begins as a delicate, slender, pale-green tendril that reaches out to attach itself to a wall or trellis. Within just a short time, that tendril can be pulled from its place of mooring only with difficulty, it has taken hold, and, as it draws its life from the gnarled vine that sent it forth, it begins to grow. With its growth comes a hardening into permanence such that the tendril begins to resemble the vine from which it came. As it grows, it fastens itself to other tendrils that have also grown into branches and these form a living network of life and strength that will eventually bear much good fruit.

With this rich image to inspire their efforts for the Gospel, the Johannine Jesus sent his disciples into the great vineyard of humankind. He reminded them that apart from him, the true vine, they would be able to do nothing. If they remained in him, allowed the word he spoke to remain in them, their ministry would be abundant.

Rather than wish that the divine vine grower might prune away this one or that one or that one who, in our estimation, is no more than a nuisance or dead weight, we might do well to heed the wise counsel of one of our ancestral branches on the vine of Christ. In today's second reading, the Johannine epistolary writer urges each of us to love, not in word or speech but in deeds and truth. This is the fruit-bearing called for in the Gospel: that those who are grafted onto the one true vine and who are privileged to be inspired by God's living Word might embody these gifts in all they say and do.

The choice is, as always, completely on our own, because the great respecter of our freedom forces nothing. Each day, it is ours to decide whether we will remain one with Christ and bear fruitless branches that are then pruned away to become fuel for the fire.

Church Support: (Acts 9) Celebration

In today's first reading, it is clear, that Paul had to prove himself trustworthy and credible to those who knew his reputation as a formidable enemy of the Way. Moreover, he needed Barnabas' diplomacy and the authority of the disciples in Jerusalem to do so. Paul exercised his ministry with the necessary approval and support of the Jerusalem apostles. His discipleship, like that of every disciple, had to be tested for them to be certain that he was preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ, not his own version of the good news. Called by God, the minister of the Gospel must also be called by the church.

Paul's experience of conversion was dramatic personal ecstasy; in that moment, Saul became Paul. But he could remain Paul only in the context of the believing community. The community provided the structure wherein Paul's call could be lived out; only when it was embodied within the community would Paul's conversion experience continue to transform him, and through his efforts, to transform others. Does our commitment to Christ similarly affect others?

Call to Action: (1 John) Celebration

A favored Johannine concept, truth, has the basic meaning of non-concealment; it describes what is unveiled. Thus, for the Greek mind, truth and reality are closely related. Therefore, the Johannine pastor's call to love in truth and deed becomes more poignant. Make your love real, he is urging; make your good deeds known to such a degree that they become a reality for others. To that end, believers may not only speak of their love for the needy, the hungry, the helpless and the hopeless. They must do deeds that alleviate need, provide food, support, and defend and encourage those whose truth, or whose everyday reality, is lacking these blessings.



Migrant Program Collection

April 29th we began collecting for the Migrant Ministry. Like last year, we have a trailer parked in the Parish Office driveway where donations can be dropped off. The last day for donations

will be the morning of Thursday, May 6th. Food and clothing items and can be dropped off anytime.

Thank-you in advance for your kindness!

Food Pantry Needs :

Next weekend is our monthly food pantry collection, May 8-9. We are still serving about 40 families a month and we are really in need of some replenishing!



Food Pantry Donations Needed

- | | | |
|--|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Toothbrushes | Shampoo | Hand Soap |
| Laundry Detergent/Pods | Dish Soap | Tissues |
| Paper Towels | Tuna & Hamburger Helper | Jelly |
| Sloppy Joe Mix | Peanut Butter | Macaroni Noodles |
| Canned Tuna | Baked Beans | Mashed Potatoes |
| Canned Soup-chicken noodle & tomato | Syrup | Pasta/Rice Sides |

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

Prices Effective July 1, 2019