

Week of May 7, 2017

MONDAY

Acts 11:1-18 * Ps 42:2-3; 43:3-4 * Jn 10:11-18

TUESDAY 8:00am Word & Communion

Acts 11:19-26 * Ps 87:1-7 * Jn 10:22-30

WEDNESDAY 8:00am Mass

Acts 12:24 - 13:5 * Ps 67:2-3,5-6,8 * Jn 12:44-50

THURSDAY 8:00am Mass

Acts 13:13-25 * Ps 89:2-3,21-22,25,27 * Jn 13:16-20

FRIDAY 9:00am School Mass

Acts 13:26-33 * Ps 2:6-11 * Jn 14:1-6

SATURDAY 4:30pm Mass

Acts 13:44-52 * Ps 98:1-4 * Jn 14:7-14

SUNDAY 9:30am Mass

Nursery & Children's Liturgy of the Word

Acts 6:1-7 * Ps 33:1-2,4-5,18-19 * 1 Pt 2:4-9 * Jn 14:1-12

*All events take place at St. Gabriel East Campus unless otherwise noted.



Parish Activities

- Tues., May 9 10:00am Scripture Study
 Thurs., May 11 6:30pm Commission Meetings
 7:30pm Parish Council Meeting

Congratulations to our Parish children who have completed their Sacraments of Initiation by receiving 1st Eucharist.

4:30pm Mass

Tyler Kutchuk
 Bryce Sarnowski
 Shaelin Ulbricht

9:30am Mass

Joshua Tanner Dain Putt
 Mylie Reder Austin Pope
 Jaclyn Suderman Mitchell Warren

Food Pantry May 13/14: Special collection for the Migrant Program and we need the following items:

FOOD: (not-expired): pinto beans (dry or in jar), rice, corn, green beans, pancake mix & syrup, cereal, white flour, shortening, cooking oil, baking powder, salt and black pepper. **HOUSEHOLD:** diapers, dish detergent, laundry detergent, lotion, hygiene items, toiletries.

Can't Serve Dates: All Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors and Altar Servers, please submit your can't serve dates for June 1 through August 31 to the parish office by May 12.

Parish Clean-up Day: Saturday, May 20, starting at 8:30am (weather permitting). Bring yard tools if possible (gloves, rakes, wheel barrow, etc.)

Adopt-a-Garden: Love working outside? Consider adopting a garden spaces & help keep our grounds beautiful! Call the parish office if you are interested.



Assisted Listening Devices are available in the church. These pocket size devices ensure the user receives direct and clear communication during our worship services. Please ask an usher for any assistance needed. The listening devices are located at the usher table at the southwest entrance.

In-Home Communion with the Sick: Do you know someone who cannot attend Mass because of illness? Our parish has available in the Sacristy, a PYX (a vessel to carry communion) for you to sign out and use to take the Eucharist to the homebound. Please return the PYX to the Sacristy when you no longer need it and sign it in. Questions? Contact the parish office at 662-6861 or see Fr. Tom after Mass.

Stewardship

Weekly Target: \$11,538.47 * Offering: \$9,802.00

YDT Target: \$__ * YTD Total: \$480,895.15

In Loving Memory of Helen Niemiec: \$480.00

8 new pledges: \$825.00

C.S.A. Total pledges: 296 (54% of households)

7th report Total pledged: \$63,989.00 (83% of our target).

There are 228 individuals/families that we have not yet heard from. A "friendly reminder" was sent to those on Wednesday. We need a final big push if we are going to reach our target of \$77,551.00. Calling all donors!

Fr. Tom

Check Received: We finally received the proceeds of the sale of the former St. Anthony rectory to the Toni & Trish House. The amount received was \$220,421.84. The sale price was \$225,000. Since there was no explanation of the difference, I've asked for but have not yet received an explanation. The money has been placed in savings.

Fr. Tom

Education/Formation

FAMILY TALK TIME Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families. Sara McGinnis Lee
 We live in a world full of noisy distractions. How can we hear the voice of Jesus in our lives?

► **Reflecting on the Word:** The 4th Sunday of Easter is known as Good Shepherd Sunday since each year the Gospel likens the care Jesus has for us to that of a shepherd for his sheep. Today's Gospel indicates that anyone who would enter the sheep pen by climbing over the gate is not a real shepherd. The authentic shepherd uses the gates, knows the names of his sheep, and leads them in a beneficial direction. The leadership of the authentic shepherd is effective because the shepherd's voice is known. Jesus also compares himself to a gate: If you are a believer, you will receive "abundant life" through this gate.

► **Living the Word:** As the family spring cleans, members can make it a family project to decide on possessions that can be given to the needy. To observe the holiness of Sunday, schedule cleaning for mid-week or Saturday afternoon after sports. Before making a trip to the donation center, have the children help fill a box for the local food pantry. It's May, so plan time each Sunday for praying the Rosary with the family. Consider inviting the neighbors to pray and share supper.

Auburn Area Catholic School

► **AACS Flower Delivery:** Friday, May 12, 11:30am-4:30pm at the east side of the church parking lot. Thank you for your support!!

► **Thank You** for supporting O's restaurant night. We appreciate you!!

► **Open Enrollment:** AACS is taking registration for 3 and 4 yr. old Preschool and Kindergarten-5th grade. If you are interested in learning more about our school, please contact Mrs. Reeder at 662-6431. She would love to give you a tour. You can also get information on our website at www.auburnacschool.org.

The Parish in the Community

► **Join Bishop Joseph Cistone** on a Pilgrimage to Baltimore and Washington, D.C. Oct. 4-8, 2017. For more information or to request a brochure, please leave a message for Annette O'Brien at 989-797-6696.

► **K of C Charity Rummage Sale** for Toni & Trish House: Thurs., May 25, 9-6pm at K of C Hall, Auburn. Donations accepted Wed., May 24, 9-6pm. Questions, call Mary 989-600-4223.

From Father Tom's Desk

4th Sunday of Easter

Sr. Mary McGlone, Celebration

The 4th Sunday of Easter is traditionally "Good Shepherd Sunday," but John 10:1-10 actually refers to Christ as the gate as much as the shepherd. John presents the idea of Jesus as Good Shepherd and gate immediately after the story of the man born blind. That emphasizes Christ as the entrance gate for the one who was driven out of the community and as the shepherd who defies the robbers while protecting the defenseless.

The audience of leaders who had debated with the once-blind man is the same group that hears Jesus talking about the brigands who try to enter the sheepfold from illegitimate positions. As John has built up to this incident near the end of Jesus' active ministry, the tensions have grown between Jesus and the religious leaders and he has not held back in his critique of them. Now he contrasts the sort of pastor who expels the blind man with the one who calls his own by name, knows them and is therefore the only one they will follow.

One key that brings together the roles of Jesus as the gateway into safety and as the shepherd who cares for the sheep is that both focus on the good of the sheep. The conclusion of today's reading summarizes the point of it all as Jesus says, "I came that they might have life and have it more abundantly." When we hear that statement in light of the other readings we realize that as we receive the gift of his abundant life, our most genuine response will be to share it with everyone.

Knowing His Voice

Deacon Dick Folger, Celebration

Shepherds have always known that their sheep recognize their familiar voices. Sheep won't follow a stranger's command.

Mothers have always known that their newborn infants show a preference for their gentle voices. A study by Canadian and Chinese researchers show that babies in the womb can also recognize their mother's voices. When the fetuses heard their mom's voice their heart rates quickened. Unfamiliar voices had the opposite effect. Researchers concluded that the fetus' heart rate decelerated because they were busy listening closely to an unfamiliar voice and were trying to recognize it.

For the faithful it is the same. Listening to God's voice within us is reassuring. We know right from wrong: when an evil voice calls us, we may be tempted, but we don't follow it. God's true voice makes our hearts quicken, and we want to follow his command.

Abundant Life

Ted Wolgamot, Celebration

Today's Gospel of John ends with these striking, hope-filled words: "I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly." But what does Jesus mean by the word "abundantly"? Is he referring to the acquisition of more stuff, more possessions, more things, more gadgets?

Quite the contrary. What Jesus is really talking about is our openness to receiving a gift, a grace. It is the grace we find when we believe that only God can fill the hole in our soul. And, it comes precisely when we abandon the incessant acquisition of more and more stuff.

Ultimately, Jesus is talking about developing an "abundance mentality," a way of thinking and acting that says: "There is enough for everyone, more than enough food, love...everything!" When we live with this mind-set, we begin to see the miracle of what we give away multiplying to the point of having plenty left over.

Jesus is trying to help us understand in today's Gospel, and throughout his whole ministry, that true abundance comes not from what we possess, but from how deeply we love, how generously we share. Jesus sends each of us an invitation: Spend less time acquiring more stuff and more time developing a mind-set of abundance, and abundance mentality.

Identity

Sr. Margaret Michaud, Collegeville Minn.

An interesting and profoundly significant feature of John's gospel is the repeated "I AM" formula. In the story of the Exodus, when the Lord God tells Moses to lead the people out of Egypt from slavery into freedom, Moses asks the Almighty for his name. The reply is, "I AM WHO AM." When the Gospel of John has Jesus make an "I AM" statement, it is a clear assertion of his identity as the divine Son of God. There are seven "I AM" expressions in John. Seven is always an indication of completeness, reminiscent of the seven days of creation in Genesis. Seven reminds us that Almighty God is the source of all that is.

Our Gospel today has Jesus proclaim, "I AM the gate for the sheep." Reading on a bit further beyond today's passage, we read, "I AM the Good Shepherd." When Jesus says, "I AM the gate for the sheep," he is telling us that he is the one who opens for us the path to salvation. Entering the blessed life of the Christian through the gate that is Jesus, we will "have life and have it more abundantly." He is the only gate that leads to a blessed life. Attempting to gain entry through any other way will lead to disaster. There is much to reflect upon in the Good Shepherd story.

*"Shepherd of my soul,
show me the path to life."*

New Assignment: This weekend the proposed changes in clergy assignments is to be released throughout the diocese. Priests were emailed the changes a week earlier but asked not to make them public. I found my name on the list! I've been reassigned to St. Gabriel Parish for another year.
Fr. Tom

Funeral Pre-planning: If interested in learning about the options for planning a funeral, join us Tues., May 9 at 10am in the Parish Center. Options will be presented on Scripture readings, music and other details pertaining to funerals. Questions? Contact Sandy at 662-4335.

May Wedding Anniversaries

70 years or more.....	Leo & Louise Schick
60 years or more.....	Joseph & Lorraine Fournier George & Eileen Rivard Clarence & Jean Alvesteffer Frank & Rose Ann Barber
50 years or more.....	Gordon & Mary Wegener Thomas & Gertrude Finnegan James & Roseann Holka Claude & Bonnie Vachon
40 years or more.....	Paul & Roseann Schubert Frank & Sally Czabala Dan & Josie Harrison Michael & Marilyn Marczak Gary & Caryn Lesley Melvin & Maureen Rauschert Mark & Shirley Bernhardt Kenneth & Diane Ligow
30 years or more.....	Gerard & Sharon Grzegorzczuk David & Luann LeVasseur Kim & Debra Beiser Rick & Marie LaRocque Mark & Barbara Schick Kenneth & Sandy DesJardins Thomas & Gail Alvesteffer Joel & LeAnne Johansson Daniel & Lori Pashak Daniel & Barbara Foco Richard & Sheri Turner

(to be continued next week)

Bless our marriage, O God, with peace and happiness.