

Week of May 14, 2017

MONDAY

Acts 14:5-18 * Ps 115:1-5,15-16 * Jn 14:21-26

TUESDAY 8:00am Word & Communion

Acts 14:19-28 * Ps 145:10-13,21 * Jn 14:27-31

WEDNESDAY 8:00am Mass

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

THURSDAY 8:00am Mass

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

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY 4:30pm Mass

Acts 16:1-10 * Ps 100:1-3,5 * Jn 15:18-21

SUNDAY 9:30am Mass

Nursery & Children's Liturgy of the Word

Acts 8:5-8,14-17 * Ps 66:1-7,16,20 * 1 Pt 3:15-18 * Jn 14:15-21



Parish Activities

- Tues., May 16 10:00am Scripture Study
 Wed., May 17 10:00am Parish Knitters
 Thurs., May 18 6:00pm PTO Meeting
 7:00pm School Committee Meeting
 Sat., May 20 8:30am Spring clean-up

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

Cedar Point Trip: Parish youth are invited to spend a day at Cedar Point on June 19. Cost is \$99 per person. All permission slips and money must be returned to the parish office no later than June 2 to reserve your seat on the bus. Call the parish office for more info.

Projects: The new parking lot lights are just the first step in a series of small and large capital improvements we would like to see in the parish. The largest one is replacement of the boiler which was put in when the building was being constructed (its only way out is to be dismantled). Bids have been received and have been opened at the Administration Commission Meeting and presented to the Parish Council. The average life span of a boiler is 25-30 years. It was certainly good to us. Other projects range from small (hand dryers in the bathrooms, improved drinking fountains) to larger (additional storage space, possible portable unit for school programs).

Graduation Mass: All high school and college graduates are invited to attend the Graduation Mass on Sunday, June 11 at 9:30am. A reception in your honor will immediately follow. RSVP to the parish office at 662-6861 or parishoffice@auburnac.org.

Lost & Found: A Vera Bradley diaper bag was left in church a few weeks ago. If it is yours, you can claim it at the parish office.

Baptisms..

"Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you;
 Before you were born, I dedicated you." Jeremiah 1:5

Charlotte Dawn Grocholski

daughter of Joshua & Kimberly Grocholski

Rachel Mary Spencer

daughter of Marty & Jessica Spencer

Cora Michelle Ratajczak

daughter of Josh & Ranae Ratajczak

Congratulations!!

Stewardship

Weekly Target: \$11,538.47 * Offering: \$20,781.55

Food Pantry: \$12.00 * Funeral Luncheon Donations: \$300.00

27 new pledges: \$5,255.00

C.S.A. Total pledges: 323 (59% of households)

8th report Total pledged: \$69,244.00 (89% of our target).

So near and yet so far. Those who have not yet responded are asked to do so. Next week the chairpersons will personally call those who have not been heard from. You can lighten their load (323 of 560 have replied) by stepping forward.

Fr. Tom

Education/Formation

FAMILY TALK TIME Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families, Sara McGinnis Lee
 As Christians, our family is part of the community that Jesus left on earth. How do we mirror what Jesus taught?

► **Reflecting on the Word:** Apostles Thomas and Philip are questioning Jesus, and Jesus is reassuring and tender. Jesus encourages trust in his teachings, and gives hope for the future. The Apostles have a hint that Jesus will not be with them much longer, as he describes his Father's house as having many dwelling places. If the Apostles believe that Jesus is the "way," then they know that his is the path toward salvation. And how wonderful the promise that the Apostles would perform even greater miracles than Jesus!

► **Living the Word:** Remind the family that Jesus promised us that he would wait for us in heaven. We need to spread the Good News while we wait here on earth. What is the Good News today? Each day this week, have a member of the family share some Good (Gospel) News. Make a refrigerator chart and share the news! An example would be, "I was a Christian when I did my homework without complaining, picked up my toys without being told, complimented someone at school, brought coffee to a stressed coworker." Small "messages" of good news add up!

Auburn Area Catholic School

► **2017-2018 School Year:** Have you considered all your options for your child's elementary education? AACCS offers smaller class sizes with individualized attention, before & after school care, organized sports starting in preschool & of course the Catholic Christian values that are instilled on a daily basis. For more info call the school office at 662-6431 or check out our website www.auburnacschool.org.

► **Spreading the Spirit Program!** This program provides financial assistance to the families that would like to send their child(ren) to Auburn Area Catholic School but may not be able to afford it. It is also a fund that can be used to assist larger families with multiple children. If you are interested in donating to this program or would like more information regarding financial support, please call the office at 662-6431. More information can also be found on our website at www.auburnacschool.org under Programs. All donations will be provided with a charitable donation receipt.

Vacation Bible School

Mark Your calendar:

July 31-Aug. 3. The theme this year will be "**Mighty Fortress:**

In Jesus, the Victory is Won!"

Details and registration information will be available soon.

From Father Tom's Desk

5th Sunday of Easter

Sr. Mary McGlone, Celebration

Today's Gospel begins with Jesus asking his disciples to have faith in him. It ends with his astounding statement that those who do so will accomplish even greater works than he did himself. That combination should be understood as a foundational principle of the Christian community. When we take it seriously we hear Jesus calling himself the revealer whose mission must be carried out by followers whom he trusts as much as he asks them to trust him.

The Acts of the Apostles shows us multiple ways in which the early Christian community took Jesus' trust and call to mission to heart. In today's story from Acts we see the community facing a serious challenge from within.

Faced with their inability to care adequately for all the people, "the twelve," the group that had reconstituted itself after Jesus' resurrection, put their trust in the discernment of the entire community to resolve their problem. The solution they came up with was to name seven men to see to the unmet needs. What should really not surprise us is the fact that we don't hear anything more about the daily distribution of food; that problem was somehow resolved and in the meantime Stephen and Philip, the only two of the seven to be mentioned again, began to exercise the same ministry as the apostles.

If we want to take these Scriptures seriously in this time of preparation for the feast of Pentecost, we must ask how they apply to our church community of the twenty-first century. The Greek speaking Christians and the widows among them were probably not considered the "mainstream" of the primitive community, but when they spoke up the community responded by expanding their pool of ministers.

His Mission, Our Mission

McGlone, Celebration

When we look at our world we can well feel that the problems of evil and injustice are insurmountable. That's a reasonable conclusion for anyone who does not have faith. But Christian faith is founded on trust that God works in history to bring about the unimaginable. Those who choose to accept Christ's invitation to place their faith in him and the Father can believe that the true way to life is found by following him through the confrontation with evil into a victory that only God can bring about. The Gospel tells us that Christ gave his life for us and has entrusted us with his mission. In turn he asks for our trust so that as we take on his mission we will bring it to fruition in new and greater ways, ways as faithful and creative as those devised by our Christian ancestors. God, grant us the courage to change the things that only we can change and only with your grace.

His Promise

Deacon Dick Folger, Celebration

The poetic words of William Shakespeare never lose their charm. In his famous play Romeo and Juliet we hear Juliet ask Romeo to base his promises of love on more than the mere orbits of the moon. Juliet says: "O, swear not by the moon, the inconstant moon that monthly changes in her circle orb, lest that thy love prove likewise variable."

In today's Gospel Jesus says: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Have faith in God and faith in me." At the end of the reading is his great promise: "Anything you ask in my name I will do." This is a promise that was made by our heavenly Father. Nothing could be more reliable. Nothing could be more eternal.

Live your life not so much to make your presence known, but to make your absence felt.

Doing His Work

Sr. Margaret Michaud, Collegeville Minn.

When Jesus says, "They do the works that I do," he is speaking of all believers, and that includes us. How can we do the "works" of Jesus? The gospels provide concrete examples of the "works" of Jesus. He reached out to the poor and powerless, touching their lives with the good news of salvation. He healed the sick, ministered to the outcasts, spoke in public to women, and preached his message to all, Jew and Gentile alike. The implications for us are crystal clear. We are committed to our daily responsibilities. We are to do all we can in service to our brothers and sisters in the human family. When we forget ourselves and reach out to others, we are living our Christian faith. We do this together as church, working and praying together. In this way our faith is alive. It is not merely a body of beliefs; it is a dynamic lifestyle. It is the solid foundation of our commitment as Christians.

"Lord, may your work be mine."

May Wedding Anniversaries (continued from last week)

20 years or more.....	Robert & Jennifer Geneseo Stephen & Geri Maraskine Jim & Vicki Snyder Gene & Lori Talaga Paul & Amy Berry Ryan & Marcie Carter
10 years or more.....	William & Amy Martin Jonathan & Tina Ivan William & Natascha Rivet Tim & Kelly Hadd Seung & Linda Lee Matthew & Kylie Kaczmarczyk Lee & Lisa Zielinski Thomas & Joyce Sylvester Casey & Tammy Hitts John & Ashley Putt
Less than 10 years.....	Robert & Kelly Lawrence Robert & Jennifer Ciesla Kyle & Jana Keller

Bless our marriage, O God, with peace and happiness.
(If you'd like your anniversary included, please call the parish office.)

The Parish in the Community

- ▶ **Quilters:** Meet May 16, 6:30pm at the Auburn United Methodist Church.
- ▶ **Memorial Day Masses:** Calvary Cemetery (2977 Old Kawkawlin, Kawkawlin), 10am with Fr. Patrick Jankowiak.
Also New Calvary Cemetery (2743 E Bombay, Midland), 8:30am with Bishop Cistone concelebrating with Fr. Joseph Griffin
- ▶ **Foster Homes** needed for youth ages 10-17, weekend respite foster homes, and short & long term specialized foster care homes. Foster parents can be married or single. Lots of support, training and flexibility offered, payment is provided. Contact Jodie Garner at Midland Co. 42nd Circuit Court – Family Division 832-6398 or jgarner@co.midland.mi.us for info.

AMEN CORNER: We are awaiting word from Bishop Cistone on two fronts. The Planning Group, as requested by diocese policy, asked for the "green light" to proceed with specific consideration of moving toward building a new church. The bishop requested some documents of Parish Council and Administration Committee meetings. That was sent.

We are also waiting on the necessary decree the bishop must publish indicating the interest to sell the remaining St. Anthony property, including the church building. He has to speak with the Presbyteral Council before doing that.

Fr. Tom