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PARISH STAFF

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 Janet Woronoff..... jworonoff@auburnac.org
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 Sue LeVasseur.....slevasseur@auburnac.org
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 Stephanie Schacher..... sschacher@auburnac.org

LAY MINISTERS

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------|---------------|
| Anne Dearington | Cheryl Gedraitis | Marilyn Welz |
| Kellie Deming | Tim Hadd | Dave Willsie |
| Dan Derdowski | Connie Kaczynski | Karen Willsie |

PRAYER LINE

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

BEFRIENDER

Mary Ellyn Gushow662-6745

COMMUNION FOR HOMEBOUND

Pam Graul-Gwizdala513-3027

**SCHOOL ENDOWMENT
 SPREADING THE SPIRIT FUND**

School Principal662-6431

MASSES

Saturday 4:30 PM Wednesday 8:00 AM (Not July)
 Sunday 9:30 AM Thursday 8:00 AM (Not July)
 *Currently Suspended

WORD & COMMUNION SERVICE

Tuesday 8:00 AM (Labor Day through Memorial Day)
 *Currently Suspended

NEW PARISHIONERS

Contact Parish Office for appointment to register.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Celebrated the 2nd weekend each month. Must be active, registered member of parish family. (Please check with parish office for current schedule) 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 *Currently Suspended or call Parish Office for appointment.

**AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL
 114 W. Midland Rd., Auburn, MI 48611**

Ph.: 662-6431 Fax: 662-3391 www.auburnacschool.org
 Clark Switalski, Principal cswitalski@auburnac.org
 Chris Kaczynski, Secretary ckaczynski@auburnac.org

WEATHER POLICY

If Bay City Public Schools close due to inclement weather, daytime (8:00 AM – 4:00 PM), parish activities are canceled. Cancellation of all (including the St Anthony site) evening activities will be announced by 3:00 PM. Closures will be posted on TV: NBC 25, ABC 12, CBS 5

EDUCATION / FORMATION

WEEK OF MAY 18, 2020

MONDAY

291:Acts 16:11-15 Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b Jn15:26—16:4a

TUESDAY

292:Acts 16:22-34 Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8 Jn16:5-11

WEDNESDAY

293:Acts 17:15, 22—18:1 Ps 148:1-2, 11-14 Jn 16:12-15

THURSDAY

294:Acts 18:1-8 Ps 98:1-4 Jn 16:16-20

FRIDAY

295:Acts 18:9-18 Ps 47:2-7 Jn16:20-23

SATURDAY

296:Acts 18:23-28 Ps 47:2-3, 8-10 Jn16:23b-c

SUNDAY

59:Acts 1:12-14 Ps 27:1, 4, 7-8 1 Pt 4:13-16



PARISH ACTIVITIES

All parish activities and gatherings are currently suspended per Bishop Gruss. Further details to follow as they are available.

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Target: \$10,962 Offering: \$9,562

Food Pantry: \$930

Thank you to everyone who has continued to support the parish financially during the cessation of masses. It is truly appreciated!

Children Good Deeds

Please let us know the good deeds that your kids are doing while at home! parishoffice@auburnac.org



Welcome Baby Girl Waibel

On May 5th, 2020 Tyler & Katie Waibel welcomed daughter *Layla Grace*, 8 lbs. 12 oz. and 21 inches long. She is much loved by big sister Olivia and big brother Austin!



Liturgy Corner by Rev. Robert E. Brassard

Do you know why We exchange the sign of peace at mass? Among early Christians, the Sign of Peace was, seen as a seal placed on prayer. Very quickly this custom of exchanging peace was placed in the liturgy as it was celebrated in Rome. At that time, it occurred following the end of the Liturgy of the Word. Here it was viewed as a sign of unity and oneness required by Christ in Matthew's Gospel ("Before you bring your gift to the altar...") In the 5th Century the Sign of Peace was placed immediately after the Our Father. Pope Innocent I thought the last part of the Our Father ("as we forgive those who sin against us") was a perfect introduction to the exchange of peace. With some elaboration and additional prayers, this position for the Sign of Peace became the fixed location of this exchange of love and charity. As history developed, this symbol of unity and oneness fell into disuse. Prior to 1964. The exchange of peace was reserved only for the most solemn of ceremonies and then only among the clerical minister. It fell into disuse among the congregation. With the renewal of the liturgy this exchange of peace was restored to the liturgy. Since Christ is the source of all peace and unity, our exchange of peace is recognition of Christ's presence and action within our own lives and the life of all those gathered for worship.

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

What words or actions express love? How do you know you are loved? How do we show our love to one another at this time?

Reflecting on the Word:

Jesus proposes something revolutionary to the disciples: that God will come and inhabit them, that their own hearts will become temples of the Holy Spirit. If we surrender ourselves to God, he will come and live in us and we in him. We will be close as a heartbeat. God offers us a relationship of lover, the love that truly desires the good of the other. And his love bears fruit as it teaches us to see with God's eyes, to follow not the ways of the world but the Way of Love.



Living the Word:

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength." The second (commandment) is this: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." "There is no other commandment greater than these." Mark 12:30-31. Jesus' exhortation to share God's love is challenging in its simplicity. Think of some ways you can live these two commandments. Both individually and as a family.

AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

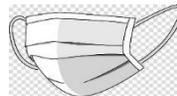
Clark Switalski, Principal

This month we celebrate all our mothers and everything they do for us. They are the ones who support us when we are going through tough times, love us when we need it, and care for us when we are sick or in despair. Mary is the ultimate mother and last week we honored her by holding a may crowning prayer service in the church. She cared for Jesus throughout his life and continued to say yes to God through difficult circumstances. As we honor her and our own mothers, we should continue to say yes and offer our prayers for all the mothers in our community.

The Gospel this week tells us that we will be with Jesus and he will be with us as long, as we keep his commandments. Keeping his commandments can be attained through living a life filled with virtues and grace. Moments of Grace can be attained through the sacraments and prayer. Taking some extra time to pray everyday can help build a lasting relationship with God where we can know that he is with us in everything we do and say. "Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me. And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him.

✝ **God Bless**

Masks Available:



Now that Governor Gretchen Whitmer has mandated that masks be worn in public spaces we have had several requests from parishioners for masks. We do have some masks available at the parish office on a first come first serve basis if someone is in need, **we also have some children's masks!** *they were graciously donated by Pat Knieper and Leona Butko*

On a personal note from Fr. Tom...

I lost a classmate and close friend this past week as *Father Jim Heller* passed away at St. Ann's Nursing Home in Grand Rapids. He fell victim to the Covid-19 virus. Please pray for him and his family members. A small, ten-person funeral was held on Wednesday, May 13th at The Cathedral. May God bless Fr. Jim for his ministry not only to specific parishes but to the diocesan church. *"Requiescet in Pace"*



"Come Holy Spirit"



**FROM
FR. TOM'S
DESK**

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Patricia Sanchez, *Celebration*

Some of the earliest believers had the joy of knowing Jesus and were convinced that he was indeed sent by God for the salvation of humankind. These had the courage to remain even after he was handed over and suffered and died. They believed that he was risen and present to them through the power of his promised Spirit (Gospel, John). Others believed and committed themselves to Jesus and the church based solely on the compelling testimony of eyewitnesses to the Christ-event. As today's first reading attests, the witness of those early believers was so effective that the community soon grew beyond Jerusalem to Samaria. Luke tells his readers that this development produced great joy. No doubt the spirit of joy was contagious, and others who witnessed it wanted to share in the experience.

Along with their obvious joy, the everyday lifestyle of those early believers was magnetic. Others were impressed at how they shared among themselves so that all the needy were attended. Their regular gathering to pray, to break bread and be taught by their leaders was compelling and attractive. People admired their daring to continue preaching even when threatened by the authorities. Their goal to make Jesus known to others, despite the personal cost to themselves, caused many to open their hearts to them and to the Gospel they preached. The very fact that Philip, as featured in the first reading from Acts, dared to bring the Gospel to Samaria from Jerusalem, despite the animosity that existed between Jews and Samaritans, must have caused many to at the depth of his conviction. In their wonder, they were prompted to listen, and they too began to believe.

Besides the quality of their character, the attractiveness of their lifestyle and the strength of their convictions, the early believers in Jesus also possessed another gift that recommended them and their message to their contemporaries: They had hope. In today's second reading, the author of 1 Peter encouraged readers always to be ready to explain the reason for their hope. That reason was and always will be the person of Jesus Christ, who has revealed himself to us. In the strength of that love and by the power of his presence, we have hope despite the wars that continue to wrack this world with pain and grief, despite the calamities of nature, despite the diseases that seem to defy any attempts at a cure, despite the poverty that goes unchecked, despite the homeless, the hungry, the lost and the lame of body and spirit. Despite all those whose sorry lot attests to the weakness of our efforts, we have a living, breathing, loving and caring reason to hope. The witness of our hope can speak louder than any evil and truer than any grief...until the One who is our hope comes again.

Fledgling Church: (Acts 8)

Celebration

Although Phillip traveled north to Samaria from Jerusalem, Judah's capital enjoyed such importance that all roads leading out of the city were said to go downward. By the same token, all travelers making their way to the city, were described as "going up" to Jerusalem. For the first decades of the Jesus movement, Jerusalem retained its prominence. Peter and John went from Jerusalem to Samaria to ratify the good work done there by Philip. Although the early Christians were aware that the holy Spirit was bestowed on believers at their baptism (Acts 1:5; 2:38; 9:17-19), today's first reading (v.6) seems to imply incompleteness in the baptism of the Samaritans by Philip. Scholars suggest that no such inferiority is intended; rather, it was Luke's intent to show that all the missionary efforts of the nascent community came together under the auspices of the apostles (Peter and John in this instance) and the community in Jerusalem. Later, the community grew beyond Jerusalem, and with its destruction in 70 C.E., other cities became more prominent (Rome, Antioch, Ephesus).

Reason to Hope: (1 Peter 3)

Celebration

Tom Bodett, the spokesperson for Motel 6 who ends each ad with the promise, "We'll leave the light on for you," also said, "They say a person needs just three things to be happy in this world—someone to love, something to do and something to hope for." When we reflect upon the situation of the early disciples, we can readily observe that they found all three of those things in Jesus. His love for them, which found its fullest expression on the cross, engendered in them a love for him and for God that they expressed in their love for others. That love also inspired their "something to do"; they served the needs of others, and even when they were made to suffer (as did Jesus) for doing good, they persevered. Their steady perseverance was fueled by their hope that probably made others wonder at their spiritual stamina. The recipients of 1 Peter and all who hear these words today are urged to be ready to explain the reason for our hope. His name is Jesus.

Last Will and Testament: (John 14)

Celebration

Johannine scholars have likened the lengthy discourse of Jesus at the Last Supper to his last will and testament. In that case, today's Gospel represents the part of Jesus' will where he names the gifts he will bequeath to his own. Those gifts consist of his abiding love, his commandments and another Advocate (9v.16). While he was with them, Jesus had fulfilled the role of Advocate; he was helper, guide, mentor, protector, provider, teacher and constant companion. In the soon-to-come "little while," Jesus promised that his own would continue to see him, to know him and to love him even though the world would not. This clear demarcation between those with whom the Spirit of Jesus remains and the rest of the world would continue to challenge his followers to find their center, their source of strength, their values and their inspiration not in any of the world's dictates but in the Spirit. At times, the Spirit murmurs and whispers; at other times, the Spirit roars in its proclamation and insistence on the truth. At all times, the Spirit remains with those who love Jesus and keep his commandments. Chief among those are "Love God" and "Love your neighbor as yourself."

Proving One's Love:

Deacon Dick Folger, *Celebration*

The marriage was on the rocks. But the man loved his wife and wanted to prove his love, so he decided to swim across the ocean. She was not impressed. Undaunted, he walked across the Gobi Desert. He sent her a victory picture of him at the Chinese border with parched, cracked lips. She was still unimpressed. He decided to climb Mt. Everest. They took a photo of him standing atop the 29,142-foot peak, holding up his black frostbitten thumb. He was sure he had won her back. When he returned home, the divorce went through. He asked her, "Why?" She answered, "Well, you were never home!"

In today's Gospel Jesus doesn't expect us to swim oceans, cross deserts or climb mountains. He only asks that we keep his commandments. That alone is proof of our love for him.

Source of Power;

Leisa Anslinger, *The Liturgical Press*

We may feel timid about living as a follower of Jesus; we might be tempted to "go with the flow" rather than standing up for what we know is right; we might be battered by the storms of life. Still, we have to hope in the risen Lord, the strength of the Holy Spirit, and the assurance that God is with us, especially when the circumstances of life and living as people of faith is challenging.

Those who do not have a deep relationship with the Lord may not understand where our strength and hope comes from. They might even consider our reliance on God to be misguided and think of our faith as nothing more than wishful thinking. Yet, it may be in those most challenging moments in life, when we hold on with hope in the Lord, that we have an opportunity to witness to God's enduring love, mercy, and strength. And through us our family members, friends, and coworkers may be drawn to Christ.



Blood Drive Thank-you!

The parishioners of St Gabriel **GENEROUSLY** donated 25 life-saving products of blood on April 29th, including 7 first-time donors! These efforts saved 75 lives! Our next blood drive is scheduled for June 24th from 2-7pm at the St Gabriel social hall. You can make an appointment by calling 866-MIBLOOD or at versisti.org/miblood.

Online Giving...

During these uncertain times, your parish still needs your support. Do not forget the availability of online giving. You can go to the parish website and "click" online giving, you can also go to My parish App or use the link below. While we are unable to attend weekly mass and may be worshipping at home, your vital support can still happen regardless of where you are. <https://www.osvhub.com/auburnac/funds> For specific instructions to use the online system see the insert in this week's bulletin and as always you can mail your envelopes or bring them into the parish office



PICTORIAL DIRECTORY UPDATE

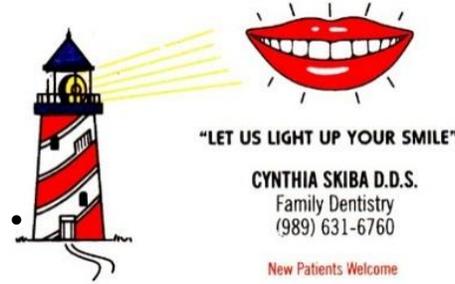
We have been working diligently on the pictorial directory. However, we are at a standstill with the shutdown as Lifetouch has closed per the executive order in their state. Know that we are still in the process and hope that we will have it completed in the near future and then get it to the publisher when they reopen. Thank-you for your patience!



Michael Kaczynski
Painting/Carpentry

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Cell: 303-242-2650
mckaczynski@sbcglobal.net

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St. Anthony Cemetery 4485 S. Eleven Mile Rd. Auburn, MI 48611



| | Parishioner | Non-Parishioner |
|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| COLUMBARIUM | | |
| Single (1 Urn) | \$1,000 | \$1,500 |
| Double (2 Urns) | \$1,400 | \$1,750 |
| Inurnment | \$ 250 per niche | \$ 300 per niche |
| CEMETERY | | |
| 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

