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 Kellie Deming Tim Hadd Dave Willsie
 Connie Kaczynski Karen Willsie Pam Graul-Gwizdala

PRAYER LINE

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Sisters of St. Clare srsclare.com/prayer

BEFRIENDER

Mary Ellyn Gushow (989) 662-6745

COMMUNION FOR HOMEBOUND

Pam Graul-Gwizdala (989) 513-3027

HELPING HANDS COMMITTEE

Stephanie Schacher..... (989) 878-2898

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 JUNE 14TH , 2021

MONDAY

365: 2 Cor 6:1-10 Ps 98:1, 2b, 3-4 Mt 5:38-42

TUESDAY

366: 2 Cor 8:1-9 Ps 146:2, 5-9a Mt 5:43-48

WEDNESDAY 8 am Mass

367: 2 Cor 9:6-11 Ps 112:1bc-4, 9 Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

THURSDAY 8 am Mass

368: 2 Cor 11:1-11 Ps 111:1b-4, 7-8 Mt 6:7-15

FRIDAY

369: 2 Cor 11:18, 21-30 Ps 34:2-7 Mt 6:19-23

SATURDAY 4:30 pm Mass

370: 2 Cor 12:1-10 Ps 34:8-13 Mt 6:24-34

SUNDAY 9:30 am Mass

95: Jb 38:1, 8-11 Ps 107:23-26, 28-31 2 Cor 5:14-17 Mk 4:35-41



UPCOMING PARISH ACTIVITIES

Wednesday, June 16TH – **Blood Drive, 1:30-6:30 pm. Social Hall**

Friday, June 18th – **Parish Office closing at noon (summer hours)**

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Target: \$10,962 Offering: \$13,841

Diocesan Collections: \$140 Food Pantry: \$70

Children Good Deeds

...I helped babysit my sister...Carried in Groceries...

...Not Crying...Played with my cat...

AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Clark Switalski, Principal

The teachers wrapped up their classrooms this week and we met for the final times officially until August. The teachers have done a wonderful job this year and have come out the other end of a difficult situation. I am extremely proud of the yearly accomplishments they were able to attain and am thrilled with the progress I have seen in the children. At the end of school, there were a lot of fun events. Thanks to a generous donation from a parishioner, the school was able to reserve the Kona Ice Truck out of Saginaw. Seeing the pure and utter joy of the students taking part in this activity warmed everyone's heart. Thank you for giving AACCS the opportunity to give this special treat to the students.

The Gospel this week is the parable of the mustard seed. The parallels to our school are clear and spot on. We may be small, but we are mighty. Building our children's faith through prayer, service, and education. The foundation being set here is allowing that tiny seed to grow beyond anything anyone could ever imagine. Our children will grow in their faith and move on to bigger and brighter things for themselves and their

families, but the foundation is set right here! Helping people to see their educational potential is a goal of our school, however it is not the only goal. We are to build disciples of Christ to go out and make our world better. I cannot think of a better way to start than with our *small seed* school.

God Bless

EDUCATION / FORMATION

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

Cab just one person, even those as young or as old as you, make a difference? What does the growth of the mustard seed tell us about what we, and the Church, need to do to help grow the Kingdom of God?

Reflecting on the Word:

We are back in Ordinary Time and learn more from Jesus. Today, he compares the Kingdom of God to a mustard seed. Jesus tells us that even something as small as a mustard seed can grow into something enormous. Each seed, each person in the Kingdom of God, is valuable and significant.



Living the Word:

Find a mustard seed to show your children what Jesus was referring to in the Gospel. You could also go online and find a picture. Ask your family why Jesus would have used this seed as an example to teach about the potential each of us has in God's Kingdom. What small things can each of us do that will have a big impact on someone else?

Vacation Bible School Days!



**Treasured,
"Discovering You're
Priceless to God."**

K-5th grade (Fall 2021)

July 27 – 30 from 9 a.m. – 12 noon

Registrations are due by Monday, June 28th

No registrations will be taken on Tuesday, July 27th

Youth volunteers are needed grades 6th–12th (Fall 2021)

Forms are available at the school entrance, at the Parish Center or by email request: parishoffice@auburnac.org

Ministry Opportunity!

Youth Minister – We are looking for a person who enjoys working with youth, grades 6-12. You would be responsible for the development, organization, and administration of programs to fulfill the catechetical mission of our parish. This includes catechetical formation, community building, service opportunities, planning and implementing programs and events that lead our youth into a deeper life of discipleship. Please send resume and three references to Father Tom or parishoffice@auburnac.org. A job description is available at the Parish Center.

Congratulations on your baptism!

James Kenneth Dallas

Son of Ryan & Jessica Dallas





FROM FR. TOM'S DESK

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time : Anthony Martinelli, *Service*

For the past sixteen weeks, the church has journeyed through Lent, Holy Week, the Easter season, Pentecost and the solemnities of Trinity Sunday and Corpus Christi. We have been focusing on the great mysteries of our faith, and there is really no other prolonged period of time in the liturgical year that is as important. If your spirit feasts on the peaks, it is now time to come away from the table and relax. For the next twenty-two weeks return to Ordinary Time and traverse through the most ordinary of Gospels: Mark. Yet Edward R. Murrow once said the best word to describe the human spirit is "steady." So perhaps "ordinary" time is in no way pejorative. Perhaps it is where we ordinary folk will be most at home.

During this time of the church's liturgical year, we return to Mark's Gospel which we had begun prior to Lent. I referred to it as the most "ordinary" of Gospels for a number of reasons. To begin, it was the first Gospel that was written (ca. 70 CE). The author of Mark invented the literary form that we call a Gospel. It is also ordinary because it is the shortest, the least sophisticated theologically and it is written in the simplest terms. It does not have the bold strokes of genius that are found in Matthew, Luke, and John. There is no infancy narrative, no Sermon on the Mount, no Prodigal Son or Good Samaritan, no Last Discourse. Yet Mark's simplicity and directness never fail to give me a clear and challenging portrait of Jesus. We are invited to sit in Mark's presence and listen to him speak of Jesus.

The Gospel used for this Sunday shows Jesus using the natural order as the basis for his parables. Both parables use seeds as their foundation and have a common theme. In the first parable, the emphasis is placed on the mysterious, inexorable growth of the seed. The farmer does his part: He sows the seed and reaps the harvest. But actual growth and development of the seed lie outside his power. At the reign of God is the power of God. God is invisibly, mysteriously at work. The second parable is similar. The reign of God is like a mustard seed that grows to be a great bush for the birds to nest in. Here the emphasis is on the remarkable disparity between the tiny seed and the great bush. Again, the parable speaks of the power of God to transform the world through the "most humble" of instruments. Jesus is certain of one reality: God is at work in the world.

Tree of Hope:(Ezekiel 17) *Service*

Today's reading stands in Ezekiel as a note of hope from the perspective of those in exile. Now that all is lost in terms of political power, God will make a new beginning. God will take "a tender shoot and plant it on a high and lofty mountain" (17:22). In this image the exiles are to find future hope.

The hope is described in the most grandiose terms. That shoot will "become a majestic cedar"(17:23). No tree was more admired than the cedar of Lebanon. Ezekiel promises that under the shade of this tree all the earth will dwell (Ezek 17:23), Israel's future will be more prominent than any other. Only God can bring this about. As the last verse of today's reading insists, Yahweh's power is absolute, lifting high the lowly tree and bringing low the high tree.

Today more than ever there is a need for hope. Ezekiel's oracle reminds us not to be discouraged by inconspicuous beginnings. Every glorious cedar begins with a tender shoot.

On the Way: (2 Corinthians 5) *Service*

The basic issue in this part of the letter is Paul's defense of his ministry. Paul begins this section by stating his confidence: "We continue to be confident." But then at once something diverts him. It seems to be the claim of some of his opponents in Corinth that our present existence in Christ is all we can expect in terms of union with Christ. Paul disagrees. As Paul frequently claims in his letters, the state of the believer is a mixture of present union and future hope.

Therefore, there is a way in which we are now with Christ, but an even fuller union remains in the future. Paul's image does not center primarily on being in or out of the body, and certainly no body-soul dualism with the negative evaluation of material reality should be used to understand it. In the Greek, rather, the image is carried by two words which mean either being "at home" or "away from home." Paul's point is not that we are separated from Christ while we are living in our mortal bodies. (to "walk by faith" in 5:7 rules that out.) What he wants to stress is that our present possession of Christ only puts us on the road, but we have not yet come home.

God's Work: (Mark 4) *Service*

The Gospel alerts us to how God works—the reign of God, in which we are partakers and co-creators with God, begins slowly, simply, quietly, imperceptibly. First the seed is on the land, then the growth; only in time, without the full control of human engineering, does the crop ready and harvest get reaped. This patience on behalf of God's reign means that one needs to trust that something is going on. One needs to be careful not to be impatient, to get caught up in the underbrush, to lose heart because one does not evidence immediate results. The Gospel illustrates that God works surprisingly—the smallest of seeds, the mustard seed, grows and becomes the biggest of shrubs with branches ample enough for the birds to take shade and shelter in them. God uses what is small and makes great; God uses the man from Galilee and makes him Lord and Christ; God turns around horrible cross death and fashions wellness for humanity. God takes the merest child, one without any rights in society, and shows how the true disciple has become like that child in the reign of God.

Goodness of Ordinary: Rev. Eugene Hensell, *The Liturgical Press*

The point Jesus wants to make by using these seed parables is that the reality of God's presence (God's kingdom) is not found in things powerful, great, and grandiose. The reality of the kingdom of God is first and foremost to be found in the ordinary, humdrum experiences and things of daily living. People do not see that because they are not looking in the right places or at the right things. Many people are convinced that the reality of God's kingdom can only be found in places other than the one they are in. They chase all over the world after every strange vision or so-called apparition that gets reported. To get there they walk by the homeless, the struggling single parents, the immigrants, and the many other "mustard shrubs" they encounter along the way. Ironically, they are leaving the very thing they are desperately seeking.

The message in today's liturgy is for everyone to reexamine what she or he is really seeking in life. The reality of God's kingdom can be found and experienced in the things of ordinary daily life. Each day men and women walk by many "mustard shrubs" without a thought other than someone ought to cut those ugly things down. There is no need to chase after the kingdom of God. The kingdom of God dwells within you wherever you are. This is not an easy message for many people to grasp. Our culture and our environment worships power and greatness. No one strives to be ordinary. Bigger is always better than smaller. More is always better than less. All of this is easily transferred onto the images used to describe God and God's kingdom. Jesus came preaching a counterculture reality. He presented a vision of God that is rooted in everyday human life and experience.



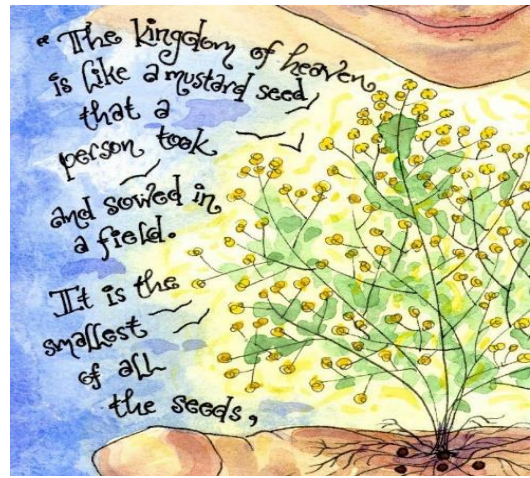
**"Creator God, I offer praise
and thanks for all your works."**



CMA Update: As of June 4th, the total amount of pledges is \$75,715. Our

target was \$71,210. That amount was pledged by 312 parishioners/families (62% of members) with a remaining pledge balance of \$3,094.88.

Thanks for helping us reach our goal!

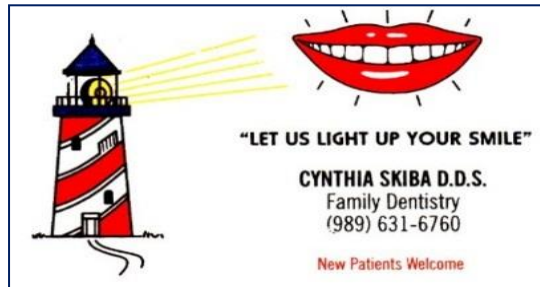


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St. Anthony Cemetery
4485 S. Eleven Mile Rd., Auburn

COLUMBARIUM		
Single (1 Urn)	Parishioner \$1,000	Non-Parishioner \$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