

# Week of June 25, 2017

## MONDAY

Gn 12:1-9 \* Ps 33:12-13,18-20,22 \* Mt 7:1-5

## TUESDAY

Gn 13:2-5,18 \* Ps 15:2-5 \* Mt 7:6,12-14

## WEDNESDAY 8:00am Mass

Gn 15:1-12,17-18 \* Ps 105:1-4,6-9 \* Mt 7:15-20

## THURSDAY 8:00am Mass

Acts 12:1-11 \* Ps 34:2-9 \* 2 Tm 4:6-8,17-18 \* Mt 16:13-19

## FRIDAY

Gn 17:1-9,10,15-22 \* Ps 128:1-5 \* Mt 8:1-4

## SATURDAY 4:30pm Mass

Gn 18:1-15 \* Lk 1:46-50,53-55 \* Mt 8:5-17

## SUNDAY 9:30am Mass

2 Kgs 4:8-11,14-16 \* Ps 89:2-3,16-19 \* Rom 6:3-4,8-11 \* Mt 10:37-42

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



## Parish Activities

**St. Gabriel Parish Outreach:** Last week we mailed out checks totaling \$3,850 to several area agencies as part of our parish outreach. We regularly assist agencies such as Beacon of Hope, East Side Soup Kitchen, Guest House and Hidden Harvest, just to name a few. We have also assisted individuals with shut-off and eviction notices. To date this fiscal year, our expenses in the area of Outreach amount to \$31,977.21.

**Children's Envelopes:** Several parish children have been using envelopes and we've enjoyed some of the comments written for their "Good Deeds". A few comments will be listed in the bulletin as time and space permit.

We are going to start something new for the offertory collection by providing an offertory basket placed at the foot of the altar for the children to place their contributions in. **We do not expect you to supply your child with the money that goes in their contribution envelope.**

One of the primary purposes of this effort is to teach children that it does indeed feel good to give. It is more important that a child puts in a nickel, dime or quarter from his/her own allowance and feels proud of that contribution than a child puts in five dollars from mom's or dad's wallet, which is meaningless to the child. Just as the stewardship way of life is a fulfilling and joyful lifestyle for adults, it is also a very good lifestyle to teach our children. Unfortunately, in today's world, children are bombarded with materialistic messages that often lead to a sense of entitlement and to frustration and dissatisfaction with not having enough. Stewardship encourages an attitude of gratitude knowing they have been blessed and that they are called to share.

If you need envelopes for your child/ren, please stop at the Parish Center to pick some up.

**Reminder:** Prices and fees for plots and niches in the Columbarium at St. Anthony Cemetery are going up on July 1 for non-parishioners and Sept. 1 for parishioners. If you have been considering purchasing a plot at St. Anthony Cemetery for yourself or a loved one, now is the time to do it! Call or stop in the Parish Office for more information.

**The Parish Calendar** for the summer months will not be inserted in the bulletin as there are not enough activities to warrant all that paper and ink. You can always access the calendar, however, on our website: auburnac.org.

**Blood Drive:** A huge thank you to everyone who stopped by last Monday! We had 19 people show up with 15 successful donations. Mark your calendar for our next drive on August 21.

## Education/Formation

**FAMILY TALK TIME** Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families, Sara McGinnis Lee God loves us, no matter what we do. What signs do you see that God cares for us daily?

► **Reflecting on the Word:** Jesus is giving instructions to his Apostles, especially regarding how to live openly in God's love. He also stresses the wisdom of God. "even all the hairs of your head are counted." Unlike popular Jewish belief at the time, Jesus assures the Twelve that they should shift to being bold (that is, "speak in the light") and without fear (that is, "fear" God but no others). It's not difficult to believe that if God cares for the tiny sparrows, he will also care for us. Nothing is inconsequential with God.

► **Living the Word:** No matter what the family's school schedule, everyone should enjoy some down time during the summer. Set aside some time with your children to use the gift of play and of delight that God has given you. Seek also to help a neighbor or family member with an act of kindness. Concentrate on appreciating the beauty of nature as a family this summer.

## Auburn Area Catholic School

► **Hiring – Preschool Aide:** We are looking for a Preschool Aide for our 4 year old Extended-Day Program. The position is for M,W,F 11:30am-3:20pm. You must be 19 yrs. or older, have a H.S. diploma or equivalent, and have experience working with school-age children. The closing date for applications is Mon., July 10, 2017. Applications can be mailed to Attn: Mrs. Reder, 114 W Midland Road, Auburn MI 48611. For more information, call the school office at 662-6431 or email Mrs. Reder at [jreder@auburnac.org](mailto:jreder@auburnac.org).

► **AACS will have a float in the CornFest Parade** on Sunday, July 9 at 1:00pm. If you would like to help with the float or walk with us in the parade, please contact Sarah Pope at [sarah.pope08@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.pope08@gmail.com).

## Stewardship

Weekly Target: \$11,538.47 \* Offering: \$5,897.88  
Food Pantry: \$40

2 new pledges: \$45.00  
C.S.A. Total pledges: 391 (72% of households)  
Total pledged: \$79,364.00 (102% of our target).  
Anyone else out there??? Fr. Tom

## From Father Tom's Desk

### 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sr. Mary McGlone, [Celebration](#)

In today's Gospel Jesus sends the apostles out to preach the coming of the kingdom of heaven in word and deed. He knows they will encounter resistance and even life-threatening opposition. Thus, he starts and finishes the core of his instructions by saying, "Do not be afraid." Halfway in between those two statements he explains that those who kill the body have very limited power; the real danger comes from those who can suffocate the human spirit. The latter are the ones the prophets rail against, even at the cost of their lives.

Today's reading calls us to reconsider our Christian vocation. Each

of us was baptized to share in Christ's prophetic ministry. That means we need to stop and ask ourselves if we are willing to step into the space where the way of the world contradicts the Gospel and say, "It doesn't have to be this way." It means we must love our world enough to be part of making it what God created it to be. Accepting the call to prophecy means that we are accepting the role of speaking and acting as renegades for life.

## Role of the Prophet

McClone, Celebration

What is a prophet? A prophet is someone called by God to read the signs of the times in the light of the Gospel. A prophet is someone deeply in touch with contemporary reality, one who is loving and courageous enough to expose what is contrary to the will of God as well as galvanize others to believe in and work to create a gospel alternative. Now that's a job description set up to antagonize just about everybody.

Do we wonder why people rejected Jeremiah and plotted against him? The prophetic message is just too demanding! We've seen it time and again. Jeremiah's case presents what could almost be a cartoon caricature. When a scroll of Jeremiah's prophecy was presented to the king, the king listened to it section by section, and as each segment came to an end he borrowed a knife, cut off the part just read and threw it into the fire (Jeremiah 36). Of course, it didn't take long for even Jeremiah's friends to understand that their relationship with him might not be worth the price.

The second dimension of prophecy is the too often forgotten task of promoting real alternatives. This dimension of the prophetic vocation offers an interpretation of the charge Jesus gives us in today's Gospel: "What I say to you in the darkness, speak in the light." How often do we hear a nearly inaudible voice prod us with some version of those most disturbing questions: "Isn't there another possibility? Does it always have to be this way?" These are quite often the questions of young people whose experience has not yet taught them to capitulate to "the way things really work" and who have not yet accumulated so much that they feel they must protect it. The moment we find ourselves resisting such questions we need to ask ourselves what we fear, what have we allowed to come into our lives and fetter our hopes?

## Your Value

Deacon Dick Folger, Celebration

The American humorist, Mark Twain, famously said: "The only reason why God created man is because he was disappointed with the monkey." Yet, today's Gospel assures us that God loves all of creation; even the smallest of sparrows are in his care. We know that the good Lord didn't create anything without a purpose. Even so, we might have to say that mosquitoes come close to serving no purpose.

As sons and daughters of God, we are all called to discover our purpose in life and to acknowledge it before all else. We must forever give glory to the Father who breathes us into life, walks with us in all our days and calls us home at the end of life.

## Jeremiah's Modelling

Celebration

Like most true prophets Jeremiah protested his call from the beginning. Although he cried, "I am too young!" God's response was that he had been called from his mother's womb – a statement that nullified age as a valid impediment. Jeremiah may be most famous for his semi-blasphemous accusation that God had seduced him into proph-

"God gives every bird its food,  
but He does not throw it into its nest".

ecy. Jeremiah chose that word seduction very purposefully as an expression of his passion and sense of deception. The vocation to prophecy promised little prestige and even less success. Love of God, of God's word and of God's people were Jeremiah's only motivations. Yet, the people rejected him, the word never seemed to be effective and Jeremiah didn't feel that God was doing anything to vindicate him.

As we listen to Jeremiah's confession/complaint, we are reminded of just how honest Jewish prayer can be. When the prophet or psalmist feels abandoned or betrayed, politeness and even conventional reverence are overrun by torrents of emotion that leave not one grievance unspoken, not one moan or sigh stifled. These are the prayers of people so intimately involved with God that they can say exactly what they think and feel, knowing God will hear them out. Once Jeremiah has expressed every bit of his sorrow and anger, he then can express his trust in God. As in Psalm 22 which Jesus prayed from the cross, Jeremiah accuses God of abandoning him and mourns the cruelty of his enemies and the betrayal of his friends. But as Psalm 22 moves from despair to hope and faith, Jeremiah, too, ends his prayer with a song of trust that God will rescue him and exact justice in due time.

## Perseverance

Heather Neds, Celebration

As disciples we need to follow Jesus' example. Jesus knew he was not alone – and neither are we. From the Garden of Gethsemane to his resurrection, God was present there with Jesus. He was there in the words Jesus spoke to those who defended him when he was arrested. God was there comforting Jesus as the crown of thorns pierced his skull and through each snap of the whip and each painful step he took carrying the cross. And after Jesus died, God let the darkness settle before the light was revealed in the resurrection.

Are you standing in the light? Shouting God's praise from the rooftop? Do you acknowledge God when you are in the trenches and the whole world seems to be against you? Do you stand in truth with God as your constant help? Do your words and actions reflect your trust that God will not abandon you, that he is with you through it all? This is what it means to be a disciple.

**"Strengthen me, Lord,  
as a disciple."**

### AMEN CORNER:

While not directly connected to any building project, we will be awarding a contract next week for the replacement of the boiler. It has served us well since 1962. The estimated price for replacement and take-down of the current boiler will be close to \$100,000. *Fr. Tom*

As requested by the diocese to repeat the following one last time:

*After extensive discussion, the Parish Pastoral and Finance Councils requested that St. Anthony Church in Auburn be closed. The parishioners were notified of their recommendation in the bulletin over 4 weekends. The Pastor submitted the resolution of the Parish Pastoral Council and Finance Council, copies of the bulletin announcements, and his own recommendation to Bishop Joseph R. Cistone, who reviewed the pertinent information and consulted the Diocesan Presbyteral Council. Bishop Cistone has signed the Decree relegating St. Anthony Church to Profane but not Sordid Use. Parishioners have 10 days from the notification of the Decree to appeal to Bishop Cistone for reconsideration. At the time of sale, sacred objects of St. Anthony Church will be removed from the Church.*