

Week of July 22, 2018

MONDAY

Mi 6:1-4,6-8 * Ps 50:5-6,8-9,16-17,21,23 * Mt 12:38-42

TUESDAY

Mi 7:14-15,18-20 * Ps 85:2-8 * Mt 12:46-50

WEDNESDAY

2 Cor 4:7-15 * Ps 126:1-6 * Mt 20:20-28

THURSDAY

Jer 2:1-3,7-8,12-13 * Ps 36:6-11 * Mt 13:10-17

FRIDAY

Jer 3:14-17 * Jer 31:10-13 * Mt 13:18-23

SATURDAY 4:30pm Mass

Jer 7:1-11 * Ps 84:3-6,8,11 * Mt 13:24-30

SUNDAY 9:30am Mass

2 Kgs 4:42-44 * Ps 145:10-11,15-18 * Eph 4:1-6 * Jn 6:1-15



Reminder: The Parish Planning Committee will meet with the Breton Group on Tuesday, July 24 at 6:30pm in the Rectory to discuss the results of the survey. More information to follow...

Mission Co-operative: We welcome this week Sr. Janet Stankowski of the Adrian Dominicans. If you failed to use the envelope included in the monthly packet, you can do so next week. We wait for three or four weeks before forwarding donations given to the missionary. *Fr. Tom*

Position Opening: We are looking once again for a secretary/receptionist (office administrator). The position is for a minimum of 28 hours per week. A job description is available at the parish office. A resume and three letters of recommendation are requested.

Stewardship

Stewardship Message

"He said to them, 'Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while.'" Mark 6:31

In the hustle of busy lives, it is often hard to carve out the very important time to be alone and in silence with God. It is in these moments when we can best build a more personal relationship with Him – and listen to the call that God has for us. We must spend that restful time to "hear" the call from God.

Weekly Target: \$10,961.54 * Offering: \$10,623.42
Mission Co-Op: \$145.00 * Priests' Retirement: \$35.00
Food Pantry: \$35.00

CSA: Still Ticking! We had two new donations, bringing our total to \$76,458.00. We need \$1,774.00 to reach our parish target.

Children's Good Deeds: My Good Deed was...

...help my Mom & Dad pack from camping. ...feeding my doggies.

Education/Formation

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

Why do you think it is important for Jesus and his disciples to rest? Why should we?

► **Reflecting on the Word:** Even Jesus needs rest, and invites his disciples to take time away from their ministry, despite the fact that throngs of people were following him, desperate for his word and touch. He knew that retreat and respite was necessary to continue God's work. This is true for us as parents and workers. It is true for children, too.

► **Living the Word:** Plan a family "retreat." It could be as simple as a couple hours at a park with no cell phones or friends tagging along. It could be as robust as an overnight at a cabin with prayer time, journals, music and Mass at the end. There are many organizations that offer family-friendly retreats. Invite the children to help plan what would be

truly restful for your family. Listen carefully to their wisdom. Be sure there is an element of "desert" to the experience, and remember that while it may be uncomfortable at first or even the whole time, the impact will be felt upon your return to living "in the world."

► VBS Splash Canyon – God's Promise on Life's Wild Ride:

July 30-August 2, for children grades K-5th (fall 2018).

Help is needed from youth in grades 6-12. Registration forms & youth volunteer forms are available on the Website or in the parish office.

HELP!!! I need an adult to work with our youth in the kitchen!!! Snacks are provided every day for our children. They are simple but supervision is needed. Call the Parish Office if you are willing to help!!!

To borrow (do not need until July 23 but let us know you will loan them):
5 large blue tarps and 1 medium brown tarp to use on the floor.
2 rafts with paddles

Auburn Area Catholic School

► Look at what AACs has to offer...

- A faith-based education Preschool – 5th Grade
- Bi-monthly Masses
- Small class sizes with an average of 18 students per classroom
- iPads and laptops available for student use
- Smart boards in K-5th grade classrooms
- Participating in the Dow STEM program & Engineering for Kids
- Progress monitoring to individualize instruction
- Service projects and Community Outreach
- PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention & Support)
- Before/After school care
- Extended Day Preschool for 4-year-olds
- Athletics beginning in preschool

► **Registration:** For more information or to schedule a tour, call 662-6431. Registration packets can be found on the school bulletin board. You can also contact Mrs. Reder at jreder@auburnac.org or visit our website under Registration www.auburnacschool.org.

► **Like us on Facebook!** Look for Auburn Area Catholic School.

► **We Welcome Ms. Meagan Richards to the AACs teaching staff.** Meagan is a recent graduate of SVSU & a current member of Corpus Christi Parish in Bay City. She will be teaching 4th/5th grade this fall.

The Parish in the Community

► **2nd Annual Auburn Community Festival:** Grace Lutheran, Auburn on July 27-29. Friday night: 10th annual 50s Block Party with classic cars, music, food from that era and family games. Saturday: "Family Day" with bounce house, outdoor bowling, Alpacas, touch a truck & Michigan State Police bikers safety program. Sunday: Worship service at 10am followed by chicken BBQ in the gym. Everyone is welcome!!

► **Grand Rapids St Joseph's Seminary** (including Christopher House) **Reunion:** All former students (and their wives, if applicable) are invited to a reunion on Friday afternoon August 10 in Grand Rapids. Contact Norbert Bufka at 989-835-2832 for more info or if you plan to attend.

WE LOVE "YOGI-ISMS"

- I never blame myself when I'm not hitting. I just blame the bat. After all, if I know it isn't my fault then how can I get mad at myself?
- You wouldn't have won if we'd beaten you.
- It was impossible to get a conversation going, everybody was talking.
- No one goes there nowadays, it's too crowded.
- If the people don't want to come out to the ballpark, nobody's going to stop them.
- A lot of guys say, "Hey, Yog, say a Yogi-sim." I tell 'em I don't know any. They want me to make one up. I don't make 'em up. I don't even know when I say it. They're just the truth.

From Father Tom's Desk

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sr. Mary McGlone, [Celebration](#)

Mark tells the story in his typical stark style, leaving it to the readers to mine the wealth of meaning he hides in each phrase. The most telling sentence of this Gospel says that when Jesus saw the people looking for him "his heart was moved with pity...for they were like sheep without a shepherd."

The word translated as pity means that Jesus' guts were wrenched as he saw them. This is like the feeling of parents who see their child in real pain. The people's hunger, their heartfelt search, their longing for more, called Jesus forth. He allowed their need to turn him into a shepherd. That was Jesus' lesson for the disciples. Beyond anything words could explain, they saw how he identified with the needs that appeared before him. He was showing his followers that if they wanted to carry forth his mission, they had to feel the real needs of the people. Only then would they know what they had to offer.

An "Out of the Way Place"

[GraceWorks](#), Dallas TX

Where is your place that you have to row across to get your Sabbath renewing rest? Perhaps it is literally a lake, where you have a small cabin, or where you get away to fish. But perhaps your "lake" is a good novel, or playing with the kids, or working a crossword puzzle. Your lake is the place and time when you retreat from the pressing needs of the ones you love, in order to return to them with fresh and renewed energy. Every young mother, every social worker, every pastor, every teacher, knows what I mean. Sometimes the thing you most need is a nap, or a weekend away, or a quiet moment just to yourself. Deprive yourself of that Sabbath and very soon you will be of no use to anyone. It is not selfish to take care of yourself, and in fact, if we are waiting for those we serve to give us permission for this self-care, we will never get it. It is the responsibility of the care-giver to take care of themselves, for the very sake of the ones they care for. Remember the safety demonstration on the airplane before take-off? If you are sitting next to a child or someone who needs your assistance, and the airplane has an emergency causing the oxygen masks to deploy, you must put your own mask on first, and then assist your child or loved one with theirs. It may seem selfish, this type of self-care, but in fact it is the most loving thing you can do for the ones you love, the ones who depend on you to be there for the long haul.

So who is here today who needs to row across the lake? Please find a way, and time to do it. It may be the most loving thing you can do for the ones you love. And besides, if even Jesus had to get away, to recharge his batteries, to be still and quiet from time to time, what makes us think that we would need that any less?

Unworthy/Worthy Shepherds (Jeremiah) [Celebration](#)

Our world offers a plethora of would-be leaders. One lesson we could take from Jeremiah entails learning about what he says God criticizes in unworthy shepherds. We can then use his criteria to discern who is worthy of our following.

God's first complaint is that shepherds have scattered the sheep. When the indictment switches from the animal kingdom to the political world, it takes but a moment to realize that oppressors' best policy for insuring their longevity is to divide the oppressed. When they incite confusion or rivalry among the least powerful, they need do little more to keep everyone under control.

God's second major complaint is that the uncaring shepherds don't bother to understand the real condition of their sheep. The word here translated as "care for" and also mean "visit." As Pope Francis might say, these shepherds don't even recognize their sheep, much less

share their smell. Their judgments about what is good or harmful come from their own theories, untainted by practical experience.

God's chosen shepherds offer an alternative to the wicked and are recognizable by the daily activities that demonstrate their genuine concerns. They go out seeking the remnant who have been deprived of their birthright. They make real plans and lead their sheep to meadows where everyone can thrive. Finally, they are the ones who put an end to fear and trembling and do not rest as long as anyone is not able to flourish within the fold.

Jeremiah's message calls us to wake up and to demand the sort of leadership the people of God deserve. We are promised that God's people will not be left scattered and wandering, but if we want God's will to come to fruition we need to recognize and support the real leaders and call forth a new generation.

Psalm 23

[Celebration](#)

Psalm 23 is probably the most popular song in the psalter because of the wealth of its images. After the opening line proclaims, "I shall not want," the rest of the psalm ruminates on a variety of the reasons we can say that. The first reason is that God gives us space to thrive – verdant pastures and restful waters to refresh us. After celebrating God's leadership and protection, the psalm portrays God as a bounteous host. Like Abraham who comforted Lazarus the poor man, God spreads a table in the sight of our enemies, anoints us and more than satisfies our thirst.

In the Christian tradition, the divine actions described by the psalm remind us of the sacraments of initiation: God draws us to the saving waters of baptism, anoints us with the Spirit and invites us to the bountiful table of the Eucharist. Psalm 23 allows the person who prays it to rejoice in God's intimate and personal care. The more we take it to heart, the more we can confidently repeat the refrain, "The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want."

That We Be One (Ephesians)

[Celebration](#)

There are few selections from the Christian Scriptures that can be applied more directly than this to the challenges faced by Christians in the United States today. Although the author was apparently a Jew writing to Gentile Christians in the first century, the long-standing ethnic and religious prejudices that divided those groups find their contemporary echo in the religious, racial and ethnic divisions that wrack contemporary U.S. society.

The Letter to the Ephesians calls us to risk taking the next step of reconciliation in our society and church. This call has a unique resonance in the United States, whose national motto is *e pluribus unum*. It becomes far more intense when we remember that the church is called to be catholic, with room for everyone. Improbable as it may seem the task is not impossible because as our reading says, we have access in one Spirit to the father.

Like a Shepherd

[Celebration](#)

Mark drew on one of the great images of his culture and faith when he said that Jesus saw the crowd like sheep without a shepherd. David was the prototype, the shepherd-king, the ideal ruler who was concerned for the people, not his own aggrandizement. As a religious image, not only did God call the king to be a shepherd but, as in Psalm 23, God was imagined as the divine shepherd. This short Gospel adds depth to Mark's growing portrait of Jesus. Now we see the wonder-working Son of God from Nazareth as the shepherd. He represents the God who allows the people's hopes and needs to become his own. Mark tells us that Jesus taught the people, but what he did was also a key lesson for the disciples accompanying him.

"Shepherd me, O Lord."