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Music Director
 Sue LeVasseur..... musicdirector@auburnac.org

LAY MINISTERS

Anne Dearington	Cheryl Gedraitis	Marilyn Welz
Kellie Deming	Tim Hadd	Dave Willsie
Connie Kaczynski	Karen Willsie	Pam Graul-Gwizdala

PRAYER LINE

Mary Jane.....(989) 513-5137 vicmaryj@hotmail.com
 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 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 Auburn Area Catholic School 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

WEEK OF AUGUST 2ND, 2021

MONDAY

407: Nm 11:4b-15 Ps 81:12-17 Mt 14:13-21

TUESDAY

408: Nm 12:1-13 Ps 51:1, 3-7, 12-13 Mt 14:22-36

WEDNESDAY 8 am Mass

409: Nm 13:1-2, 25—14, 26-29a, 34-35 Ps 106:6-7b, 13-14, 21-23
Mt 15:15:21-28

THURSDAY 8 am Mass

410: Nm 20:1-13 Ps 95:1-2, 6-9 Mt 16:13-23

FRIDAY

614: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9 2 Pt 1:16-19 Mk 9:2-10

SATURDAY 4:30 pm Mass

412: Dt 6:4-13 Ps 18:2-4, 47, 51 Mt 17: 14-20

SUNDAY 9:30 am Mass

116: 1 Kgs 19:4-8 Ps 34:2-9 Eph 4:30—5:2 Jn 6:41-51



PARISH ACTIVITIES

Tuesday, August 3rd - Move Library 12-5 pm (volunteers needed!)

Friday, August 6th - Parish Office Closes at noon (summer hours)

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Target: \$10,962 Offering: \$7,377.01

Priest Retirement: \$50 Mission Co-Op: \$45

Children's Good Deed

...I helped haul wood...I helped stack wood...

...Taking out mom's trash...Picking flowers for my mom...

AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Clark Switalski, Principal

There are just **3 weeks** left before the children come back for the 21/22 school year! We are excited to start a new year and optimistic that the year will go well. We have added a new teacher and I would like to introduce Ms. Melissa

Sylvester as our AACCS 4th grade teacher. She will do wonderful things and the children will certainly benefit from her faith and knowledge.

The Gospel this week the crowds ask Jesus for a sign, so they know he comes from God. Mind you, this is after he has just fed 5000, walked on water, and performed other miracles. They have either blatantly ignored the miracles before them or forgotten. Truly this relates to all of us because there are many times I forget to stop and think about all the things God has done for me, or the miracles that I have experienced, whether or not I recognized them. Truly, it is not until much after something happens that we recognize the miracles in our lives. This blindness is something I ask God to help me see past, so I can thank God for all the miracles and blessings in my life. Please keep AACCS in your prayers as we start a new school year filled with many new and unforeseen challenges.

... **God Bless...**

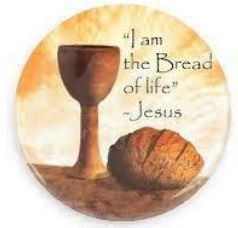


EDUCATION / FORMATION

Family Talk Time Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families: Sara McGinnis Lee
Have you ever heard the saying "You are what you eat?" What does that mean? How does Jesus Christ nourish us?

Reflecting on the Word:

In this week's Gospel, we continue with more talk of bread. Jesus tells us we need more than physical nourishment. We need sustenance for our soul. God gives life to us and gives us the essentials to live, not just for our time on earth, but for eternal life. Jesus gives us a profound statement: "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst."



Living the Word:

Talk about what you think the "true bread from heaven" is like. How does Jesus nourish you? What ingredients do we need to do the works of God? How is Jesus the bread of life? How does bread from heaven give life to the world?

Baptism Prep Sessions:

We have a wonderful team offering two preparation sessions: Prep I session is for the first-time parents & Prep II is for those parents who have already attended a Prep 1 session. We are currently offering the sessions in-person and virtually. Contact Sandy, 989-662-4335 or sdesjardins@auburn.org to register for a preparation session and to set your celebration date.



He's Back...

The vacation came to an end, and I have returned to a normal schedule. The time away at my cottage in Au Gres proved to be a restful time. With a cottage there is always something that needs to be done. With a vacation mentality one can always put things off to another day...

I am grateful for the three priests who covered for me on the weekends. With the clergy shortage it is no small task to find replacements. It may take a while to debunk some of the stories told by them in my absence; especially those told by Fr. Dave Parsch, but time is now on my side.

My fishing partner, Fr. Jerry Balwinski, has motor troubles with his boat so we did no fishing. You need not ask: "When is the fish fry?"

So it is "back in the saddle again" and I am of the mind that it is time for that.





FROM FR. TOM'S DESK

Eighteenth Sunday Ordinary Time:

Patricia Sanchez, *Celebration*

Had Jesus been born into a place other than Judah and into a culture other than that of our Hebrew ancestors, the Gospels for the next four Sundays would probably have been a little different. In these Gospels, Jesus offers himself as bread: sapientially (the bread of his word) and sacramentally (the bread of Eucharist). But perhaps an Asian Jesus would have offered rice as the sustenance that gives life. A Latino Jesus might have offered corn or beans, while a Jesus born into sub-Saharan Africa could have provided *matoke* or plantains as the staple to feed the physical and spiritual hungers of his contemporaries. Wherever he might have ministered, whatever staff of life he chose, whatever sign he offered, the gift that Jesus gave was the gift of himself for the life of the world.

To accept and acknowledge that gift, we are called to look beyond the sign in order to see and believe in the one who has used that sign to offer his very self. As featured in today's first reading from Exodus, the Israelites were being called to accept the manna and the quail as gifts and to see beyond those gifts to the God who had brought them into being and who, at that moment, was guiding them to freedom and a new way of life. Moses interpreted the sign for them: It was bread from the Lord, bread for the long journey.

Jesus similarly provided bread and fish for the multitudes, but many became lost in the sign and came to him looking for more. As the Johannine evangelist picks up the thread of his lengthy Bread of Life discourse in today's Gospel, Jesus is represented as addressing the people's desire for signs. They cited the desert event and even talked of Moses and manna. But Jesus redirected their attention to the true bread from heaven. That bread, of course, is his very self, who can satisfy every human hunger. Look beyond the bread and see your stomachs, challenged the Johannine Jesus, so as to be able to sink your teeth into the real food he has to offer, the bread of life. Jesus could see beyond the bread he took and blessed and broke and gave, aware that he would be similarly taken and broken when he gave his life the forgiveness of sinners. Jesus could also see beyond the crucifixion to the Communion celebration, where he would be remembered and would be truly present to his disciples.

Daily Bread? (Exodus 16): *Celebration*

In the desert, God's gracious care had provided food for Israel's journey. Manna—which is derived from the “What is this?” or “*Man hu?*” in verse 15—and quail were and continue to be naturally occurring phenomena in the Sinai. Manna is produced by the secretions of two species of scaled insects, *Trabutina mannipara* and *Najococcus serpentinus*. Quail returning from their spring migration to Europe often light exhausted on the desert sands. Easily scooped up, they provide ready sustenance for the traveler. Even today the nomadic peoples of the central Sinai continue to gather and eat manna and quail. Believers agree with Moses and recognize these gifts as the food that God has provided (v.15).

Lifelong Learning (Ephesians 4): *Celebration*

In Chapter 4 of the Letter to the Ephesians, the pseudonymous author's tone and theme changed markedly from what they had been before. Up to this point, this letter has centered on how God's saving plan was conceived and realized in Jesus. With Chapter 4, however, the focus is on the challenge of living each day in practical, down-to-earth responsiveness to the gifts God has given us in Jesus Christ.

In this excerpted text, the ancient writer describes this process as “learning Christ” (v. 20). Rather than merely conforming themselves externally to a set of rules or laws believers conform themselves, in

faith, to the person of Jesus Christ, and all else ((service, love, obedience to rules and laws) flows from that relationship. Learning Christ also requires believers to be so devoted to Christ that they put away their old self and former way of life.

When the Ephesians author spoke of “putting on a new self,” he meant that believers are to clothe themselves with Christ. To be clothed with Christ is to become Christ.

When we grow weak or weary in the process, we can remember that by leaning on the Lord, we draw strength from him to be like him in all we are, in all we do.

Meaning of the Sign (John 6): *Celebration*

When the crowds came searching for Jesus, he invited them to look beyond that sign. While he was eager to feed their physical hunger, he also wanted to whet their appetites for the true bread of life come down from heaven.

Identifying himself as that bread, Jesus invited the sign-seekers to work not for perishable food, but for food that has a shelf-life (vv.27-28). When asked about this work seekers were to do, the Johannine Jesus defined it as believing in the one sent by God: himself.

As this Bread of Life discourse goes on over the next few Sundays, the Johannine Jesus will continue to challenge our seeing and believing. Like Jesus' contemporaries, we too will be invited to listen behind the words and look beyond the bread so as to perceive the mystery of the sign that is the very bread of life, God's life, Jesus' life, your life and mine.

Recommended Diet: John Schmitz, *Service*

In today's reading, Jesus speaks once again to those in search of more bread. But the author of John wants the reader to see beyond the bread to understand that Jesus is needed in one's life as much as bread is. The author compares Jesus to bread. Jesus is the staff of life whose vales and goodness must be consumed daily so that the true meaning of life may be discovered; so that people may come to know who is the most sustaining force in life; so that the listener will realize that life without God is like life without bread—starvation and death will occur.

Those who receive the message of Jesus will be nourished unto life. A daily diet of Jesus' good deeds and words will transform the believers into persons of faith who in turn will nourish and strengthen the people surrounding them.

Spiritual Security: Rev. Anthony Marinelli, *Service*

The Gospel passage that we read today is the first of four consecutive Sunday Gospels from the Bread of Life Discourse in John's Gospel. This section of John is characteristic of his entire Gospel and unlike anything that can be found in synoptics. As is typical in John's Gospel, Jesus speaks not in parables but in long theological discourse. He speaks not of the kingdom but of himself. What we find in this section is a reflection on the meaning of the Eucharist. John's Gospel does not include the story of the Last Supper. He uses this section of the Gospel to teach about the Eucharist. Much of what is presented is a post-resurrectional interpretation of the words of Jesus. The evangelist, writing about sixty years after the death and resurrection of Jesus, has refashioned the words of Jesus in order to communicate their meaning in a powerful way to his audience.

While the language of this passage is different from that of the synoptics, the message certainly is not. In fact, the message resides at the heart of the Good News. Like the crowds in today's reading, we can easily place our faith in all the wrong things. In an age when people measure their security by the size of their IRA's and stock portfolios, when governments measure their security by the size of their nuclear arsenals, Jesus calls us to a different type of security. In order to appreciate the Gospel for today, perhaps we need to confront ourselves with the basic question being asked: Where is true fulfillment to be found? In bread or in Christ? Of course, we all know the right answer. But how have we answered it with our lives?

VBS Treasured:

Discovering You're Priceless to God!

It was a great three days. We had 40 children and 12 youth helpers this year! We learned new songs, had a KidVid cinema, learned how we are treasured by God through wonderful Bible stories that came to life, played some awesome games and all outside praying for no rain or storms!!

A special thank you to our leaders in each of the areas:

Lindsay Walters, Clara Abraham, Katie Mocny, Megan Mocny, & Tim Hall. And for all the youth who came and made our time together GREAT! Without all your willingness to give of your time and talents, it would not have been as great a week as it was!!! Thank you so much!!! God knows you, hears you, comforts you;

You are **TREASURED!**

Sandy



Food Pantry donations needed:

Next weekend is second Sunday of the month so we will be collecting for the food pantry. We have a long list of needs, and we hope you can help...

- | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Dish Soap | Hand Soap | Shampoo |
| Syrup | Pancake Mix | Baked Beans |
| Sloppy Joe Mix | Jelly | Mashed Potatoes |
| Peanut Butter | Pasta Sides | Canned Fruit |
| Spaghetti | Spaghetti Sauce | Canned Pasta |

You can drop donations off anytime at the Parish Office or bring them next weekend to Mass. Thank-you so much!

Michael Kaczynski
Painting/Carpentry

989-662-7747
Cell: 303-242-2650
mckaczynski@sbcglobal.net

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



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