

Week of August 6, 2017

MONDAY

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

TUESDAY

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

WEDNESDAY 8:00am Mass

Nm 13:1-2,25 – 14:1,26-29,34-35 *

Ps 106:6-7,13-14,21-23 * Mt 15:21-28

THURSDAY 8:00am Mass

2 Cor 9:6-10 * Ps 112:1-2,5-9 * Jn 12:24-26

FRIDAY

Dt 4:32-40 * Ps 77:12-16,21 * Mt 16:24-28

SATURDAY 4:30pm Mass

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

SUNDAY 9:30am Mass

1 Kgs 19:9,11-13 * Ps 85:9-14 * Rom 9:1-5 * Mt 14:22-33

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



Parish Activities

Mighty Fortress Vacation Bible School: We had a great VBS this year! We had 43 children and 16 youth. We learned new songs, made crafts, heard Bible stories that came alive, played games, shared wonderful snacks and saw our friends and made new ones. A special **thank you** to all those who helped prepare this experience: Morgan Carter, Karen Clements, Olivia Dearington, Terri Duch, Tim Hall, Jessica Krauss, Christine Sellnow, Meghan & Sam Szilagyi. And to the youth you came and helped make our time together great: Clara Abraham, Isabelle Abraham, Jacob Berry, Joseph Clements, Jada Hinterman, Cael Jimenez, Anna Kendzioriski, Elyse Kendzioriski, Nathan Prosowski, Kenzie Richards, Tyler Smith & Marlo Tacey. Without all of you giving your time and talents, it would not have been as wonderful as it was!!! **The Victory has been won!!!!**

Fall Raffle Tickets will be distributed in the Social Hall today, and before and after Mass on August 12/13.

Stewardship

Weekly Target: \$11,538.47 *

Offering: \$8,673.00

Funeral Luncheon: \$200.00 Mission Co-Op: \$82.00

In Loving Memory of Ann Skelton: \$275.00

Some "Good Deeds" listed on children's contribution envelopes:

My "Good Deed" was...

do sign of the cross before saying grace
helping pick the garden

Education/Formalization

► RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & YOUTH MINISTRY REGISTRATION:

Will take place September 9/10 after both Masses.

Classes will begin Monday, September 25, 6:15-7:30pm

FAMILY TALK TIME Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families, Sara McGinnis Lee Put yourself on top of that mountain with Jesus and the three Apostles. What do you think the Apostles really saw?

► Reflecting on the Word: This Gospel grabs our attention immediately: Jesus' face "shone like the sun" and "his clothes became white as light." Can you imagine the squinting, terrified disciples? Recall that the prophets foretold this Transfiguration, this visual revelation to the three disciples that Jesus was truly God. How amazing, frightening,

and wonderful that Jesus showed his glory before he ever died on the Cross. How much better could the Apostles proclaim his message, having seen the glorified Jesus!

► Living the Word: Plan a Transfiguration breakfast or supper with the family. Transform raw eggs, bread into toast, raw meat into crunchy bacon, dough into pizza crust, apples into applesauce. Get the family to think of other things that can be "transfigured" to make it easier to understand that Jesus was still Jesus but he was changed on the mountain: the Son of Man became the Son of God. We know that Jesus will return for us in glory because the Apostles saw him resurrected.

Auburn Area Catholic School

► The School Office will be open starting Mon., Aug. 14, 8am-4pm.

► Volunteers for 2017-2018: We are always open to parish/family volunteers to help with the library, lunch duty, athletics and special projects. Please call the school office if you are interested in volunteering.

Baptism...

"Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you;
Before you were born, I dedicated you." Jeremiah 1:5

Levi Grayson Bruski

son of Travis & Alyssa Bruski

Congratulations!!

August Wedding Anniversaries

50 years or more.....Raymond & Margaret Wenglikowski

Marion & Marie Rytlewski

Patrick & Marie Periard

John & Rose Mary Hilden

Robert & Pauline Drouin

Robert & Dorothy Kissane

William Jr. & Nancy Fournier

Jack & Marilyn Frank

William & Kathleen Wittbrodt

Robert & Margaret Reder

Michael & Pauline Switala

Rodney & Renee Krager

Robert & Cindy Berg

30 years or more.....Kermit & Carol Kranz

Robert & Jane Soldan

James & Jennifer Drzewicki

William & Gloria Gillard

(more August anniversaries will be printed next week)

A Marriage Blessing Prayer

We thank you, O God, for the love You have implanted in our hearts. Bless our marriage, O God, with peace and happiness. Amen



From Father Tom's Desk

Feast of the Transfiguration

Sr. Mary McGlone, Celebration

Today's reading from the Book of Daniel is apocalyptic literature, a type of writing designed for people under great stress. It assures them that no matter how powerful the forces of evil seem no matter how much suffering enemies inflict, God will win in the end, so there's nothing to worry about. Apocalyptic literature paints an image that depicts God as better and bigger and stronger than anything the people fear. So, in today's reading we get a version of the stereotyped image of God as a white-haired potentate surrounded by symbols of

sovereignty. The most comforting thing about this scene is not that the “Ancient One” is so pure and prevailing, but that he gives his power to “one like a Son of man,” someone more like human beings, less overwhelming than the Ancient One yet still worthy to receive an unassailable dominion. Humanity can rest in peace.

Today's Gospel contrasts with the reading from Daniel in a thought-provoking way. In Daniel we get a mind-boggling description of the God figure as surrounded by fire with thousands eager to serve him. About the one like a Son of man we only hear that he came on the clouds.

The Gospel reading takes it for granted that we understand that the entire event centers on Jesus. The disciples already know him as somebody whose fingernails get just as dirty as theirs. Then suddenly they see him in a brilliantly different light. There on the mountain, they get a glimpse of the very core of his being. For a flashing moment they comprehend something about who he is in the light of everything they believe. They see the Jesus they have known even as his face shines with the truth of his relationship with the God he knows as his Abba. Unlike in Daniel's vision, they see no image of God. All they know about God in this scene comes from the voice which called Jesus the beloved, pleasing son to whom they should pay attention.

Daniel described an awesome image of God and then tempered the magnificence with someone like a human being. The Gospel simply offers the human Jesus as the visible image of God. That is astounding.

Called to Imitate

Sr. Mary McGlone, *Celebration*

In the face of the transfigured Jesus, the disciples saw not only who Jesus was, but what humanity is created to be. That was perhaps the most overwhelming dimension of the entire experience. It's easy enough to look at a heavenly being and bow down and offer to build tents or temples. It's very freeing to pay worship to a majestic God who takes charge of everything. But that wasn't Jesus' message.

Jesus told Peter, James and John that it was time to go down from the mountain. It was time to return to his ordinary way of revealing who God is. They still needed time to understand not only that he was the image of God, but that they were called to be the same. What they saw and thought of as a glimpse of eternity was really nothing more than a revelation of the deepest meaning of their everyday history.

Over a hundred years ago the Blessed Metropolitan Anthony, a Russian Orthodox prelate, preached about this feast saying that the goal of the Lord's revelation was to persuade his followers that they too are to shine with the beauty of God's love. He said that people longed for the Christ who would reveal fearsome majesty while Jesus offered them simple humanity which has more potential for glory than we can ever imagine.

Blessed Anthony told his listeners to look around them, to see people who had been transformed. He told them to notice in their faces, their eyes, their tone of voice that which is infinitely attractive.

The message of the Transfiguration is not apocalyptic. Jesus doesn't scare away demons. Instead, he shows us what every human being can become when open to transforming love.

Second Peter

Sr. Mary McGlone, *Celebration*

The idea underneath this passage is what Pope Francis emphasizes in his encyclical, *Evangelii Gaudium* (“The Joy of the Gospel”). He insists that Christianity is not an ethical choice or philosophy, but the result of an encounter with Christ. One need not have lived in the first century to have experienced the presence of Christ. One need not have been on the mountain to have received the revelation that Jesus

of Nazareth is truly the beloved Son of God who reveals God's face in a way we can comprehend.

Second Peter underlines this perspective by saying “We possess the prophetic message.” While that can refer to the Scriptures, it also applies to each person's faith conviction. It reminds them of the experience that has led them to be believers. Prophecy is another word for recognizing God's action and intention in a particular moment of history. Prophecy entails an encounter with God that can be as simple as listening to our conscience or recognizing our longing for God.

This letter calls us to realize that faith is not a mythical journey but a recognition of God among us. Faith requires that we meditate on our experience and build on those moments when we have felt God's power and love. Those are our mountaintop experiences. As “second Peter” says, we will do well to be attentive to them, they are lamps that will shine until the moment when the final dawn will break on us.

One Directive

Ted Wolgamot, *Celebration*

A cloud comes over the disciples and a “voice” from the cloud says: “This is my beloved Son...listen to him.” What the disciples – and you and I – are being clearly told is that Jesus is more than a prophet, more than a wonder worker, more than any other holy person who ever existed – more than even Moses and Elijah.

Jesus, we are told by this voice, is unique in all human history, transcending all those who have gone before. He alone is God's Son! Then, out of the cloud, comes the only directive that the voice from heaven gives. Notice that it is not “worship him.” It is not “adore him.” It is not even “praise him.” Instead, it is a much more intimate, caring command: “Listen to him.”

Follow him and allow the experience to transform our hearts, to bring about a transplant of the Spirit. This heavenly voice isn't just informing us that Jesus is God's Son to give us information. The voice is encouraging us to understand and live out the message that we are all God's sons and daughters. Despite some terrible sorrows and considerable pain that we may have to endure, we can now trust that in the end all will be well.

Celebrating the Lord's Day

U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2010

On Sunday, we gather as the Body of Christ to celebrate the Lord's Day, the day of Christ's Resurrection:

As “the first day of the week” (Mk 16:2) it recalls the first creation: and as the “eighth day,” which follows the Sabbath, it symbolizes the new creation ushered in by the Resurrection of Christ. Thus, it has become for Christians the first of all days and of all feasts. It is the day of the Lord in which he with his Passover fulfilled the spiritual truth of the Jewish Sabbath and proclaimed man's eternal rest in God.

The Scriptures tell us that Jesus rose on the first day of the week – the day following the Jewish Sabbath. Shortly after daybreak, the women found the tomb empty and Jesus risen from the dead. Jesus' death and Resurrection opened for us the doors of salvation. Sharing in Jesus' death in Baptism, we hope to share in his Resurrection. We become a new creation in Christ. It is that new creation which we celebrate on Sunday:

*This is the day the Lord has made:
let us rejoice in it and be glad.* (Ps 118:24)

Each Sunday is a “little Easter” – a celebration of the central mysteries of our faith.

**“Lord, lead me
along right paths.”**