

Week of August 13, 2017

MONDAY

Dt 10:12-22 * Ps 147:12-15,19-20 * Mt 17:22-27

TUESDAY

8:00am Mass

7:00pm Mass

Rv 11:19; 12:1-6,10 * Ps 45:10-12,16 *

1 Cor 15:20-27 * Lk 1:39-56

WEDNESDAY

8:00am Mass

Dt 34:1-12 * Ps 66:1-3,5,8,16-17 * Mt 18:15-20

THURSDAY

8:00am Mass

Jos 3:7-11,13-17 * Ps 114:1-6 * Mt 18:21 - 19:1

FRIDAY

Jos 24:1-13 * Ps 136:1-3,16-18,21-24 * Mt 19:3-12

SATURDAY

4:30pm Mass

Jos 24:14-29 * Ps 16:1-2,5,7-8,11 * Mt 19:13-15

SUNDAY

9:30am Mass

Is 56:1,6-7 * Ps 67:2-3,5-6,8 * Rom 11:13-15,29-32 * Mt 15:21-28



Education/Formation

FAMILY TALK TIME

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families, Sara McGinnis Lee
If life seems to fall apart, we need Jesus. How do you get in touch with Jesus if you are having a problem?

► **Reflecting on the Word:** What a wondrous story about how faith makes a difference in our lives! When Peter had courageous faith, he managed to walk on water. When his faith wavered, he needed Jesus to support him. Often, life is much like this stormy boat ride. We forget God, we panic at life's challenges, and we quickly think that we're drowning. Doubt makes us feel hopeless, and faith nurtures and shapes a brave response. Jesus always stretches out his hand, ready with mercy and hope. Faith trumps fear.

► **Living the Word:** Jesus gave Peter his hand as Peter was falling into the water. With your children, talk briefly about the expression "to give a helping hand." Ask everyone to think of at least one person to offer a hand this week. Trace around each hand in the family, and cut out the shape. Keep the "hands" in a bowl on the counter. As each person comes home every day, ask if they've given someone a helping hand on that day. If so, tape their "hand" cutout to the fridge or in a window for all to see.

Parish Activities

Thurs., Aug. 17 6:00pm School Committee Meeting
7:00pm PTO Meeting

RCIA – An Invitation to come and see... Have you wondered about the Catholic Church or about becoming Catholic? Are you searching for answers? Are you looking for a faith community to call your own? Informal sessions to explore these questions and faith issues in relation to Catholic beliefs will begin on Tues., Sept. 19. Informational brochures on becoming Catholic through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults are available at the church entrance. For more information call the parish office at 662-6861.

Yarn Needed: If you have any unused yarn you could donate to our knitting club, please drop it off at the church entrance in the box marked Yarn. We donate everything we knit. Also, we meet on the 3rd Wednesday of each month from September to May. New members are welcome. Any questions, call Jane at 684-7834.

Mark
your
calendar

PARISH PICNIC: Sunday, September 10! Games start at 12pm and food will be served at 1pm. We will have old favorites again this year like the Fall Raffle drawing, bingo, classic car show, live music and children's games. But we have some fun new activities as well, including a clown who makes balloon animals, face-painting and a photo booth! Join us for some great fun and fellowship!

If you would like to participate in the classic car show, please call the parish office at 662-6861 so we can reserve a parking spot for you!

Baptism...

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

Myles Christopher Tyrrell

son of Christopher & Sarah Tyrrell

Congratulations!!

Stewardship

Weekly Target: \$11,538.47 * Offering: \$11,303.00
Mission Co-Op: \$205.00

Some "Good Deeds" listed on children's contribution envelopes:
My "G@@d Deed" was...Playing with Ava

Auburn Area Catholic School

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

► **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.

August Wedding Anniversaries

20 years or more.....Cynthia Skiba & Thomas Bushey

Clifford & Dorothy Zimmerman

Michael & Kim Buchmann

Thomas & Karen Rajewski

John & Anne Dearington

Mark & Janet Vennix

George & Theresa Berg

Terry & Katherine Hugo

Robert & Lori Wing

James & Tracy Bourassa

Jeffrey & Jennea Thompson

Trevor & Jill Adcock

Jim & Donna Klida

Jeffery & Tammy Hagenbaugh

10 years or more.....Christopher & Jennifer Neitzel

Brian & Debra Ora

Chris & Karissa Pichan

Jon & Kerri Hagloch

Daniel & Elaine Dell

Robert & Laura Smith

Donald & Kristi Daily

Phillip & Renee Suderman

Michael & Pamela Kutchuk

Less than 10 years.....Timothy & Karibeth Zoller

Kirt & Heather Zalucha

Travis & Alyssa Bruski

Tyler & Katie Waibel

Patrick & Jill Miller



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

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Patricia Sanchez, [Celebration](#)

The people who are featured in today's sacred texts share a striking similarity. All had a sense of being overwhelmed; all felt helpless to remedy their situation. All experienced the grace and power of God, and in that moment, they knew the peace of God's presence.

Elijah had fled to Mount Horeb, trying to escape from the wrath of Jezebel, Ahab's queen, who had convinced her husband to erect statues of Ba'al in the temple. As God's prophet, Elijah had preached the unpopular word, calling his leaders and people to repent or else there would be a drought. When his words fell on deaf ears and hardened hearts, there was no rain or dew to quench the thirst of humans or water the parched land. To add insult to injury, he defeated the prophets of Ba'al whom Jezebel had sent to triumph over him. Infuriated, she wanted Elijah dead. With nowhere else to turn, he cried out for God to take his life, yet God had a better solution, and in the quiet of God's revealed presence, the prophet found peace.

In the Gospel, the Matthean Jesus responds to Peter's request to come to him on the water. But when Peter left the relative safety of the boat to brave the sea and the wind, he panicked. Immediately, Jesus extended his hand, and Peter's fears were allayed in the presence of the man he would come to believe in as the Son of God.

As the praying assembly remembers the experiences of Elijah and Peter, many will probably be able to identify with them and with the fear of feeling lost, hopeless and alone when life seems overwhelming. With homes being foreclosed and jobs lost, with the U.S. involvement in wars and conflict all over the globe, with the threat of nuclear disaster, disease...when we are contemplating an unknown future, fear can sometimes claim our reason, our peace, our hope. We might be inclined to follow Elijah's lead and flee to the desert, or we might feel like Peter, about to drown in a dangerous sea. It is in that moment when the assurance of God's presence invites us to make the move from fear to faith.

Pledge Given

Sanchez, [Celebration](#)

As we navigate the seas of our lives, those that are both treacherous and calm, Jesus is with us all the while. He is the bridge that carries us over the gorges and valleys of our lives. He is the outstretched hand that is always ready to save us from the deep. As we move from fear to faith, we are strengthened by the assurance that there is nowhere God is not, no heart in which God does not choose to dwell, and no hand that God will not reach out to save.

Trust in Jesus

[Celebration](#)

Seasoned sailors can understand why the disciples displayed such fear in this narrative. As the evangelist noted, it was the fourth watch – the time just before dawn when, as one sailor put it, the funny stuff starts to happen. You are surrounded by dark water, and if there is no moon, you begin to imagine rocks rising up in front of you, or even phantom ships. Waves sound like the whispers of people or the breathing of some huge aquatic creature. Then you realize how much you are alone out there, and you realize how many ways there are to die. These sentiments enable us to sympathize with the disciples and their terror at sea.

When we find ourselves in the fourth watch of the night, filled with fear and unable to trust in our own abilities, Jesus says to us, "Come!" At first we might do well, but when the strong winds of anxiety and hopelessness threaten our well-being, we tend to lose our focus and conviction and begin to sink. Nevertheless, Jesus is ever present to bolster our feeble faith and to stretch out his hand to save us. Once we have grabbed onto his hand, we can extend our other hand to people who are foundering, thus extending the saving power of Jesus to all.

Your Discernment

Karen Johnson, [Celebration](#)

In the midst of confusion and turmoil, how do we find God? In today's readings, the prophet Elijah and the disciple Peter teach us that there are many ways to recognize God even when we are in confusion and turmoil.

Elijah and Peter are both men of God, yet their reactions to turmoil are vastly different. While awaiting the Lord, Elijah endures a great wind, and earthquake and a fire. What is most remarkable is his quiet certitude. Mountains are split and rocks tumble, but he does not cry out in fear and trembling. Trusting that the Lord is coming, he continues to listen. On the other hand, Peter is neither quiet nor sure. Buffeted by wind and waves, he is clearly full of fear and is not expecting Jesus to arrive.

Once God does arrive in each scene, the two men recognize him in different ways. Elijah relies on interior discernment. From a place deep within his soul, he recognizes God in the absence of noise. Peter relies on exterior discernment. He challenges the ghost-like figure to identify himself and prove his holiness and good intentions.

Which way of discernment is best? Most certainly Elijah's approach is the least traumatic of the two. He appears particularly unscathed by the wind, earthquake and fire. His quiet certitude is enviable, yet it is not the usual human reaction. Most of us identify more closely with Peter. In our time of need, we lose sight, at least for a time, of a God who walks across water to reach us.

Romans and the Jews

George Smiga, [Service](#)

Today's second reading begins a three-chapter section of Romans in which Paul struggles with the place of Israel in God's plan of salvation. We can often forget that Paul, and indeed the majority of those in the early Church, were Jewish. When the majority of their fellow Jews expressed no desire to adopt Christ as the one God had sent, the Church faced a major crisis. This crisis was not primarily ethnic, but thoroughly theological. God had chosen the Jewish people as God's own. What then could it mean that God's people did not respond to Christ? Although later Christians would conclude that because of their refusal God had rejected Israel and replaced them with the Christian Church, such a belief would have been abhorrent to Paul.

The inability of Paul to write off the Jewish people provides us with a starting point for understanding Israel today. However we choose to proclaim the importance of Christ, we cannot deny that Jewish people remain God's people. As Paul will assert even more clearly next week: God's gift and call to Israel are irrevocable (Rom 11:20).

“Lord, strengthen me in faith.”

► **Great Basilicas of Rome** with Fr. Jose Maria Cabera: Aug. 21, 6:30-8:30pm at the Center for Ministry in Saginaw. Explore St. Peter's, St. Paul Outside the Walls and other great basilicas of Rome. Cost \$10. Deadline is Aug. 17, call 989.797.6607 or mbudd@dioceseofsaginaw.org.

AMEN CORNER: Members of the Planning Group and Building Committee interviewed an architect a week ago. They learned a projection of cost for building a church would necessitate any "schematic design." This would not only require an architect, but plans from structural, mechanical and electrical engineers. The price for such a project, which would take about three months to formalize, would be about \$40,000. A special meeting of the Parish Council was held this past week. The question was put to them: "Do we proceed?" After some discussion, a vote was taken and there was a unanimous consent to proceed with acquiring a schematic design.

Fr. Tom