

Week of September 9, 2018

MONDAY

1 Cor 5:1-8 * Ps 5:5-7,12 * Lk 6:6-11

TUESDAY 8:00am Word & Communion

1 Cor 6:1-11 * Ps 149:1-6,9 * Lk 6:12-19

WEDNESDAY 8:00am Mass

1 Cor 7:25-31 * Ps 45:11-12,14-17 * Lk 6:20-26

THURSDAY 8:00am Mass

1 Cor 8:1-7,11-13 * Ps 139:1-3,13-14,23-24 * Lk 6:27-33

FRIDAY

Nm 21:4-9 * Ps 78:1-2,34-38 * Phil 2:6-11 * Jn 3:13-17

SATURDAY 4:30pm Mass

1 Cor 10:14-22 * Ps 116:12-13,17-18 * Jn 19:25-27

SUNDAY 9:30am Mass

Children's Liturgy of the Word & Nursery

Is 50:5-9 * Ps 116:1-6,8-9 * Jas 2:14-18 * Mk 8:27-35



Parish Activities

Mon., Sept. 9	6:30pm	Outreach Meeting
Thurs., Sept. 13	6:30pm	Commission Meetings
	7:30pm	Parish Council Meeting

Our Nursery is available each Sunday to provide a safe, loving and enjoyable environment for our children. This ministry gives our parents the opportunity to participate in the celebration of the Liturgy. Special thanks to Taylor Bernelis, Olivia Darrington, Jessica Krauss, Kelly Lawrence, Grace Leaman & Lisa Stine for giving of their time to serve.

Children's Liturgy of the Word is offered each Sunday for children in K-4th grade. The children are called forward and process out with a catechist who proclaims the Sunday scriptures from a Children's Lectionary. The catechist then talks about each reading to help the children understand its meaning and relate it to their lives. They end each dismissal with Prayers of the Faithful and then return to the assembly. Special thanks to Cindy Abraham, Eva Hinterman, Kristen Lance, Michelle Lynch and Mandy Swenberg for giving of their time to serve as leaders this year.

POSITION OPENING: Auburn Area Catholic School is currently accepting resumes for the position of PreK-5 Catholic School Principal. This full-time role serves as the spiritual and educational leader of the school, and works in partnership with staff and parents to promote academic excellence and foster a community of faith and service. This ministry also provides professional leadership for, and evaluation of, teachers and other school employees.

Qualifications/Requirements:

- Is a practicing member of the Roman Catholic Church who will inspire a shared vision of the value of a Catholic education across all faculty, students, parents and the greater Faith Community.
- Possess strong leadership and interpersonal skills to guide effective interaction among parents, students and staff.
- Possess strong communication, marketing and organizational skills.
- Able to resolve staff conflicts in the spirit of a Catholic faith climate and foster academic professionalism among the staff.
- Commits to continuing his/her own professional development through reading, workshops, etc.

Education and Experience:

- Have a current teaching certification issued by the State of Michigan.
- Hold a Master's degree or higher from an approved program in Educational Administration from an accredited college or university.

If Interested: Send a letter of interest, resume and three (3) letters of recommendation electronically to Fr. Thomas Sutton, Pastor, at tsutton@auburnac.org or by mail to St. Gabriel Parish, 84 W Midland Rd, Auburn MI 48611.

Education/Formation

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

Where in your life have you been closed off and needed to be more open?

► **Reflecting on the Word:** "Be opened!" When we are open, we enter a relationship, a text, or a situation without preconceived ideas or attitudes. At these times, we allow a person, language or an event in without judgement. When we are open, we make room for others and new thoughts and experiences. At these times, we also allow God to work in us and through us. As children begin a new school year, parents can help them to be open to what awaits them. Only through their being open will they allow new people, perspectives and ideas to enrich them. Though adults may feel that they have traveled a path before, they need to be open to the new ways God can work within them. What was once thought to be permanent (like deafness in the man) may change.

► **Living the Word:** As a family, take a walk down your street. Invite each family member to look at the neighborhood with new eyes, as though they had never been on the street before. Do they see anything that has gone unnoticed? When the family gets home, encourage each person to count the number of things that were seen with new eyes. How did it feel to be open to seeing new things in their neighborhood? What difference would it make to always be open to God?

► **Religious Education:** Registration is being taken until Mon., Sept. 17. Forms are at the south side of the church near the Adult Education Kiosk. Formation begins Sunday, September 23, 10:45-12 noon.

► **Catechist:** Looking for a 5th grade catechist. If you would be willing to be a catechist or know someone I should ask to be a catechist, PLEASE let Sandy know at 662-4335 or sdesjardins@auburnac.org.

► **Sacramental Preparation** applications are available near the Education Kiosk. They are due Mon., Sept. 24.

Auburn Area Catholic School

► **The Book Mobile** will be here on Thurs., Sept. 13, 1:15-2:15pm.

► **1st Week of Preschool was a Success!** It is always fun to see the new and returning students and their parents. Thanks for choosing AACs Preschool.

► **Skills & Drills Soccer Practice:** Sun., Sept. 9 at noon. Make your way over to the soccer fields from the church picnic to observe our kids and parents in action.

► **Little Caesar's Pizza Sales:** AACs students will be selling pizza kits September 10-24. To order, contact a school family, or Ms. Chris in the school office at 662-6431. Delivery day will be Wed., Oct. 3. Thank you for your support!

Stewardship

Weekly Target: \$10,961.54 * Offering: \$9,389.00

Children's G@D Deeds: My Good Deed was...

...helping my dad with some home repairs. ...I take 3 kids to bus 64.

Baptisms

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

Quinn Ettorea Neal

daughter of Chad & Brookelynn Neal

Jules Simon Saab

son of Jeremie & Sally (Shinkel) Saab

From Father Tom's Desk

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sr. Mary McGlone, [Celebration](#)

The Letter of James stands out in Christian literature for its relentless insistence on justice in action as the sign of Christian faith. The vignette James gives us today may be the Christian Scripture's first condemnation of "profiling." James was writing to a community that apparently separated the ins from the outs by their dress, a detail even less revealing about a person than their ancestry, height, weight or color of skin.

James told his community a story of two visitors to a religious gathering. One is all but dripping with gold, while the other, like Pig Pen of the "Peanuts" cartoon, radiates what we might call a very earthy aura and aroma. The group's reaction is just what would be expected – unless they purported to be Christians.

James reproaches his community for acting like the people in the story he made up. He accuses them of acting like bribable judges by making distinctions among the members of their congregation. James calls them on the carpet for betraying God's priorities. Even as James tells the community to make no distinctions, he points out that God has consistently chosen the poor to be rich in faith.

James' insistence on the importance of the poor throws a unique light on the Gospel and the selection from Isaiah we hear today. Isaiah proclaims that God's activity among us gives sight to the blind, hearing to the deaf and leads God's activity among us gives sight to the blind, hearing to the deaf and leads the lame to dance.

We can appreciate today's Gospel story – the miracle of healing the deaf man – as a marvel of Jesus' power and leave it at that. On the other hand, we might ask where we fit in this story. Mark tells us that some unnamed people brought the deaf man to Jesus. Who in our society or world might be trying to lead us to a miracle of more acute hearing?

Cast Out Fear (Isaiah 35)

[Celebration](#)

This selection from Isaiah presents an unalloyed message of reassurance, and each part of it deserves meditation. The first encouragement we hear is, "Fear not!" a phrase that is repeated often in Scripture. Just for starters, we might look at how much television advertising plays on our fears: fear of illness and death; fear of financial problems; fear of being attacked in some way or robbed; fear of being unpopular, blemished or even incontinent. All of those can be summed up as fear of our own limitations or rejection by ourselves, others or God. Isaiah explains that God responds to all these fears just like parents who run when they hear their child crying. God says, "I am here." Do we believe that is true? Is it enough for us?

Free of Bias (James 2)

[Celebration](#)

James offers delightfully vivid descriptions of the sort of behavior the community should avoid. Our translation doesn't do justice to James' portrayals of the two people who drop in on a Christian community. The literal description of the wealthy one is of a "golden fingered" man with "shining clothing." But of the poor person, literally one who crouches or cringes like a beggar, the author says only that his clothing is filthy. Upon their arrival, the community blunders stupendously. Without blinking an eye, they sin in thought, word and deed by judging, speaking and showing each visitor to his *rightful place*, determined solely on the quality of his appearance.

For James, an attitude of impartiality is a requirement for Christians, an essential characteristic of people who "adhere to the faith" in Jesus Christ. He reminds them that God's impartiality actually bends toward the poor, giving them the grace of being rich in faith.

At the very least, this selection from James reminds us that faith in Jesus calls us to live by standards that are rarely appreciated by the culture around us. James would have us view ostentatious wealth with evangelical suspicion and approach the simple and impoverished members of the community with the reverence and attention we give our greatest teachers.

Hearing Precedes Speaking (Mark 7)

[Celebration](#)

Mark is careful to let us know that the man's speech became clear only after his ears were opened. On both the natural and the theological levels, hearing must precede speech. Mark drives home that idea in what is usually called the messianic secret. Jesus ordered the witnesses not to tell anyone, but "the more he ordered them not to, the more they proclaimed it." In explaining this, Mark is highlighting two dimensions of the same reality. On a superficial level, the people who witnessed the healing refused to hear/obey Jesus' admonition to keep silent: They felt qualified to speak about him even though he asked them not to do so. On a more profound level, Jesus' reason for the prohibition was that they hadn't truly heard/understood this message. Like the deaf man with a speech impediment, their proclamation could not be clear because their understanding remained shallow. Jesus repeated this prohibition to the disciples at the transfiguration (Mk 9:9) and at other moments for the very same reason: Those who were amazed at him didn't yet really understand who he was.

The Readings (A Summary)

[Celebration](#)

Taken together, this week's readings remind us of how much we have to learn and how cautious we should be in making judgments. The first reading and the Gospel promise that God will open our ears if we ask. The second reading advises us that God's word will often come from what we consider the least likely sources. In some ways, these readings are a prelude to what will come next week. For now, we need to remember that salvation comes with a hook: The more we want from God, the more like God we are called to become.

Do They?

Rev. Lawrence Mick, [Celebration](#)

Love is expressed in many ways. One that people may not think of quickly is giving of our resources in the collection. James says, "All good giving and every perfect gift is from above" and also speaks of us being "a kind of first fruits" of God's creatures. I wonder how many of your parishioners see what they give in the collection as an act of love. How many recognize that their giving is "from above" and that it is a kind of "firstfruits" offering? Israel offered the first fruits of the harvest as a sacrifice, which indicated their recognition that the whole harvest belonged to God and was to be used according to God's will. Do your parishioners recognize that all they have belongs to God when they put a share of it in the collection?

"Open my ears, O Lord, to hear your word."

Don't Let the Rains Come Down: This past week, over 3+ days, workers from Ultimate Exterior replaced the roof over the church and social hall. Both had surpassed their normal life spans. Cost for the project \$32,977.00. I, like you, will have to admire it from the ground and be grateful for those who oversee the parish's facilities and for generous parishioners who make it possible. *Fr. Tom*

The Parish in the Community

► **Auburn Christian Quilters**, an ecumenical quilting group, meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month – September to June (alternating between St. Gabriel, Auburn Methodist & Baptist Churches). The theme this year will be *"Have a Little Faith"*. We will be creating a sampler quilt with the option to make it into a star quilt. A great quilt for beginner to experienced quilters. Call Terri at 662-6052 or Cyndi at 992-3363 for info.