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 Facebook: St. Gabriel Parish, Auburn, Michigan
 MyParish App: St. Gabriel Parish, Auburn, Michigan

PASTOR

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PARISH STAFF

Office, Kim Grant..... parishoffice@auburnac.org

Bookkeeper
 Janet Woronoff..... jworonoff@auburnac.org

Director of Religious Education.....662-4335
 Sandy DesJardins.....sdesjardins@auburnac.org

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Youth Ministry
 Stephanie Schacher..... sschacher@auburnac.org

RCIA Coordinator
 Kellie Deming.....adulsted@auburnac.org

LAY MINISTERS

Anne Dearington	Cheryl Gedraitis	Marilyn Welz
Kellie Deming	Tim Hadd	Dave Willsie
Connie Kaczynski	Karen Willsie	

PRAYER LINE

Mary Jane.....(989) 513-5137 vicmaryj@hotmail.com
 Sisters of St. Clare srsclare.com/prayer

BEFIENDER

Mary Ellyn Gushow662-6745

COMMUNION FOR HOMEBOUND

Pam Graul-Gwizdala513-3027

**SCHOOL ENDOWMENT
 SPREADING THE SPIRIT FUND**

Clark Switalski, School Principal662-6431

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 *Please call Parish Office for appointment.

AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL
114 W. Midland Rd., Auburn, MI 48611
 Ph.: 662-6431 Fax: 662-3391 www.auburnacschool.org
 Clark Switalski, Principal cswitalski@auburnac.org
 Lisa Gandy, Secretary.....lgandy@auburnac.org

WEATHER POLICY

If Bay City Public Schools close due to inclement weather, daytime (8:00 AM – 4:00 PM), parish activities are canceled. Cancellation of evening activities will be announced by 3:00 PM. Closures will be posted on TV: NBC 25, ABC 12, CBS 5.

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2020

MONDAY

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

TUESDAY 8 am Word and Communion

444: 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a Ps 100: 1b-5 639: Jn 19:25-27

WEDNESDAY 8 am Mass

445: 1 Cor 12:31—13:13 Ps 33:2-5, 12, 22 Lk 7:31-35

THURSDAY 8 am Mass

446: 1 Cor 15:1-11 Ps 118:1b-2, 16-17, 28 Lk 7:36-50

FRIDAY

447: 1 Cor 15:12-20 Ps 17:1b-d, 6-7, 8b, 15 Lk 8:1-3

SATURDAY 4:30 pm Mass

448: 1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49 Ps 56:10c-12, 13-14 Lk 8:4-15

SUNDAY 9:30 am Mass

133: Is 55:6-9 Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18 Phil 1:20c-24, 27a Mt 20:1-16a



EDUCATION / FORMATION

Family Talk Time *Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families*, Sara McGinnis Lee
Can you remember a time when you needed to be forgiven? How did the person you hurt respond?

Reflecting on the Word:



Forgiveness can be hard, whether we are giving it or receiving it. We do not like to feel that we have done something wrong, but all of us sometimes need forgiveness. It can help to remember our failings when others are unkind. In these times, we need to rely on the deepest parts of our hearts that are connected to God. In that place we will always be able to find the strength and patience to forgive, even if it is seventy-seven times.

Living the Word:

Ask family members to try on the skin of a forgiving person today. Tell them to see if, for one day, they can forgive big and little things that happen. At the end of the day, ask them: How do you feel? Will it be easier to go to sleep tonight? Did you find your day went smoother since you weren't focusing on the bad things but the goodness of God's forgiveness? What things were harder than others to forgive? Is this a practice you could keep up?

Elementary Religious Education Registration will be taken at the Parish Center. In order to attend the first session of religious education which begins Sunday, October 4 @10:45 – 11:45 a.m. All 1st graders will participate in Catechesis of the Good Shepherd this year. The atrium is located at the Parish Center for this program. Forms are available at the Parish Center or by contacting Sandy, 989-662-4335 or at sdesjardins@auburnac.org

Youth Ministry Registration will be taken at the Parish Center. If you have any questions, please contact Stephanie Schacher at sschacher@auburnac.org

Sacramental Preparation Applications will be available at the Parish Center or by contacting Sandy, 989-662-4335 or at sdesjardins@auburnac.org Please carefully read over this application. Prayerful consideration should be given as to the suitability of committing your family to sacramental preparation.

Parish Activities:

Mon., Sept. 14 - 10 am funeral/ 9:30 am visitation-Winnie Fredrick

Tues., Sept. 15 - 8 am Word and Communion resumes

Fri., Sept. 18 - 5:30 pm wedding rehearsal

Sat., Sept. 19 - 1 pm wedding

Confirmation/Eucharist-4:30 pm Mass

Sun., Sept 20 -Confirmation/Eucharist-9:30 am Mass

12 noon Baptism

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Target: \$10,962 **Offering:** \$11,707.50

Food Pantry: \$220

Thank you to everyone who has continued to support the parish so generously. We need your support and it is truly appreciated!

Children G😊d Deed

...Gave my sister a blanket ...

Assorted Items:

I had an individual lined up to take the maintenance position at the main campus only to have him withdraw from consideration just prior to his starting. So...the search continues!

Janet, the bookkeeper, provided me with a comparison of income/expenses for August with those of a year ago. Given the times we are going through it is amazing to note our income for August of 2019 was \$104,140.15 and this year it is \$108,397.89. Expenses a year ago were \$79,327.22 versus this year's total of \$80,670.60. All of that with only 25% of the people coming to church!

We have not resumed Parish Council and Commission meetings because of protocols for Covid-19. The bishop has extended the dispensation from Sunday obligation through September. This may be optimistic. If not we will begin to resume parish meetings with the month of October.

For this weekend and next we will be celebrating Confirmation and Eucharist for 28 youngsters in the parish. We will be stretching our capacity number, no doubt. You do have to remember though that families count as one regardless of the number in the family.

~Fr. Tom~

AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Clark Switalski, Principal

Happy Labor Day! Back on June 28, 1894, Grover Cleveland signed Labor Day into law. The true notion of celebrating how we can collectively make a change for the better in our community! As we continue to have students in person, I do know it will change some things. Visitors to the school are limited now, the classes continue to eat in their classrooms, pick up and drop off have completely been altered, and the students have recess by individual classes. Throughout all of this, the children and staff have remained positive and understanding the reasoning behind everything.

This week Jesus discusses forgiveness. The concept of debt and how we treat others is completely ignored by the servant who is forgiven. With his debt erase, he is shown mercy, yet he goes after another servant who owes him money and has him thrown into jail. This hypocrisy is not overlooked by the master who showed mercy. While one is given mercy, he does not show mercy in the same instance. God is merciful to all of us and forgives us continuously, so shouldn't we be merciful to everyone we encounter?



In Memoriam: *We received a check for \$1300 in memory of Dan Derdowski*

✠ God Bless



FROM FR. TOM'S DESK

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Patricia Sanchez, *Celebration*

Forgiveness is the message for today, and representatives of both Testaments assert the need for it. Jesus ben Sira, author of the book of Sirach (first reading), counsels against wrath and anger and vengeance. Although the desire to “hug these tight” may be enticing, admits the son of Sira, to do so is to become culpable of sin. Rather, it is our willingness to forgive others that renders us open to the healing forgiveness of God. Another Jesus offers similarly difficult directives in today's Gospel. Jesus is approached by Peter with an obviously magnanimous offer: “Shall I forgive seven times?” With that question, Peter thought he had indeed begun to take hold of the heart and mind of Jesus. He was, in effect admitting his willingness to go the extra mile, to turn the other cheek, to give his cloak as well as his tunic—and yet, Jesus' answer was staggering: Not seven times, but *limitless* should be the quality and scope of your forgiveness.

Through the ensuing parable, Jesus point becomes even clearer. We who are sinners have been forgiven an incalculable and unpayable debt; we are all forgiven and saved from ourselves. Having been given so much, how can we behave less than generously toward one another? Yet we do, and according to Jesus' parable, such actions will reap their appropriate consequences. To avoid these, we are to be true to Jesus and forgive one another from the heart.

Act as God Acts: (Sirach 27)

Celebration

The author of Sirach was given to loving more than hating, and to forgiveness rather than to vengeance. Jesus ben Sira wished to direct his reader's attention to what edifies rather than that to things that corrode the character of the faith community. To that end, ben Sira enjoined his contemporaries to conduct themselves in a manner worthy of the God to whom they shared the covenant. Stipulated as conditions of their relationship with God were various rules of conduct, not the least of which challenged them to “take no revenge and cherish no grudge against your fellow country folk. You shall love your neighbor as yourself, I am the Lord” (Lev 19:18)

Moving beyond the traditional *lex talionis* or law of retaliation that would meet hurt with hurt and repay injury with injury the sage and author of the book of Sirach advised those who were wronged to behave toward one another in a manner reflective of their divine covenantal partner. In mercy and compassion, God had met Israel's sins with forgiveness and patience. Not one to hold a grudge or keep a record of wrongs, God forgave so Israel must conduct itself in a similar manner.

To Whom We Belong: (Romans 14)

Celebration

Paul would probably not object to being paraphrased if it means that his message is rendered more pertinent. To that end we respectfully take Paul's words today and say: None of us lives solely as liberal or conservative, as Democrat or Republican: none of us lives solely as black or white, male or female, young or old, rich or poor. In all we are, in all we say, in all we do, we are the Lord's, and that belonging supersedes all other affiliations and personal preferences. We are the Lord's. Therefore, that belonging inspires and influences us in all things, among all peoples, in every situation, in all places.

Mercy Trumps Justice: (Matthew 18)

Celebration

Through the parable of the two servants, the Matthean Jesus invites his listeners, along with Peter, to realize that each of us is better represented by the ignominious official. Forgiven an unrepayable debt,

the official remained unmoved by the mercy shown him. He was, to put it plainly, unperturbed by grace. His cruel treatment of his fellow servant revealed that the gracious gift of undeserved forgiveness he received had not penetrated his soul. But what lesson are we to take from the depraved official's actions? Recall that his debt was unrepayable. Scholars tell us that the amount owed (designated in some texts as 10,000 talents) was equivalent to a day's wage for 100,000,000 laborers or the wages of a day laborer for 150,000 years. Nevertheless, the official was bold enough to ask for patience, promising the king he would pay him back in full. He imagined he was dealing on the basis of justice. What he received but did not grasp was mercy. Hence, he did not allow mercy to change him and spill over into his dealings with his fellow servant.

The Freedom of Forgiveness:

Fr. James Smith, *Celebration*

There is no cure for hatred. Hatred is an enclosed cause-and-effect cycle that feeds on itself. Only forgiveness can break the chain. Forgiveness can operate because it is outside the situation, not a part of the problem. It does not deal with the issue; it simply bypasses the problem. That is why forgiveness does not presume to judge who is right, or seek reparation, or restore justice, or demand an apology. All these things would merely forge a link with the past, while forgiveness is precisely a clean break from the past. The whole idea of forgiveness is to free people for new possibilities in the future.

Destructive Anger:

From Grace Works, Dallas, TX

Anger is often an appropriate immediate emotional response to injustice. But anger becomes sinful when we extend that immediate emotion into a more permanent state. Sometimes we deliberately keep anger alive within our spirits, nursing it to greater and greater strength like a nursing mother, holding her child to her bosom. But anger is a parasite. When anger nurses, it devours its host. If you are consumed by anger, face the truth that you are probably keeping it alive and strong within you. Maybe you think that your anger itself is a way of getting even with the one who wronged you, but it is only you who are being destroyed. How much longer will you suffer, and how much longer will you allow your other relationships to suffer, from the anger that coils around your heart like a snake. Isn't it time to starve your anger, and cast that parasite off?

Letting Go:

From Grace Works, Dallas, TX

When we are tempted to hold on to our anger, or to retaliate against those who have wronged us, we should remember how we have received so much more grace from God than we will ever give to another person. So, the wellspring of this supernatural love is from God Himself, from the eternal forgiveness. He has given to each of us who know him through faith. If we see ourselves in the first servant of Jesus' parable, who though forgiven an eternity of debt by the master, still held his fellow servant accountable for his much smaller debt, we will know the warning and the insight that brings strength to our resolve to let our anger go. The truth is; how can we in good conscience withhold grace from each other when we have received such an example, and such a saving grace ourselves, from God?



*Lord of mercy, help me
show mercy to others*

**HELP
WANTED**

Job Position(s) STILL Open:

With a desire to prepare for the Fall of the year, we are opening a search for a maintenance/janitor position. Depending on the availability of an applicant, we either will go with one full-time person for both the St. Joseph and St. Anthony sites, or two part-time people. Job descriptions are available upon request from the parish office. Interested individuals are asked to submit a resume and 3 letters of recommendation



Baptism Prep

Preparation sessions are being offered either in-person or virtually for parents wishing to have their children baptized in the coming months. Please contact Sandy at 662-4335 or via email at sdesjardins@auburnac.org

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY UPDATE

We have been working diligently on the pictorial directory! We have completed the activity pages and submitted them along with the parish roster of names and addresses. The publisher will produce a proof and once we have approved everything it will go to print. Thank-you for your patience!

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**St. Anthony Cemetery
4485 S. Eleven Mile Rd., Auburn**

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