

# Week of September 16, 2018

## MONDAY

1 Cor 11:17-26,33 \* Ps 40:7-10,17 \* Lk 7:1-10

## TUESDAY 8:00am Word & Communion

1 Cor 12:12-14,27-31 \* Ps 100:1-5 \* Lk 7:11-17

## WEDNESDAY 8:00am Mass

1 Cor 12:31 - 13:13 \* 33:2-5,12,22 \* Lk 7:31-35

## THURSDAY 8:00am Mass

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

## FRIDAY 9:00am School Mass

Eph 4:1-7,11-13 \* Ps 19:2-5 \* Mt 9:9-13

## SATURDAY 4:30pm Mass

1 Cor 15:33-37,42-49 \* Ps 56:10-14 \* Lk 8:4-14

## SUNDAY 9:30am Mass

Wis 2:12,17-20 \* Ps 54:3-8 \* Jas 3:16 - 4:3 \* Mk 9:30-37



## Parish Activities

Tues., Sept. 18	6:00pm	Christian Quilters-Faith Baptist Church
Wed., Sept. 19	10:00am	Parish Knitters
Thurs., Sept. 20.	6:00pm	PTO Meeting
	7:00pm	School Committee
Sun., Sept. 23	10:45am	Religious Education

**Catechetical Sunday:** St. Gabriel Parish is blessed to have over thirty people who serve in a catechetical role. There are many areas in which these people serve, giving of their time and giftedness. These ministries include those who work with children as teachers in our school, as catechists in elementary and youth ministry faith formation programs, Sunday morning Children's Liturgy of the Word, and Vacation Bible School. Baptismal preparation is an area in which catechists work with parents to help them understand what they are agreeing to when asking for the Sacrament of Baptism for their child; Couple-to Couple ministry works with engaged couples, guiding them through a preparation program that leads them to a deeper understanding of one another and their call to the vocation of Christian marriage, and Rite of Christian Initiation (R.C.I.A.) for those who present themselves to join the Catholic faith. They meet over several months being introduced to our beliefs and traditions. The gifts of all these catechists are truly appreciated and without their willingness to serve our parish we would not be the vibrant parish that you know. Please keep them in your prayers!

**Many Hands/Less Work:** Behind the scenes of the parish picnic were numerous parishioners who volunteered to put it all together. Christian Service members had responsibility for registration and the door prizes, Administration was charged with set-up and beverages, Education (and a number of additional parishioners) organized the food and the kitchen, Parish council took responsibility for the games and entertainment, and Worship was charged with clean-up. Their efforts contributed to a most enjoyable experience. Despite the cooler weather we still had close to 300 register, which is average of previous years. Thank you to all who worked and who attended. *Fr. Tom*

**Parish Raffle:** The raffle grossed \$3,987. There are expenses for the license and for mailing. The net amount will be given to AACCS. Special thanks to Sally Czabala and Mary Ellen Gushow who oversaw everything from soliciting the gifts to distributing the prizes. They did a great job! And thanks to all who donated gifts! *Fr. Tom*

**Adult Scripture Study:** Mark your calendar! Tues., Oct. 2 we will gather to learn, reflect and share our faith with others. Everyone is welcome! All you need is a desire to grow in your faith!. Questions? Contact Sandy at 662-4335 or [sdesjardins@auburnac.org](mailto:sdesjardins@auburnac.org).

**Cantor Scheduling** 🎵 Mon., Sept. 24, 6:00pm. Planning for Sep, 30 thru Nov. 25. If unable to attend, please email Susan LeVasseur at [susanl2488@gmail.com](mailto:susanl2488@gmail.com). with unavailable dates by Sept. 23.

**Choir** 🎵 All are welcome to sing a new song! Choir will be starting Mon., Oct. 1, 6:30-8:430pm. Please accept this invitation to join us! Choir will be singing each weekend alternating Masses.



**Café Kiosk:** Be sure to check out the information on the following events taking place at the Diocesan Center for Ministry: Catholic Women's Fellowship; Guadalupe-the Miracle & the Message; The Mass, the Laity and our Mission. Also available, a Ministry Enrichment Day pamphlet/registration – this event will be held at the Bavarian Inn Lodge, Frankenmuth, Sat., Nov. 3. More details to follow.

## Education/Formation

**Family Talk Time** Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families, Sara McGinnis Lee  
Where can you let God into your life more?

► **Reflecting on the Word:** When we lose ourselves to the deep transformative love of God, we gain an entire world of understanding, compassion and wisdom. Only by letting go of our attachments can we relinquish ourselves to God. During the times that we cling to the past, there is no space for God to come into our lives, and our humanity limits us. Losing our life for the sake of Jesus and the Gospel is the only way we can truly save it for all eternity with God.

► **Living the Word:** Ask your family to list some of the names Jesus is called in this Scripture passage as well as names Jesus is called in other places in the Bible. Next, request that the family make up a few names for Jesus that have meaning for them. Invite each person to pick a favorite name from the list and share why they are attracted to it. Try incorporating some of these names into your daily prayer (for example, Jesus, loving teacher, be with us as we start our school day).

► **Religious Education:** Registration deadline is Mon., Sept. 17. We will be offering elementary formation on Sundays 10:45-12 noon. Forms are at the south side of the church near the Adult Education Kiosk. Formation begins Sunday, September 23, 10:45-12 noon.

► **Sacramental Preparation** applications are available near the Education Kiosk. Children need to complete one full year of formation prior to being accepted into the Sacramental Preparation process. Applications are due Mon., Sept. 24.

## Auburn Area Catholic School

► **Little Caesar's Pizza Sales:** AACCS is accepting orders until Mon., Sept. 24. Three ways to place an order: 1. Contact a school family, 2. Ms. Chris in the school office at 6622-6431, 3. Order on line at [www.pizzakit.com](http://www.pizzakit.com), ID# 343028. Delivery day Tues., Oct. 3. Thank you for your support!

► **New Preschool Playground Equipment:** Thank you PTO for the new swings on the preschool playground.

► **Student-led Liturgy:** Please join AACCS in celebrating the Eucharist Fri., Sept. 21 at 9:00am.



## Stewardship

Weekly Target: \$10,961.54 \* Offering: \$11,089.50

Food Pantry: \$40.00

In Memory of Bill Fournier Jr.: \$330.00

### Children's Good Deeds: My Good Deed was...

...helping my neighbors close the pool. ...cut the grass with Daddy.  
...doing laundry, making my bed, helped with chores in the garage  
and being the teacher's assistant. ...I was nice to my new friend.

## The Parish in the Community

► **Annual Soccer Challenge:** Sponsored by Auburn K of C Council. Sept. 20, 6:00pm. Children 9-14 may apply, applications are in the school office. Questions? Contact Ed Piotrowski at 859-8504.

## From Father Tom's Desk

### 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sr. Mary McGlone, Celebration

"Who do you say that I am?" That's the final, blunt question that Jesus puts to the disciples in today's Gospel. No more hiding behind popular speculation; they had to answer for themselves. Worst of all, their answer could not be just an opinion. What they said now would profess their level of commitment. Their answer would explain just how far they would be willing to go with him.

Jesus asked his disciples who they believed him to be. "The Messiah," said Peter. But what did that imply? Peter and the rest were faithful to Jesus according to their understanding of the Messiah. When Jesus explained the way he understood being Messiah, Peter was quick to try to straighten him out. Peter knows that if his Messiah is going to suffer, so will his followers.

Jesus answered Peter with the same words he used to call the sons of Zebedee: "Follow me" (translated now as, "Get behind me"). The implication was clear: If Peter and the rest believed that Jesus was the Messiah, then they had to trust Jesus to know how a Messiah should act. Jesus called disciples to introduce them to his way of living and to advance the venture he called the reign of God. Their story demonstrates that it takes a long time to grow into sharing Jesus' priorities, but more important than their shortcomings is the fact that they stayed with him – and he with them. Staying with Jesus, in spite of his warning that he and they would suffer, was what constituted that group as disciples. Having heard about the cost, they continued to listen to him.

What about today? How do we answer the question of who Jesus is? We can answer with our creed, but it is a pretty intellectual statement. The closest we get to an answer are statements: "For us...and for our salvation, he came down from heaven...For our sake he was crucified." If we want to answer the question with heart and soul as well as mind, we need to encounter Christ, walk with him and talk with him. When we spend time encountering Christ and allow him to enlighten and renew us, our way of living will be our final answer to who we say he is.

### Suffering Servant (Isaiah 50)

Celebration

Isaiah's Songs of the Suffering Servant describe God's faithful in a way that undercuts any self-interested motivation for religion. The servant begins saying that God has opened his ear and that he has submitted willingly to God's word. One would expect that such obedience would bring blessing, and according to this servant it has, but not in the conventional sense of the word.

Unlike Jeremiah who railed about his mistreatment or Job who cursed the day he was born (Jer 12; Job 3), the servant takes his suffering in stride, proclaiming "The Lord God is my help." He so trusts in God that public opinion counts for nothing.

The early Christians used this and the other Servant Songs as the keys to interpreting Jesus and his mission from within their Jewish tradition. Popular messianic dreams longed for a victorious warrior/king. The Suffering Servant reveals what naked faith looks like. This is faith without any visible reward. The Suffering Servant, like Christ, knew God through the communion of obedience. That as the blessing he received and all that he sought.

### Lived Faith (James 2)

Celebration

Today's selection points out that there is no evading Christianity's practical commitment to the poor. James asks if faith without works has saving value. He answers that it is just as valuable, as powerful and salvific as the words of someone who pronounces a beautiful

blessing over a starving family but does nothing to find them food. Such a blessing is a mockery, the faith it claims is dead.

James meant to shock his community when he said "Faith...if it does not have works, is dead." He was writing to people who found death repulsive and ritually contaminating. He might as well have said such faith was putrid, a repulsive masquerade of what it claimed to be.

The fact that we can't do everything is no pretext for doing nothing. At the very least, instead of echoing the hypocritical blessing, "Go in peace...eat well," we must skewer up the courage to pray, "Lord, show us how we who have so much can share and alleviate your hunger, your homelessness, your chronic insecurity." The worst thing about this sort of prayer is that God will answer it.

### Your Answer (Mark 8)

Celebration

At this point in Jesus' mission, idle speculation was worthless. After letting them talk about what they had heard, Jesus terminated the opinion poll and put them on the spot: "But you! You! Who do you say that I am?" That was the question of their lives. Why were they on the road with him? What were they seeking? How far were they willing to go?

John's parallel to this moment of decision comes when Jesus invites his followers to partake in his body and blood, thereby inviting them to participate in his total self-giving. In John's Gospel, Peter responds by saying, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You alone have the words of eternal life.

At this stage of the Gospel, Peter and the disciples are like the deaf man whose ears Jesus opened. Peter, speaking and acting on behalf of the disciples, communicated two important things. First, he professed faith in Jesus. Then, when Jesus told him his faith was distorted, he remained to learn more. The journey to Jerusalem would be long and hard, and even when they reached the climax of the cross, the disciples hadn't comprehended Jesus' message. But they had the love and faithfulness to remain on the road with him, and that was all that was necessary.

## "Teach me, Lord."

### September Wedding Anniversaries

- 60 years or more..... Robert & Henrietta Roberson  
Chester & Pauline Latocki  
David & Karen Willisie
- 50 years or more..... Patrick & Wanda Hogan  
James & Sandra VanAanhold  
Clarence & Colleen Uhlmann  
Willis & JoAnne Johnston  
Harold & Angie Rouget  
Richard & Bonnie Harmon
- 40 years or more..... Daniel & Patricia Ratell  
David & Janet Ernst  
Dennis & Cathy Kalinowski  
Michael & Diane Redick  
Jerome & Mary Anne Putt
- 30 years or more..... Anthony & Tamara Yurgaites  
Randy & Terry Gushow  
Eugene & Pamela Moyer  
Thomas & Rebecca Dziesinski  
Gregory & Luanne Grocholski  
Richard & Kathy Putt  
Robert & Lynn Keeley  
Paul & June Coonan



(to be continued)

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

Are you lost? Try **GPS!** (God's Plan for Salvation)