

Week of September 30, 2018

MONDAY

Jb 1:6-22 * Ps 17:1-3,6-7 * Lk 9:46-50

TUESDAY 8:00am Word & Communion

Jb 3:1-3,11-17,20-23 * Ps 88:2-8 * Mt 18:1-5,10

WEDNESDAY 8:00am Mass

Jb 9:1-12,14-16 * Ps 88:10-15 * Lk 9:57-62

THURSDAY 8:00am Mass

Jb 19:21-27 * Ps 27:7-9,13-14 * Lk 10:1-12

FRIDAY 9:00am School Mass

Jb 38:1,12-21; 40:3-5 * Ps 139:1-3,7-10,13-14 * Lk 10:13-16

SATURDAY 4:30pm Mass

Jb 42:1-3,5-6,12-17 * Ps 119:66,71,75,91,125,130 * Lk 10:17-24

SUNDAY 9:30am Mass

Gn 2:18-24 * Ps 128:1-6 * Heb 2:9-11 * Mk 10:2-26



Parish Activities

Mon., Oct. 1	6:30pm	Choir Practice
Tues., Oct. 2	10:00am	Scripture Study
	6:30pm	RCIA
	7-9pm	Bible Study-West Campus
Thurs., Oct. 4	7:00pm	Baptism Prep
Sun., Oct. 7	10:45am	Religious Education

Adult Scripture Study: Tues., Oct. 2, 10am in the Parish center.

We will be viewing and discussing **Paul, Apostle of Christ** for the next few Tuesdays. This movie portrays an epic and Biblical look at the lives of Paul, Luke and the early Christians trying to live out their faith under the harsh persecution of Rome's Emperor Nero. It deals with themes including love, grace, guilt, forgiveness, God's will, discernment and more. Everyone is welcome! Questions? Contact Sandy at 662-4335 or sdesjardin@auburnac.org.

Flu & Pneumonia Shots: The weekend of October 13/14 after Mass. Bring your insurance and Medicare information with you.

Thank You to Ed Welz for donating homemade bird houses, feeders, seed, wind chimes & whirly birds as bingo prizes at our church picnic.

How Can You Stay in Such a Church?

by Gregory Popcak, Ph.D, director of Pastoral Solutions Institute, a counseling practice for Catholics. Visit CatholicCounselors.com.

How to respond to friends, family and others. In the wake of the sex abuse scandal, many people – especially the media – are asking, "How can you stay Catholic?" A recent CBS poll revealed that 88% of Catholics report that the scandal has had no effect on their dealings with priests. 82% say it will not affect their Mass attendance, 79% say it will have no effect on donations, and 87% say that it will have no effect on their children's involvement in Church activities. These statistics may come as a shock to the secular media or the general public, but they aren't a huge surprise to the faithful who know that they are not Catholic because of the perfection of the people they meet at church or the priests they know. Far from it. Catholics aren't surprised by sin. We are often saddened by it, appalled by it, and disgusted by it, but we're really not that surprised. What we are surprised by is that, despite the sin that is undoubtedly present in our hearts and in the Church itself, Jesus Christ continues to find ways to powerfully change lives and challenge the world through the Church he founded. We are surprised by the breathtaking way Christ touches our hearts through his sacraments, nourishes us through the Eucharist, and through his grace, empowers us – despite our individual and collective weakness – to comfort the afflicted and to afflict the comfortable with the Gospel of Life. It is this surprising encounter with Christ that keeps the faithful. Despite our brokenness and the brokenness within the Church, we believe that we are founded upon the rock, and the gates of hell will not prevail against us (Matt 16:18).

Education/Formation

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

Can you imagine being without an eye, hand or foot? What importance do these hold for you?

► **Reflecting on the Word:** What is valuable in the eyes of the Lord? What we often think is important is not as valuable as our relationship with God. Spending energy maintaining an appearance of a full and happy life but not living one is useless. Doing so is like having two hands that harm versus one doing good. Consider where your family places energy and focus. It matters not that perfection was attained. God's love is what matters. Our focus should be on how we spread that love by extending mercy and forgiveness.

► **Living the Word:** Ask family members to reflect on their strengths and weaknesses. When are they tempted to do wrong? In what situations are they good at doing the right thing? For instance, are they kind to someone others exclude? How can they strengthen the parts in their lives that are weak?

Auburn Area Catholic School

► **Thank You** to the Deshano Community Foundation for their generous monetary donation to AACs.

► **Thank You** to Reder Landscaping for their donation of Saginaw Spirit Hockey tickets (vouchers). Parishioners and school families may pick up vouchers in the school office. Game schedules are on the table across from the school office.



► **Little Caesar's Pizzas:** Pick up your order on October 3 between 3-3:30pm. Please contact the school office at 662-6431 if unable to pick up your order at that time.

► **School Dismissed** Oct., 5 at 11:30am. Office closed after 12pm.

Stewardship

Weekly Target: \$10,961.54 * Offering: \$5,178.50

Food Pantry: \$25.00

In Memory of Rose Kitts: \$85.00

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

...pulling onions from the garden. ...help with 'groceries'.

Good News: A letter was received this week from the Inter-Parish Deposit & Loan Program (where we deposit our savings) that there will be a one-time payment made on deposits of 1.75%. That translates into \$28,506.13 for our parish and that is a most welcomed gift.

September Wedding Anniversaries (continued)

10 years or more.....	August & Mary Rudnick Brent & Susan Beardsley Gene & Teresa Finner John & Eva Hinterman Chad & Jaime Idzior Cory & Lori Pickvet David & Peggy Connors Chad & Amy Wegener Greg & Margaret Gerulski
Less than 10 years.....	Luke & Chelsea Reder Gregory & Stacy Gibbon David & Joan Moszyk Martin & Jessica Spencer David & Elizabeth Hackett Christopher & Sarah Tyrrell Todd & Nicole Grzegorzczuk Brian & Linda Luptowski Nicholas & Melissa Vouaux Andrew & Jessica Krauss



Bless our marriage, O God, with peace and happiness. Amen

From Father Tom's Desk

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sr. Carol Dempsey, [Celebration](#)

This Sunday's readings remind us that just like our ancestors of old, we too have been given a share of the divine prophetic spirit which is not reserved only for certain people. This spirit is given freely for the sake of all the world's communities of life. In the first reading from the Book of Numbers, the biblical writer features the people encamped with Moses, and God bestowing upon them a share of the divine prophetic spirit that had been given to Moses.

The second reading from the Letter of James provides a deeper understanding of how the prophetic spirit works. This message, delivered after the time of Pentecost when the church was given the Spirit of God, features James – the so-named author of the text – acting boldly. He addresses the wealthy of his community. With tongue-in-cheek, he invites them to weep and wail over their impending miseries. All that they have gained through injustice will come to naught. The wealth around which they have centered their lives will become worthless, and their lives will follow suit. Justice will be served for those who have been treated unjustly. Thus, acting in accord with the spirit, James delivers a stinging message to the rich of his community whose wealth is ill-gotten. Simultaneously, his message is a hopeful one for the poor. Their plight does not go unchecked.

Just as some members in Moses' camp were surprised to learn that God's spirit came to rest upon Eldad and Medad who were not in the gathering of the 70 elders, and just as Joshua wanted Moses to stop Eldad and Medad from prophesying – a request that was not granted – so too, John, in Mark's Gospel, wants Jesus to prevent a certain unnamed person from driving out demons. Eldad and Medad were thought to be "outsiders" which is the same situation for the unnamed "exorcist" in Mark's Gospel. This, God's prophetic Spirit is given freely and stirred up freely, to the surprise of many people who thought they were specially chosen to receive such a wonderful gift.

In sum, this Sunday's readings invite us to ponder the ways of our God whose prophetic Spirit has been poured out freely upon all people, all creation. This gift calls us to speak truth to power, to be open to others who have received this gift, and to be self-reflective for the sake of fostering and maintaining right relationship with all.

Prophesy Freely Given (Numbers 11)

[Celebration](#)

Surprisingly, Eldad and Medad also receive the spirit even though they are not in the company of Moses and the elders, though Moses had also chosen them to receive the spirit. They, too, begin to prophesy but unlike the elders, Eldad and Medad prophesy in the camp. This event causes quite a stir! A young man informs Moses of what is happening, and Joshua implored Moses to cease the men's activity.

Moses offers Joshua an interesting response. By means of a rhetorical question, he asks him if he is jealous. Jealousy implies a strong desire to possess something that another possesses. Joshua's concern is not only that Eldad and Medad are prophesying but also that these two men are now potential leaders. Joshua sees them as a threat to Moses' leadership. Moses' further response, namely that all people of God be prophets, basically puts Joshua on notice: God's prophetic spirit is a gift freely given; it cannot be controlled; and from this time forward, the gift of the spirit will rest upon the community and not just on certain individuals.

Voice of Conscience (James 5)

[Celebration](#)

James, the alleged author, paints an unpleasant picture of the wealthy hoarding countless riches which are described in terms of fine clothes and precious metals. Clearly, self-indulgence and pleasure

have been the dominant driving forces. Those people with power and wealth have self-gratification as their primary objective in life. They give no thought to others, especially the poor whom they have exploited.

Given the situation, no wonder James writes such a stinging letter of reproach to the economic powerbrokers, and, in this case, the wealthy landowners of the day. By using past tense verbs to describe the riches that have rotted away, the clothes that have become moth-eaten, and the gold and silver that have become corroded, James suggests that their day of justice has already begun, and rightfully so.

By issuing a tongue-in-cheek invitation to these wealthy landowners, beckoning them to come and weep and wail over their impending miseries, and then, by exposing their injustices, James exercises his prophetic vocation and mission. He speaks truth to power, reminding his readers then and now of how false the security of wealth is. He exposes social injustice and gives hope to those whose suffering is recognized. By acting prophetically, James becomes God's lightning rod and the people's conscience.

Service, Large and Small (Mark 9)

[Celebration](#)

In Mark's Gospel, John expresses concern that someone unknown to the disciples is casting out demons in Jesus' name. The fact that an unnamed, unfamiliar person is able to do this task implies that within this person, God's Spirit is alive and active.

Furthermore, to cast out demons in Jesus' name suggests that the man was invoking the power of Jesus' name in the rite of exorcism. To act in the name of another was to claim that person's authority for one's actions. Jesus has received his power and authority from God who enabled Jesus to heal. Thus, the person casting out demons becomes a conduit for God's and Jesus' Spirit.

Jesus' response suggests that no one who claims Jesus power will ever speak ill of him, and that no one has prerogatives over others. The grace and spirit of God is given and available to all – women, children, Gentiles, and those who live on the margins, namely, the poor and outcasts. The reference to giving a cup of cold water to drink emphasizes the point that no service, however minimal, will go unnoticed or unrewarded.

"Let me, Lord, speak truth to power."

Openness on Our Part

Ross Beaudoin, [Celebration](#)

Joshua and the disciples had not gotten the point that bringing the message and healing of God was the job of everyone. They were not the sole dispensers of God's blessing.

We must take care that we, too, do not exclude God's working through people who are not of our number or who don't meet our expectations or beliefs. We could easily end up like Joshua and the disciples, trying to limit the work and blessings of God in the world.

The Parish in the Community

► **Auburn K of C Soccer Challenge:** Thanks to all who participated! The top scorer in the girls division was Sophie Markel (who was generous giving her winning soccer ball to another player). Top two boys were Quinn Moore and Gabriel Grzegorzcyk. Taylor Hinterman won the District competition and can move on to the Regional competition. Thanks to Coach Henry for his support.. *Ed Piotrowski*

► **Auburn K of C Fish Fry & Bake Sale:** October 5, 2:30-7pm. Has been changed to take-out **ONLY**. Take-outs **CAN** be eaten on site but **NO BUFFET**. Cost \$10, baked goods sold separately. All are welcome!



► **Rummage Sale:** Assumption of BVM (Monroe & Jefferson, Midland) Oct. 9, 10am-7pm; Oct 10, 9am-7pm; Oct 11, 9am-12pm (bag day & ½ price). All proceeds donated to charities.