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BEFRIENDER

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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 **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 all (including the St Anthony site) evening activities will be announced by 3:00 PM. Closures will be posted on TV: NBC 25, ABC 12, CBS 5

WEEK OF OCTOBER 5, 2020

MONDAY

461: Gal 1:6-12 Ps 111:1b-2, 7-9, 10c Lk 10:25-37

TUESDAY Word & Communion

462: Gal 1:13-24 Ps 139:1b-3, 13-15 Lk 10:38-42

WEDNESDAY 8 am Mass

463: Gal 2:1-2, 7-14 Ps 117:1bc, 2 Lk 11:1-4

THURSDAY 8 am Mass

464: Gal 3:1-5 (Ps) Lk 1:69-75 Lk 11:5-13

FRIDAY

465: Gal 3:7-14 Ps 111:1b-6 Lk 11:15-26

SATURDAY 4:30 pm Mass

466: Gal 3:22-29 Ps 105:2-7 Lk 11:27-28

SUNDAY 9:30 am Mass

142: Is 25:6-10a Ps 23:1-6 Phil 4:12-14, 19-20 Mt 22:1-14



PARISH ACTIVITIES

Thursday, Oct. 8th - Parish Council Meeting-7 pm

Sunday, Oct. 11th - Religious Ed 10:45-11:45 am

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Target: \$10,962 **Offering:** \$6,829.41

Food Pantry: \$90

Thank you for your continued financial support. It is appreciated!

Children Good Deeds

....I was nice to my sister when she was sick...Helping Mom...

...Helping with chores...Being a good helper...

Upcoming Event...

Bishop Gruss has announced dates for the annual Catholic Services Appeal, (renamed Christ Mission Appeal.) The appeal packets will be sent from the diocese with a letter from the bishop, a brochure, a prayer card, a pledge card and a return envelope. It is the intention of the bishop that all pledges and donations be sent to the diocese. They, and not the parish, will do the record keeping. However, if you prefer to return your pledge to the parish via the collection basket, we will see that it is sent over to the diocese.

Our target this year is \$71,201. Last year it was \$67,371. In a time when fewer people are attending church because of Covid-19 protocols and fewer people are contributing, an increase is a mountain we are being asked to climb. It is going to be a great challenge for us and for all the parishes in the diocese.

Starting back up: We will hold a Parish Council meeting in October. The commissions are asked to wait for at least another month. We do not really have the space to meet because restrictions for the parish school are such that classrooms are reserved ONLY for school classes.



"Help me, Lord, to be productive"

EDUCATION / FORMATION

Family Talk Time *Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families:* Sara McGinnis Lee

How might we better discern that someone is doing God's will? How may we be more receptive to God and his messengers?

Reflecting on the Word:



In this parable, we see God as a landowner who first sent messengers, or prophets, and then his son, Jesus, to gather the bounty of the vineyard. Jesus and

the prophets are treated so harshly by the tenants of the vineyard that the parable ends with the landowner killing the wicked tenants. Do we reject God's messengers? Perhaps we need to be more accepting and pay closer attention to the people who are doing God's work.

Living the Word

Discuss today's Gospel with your children with an art project. Draw a vineyard with lush plants and happy farmers. Talk about what the farmers must do to create such a beautiful, thriving place. Now draw the same scene, but with people instead of vines. How does God help us grow and thrive?

AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Clark Switalski, Principal

This week marks the end of September and the end to our virtue for the month; *Affability*. We have been showing kindness to others through smiles, elbow bumps, by greeting people and having a conversation. Giving a good first impression is vital to a lot of relationships and can set the stage in how people treat each other. When we show the virtue of affability, we show other people how much we care for them as disciples of God.

This week Jesus offers us another parable to show the hypocrisy within Jerusalem. The Jewish people were God's chosen people, but in the parable the "tenants" (Jewish people), treat Jesus and his followers with disrespect. Many of the people God has sent to warn them have been tortured or killed. This is an important part in Salvation history, because it marks a change where The Kingdom of Heaven is offered to other "tenants" because the first showed through their actions that they didn't want to listen to God, his messengers, and eventually even his own son, Jesus Christ. Jesus welcomes everyone who wishes to enter his vineyard and bear fruit, but in order to do that, we must be willing to make sacrifices.



✠ **God Bless**



**FROM
FR. TOM'S
DESK**

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Patricia Sanchez, *Celebration*

Vegetable co-ops are especially popular in big cities where arable land is scarce and food prices often soar out of range for economically strapped families. If every member of the co-op is consistent and committed in their efforts, then all can enjoy their harvest; if each does not perform their duties regularly and well, then the crops fail, and all suffer the losses.

Today, the prophet Isaiah and the Matthean Jesus will use similar imagery to communicate God's truth to their contemporaries. The co-op in question is a vineyard, God's own vineyard. God has seen to the planting and tending of this vineyard in minute detail. In caring for Israel, God had excelled. Israel, for its part, was to cooperate with God's graces and produce the good fruits of faithfulness, justice, integrity and holiness. But the Israelites failed repeatedly as partners in God's great cooperative undertaking.

In one of his many invitations to repentance and renewal, Isaiah sang this ballad of his friend and his vineyard, hoping that his love song would evoke in his listeners the desire to offer God a good harvest of faithfulness. In the Gospel, the Matthean Jesus reprises the motif of the vineyard co-op to invite his listeners to think about the quality of their efforts. Jesus challenged the chief priests and the elders, as leaders and caretakers, with this story of the tenant farmers. They had not always cultivated the Lord's vineyard and fostered a good harvest.

Couldn't the same story be told regarding our care of the planet? All of creation is God's gift, and we are privileged to enjoy and to preserve it for future generations. But our care has faltered. Polluted resources, global warming, shrinking rainforests and overconsumption testify to our lack of stewardship. Few enjoy so much, while so many hunger for the most basic nutrition—and this fact does little to recommend us to God.

We could become crippled with discouragement as we assess the current situation of God's good co-op and acknowledge the role we have had, both in its preservation and in its demise. Happily, Paul has words of encouragement. Just as he told the Philippians so long ago, Paul tells us now to give our worries over to God and pray to be better caretakers of all God's gifts. Worship provides frequent visits to the wellspring of God's word, where faith is fed, discipleship is a challenge and hope is renewed.

Song of the Vineyard: (Isaiah 5) *Celebration*

As he sang his story, the prophet engaged his listeners in a lesson that compared God's excellent care and providence for the Israelites to their less-than-worthy responses to God. The question in verse 4 is as poignant as it is rhetorical: "What more was there to do for my vineyard that I had not done?" This question would be answered centuries later when it became clear that God would hold nothing back, not even the Son or the Son's life. Echoes of Isaiah's question can be heard in today's Gospel, where the evangelist will portray the vineyard owner declaring, "Surely they will respect my son."

The Israelites received a very solemn warning of reprisal for their repeated rejections of God's overtures of love. Isaiah's description of the abandonment and demise of the vineyard, with its broken walls and trampled fields, was first realized when the Assyrian armies conquered Israel and put an end to the northern kingdom forever. Isaiah's words were realized yet again when the troops from Babylon laid siege to Jerusalem, looted the temple and carried off its political and religious leaders into exile. Today, the song of Isaiah reaches out to the vineyard of the 21st-century People of God. Until we bear fruit, the vineyard of God has a lot of growing to do.

Don't Worry: (Philippians 4)

Celebration

While walking along the bank of the Dead Sea, a tourist to the Holy Land lost his balance and fell into the water. Unable to swim, the man panicked and began to thrash and flail about in the sea. After a few minutes, exhaustion set in and with it the sudden realization that he could float. When his physical exhaustion forced the man to relax, he remembered that the salinity of the Dead Sea is so great that it is virtually impossible to drown in it. All the man needed to do was to calm down and trust himself to the buoyancy of the water. When Paul, in his correspondence with the Philippians, enjoined his readers to "dismiss all anxiety (or worry) from your minds" (v.6), he was, in effect, saying, calm down and entrust yourself to the deep waters of salvation, the blessings of God and all the strength and peace that lie therein. Don't worry, but pray, believe and trust.

Significantly, the English word *worry* is derived from an Anglo-Saxon term that means "to strangle" or "to choke." Worry is a useless exercise that strangles better judgement, puts a chokehold on reason and causes the one who succumbs to it to lose his/her sense of joy and equilibrium. Just as Paul would not have his readers drown in a sea of anxiety, nor would he allow themselves to be given over to something as unproductive and un-Christian as worrying. On the contrary, he would have them fill their (our) minds with what is true, deserving of respect, honest, pure, admirable, decent and virtuous. With all these worthwhile thoughts and aspirations taking up residence in the human heart, there should be no room for worry, but ample space and welcome for God's own peace.

God's Gift our Response: (Matthew 21) *Grace Works, DallasTexas*

Jesus uses this tragic parable to illustrate that this is precisely how God relates to his creation, and to his people. Ever since Isaiah's song, our Old Testament lesson today, God's people have been compared to God's special and beloved vineyard. But like these workers in the parable, God's special love and provision does not always translate into graceful obedience. Sometimes tenants forget who they are, and who God is. It is a terrible amnesia indeed! So, after countless attempts to reason with God's rebellious and forgetful stewards, after all the miracles and signs, and all the words of the Law and the prophets, God finally sent his very own son to deliver the message. Of course, we know what happened then. But God knew it too, and he sent Jesus anyway. Because only love this vulnerable can quiet the mutiny of the tenants laying claim to the divine bounty. God transforms and heals our clenched fists by his open palms. If God can do that, can't we unclench our fists, and open our palms a bit more too?

Good Questions:

Pat Marrin, *Celebration*

The saying "The stone that was rejected by the builders has become the corner stone" summarizes the church's understanding of how the death of Jesus was God's plan, a profound mystery of a messiah who succeeds by failing, who brings life by his death.

The prophets foretold it, but the chosen people did not know the hour of God's visitation and so rejected his messenger.

The story is sobering and poses questions for us today. Who are the prophets among us? What are they saying? Are we listening to them or are we ignoring them, even abusing and murdering them?

What "fruit" have we produced in our lives to show God that we have heard his commands and followed Jesus? Jesus will warn us in Chapter 25 that he is to be found not in shrines, but in waiting to be served among the poor, the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger and the outcast. Where have we found Jesus and served his needs?

What would we identify as the cornerstone of our lives, our identity and accomplishments in this life? Our wealth? Prestige? Career? When we are in crisis or under great stress, what do we rely on most? If we were suddenly to lose everything where would we turn to get our bearings and stability?



Cookbook Sale!

Toni and Trish House for the terminally ill has cookbooks for sale, with all the profits going to Toni and Trish House. Cookbooks have 400 recipes and are selling for \$11.00. They will make great Christmas gifts and can be purchased at the Toni and Trish House, or call Rita Maier at 989-450-1687.

Successful Flu Shot Clinic!

Thank-you to Walgreens for doing the Flu Shot Clinic last weekend after Mass. We had almost 40 participants, including families, who became "flu-fighters"!



PICTORIAL DIRECTORY UPDATE

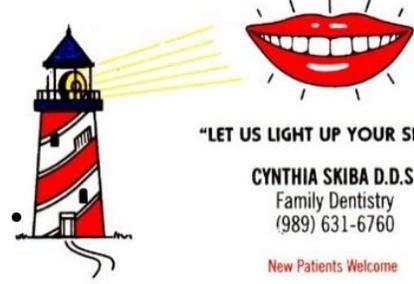
The publisher has produced a proof which we should be getting next week. Once we have approved everything it will go to print and then ship to us for distribution. Thank-you for your patience!



Michael Kaczynski
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St. Anthony Cemetery **4485 S. Eleven Mile Rd.** **Auburn, MI 48611**

	Parishioner	Non-Parishioner
COLUMBARIUM		
Single (1 Urn)	\$1,000	\$1,500
Double (2 Urns)	\$1,400	\$1,750
Inurnment	\$ 250 per niche	\$ 300 per niche
CEMETERY		
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