

Week of October 22, 2017

MONDAY

Rom 4:20-25 * Lk 1:69-75 * Lk 12:13-21

TUESDAY 8:00am Word & Communion

Rom 5:12,15,17-21 * Ps 40:7-10,17 * Lk 12:35-38

WEDNESDAY 8:00am Mass

Rom 6:12-18 * Ps 124:1-8 * Lk 12:39-48

THURSDAY 8:00am Mass

Rom 6:19-23 * Ps 1:1-4,6 * Lk 12:49-53

FRIDAY

Rom 7:18-25 * Ps 119:60,68,76-77,93-94 * Lk 12:54-59

SATURDAY 4:30pm Mass

Eph 2:19-22 * Ps 19:2-5 * Lk 6:12-16

SUNDAY 9:30am Mass

Children's Liturgy of the Word & Nursery

Ex 22:20-26 * Ps 18:2-4,47,51 * 1 Thes 1:5-10 * Mt 22:34-40

*All events take place at St. Gabriel East Campus unless otherwise noted.



Parish Activities

Mon., Oct. 23	3-6pm	Parish Blood Drive
	5:30pm	AACS Volleyball Game-West Campus
	6:15pm	Religious Education
	6:15pm	Adult Education
Tues., Oct. 24	10:00am	Scripture Study
	6:30pm	RCIA
	6:30pm	Choir Practice
Sat., Oct. 28	4:30pm	Anointing of the Sick
Sun., Oct 29	9:30am	Anointing of the Sick
	4:00pm	Trunk 'n Treat

SACRAMENT of ANOINTING of the SICK

will be celebrated at both Masses **NEXT WEEKEND Oct. 28/29.**

The purpose of this sacrament is to give comfort to the sick and to reconcile them to God and the Church community. It serves to help the person anointed to have a strong, positive faith attitude and assists in physical, mental and spiritual healing. This sacrament acknowledges the frailty of people who are to be redeemed through the mystery of Christ's own death and resurrection. The Oil of the Sick used for the Sacrament of Anointing is blessed at the annual Chrism Mass with this prayer: *"Bless this oil and sanctify it for our use. Make this oil a remedy for all who are anointed with it; heal them in body, in soul, and in spirit, and deliver them from every affliction."* Guidelines for the Sacrament of Anointing are as follows:

- † People who are critically ill from sickness or advanced age
- † Older people who are tired/weak with no dangerous illness
- † People who have been anointed once but are now suffering further complications or some different illness
- † People scheduled for serious surgery
- † Children with chronic or life-threatening illness or who will have major surgery (as soon as they are able to understand)

Those who would like to be anointed are asked to "sign in" at the entrances of church upon arrival. Those who have difficulty moving about should take the front pews and stay in place for the anointing. All others will be invited to come forward at the appropriate time.

Cantor Scheduling for Oct. 29 thru Jan. 7 will take place on Tues., Oct. 24, at 6pm. If unable to attend, please check your calendars and e-mail Sue with available dates by Sun., Oct. 22. Along with regular weekend Liturgies there are Holy Days on Nov. 1 & Dec. 8, and a Penance Service on Dec. 21. Thank you for your dedication and service to our parish.



about the Blood Drive on Mon., Oct. 23, 3-6pm in the Blood Bus. Visit www.miblood.org to sign up!

Thanksgiving is quickly approaching and the Food Pantry workers are getting ready to bless struggling families with Thanksgiving meals! If you know of someone who could use help providing a turkey and the fixings this Thanksgiving, please call the Parish Office.

Treasures of Catholic Spirituality: Sat., Nov. 4, 9am-3pm at the Center for Ministry. "To live a life of deep intimacy with the Lord" ...this is God's plan for each of us. Join Dr. Dan Osborn and Mrs. LeAnne Osborn for a lively, interactive exploration of the treasures of Catholic Spirituality. What does a "happiness-based" approach to the spiritual life look like? Ample time will also be given for a variety of prayer experiences, drawing on the nearly 2000 years of the Church's "ways of praying." Cost is \$35 (includes lunch). To register, call 989.797.6607. Registration deadline is Thurs., Oct. 26.

Education/Formation

FAMILY TALK TIME Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families, Sara McGinnis Lee Have you ever felt caught in a trap? Where did you turn for help?

▶ **Reflecting on the Word:** We see the sneaky Pharisees trying to catch Jesus in a trap. They do not succeed, however. There is no way to get around the truth; it will always prevail. Over and over, Jesus reminds us to think outside the box and not compromise our values or our ability to be present and a force for good in society. Instead of going against the law of the land, he finds a way within it to assert the primacy of God.

▶ **Living the Word:** After lighting a candle, say a prayer with the family. Tell your children that there have been clashes between civic law and what "belongs to God." In today's Gospel, it is interesting that Jesus does not make a strict separation between the two. He says that we are to give what is due in each realm. The best thing is to live out the sacred in the secular. Encourage your family to discuss how doing homework and chores can reflect the love of God.

▶ **Trunk-n-Treat:** Sun., Oct. 29, 4-5:30pm at East Campus. All Parish families are invited to participate in Trunk-n-Treat. It is a fun filled afternoon where the children & adults dress up in kid friendly Halloween costumes and go trunk to trunk for treats. The decorated trunks will be lined up on the east side of the parking lot. If you are saying, "trunks"? It is the trunk of your car, SUV or tailgate of your truck. Sign up on the sign-up sheets at the church entrances if you are willing to decorate your trunk or if you plan on attending, or call the Parish Center. Questions? Contact Sandy at 662-4335 or sdesjardins@auburnac.org. This activity is being offered by the Education Commission.

Auburn Area Catholic School

- ▶ **Thank you to the Auburn-Williams Fire Department** for coming to talk to our students about fire safety. We enjoyed your visit.
- ▶ **AACS has Saginaw Spirit Ticket Vouchers** available in the school office. If you would like any, please call 662-6431 or stop by the school office during regular hours, M-F 8am-4pm.
- ▶ **Thank you to the United Financial Credit** in Auburn, for helping our students develop good financial habits. They visit our school twice a month. During this time students can make money deposits into their very own savings account.

▶ **Like us on Facebook and Twitter!!**
Look for Auburn Area Catholic School.



From Father Tom's Desk

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sr. Mary McGlone, Celebration

In today's Gospel, we see the start of a strange alliance between Pharisees and Herodians, groups whose only commonality seemed to be their opposition to Jesus. In one sense, they might be taken as the representatives of strict religion and the folks who could drop all scruples and self-servingly support the local dynasty. When this odd combo of church and state factions questioned Jesus about the legitimacy of paying taxes, they thought they had come up with the perfect dilemma. If Jesus said, "pay," he implicitly acknowledged the legitimacy of the Roman occupation, pagan rule over God's people. On the other hand, those people remembered that less than 30 years before this happened, a man called Judas the Galilean had been executed for starting a revolution based on refusing to pay taxes. His sons met the same fate in the year 47 CE. Tax resistance was dangerous in those days.

Jesus was never one to be bested in political theater. Just when they thought they had him on the hook, he reeled them in. It was time for show and tell. He asked for a coin. Whose picture was on it? The coin they carried displayed not only an image of Tiberius Caesar but also a written declaration that he was the son of the divine Augustus. The other side of the coin had the words *pontifex maximus* declaring that Caesar was the most high priest. The very sight of such a coin would rankle strongly religious or nationalistic Jews. For the Gospel writers, the memory of the coin was the height of irony.

Then Jesus responded to their interrogation. When they admitted that the coin bore an image of Caesar, he handed them a riddle: "Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."

Jesus' response would satisfy no purist. The righteous religious would see him as promoting capitulation to the pagans. The Herodians, the "if you can't lick 'em, join 'em" crowd, would realize they had just been given a very tenuous pass. The underlying question is what could belong to Caesar that does not already belong to God? Jesus left it to each age to discern how to interpret that for their own times.

Conflicted

McGlone, Celebration

The money of the United States bears the official national motto: "In God We Trust." It's a curious and sometimes contentious part of our history. Apparently, the motto first appeared on coins during the Civil War, a not so subtle assertion that God was on the side of the Union. During the height of the Cold War, when the atheistic Soviet Union was our most frightening enemy, Congress passed laws making the phrase the official motto of the United States and ordering that it should be printed on all U.S. paper currency.

When the motto and its exhibition have been challenged in court, the decisions have ruled that it does not favor the establishment of religion and therefore is not unconstitutional. A 2004 Court of Appeals ruling said that references to God on money or in the Pledge of Allegiance "have lost through rote repetition any significant religious content." On the other extreme, President Teddy Roosevelt called references to God on coins sacrilegious. God and country, church and state, the debate has confounded Christians since the time of Jesus.

Strange Messiah

Celebration

The oracle of Isaiah 45 shows us how the prophet understood God's action in human history. In language that would shock the orthodox,

Isaiah presents the Persian emperor and warrior Cyrus as God's anointed one, literally a messiah.

The people may have longed for salvation, but they didn't expect it to come via a foreign dictator. Oppressed people long for the moment when one of their own will rise and free them, showing the rightness of their cause and the greatness of their nation. Even if he acted as a benevolent dictator, Cyrus was an alien monarch.

The lesson that God can and does work through pagans and foreigners was a hard one to accept. While a people may appreciate the good that comes from someone like Cyrus, we humans cling to the tendency to think that all good people should think and believe as we do. Therefore, only those who are like us can do the works of God.

That partisan tendency can have the tragic effect of widening unnecessary breeches among peoples with different philosophies or belief systems.

The Christian Scripture antidote to any approach which specializes in polarizing is found in statements like Jesus' advice to judge proposals by their fruits or Paul's assurance that God can make all things work for good for those who love God (Matt 7:15-20, Rom 8:28). Isaiah could believe in Cyrus as God's servant not because of his creed but because of what Cyrus did for God's people.

**"Help me, Lord, make
the right choices."**

Stewardship

Weekly Target: \$11,538.47 * Offering: \$8,922.19
World Mission Sunday: \$100.00

Some "Good Deeds" listed on children's contribution envelopes:

My "Good Deed" was...

"help setting the table."

"helped make dinner."

"cleaning up the garden."

"helping pick up my room."

"helped set up our camper at State Park."

The Parish in the Community

► **Aquinas College** is hosting two AQDays for all high school juniors and seniors interested in visiting their beautiful 117-acre campus. You're invited to come and discover what life at AQ is all about. Get the inside scoop on academics, athletics, scholarships, service learning, study abroad, and more. Fri., Nov. 3: General AQDay (open to all academic majors) & Fri., Nov. 10: STEM & Health Sciences AQDay. Visit Aquinas.edu/aqday for more details or to register.

► **Beaver Zion Lutheran Church** will have grave blankets, wreaths & swags available Nov. 6-25, all day, at their new site 1233 S 11 Mile Road. For special orders, early orders or for information call 989.662.4170.

AMEN CORNER: The Planning Group and Building Committee have been meeting either bi-weekly or weekly with Fred Dice the architect. They are currently finalizing the desired contents of a proposed church. As soon as elevation drawings are finished they will be presented to the parish.

On a down note, word was received from the diocese that two couples from the parish did appeal to Rome. They failed to inform Bishop Cistone as he had asked. Now we have to wait upon Rome's response.

Fr. Tom