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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
 School Office.....schooloffice@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 OCTOBER 26, 2020

MONDAY

479: Eph 4:32—5:8 Ps 1:1-4, 6 Lk 13:10-17

TUESDAY 8 am Word and Communion

480: Eph 5:21-33 Ps 128:1-5 Lk 13:18-21

WEDNESDAY 8 am Mass

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

THURSDAY 8 am Mass

482: Eph 6:10-20 Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10 Lk 13:31-35

FRIDAY

483: Phil 1:1-11 Ps 111:1-6 Lk 14:1-6

SATURDAY 4:30 pm Mass

484: Phil 1:18b-26 Ps 42: 2-3, 5cdef Lk 14:1, 7-11

SUNDAY 9:30 am Mass

667: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14 Ps 24:1b-4b, 5-6 1 Jn 3:1-3 Mt 5:1-12a



EDUCATION / FORMATION

Family Talk Time Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families, Sara McGinnis Lee
How do you define love? It is easy to love someone who loves you back. How might you love someone you don't know very well, or someone who doesn't like you?

Reflecting on the Word:

In this reading, we can summarize the whole point of the Gospel: love. Jesus was asked what the greatest commandment was, and he gave two—love for God and love for neighbor. In 2014, Pope Francis said that because Jesus joined these two commandments together, “they are in fact inseparable and complementary. You cannot love God without loving your neighbor, and you cannot love your neighbor without loving God”



Living the Word:

Discuss with your child how they might show a neighbor how much they love them. This could be someone on your block, someone from the community, or someone you don't know very well. Write a list of your ideas: conversing, making a gift of food, helping with yardwork, and so on. Plan to do one of these things as a family. Afterward, talk about how these actions made your children feel. How is loving your neighbor like loving God? Determine as a family whether you can implement this as a weekly or monthly family activity.

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.

Baptism Preparations Sessions.

We offer 2 preparation sessions, Prep I session is for first time parents & Prep II is for those parents who have already attended a Prep I session. We are currently offering these sessions in person and virtually. Contact Sandy, 662-4335 or sdesjardins@auburnac.org to register for a preparation session and set your celebration date.

PARISH ACTIVITIES

Monday, Oct. 26th – AACS Pop Can Drive

Tuesday, Oct. 27th – RCIA info meeting-6:30 pm-Parish Center

Friday, Oct. 28th – Half-day of school

***Remembrance Weekend**

Saturday, Oct. 31st – Happy Halloween!

**Sunday, Nov. 1st – Daylight Savings Time Ends-“Fall Back 1 hr.”
Religious Ed 10:45-11:45 am**

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Target: \$10,962 **Offering:** \$8,881.50

Food Pantry: \$60 **Diocesan Collections:** \$1,092

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

Children Good Deed

...Helped with yardwork ...Help shopping...

...Helping my Grandpa get better...

AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Clark Switalski, Principal

As we enter the final week in October, I am surprised as to how fast the first quarter went for school this year. It has been a little bit of a blur, but good for our children. Daily I am reminded of how much God has graced us with the patience, understanding, and love to navigate through an unconventional year.

This week Jesus tells us the most important commandment is to love God with our whole heart, body, and soul. The second important commandment is to love your neighbor as yourself. For some, these commandments have been brought to the front of our minds with what is going on medically and politically, and not always for positive reasons. Being able to navigate

through difficult situations helps me affirm my faith in God and having opportunities to share a kind word or action with my neighbor (students) has brought me a lot of joy this year. The more we affirm God and have positive interactions with our neighbors, the better our lives will be in the end. I always keep the notion that I am not the one who will judge us in the end, but I will be judged.

AACS is looking to fill the Administrative Assistant position in our school office. If you are interested, a job description can be picked up in the parish office during regular business hours 8:30-4:30 M-F. All paper applications can also be dropped off at the parish office. Questions and electronic applications need to be submitted to cswitalski@auburnac.org.

✝ **God Bless**

Christmas Stockings for Soldiers:



Gephart Funeral Home would like you to stop by and pick-up a **Free** Christmas Stocking to take home, decorate and stuff with Christmas Cheer. You will receive a list of recommended items along with the stocking and when you have filled it you can return it to Gephart Funeral Home by November 20th and they

will ship the stockings at their expense to troops abroad in time for Christmas.

They are also collecting old cell phones which are recycled and turned into free calling cards for soldiers. So, please stop by Monday thru Friday between the hours of 8:30 am and 5 pm and help make the Holidays a little brighter for our Heroes!

Sacrament of Anointing... Will take place on the weekend of November 7th and 8th at both Masses. The purpose of this sacrament is to give comfort to the sick and reconcile them to God and the Church community. Those who would like to be anointed are asked to “sign in” at the entrances of church upon arrival.



LOVE the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind. Matthew 22:37



FROM FR. TOM'S DESK

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Patricia Sanchez, *Celebration*

For many, today's Gospel is a heady one. Lawyers and priests, scribes and orthodox observers of the Torah (Pharisees and Sadducees) had gathered around Jesus for a legal discussion. Their question about the greatest law was a favorite one in legal circles, parsing the prescriptions of the law was a pastime that enabled legal minds to parry and thrust, and if they were successful in the argument, to win the adulation of their peers. Discerning that one law from which all others logically could be derived was a challenge they readily put to Jesus.

Jesus' answer is familiar to all of us: Love God totally and love your neighbor as yourself. He was not content to allow their discussion to remain on the healthy level of intellect or spiritual speculation. Jesus, through many other words and works, would translate his dual law into a proactive care for all others. This sort of care and love, Jesus would insist, is truly illustrative of the authenticity of one's love for God.

In anticipation of today's Matthean Gospel, the pericope from Exodus that constitutes today's first reading spells out very clearly the quality of love demanded of God's own. Because our ancestors in the faith had been bound to a loving God in a relationship called covenant, they were also bound to become more accurate reflections of their status as a loved and chosen people, created in God's image, made demands upon them that could not be fulfilled by an occasional charitable act, regardless of how generous it was. On the contrary, being God's own meant living according to the demands of biblical justice. Fidelity to the covenant must be expressed in love for God, for all God's people and for God's gift of the universe. The Exodus author and Jesus, throughout his ministry, both affirm that that this love is very practical. It addresses the needs of others. Their needs offer opportunities for saying "I love you" to God, and also gives us a chance to live that love with a genuineness that makes a difference in other people's lives.

Love is God: (Exodus 22) *Celebration*

Israel was not the only nation with legislation intended to protect the poor and disadvantaged. Other cultures in the ancient Near Eastern world had passed similar laws. However, the frequency of these laws in the Old Testament and the intensity with which they are presented bears witness to their significance for both God and Israel. These laws are fundamentally grounded in God's own action on behalf of the Israelites enslaved in Egypt (v.21; Duet 10:17-19). Caring for the needy was regarded as a theological matter for Israel; these commands were not handed down from any civil court. Rather, caring for others was the only fitting response to a God who had set the example for care and love.

Love as Paul: (1 Thessalonians 1) *Celebration*

To his credit, Paul could sincerely claim to have begun echoing the Good News by preaching in Thessalonica. Along with Silvanus (also called Silas) and Timothy, Paul braved rejection and even hostility in order to introduce the Greeks and Jews in that Greek city to Christ. Because of the genuine quality of his ministry, Paul could honestly invite his readers to imitate him (v. 6), While this invitation may sound strange to contemporary readers of Paul, for whom imitation smacks of disingenuousness or unoriginal play-acting, it was not so for Paul's earliest readers.

Imitating him, the Thessalonians were to live in such a manner as to induce others to imitate their good efforts at living the Gospel. Just as Jesus the proclaimer became the proclaimed, the imitators here become the imitated, the evangelized become the evangelist. So it continues through the generations of believers.

Love as Jesus: (Matthew 22) *Celebration*

Theologian Emil Brunner once said, "Justice is love passed around." This challenging truth invites believers to consider where such justice and love are learned. Besides the home, where all good growth should begin, justice and love are probably best learned at liturgy. There, in the context of Word and Bread, sinners learn God's justice and God's love. Each week, the praying assembly gathers to celebrate these gifts, to be nurtured by them and to make them their own. Then, as the assembly goes forth from liturgy into the life that is lived outside the sanctuary, all are charged to go forth and serve God and one another. In other words, all are challenged to pass around the love that is justice.

From the manner in which he exercised his ministry, we can deduce that Jesus understood the love due to God and to neighbor in terms of justice. Biblical justice, or fidelity to the demands of a relationship, was the principle that governed all his words and works. His relationship with God as a Son to a Father motivated Jesus to look upon and love all others as his brothers and sisters. Our relationship with Jesus challenges us to follow his lead in loving and caring for one another.

Who is my Neighbor?: Biagio Mazza, *Celebration*

Matthew's Jesus also expands Jewish understanding of the neighbor. In Leviticus 19 neighbor is understood to be only a fellow Israelite. However, in the Sermon on the mount in Matthew, Jesus clearly states that God desires us to love enemies and to pray for those who persecute you (5:43-44). In other words, the care and concern for the neighbor is thoroughly inclusive and expensive. It includes the entire human family: the loved one and the enemy. It demands not just general concern for the other but very specific demands of attunement to the needs of the other and the obligations to meet those needs. These two passages specify the obligation to feed, clothe, visit and care for the other no matter the circumstances.

The Power of "AND": *Grace Works, Dallas, TX*

Stepping back just a smidgen from the text, I see this last "and" as the fulcrum of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. This mid-point, this balancing "and" captures in three letters what all four Gospels tell us is the meat and marrow of Christianity. I see demand and gift, fear and hope, judgement and mercy. Yes, there at the fulcrum of faith is this pesky "and" that has us in a soul grip that will not let us go.

It stares us in the face in that second commandment to love neighbor in the same way we love ourselves. Love neighbor AS we love ourselves. When we love ourselves, grateful to God for the person we are, the health we have, the relationship in family and community we enjoy, we give to ourselves no one else can create or offer. What if this season on incivility and rancor in our country has its origins in human-beings inability to love themselves as creatures made in God's image? What if violence towards others is rooted in a fanged loathing; a meanness foisted on others whose seed is a dark and unaccepted self? This connective "and" tells us that our ability to love God and neighbor flows out of a primary decision to love ourselves. The gift I give to me, and you give to you, creates the energy and desire to meet the command to love God fully, faithfully, joyfully. As always, Jesus is on to what may be the most transformative analogy in all human history. This "and" forever links our love of others with our love for God.

Lord, help me grow in compassion





There are pamphlets from **Michigan Catholic Conference** concerning your vote 2020 at the entrances of Church. It is a great resource for information about the issues to consider before voting, Catholic teachings, and questions to assist voters in evaluating candidate platforms. Consider these tools for prayer and reflection during the *conscience formation process*. And make your vote count on November 3rd !!

Thank-you to everyone who donated to the Food Pantry last week! We have given away 30+ boxes of food and toiletries in the last three weeks! The pandemic has increased the number of people who need your donations, many who have never had to ask for help before...*we are so very grateful for your kindness!*



PICTORIAL DIRECTORY UPDATE

The publisher has produced a proof! We will work on approving names and addresses and once that is completed it will go to the publisher for print. Keep in mind that Lifetouch is working with a skeleton crew because of the pandemic but they have assured us that they will get the directories to us as soon as possible. Thank-you for your patience!

John D. McNally 989-662-6952



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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