

# Week of November 5, 2017

## MONDAY

Rom 11:29-36 \* Ps 69:30-31,33-34,36 \* Lk 14:12-14

## TUESDAY

8:00am Word & Communion

Rom 12:5-16 \* Ps 131:1-3 \* Lk 14:15-24

## WEDNESDAY

8:00am Mass

Rom 13:8-10 \* Ps 112:1-2,4-5,9 \* Lk 14:25-33

## THURSDAY

8:00am Mass

Ez 47:1-2,8-9,12 \* Ps 46:2-3,5-6,8-9 \*

1 Cor 3:9-11,16-17 \* Jn 2:13-22

## FRIDAY

Rom 15:14-21 \* Ps 98:1-4 \* Lk 16:1-8

## SATURDAY

4:30pm Mass

Rom 16:3-9,16,22-27 \* Ps 145:2-5,10-11 \* Lk 16:9-15

## SUNDAY

9:30am Mass

Children's Liturgy of the Word & Nursery

Wis 6:12-16 \* Ps 63:2-8 \* 1 Thes 4:13-18 \* Mt 25:1-13

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



## Parish Activities

Mon., Nov. 6	6:15pm	Religious Education
	6:15pm	Adult Education
Tues., Nov. 7	10:00am	Scripture Study
	6:30pm	RCIA
	6:30pm	Choir Practice
Wed., Nov. 8	6:30pm	Sacramental Prep for 1 <sup>st</sup> Reconciliation
Thurs., Nov. 9	6:30pm	Commissions Meetings
	7:30pm	Parish Council Meeting
Sun., Nov. 12	6:00pm	Youth Ministry

**Food Pantry** next weekend, Nov. 11/12. Items most needed are stuffing, instant mashed potatoes, chicken broth, turkey gravy, mushroom soup, canned fruit, cranberry sauce, sweet potatoes, green beans, cake mix & frosting. All your donations are greatly appreciated!

**Scripture Study** begins a new DVD series *Catholicism: The Pivotal Players*. Bishop Barron's series is a journey to unlock the truth behind the Catholic Church's most influential people. You'll discover the places where St. Thomas Aquinas lived, learned and wrote. Visit the countryside where St. Francis gathered a group of friars and revived the Church. See the places where St. Catherine of Siena ministered and prayed. Trek through England to where Bl. John Henry Newman and G.K. Chesterton left their mark and sparked and English Catholic revival. And through unprecedented HD footage, marvel at the extra-ordinary art of Michelangelo, from his David statue in Florence to the Pieta in St. Peter's, to the Sistine Chapel. This 6 week series begins Tues., Nov. 7 at 10am in the Parish Center. You do not have to attend each week! Come when you can! Everyone is welcome!!

**Advent Bulk Mailing:** Advent is quickly approaching and we will need volunteers to help prepare our bulk mailing. If you are able to help, please meet at the Parish Center at 9:00am on Fri., Nov. 17.

## Stewardship

Weekly Target: \$11,538.47 \* Offering: \$7,514.91

World Mission Sunday: \$425.00 \* Priests Retirement: \$10.00

Campaign for Human Dev: \$10.00 \* Christmas Flowers: \$60.00

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

My "Good Deed" was...

"playing with my brother and making my bed."

"I helped dust the living room and kitchen."

"to say please and thank you for my milk at school."

## Education/Formation

**FAMILY TALK TIME** Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families, Sara McGinnis Lee

What does it mean to be humble? What does it mean to be exalted? Where do you see parents, teachers and bosses in your life reflecting God's love and wisdom?

► **Reflecting on the Word:** The impermanence of our earthly lives is reinforced in these simple but intense statements. Life began before we were born and will continue after, so earthly parents claiming that place permanently in our souls does not hold up when we consider the enormity of God and our infinite existence. There is no true teacher, master or parent but God. Still, we can honor the reflection of God's love and wisdom in those around us while still realizing they pale in comparison.

► **Living the Word:** Discuss how Jesus lived the virtue of humility. Ask the children if they think humility is important. What does it feel like to be the greatest at something? What does that mean in heaven? Encourage everyone to try the following experiment this week: the next time you stand at the front of a line, give up your place to someone else and go to the back. Notice how it feels to choose to be at the back. Is waiting different when you know you gave up your spot?

► **Trunk-n-Treat:** The Education Commission would like to thank everyone who participated in the bone-chilling family event Sunday afternoon!! We had 20 decorated trunks and 117 children registered for prizes. A special thanks to Steff Schacher and the youth kitchen crew for the great meal, and all the youth for their help, to all the creative parents and youth who decorated their trunks so amazingly and to all the parishioners for their generosity in providing a great assortment of candy for our children. We appreciate everyone working together so we can have this spook-takular event for our Parish family.

## Auburn Area Catholic School

► Thank you for continuing to support AAC's **Box Top collection!** Funds from our Box Tops support programs provided by our PTO.

► **Labels for Education** program has been **discontinued**. AAC will no longer be collecting these. Thank you to all those who have supported this program throughout the years.

► **AACS Scholastic Book Fair** will be open after Mass next weekend, Nov. 11/12. Come check us out!!

► Students will honor our country's veterans with a **school prayer service** on Fri., Nov. 10.



## Congratulations to

*Patrick Putt & Crystal Osantoski*

who celebrated the sacrament of marriage last week.

*"May God the eternal Father keep you in love with each other and may the peace of Christ dwell with you always."*

**Income Bump:** The increase in income last weekend was due to one parishioner donating stocks that the parish sold. The parishioner avoided capital gains tax and was able to use this gift as a charitable contribution. The other gift was from a parishioner directing a required minimum distribution to be donated to the church. That parishioner avoided paying tax on the income, but was not able to itemize it as a charitable contribution.

*Fr. Tom*

**"Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see."** Mark Twain

# From Father Tom's Desk

## 31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sr. Mary McGlone, Celebration

Today's Gospel brings us into the core of Jesus' moral teaching. What Jesus demands of the people of the covenant is integrity, being who you say you are, making all your behavior an expression of your beliefs, no matter the cost.

It was Jesus' integrity that allowed him to heal on the Sabbath; he knew that God's will was for the well-being of people, no matter the cult restrictions. Integrity led Jesus to the cross because his life meant nothing if he weren't faithful to his Father. Integrity means that you have learned what life means and you live your life like you mean it.

Jesus censured the scribes and Pharisees because they said all the right words while they used their position to their own advantage, wasting little concern on God's people. They loved to expound on God's law, but were adroit at avoiding its requirements in their personal life. They could tell others what they should do, but did nothing to help them accomplish it. Displaying their religious regalia and making public displays of their piety, they had fallen into a trap of seeking attention and admiration rather than cultivating a relationship with God.

### The Prophet Malachi

Celebration

Malachi is the last of the "Twelve Prophets." We know almost nothing about the person who supposedly authored this book. The name, Malachi, which means angel or messenger, wasn't even a proper name at the time of the book's composition around 450 B.C.E. But if Malachi is obscure, the prophetic message of his book is perennial. This short work aims at persuading the people to observe their covenant obligations day by day, in both worship and the moral life. It focuses particularly on the priests who have failed in their responsibility to provide solid teaching and example to the people.

Malachi is calling people to integrity in worship. Whether speaking of the priests or the people, he says God demands that we remember the covenant. The call to conversion comes in the middle of the reading where God tells the people to listen, to keep their covenant and the word of God close to their heart. When their heart becomes disengaged, their blessings are empty, they void the covenant of Levi, and their offerings are contemptible.

The last line, "Why do we break faith with one another?" reminds us that love of God and love of neighbor are inextricably linked. If we are true to God, we will be true to one another. This reading calls us to integrity of worship and life. It calls us to continue to live the covenant God instituted so long ago, bringing it to the fulfillment demanded by our own moment in history.

### Jesus' Critique

Celebration

When Jesus talked about morality he didn't mince words. One word that could summarize his teaching on the moral life might be "integrity." What really seemed to get Jesus going was hypocrisy, especially on the part of people with power or position. We might say that he critiqued them unmercifully, except that his prophetic critique was another expression of the mercy that called them to conversion. As is to be expected, the authorities he lambasted were the ones who became his bitterest enemies. Nobody likes to be unmasked as a phony.

It's easy to imagine that Jesus' tirade had been building up for a long time. He had watched as the self-proclaimed orthodox orated, caring far more about their precision and eloquence than about the needs of those whom they addressed. He had seen them parade in their oh-so-obvious religious garb, focusing public attention on their

fine façade, while their hearts were hidden – perhaps even from themselves. They might have spoken God's word accurately, but they perverted it in their attitudes and actions.

When he preached and even more when he interacted with people, Jesus presented a model of God like that found in Isaiah 49 where God is described as even more loving than a nursing mother. In verse 16, God says: "See, upon the palms of my hands I have engraved you." That engraving was the mark of slaves whose master's name was tattooed or scarred onto their hands.

### On the Use of Power

Ted Wolgamot, Celebration

In contrast to a misuse of power, Jesus offers an opposing truth: "The greatest among you must be your servant. Whoever exalts himself will be humbled; but whoever humbles himself will be exalted. This teaching represents the heart of the ethics that must belong to the new faith community that Jesus is founding – as it must be in our faith community now some 2,000 years old. Regarding the rightful use of power, four major themes are implied in Jesus' teaching:

◆ *Walk the walk. Don't just talk the talk. Central to this teaching is the connection that must exist between word and deed. We are what we do, not what we say.*

◆ *Your use of power is always directed to love towards others. The law of love involves not preaching or teaching, so much as doing. Action is what makes the difference.*

◆ *Piety is an internal affair of the heart. It is not about impressing people or looking for ways to be honored and glorified.*

◆ *We are all called to a life of holiness, not only those in leadership positions. It is not just the "job" of priests, ministers, religious leaders to be holy. The call from Jesus to live a new kind of life extends to everyone.*

### Humility and Gentleness

Celebration

The bottom line of today's gospel is humility, a much honored virtue. Thomas Aquinas said that humility is the foundation of all the virtues. Augustine said that even love begins with humility. Of all the possible descriptions of humility, perhaps the most helpful is that "humility is living the truth about ourselves" – in an obvious, uncomplicated, transparent manner. The complexity of truth gives humility its many shades – it needs no varnish. Of course, it is not enough merely to know the truth. Humility begins when we accept that truth.

If humility is accepting the truth about ourselves, gentleness is respecting the truth of others. Others are just like us – only different. Others have the same human experiences, the same joys and sorrows, the same virtues and vices. But they experience and express them in a unique way. Gentleness comes from understanding why someone does what he or she does and then respecting the truth in them. Even when we cannot approve their actions, we can still honor their integrity and freedom.

**What you keep to yourself you lose, what you give away, you keep forever!**

### November Wedding Anniversaries

50 years or more.....Edmund & Mary Ellen Matuszewski  
Donald & Georgina Brick  
David & Janet Nowak  
Edward & Marilyn Welz  
James & Mary Lou Jean

40 years or more.....Michael & Mary Jo Jamrog  
Thomas & Mary Anne Putt  
Gary & Judy French  
Robert & Carolyn Putt  
Richard & Marie Strauss



(to be continued next week...)

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