



84 W. Midland Rd., Auburn, MI 48611  
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 Facebook: St. Gabriel Parish, Auburn, Michigan  
 MyParish App: St. Gabriel Parish, Auburn, Michigan

**PASTOR**

Rev. Thomas E. Sutton ..... [tsutton@auburnac.org](mailto:tsutton@auburnac.org)

**PARISH STAFF**

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**LAY MINISTERS**

Anne Dearington	Cheryl Gedraitis	Marilyn Welz
Kellie Deming	Tim Hadd	Dave Willsie
Dan Derdowski	Connie Kaczynski	Karen Willsie

**PRAYER LINE**

Mary Jane..... 496-2873 [vicmaryj@hotmail.com](mailto:vicmaryj@hotmail.com)  
 Sisters of St. Clare ..... [srsclare.com/prayer](http://srsclare.com/prayer)

**BEFIENDER**

Mary Ellyn Gushow .....662-6745

**HELPING HANDS COMMITTEE**

Stephanie Schacher.....878-2898

**COMMUNION FOR HOMEBOUND**

Pam Graul-Gwizdala .....513-3027

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend each month. 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 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday each month at 11:00 AM in the Sacristy at St. Gabriel Parish or 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](http://www.auburnacschool.org)  
 Clark Switalski, Principal ..... [cswitalski@auburnac.org](mailto:cswitalski@auburnac.org)  
 Chris Kaczynski, Secretary ..... [ckaczynski@auburnac.org](mailto:ckaczynski@auburnac.org)

**SCHOOL ENDOWMENT  
 SPREADING THE SPIRIT FUND**

School Principal ..... 662-6431

**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

## EDUCATION / FORMATION

**Family Talk Time** *Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families* by Sara McGinnis Lee  
Talk about how your family can actively wait for Jesus this Advent season. Some ideas could be regular family prayer, service to the community, or an Advent calendar with daily acts of love.

### Reflecting on the Word:

In Advent, we wait. We wait for the coming of Jesus—in that stable in Bethlehem, in our hearts, and at the end of all things. Our wait should not be characterized only by Christmas shopping, parties, or gift wrapping. It should also be marked by prayer, service, and repentance. We wait in hope for the Lord to come, knowing that he will come “*at an hour you do not expect.*” Stay awake! Don’t ignore God. Let us open our hearts to the possibilities of renewal and generously welcome the Lord into our lives.

### Living the Word:

For family prayer, light an Advent wreath (or any candles) and listen to the Taizé’ chant “Wait for the Lord.” (Find recordings online) Sing along once you are comfortable with the refrain. Even if the world rushes toward Christmas Day, use this time to focus purposefully on Christ to come into our hearts and lives.

**Advent** is a time to prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior on Christmas. We pray with an Advent wreath. We learn about Jesus’ family tree and the story of salvation history through the Jesse tree. We may even give of ourselves by buying something for someone in need. All these efforts help keep us focused on the “reason for the season.” With all the busyness that this time of year brings it is easy to be lured away from preparing ourselves to welcome Jesus. Consider choosing one of the following activities to keep the attention on celebrating the coming of the Lord.



- If you receive Christmas cards consider putting them out & pray for the person or family that sent them to you
- Read the Christmas story from the Bible: Matthew 1:18-25
- Ask other families to join you and go Christmas caroling either around your neighborhood or to a care facility. (call in advance to arrange a time if you go to a care facility)

### Thanksgiving dinner giveaway:



We had our annual Thanksgiving food basket giveaway last Monday and it was a big success! **Thank-you** to everyone who contributed to the baskets as well as the hard-working ladies who put them together and handed them out! We helped 25 families have a Happy Thanksgiving!

### Families in need....

We have been made aware of several families in our community who are **in need** this holiday season. Since so many of us are truly blessed, we hope that you will help us provide some *Christmas Cheer* for those less fortunate. If You want to *donate* or *shop* for a family, please stop by or call the Parish Office at (989) 662-6861. **Your donations no matter how big or small will be greatly appreciated!**



## WEEK OF DECEMBER 2, 2019

### MONDAY

175: Is 4: 2-6 Mt 8: 5-11

### TUESDAY 8:00 a.m. – Word & Communion

176: Is 11: 1-10 Lk 10: 21-24

### WEDNESDAY 8:00 a.m. – Mass

177: Is 25: 6-10a Mt 15: 29-37

### THURSDAY 8:00 a.m. – Mass

178: Is 26: 1-6 Mt 7: 21, 24-27

### FRIDAY

179: Is 29: 17-24 Mt 9: 27-31

### SATURDAY

180: Is 30: 19-21, 23-26 Mt 9: 35---10:1, 5a. 6-8

### SUNDAY

4: Is 11: 1-10 Ps 72: 1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 Rom 15: 4-9 Mt 3: 1-12



## PARISH ACTIVITIES

Mon.,	12-2	6:30-8 pm	Choir Practice
Tues.,	12-3	10-11:30 am	Scripture Study
		6:30pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Reconciliation Celebration
Thurs.	12-5	6:30-8pm	Youth RCIA-(rectory)
Sun.	12-8	9:30 Mass	CLOW & Nursery
		10:45 am	Religious Ed

## STEWARDSHIP

**Weekly Target:** \$10,962    **Offering:** \$16,243.59

**Christmas Flowers:** \$215.00

**Campaign for Human Development:** \$1079.00

**Children G☺☺d Deeds**

I cleaned my room...Helped my Mom make cupcakes on Saturday...  
Holding the door for my Mom...Helped my Dad clean the gutters...  
Went to a movie with my cousin...Helped my Papa rake the leaves...  
Helped my sister get dressed...Helped Mom set up the Nativity...  
Loving my Dad...

## AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

As we celebrated Christ the King last Sunday, we open a new liturgical year this weekend. The school has been working for some time on the virtues of *perseverance, obedience, and moderation*. I am proud of our students’ progress thus far but know we must always be ready and prepared for Jesus. The reading this week refers to always being ready and staying awake! Now that isn’t referring to physical sleep, but rather spiritual sleep. Staying persistent, insistent, and consistent in our faith journey is one way to remain ready. Utilizing moderation to find time for the Sacraments and attend mass on a weekly basis is another way to remain ready. “[...] *for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.*” We do not have a magic 8-ball telling us when Jesus will come, but I do know I will continue to practice my faith in word and in deed, as an example for all our kids at AACS.

**God Bless, Clark Switalski, Principal**



**FROM  
FR. TOM'S  
DESK**

**First Sunday of Advent**

Sr Mary McClone

National Catholic Reporter

Advent ushers us into the challenge of believing that the world as we know it is not what God intends and that God wills us to help us do better. Paul says that, as he calls us to wake up and walk in the light of Christ. The Gospel reminds us that we and all of creation are mortal; the end may come at any moment.

Isiah tells us what God intends for the world: The life and prayer of believers will attract all peoples to know and love God. Isiah describes this by using the image of a universal pilgrimage to God's holy mountain. He speaks of a time when weapons of war transformed into agricultural tools, and when human beings will care for one another and their Earth as they were created to do.

The Advent season combines penitence and hope. It reminds us that our hope is little more than childish wishes until we recognize how we have failed to live up to our human vocation. It also reminds us that God is not limited by our sin any more than by our petty dreams. Advent invites us to invest our hearts and hands into active hope in God's days to come.

**Cooperators (Isiah 2 ):**

Celebration

The challenge in Isaiah's day as in ours was the cost, the difficulty of faith. Just as Israel's understanding of God implied that history has a direction, God's future proposes novelty, an alternative to the endless cycle of wars and fear and violence. Isiah ends this visionary promise with an exhortation: "O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!" The vision will only take flesh through human effort in collaboration with God's grace.

The God revealed in the Jewish and Christian scriptures offers possibilities, not certainty. The weakness of God's promised future is that it depends on human hearts and heads, hands and feet. God has instructed us, but our hearts and heads, have to give God's dream a home. Then, when God's project has fired up our hearts, we need only put our hands and feet to work to make about. If we don't believe it is possible, if we are not willing to take part in making it come true, we might as well admit that religion is only a show or an opiate.

**Challenged (Romans 13):**

Celebration

An important key to Paul's spirituality is that for him nothing, absolutely nothing, was the same after Christ's resurrection. Salvation, what Jesus called the Kingdom of God, was permeating reality as really as the dawn brings light. In Paul's thinking salvation was not an end product like a heavenly reward, but a life process already begun and growing in individuals and communities. People had but to perceive it and choose to be a part of it.

The metaphor of putting on Christ is one of Paul's favorites. He may speak of it as putting on the new humanity (2 Corinthians 5:17, Ephesians 4:24, Colossians 3:10), of having been crucified with Christ (Romans 6:6), or of being transformed into the image of Christ (2 Corinthians 3:18). All of those ideas express an urgent invitation to Christians telling us to get beyond our bogged down past so as to become what we really are. We can be people awake to the presence of God within us, people who rejoice as God draws us forward into the fullness of life.

**Now and Later (Matthew 24):**

Celebration

Apparently the thrust of Jesus' teaching is to say that there is no point in speculating about the end. The only thing for sure is that it will come at an unexpected time and in an unexpected way. It seems

that the gist of the message is "Live as if you were going to die tomorrow and as if you were going to live forever." That's the truth.

Christians are called to live in a strange equilibrium, loving life and every bit of God's creation while holding it lightly because we know it is destined for transformation. Advent invites us to remember the long and the short of it. We look to Christ's return in glory but don't worry about the details. Instead we keep Isiah's vision in mind, allowing it to orient and lead us to participate in making the things of this earth all that they can be.

**Always Prepared:**

Celebration

Some of us tend to wait until it is too late to remedy a situation and all we can do is say, "If only I'd known, I would have done something different." To that end the sacred writers of Advent remind us that we do indeed know and believe that Jesus will come among us again. We do know that coming will be characterized by judgement. As our liturgical guide for this year, Matthew will tell us that preparing for judgement will consist in reaching out and alleviating the hungers, thirsts and other such needs of God's least ones wherever these needs present themselves (25:31-46). Though we are duly informed and aware, we do not always allow this knowledge to penetrate the practical aspects of our lives, hence the annual call to alertness that is Advent.

While we as a world, await the second return of Jesus, Advent also reminds us that we individuals will also know a "personal parousia": our encounter with Jesus at the end of our life's journey. The end of our journey is as certain as it is unknown. Therefore, watchfulness and hope are in order as we live this day, this hour, this moment, as worthily as if it were our last.

**Need to Hope ("The Spirit of Advent")** Mark Searle Assembly

Human beings cannot live without hope. Unlike animals, we are blessed or cursed with the ability to think about the future and to fear our actions to shaping it. So essential is this to human life, that human beings cannot live without hope, without something to live for, without something to look forward to. To be without hope, to have nothing to live for, is to surrender to death in despair. But we can find all sorts of things to live for and we can hope for almost anything; for some measure of success or security or for the realization of some more or less modest ambition: for our children, that they might be saved from our mistakes and sufferings and find a better life than we have known; for a better world, throwing ourselves into politics or medicine or technology so that future generations might be better off. Not all these forms of hopes are selfish; indeed, they have given dignity and purpose to the lives of countless generations.

But one of the reasons why we read the Old Testament during Advent is to learn what to hope for. The people of the Old Testament had the courage to hope for big things: that the desert would be turned into fertile land: that their scattered and divided people would eventually be gathered again; that the blind would see, the deaf would hear, the lame walk; that not only their own people, but all the peoples of the earth, would be united in the blessings of everlasting peace. Clearly, their hopes were no different from ours or from any human being's: lasting peace, tranquil lives, sufficiency of food, an end to suffering, pain and misery.

Thus we hope for the same things as the Old Testament people, for their hopes are not yet realized. But we differ from them in two ways. First, the coming of Jesus in history, as a partial fulfillment of God's promises, immeasurably confirms and strengthens our hope. Secondly, we differ from the Old Testament people because Jesus has revealed to us that God is not afar off, but already in our midst. Hence the importance in the Advent liturgy of John the Baptist and of Mary; because they recognized the new situation, they serve as models for the Church in discerning the presence of our savior in the world.

*"Come, Lord Jesus"*



### An Evening of Remembrance....

Because the holiday season can be a very difficult time for those who have lost a loved one., Gephart Funeral Home will host an "Evening of Remembrance" Service on Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. Services will feature speaker *Rev. Joseph Atchinson* and a candle will be lit in remembrance of all who have passed away. *Please RSVP by December 5th @ (989) 686-2291*

### Fish Fry and Bake Sale

Auburn K of C at 4760 Garfield Rd will be having a fish fry and bake sale to benefit seminarians on Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. This is now a TAKE OUT ONLY dinner, however take-outs can be eaten on site, but NO BUFFET. Desserts may be purchased separately. **Hope to see you there!**



### PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

**We are attempting to schedule one more photo date for those who missed getting pictures taken or need retakes. We will start a wait list because we do need to have 20 appointments to make this happen, so please call the Parish office (989) 662-6861 if you are interested. We need to do this soon, so please let us know ASAP!**

The photo sessions are complete for the upcoming Directory, however you do have the option of using your photo from the prior directory for a \$10.00 fee and you will receive a copy of the *new* directory. Notify the Parish Office of this request and we will contact Lifetouch to retrieve your archived photo.

For questions or concerns call the Parish Office at 662-6861.

**Michael Kaczynski**  
Painting/Carpentry

989-662-7747  
Cell: 303-242-2650  
mckaczynski@sbcglobal.net

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Weekdays: 8:00-6:30, Saturday 8:00-2:00, Sunday 10:00-2:00

### SEEKING SPONSORS

St. Gabriel Parish is updating and adding sponsor advertisers displayed in our weekly bulletin. Support your parish bulletin and promote your business! Begin advertising or notify a potential advertiser of this opportunity. These advertisements are viewed on printed copies, plus online on the parish website and MyParish app affiliated with St. Gabriel Parish.

**Contact Parish Office**  
**989-662-6861 or [parishoffice@auburnac.org](mailto:parishoffice@auburnac.org)**

### **St. Anthony Cemetery** **4485 S. Eleven Mile Rd., Auburn**



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

