



84 W. Midland Rd., Auburn, MI 48611
 Ph.: (989) 662-6861 Fax: (989) 662-0064
www.auburnac.org
 Facebook: St. Gabriel Parish, Auburn, Michigan
 MyParish App: St. Gabriel Parish, Auburn, Michigan

PASTOR

Rev. Thomas E. Sutton tsutton@auburnac.org

PARISH STAFF

Office Administrator..... parishoffice@auburnac.org
 Bookkeeper
 Janet Woronoff..... jworonoff@auburnac.org
 Director of Religious Education.....662-4335
 Sandy DesJardinssdesjardins@auburnac.org
 Music Director
 Sue LeVasseur.....slevasseur@auburnac.org
 Youth Ministry
 Stephanie Schacher..... sschacher@auburnac.org

LAY MINISTERS

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

PRAYER LINE

Mary Jane.....(989) 513-5137 vicmaryj@hotmail.com
 Sisters of St. Clare srsclare.com/prayer

BEFRIENDER

Mary Ellyn Gushow662-6745

COMMUNION FOR HOMEBOUND

Pam Graul-Gwizdala513-3027

**SCHOOL ENDOWMENT
 SPREADING THE SPIRIT FUND**

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. 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 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
 Clark Switalski, Principal cswitalski@auburnac.org
 Chris Kaczynski, Secretary ckaczynski@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 FEBRUARY 24, 2020

MONDAY

341: Jas 3:13-18 Ps 19:8-10, 15 Mk 9: 14-29

TUESDAY 8:00 a.m. Word & Communion

342: Jas 4:1-10 Ps 55: 7-11, 23 Mk 9: 30-37

WEDNESDAY 9:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Masses

219:J1 2:12-18 Ps 51:3-6b,12-14, 17 2 Cor 5:20-6:2 Mt 6: 1-6,16-18

THURSDAY 8:00 a.m. Mass

220: Dt 30:15-20 Ps 1:1-4, 6 Lk 9: 22-25

FRIDAY 7 p.m. Stations of the Cross

221:ls 58: 1-9a Ps 51:3-6b, 18-19 Mt 9: 14-15

SATURDAY 4:30 p.m. – Mass/ Rite of Sending

222: ls 58: 9b-14 Ps86: 1-6 Lk 5: 27-32

SUNDAY 9:30 a.m. - Inscription Mass

22:Gn 2: 7-9; 3: 1-7 Ps 51: 3-6, 12-13, 17 Rom 5: 12-19 Mt 4:1-11



EDUCATION / FORMATION

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

What does it mean to love your enemy? Do you that will be easy or hard to do?



Reflecting on the Word:

The automatic reaction to injury is to lash out with angry words or actions. Christ turns this reaction on its head. Being one of his followers is not easy. Reaching the perfection that Jesus speaks of will require us asking God for help sometimes.

Living the Word:

Pray for those who have hurt you this week. Ask each family member to write down the names of one or more people who have hurt them (it could be recently or a long time ago) and put the slips of paper in a basket on your prayer table. Pray for those people every night (if you feel comfortable, choose a few slips each night and read the names aloud). At the end of the week, discuss how it feels to pray for those who have injured you. Why does Jesus ask us to love our enemies? How is that a step toward peace?

Small Group Lenten Reflection Booklets:



"Around the Lenten Circle" by Arthur E. Zannoni are available at the church entrances. These booklets are designed to be used in a group setting with others to reflect and talk about the Lenten Sunday readings, beginning with the 1st Sunday of Lent through Palm Sunday. Everything you need is provided: prayer, scripture passages and reflection questions. The booklet can also be used individually for private use.

PARISH ACTIVITIES

Mon.,	2-24	6:30 pm	Choir Practice
Tues.,	2-25	10 am	Scripture Study
Wed.,	2-26		Ash Wednesday
Fri.	2-28	7 pm	Stations of the Cross
Sat.	2-29		Leap Day!
Sun	3-1	9:30 am	CLOW & Nursery
		10:45 am	Religious Ed

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Target: \$10,962.00 Offering: \$7329.77

Building and Maintenance Fund: \$50.00

Children Good Deeds...

- ... Helping to vacuum... I helped my Mom hold the door...
- ... Helped clean up the basement... Cleaning under my bed...
- ... Helping Ava clean her bedroom... Helped my sister get dressed...
- ... I did my homework when I did not want to...
- Helping around the house... Played with my brother & ate pizza...
- ... I played with my sister and wished her a good day at school...



AACCS AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Winter testing is complete! Our latest round of NWEA testing ended on the 14th and our children have been working hard to show us everything they have learned this year. We test the children 3 times per school year. Fall is our baseline score, Winter is for monitoring, and the Spring is used to show how much the children grew throughout the entire year. Two down, one to go!

Jesus talks about how we should handle adversity and evil when we encounter it in the world. The concepts of turning the other cheek, or loving your enemies are very difficult when we are faced with them, But I see it daily with the interactions of the kids. There are many times where our friends say or do something hurtful and we must determine how we are going to react. Jesus shows us that we are in control of our actions and reactions to negative behaviors. I am taken back to a quote by Charles R. Swindoll: "I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it. And so it is with you...we are in charge of our attitudes."

✠ **God Bless, Clark Switalski, Principal**

Helping Hands...

If you or someone you know needs help with small tasks or light maintenance, we may be able to help. Contact the parish office with your "wish list" and we will see what we can arrange. There are several generous and handy parishioners who have offered a helping hand. Please call (989) 662-6861 or email us at parishoffice@auburnac.org



Thanks again for your efforts!

Heartfelt Thank-you!

To all the parishioners who helped us with the Bulk Mailing on Monday, we truly appreciate your gift of time and energy. Because of you, we were able to accomplish this daunting task in record time!

Open Registration for 3 and 4 year old Preschool
The registration packets for the 20-21 school year are available on the bulletin board across from the office. A great place to begin your child's education!





**FROM
FR. TOM'S
DESK**

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Patricia Sanchez

Celebration

The authors of Leviticus and the Matthean Jesus call their listeners to holiness—a holiness that is not rooted in themselves or their deeds, but in God. God created humankind in the divine image, the essence of all that is true, good, loving, and holy, and then called upon every believer to be true to that image in word and deed. Judeo-Christian tradition, citing this special relationship between Creator and creature, describes holiness as being “set apart” or “sanctified” by God for special service. The Jewish sacred vessels in the temple were set apart or consecrated for service in the liturgies of the Temple. In the same way, Christians understand themselves to be earthen vessels or human temples in which God dwells and the spirit moves (second reading). Understood in this way, holiness consists in being transparent God-bearers and luminous Christ-bearers for others. Believers are called to a holiness that leads us to forgive others and to love our neighbors as ourselves (Leviticus).

In today's Gospel, Jesus will expand upon the Leviticus prescriptions. Instead of seeking retribution when they are wronged, believers are to manifest their holiness through nonviolent service. Offer no resistance, challenges Jesus. In a world where revenge is planned and savored, go the second mile, give your coat as well as your shirt, give it to anyone who asks. If this sort of holiness seems impractical and even preposterous, Jesus goes even further and calls for us to love our enemies and persecutors.

Most of the believing world has yet to take Jesus at his word. Nevertheless, the living Word of God continues to send out this summons to holiness. Is it logical? No. Is it easy? No. But, is it the holiness we have seen so eloquently expressed in God's gift of Jesus, who offered his own life, suffering and death for the sake of *our* holiness? Yes. How, then, will we respond to this summons?

All are Called: (Leviticus 14):

Celebration

Some people believe that God's call to authentic holiness is only for those few individuals whose fine example and remarkable response put the rest of us to shame. This excerpt from the book of Leviticus offers a corrective to such an attitude. As God instructed him, Moses was to deliver the summons for holiness to “the whole Israelite community.” Not just the leaders, not only the adults, not just the men, but all were being called to a way of life that would worthily reflect their Creator and covenant Partner.

This call, as set forth in Leviticus, is part of the Holiness Code, which was made up of a compilation of laws that were intended to regulate moral conduct and worship. This text follows a lengthy list of social offenses to be avoided by every Israelite: theft, deceit, cruelty to the handicapped, and all other social injustices. After all the negative commands comes the call to love your neighbor as yourself.

When this summons to holiness was incorporated into the teachings of Jesus, its scope was considerably widened to extend the command to love even to enemies. We are not told how the crowds reacted to this teaching. While the Johannine evangelist openly admits that Jesus' eucharistic teaching (John 6) caused many to leave him, we are left to wonder about his call to love even enemies. We might wonder if and when, this challenge will ever be taken to heart.

Temple of God: (1 Corinthians)

Celebration

Paul understood his own role as that of a master builder constructing a church on the firm foundation of Jesus Christ. It was this conviction that prompted him to ask his readers, “Do you know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?” (v. 16). Paul's word for temple here is *naos*, the term for sanctuary, the most holy and innermost part of the Temple. In Jerusalem's Temple, the *naos* was the Holy of Holies, that sacred room where no one except the high priest, was allowed to enter, and then only once a year on the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur).

By comparing his readers, both individually and collectively, to the Holy of Holies, Paul was reminding them that they were to be revered as such.

If Paul's exhortation were taken to heart, imagine how his message might impact the sad statistics regarding child abuse and elder neglect. If we revered each one of God's creatures as a dwelling place of God, how might this alter our attitudes and actions toward one another.

New Law: (Matthew 5):

Celebration

In today's Gospel, the Matthean Jesus is represented as trying to instill holiness in his disciples. In order to accept and commit to Jesus' teachings about nonviolence, forgiveness and loving our enemies, we cannot be weaklings or cowards. Indeed, it takes great bravery to forgive. Jesus called forth such bravery in his own as he challenged them to go beyond the Hebrew law of retaliation (“an eye for an eye”) and to “offer no resistance to one who is evil.” Should anyone be confused about what he meant, the Matthean Jesus offered examples that continue to challenge human logic and sense of fairness. “Turn your other cheek, go a second mile, hand over your coat as well as your shirt and give to anyone who asks of you.”

Then, as if to add the proverbial straw that broke the camel's back, Jesus went even further with the challenge to holiness: “Love your enemies, pray for those who persecute you.” Believers in Jesus are called beyond the law and beyond even the most generous ethical humanism (“even the pagans do that”) to a perfection that reflects the holy and wholly other God. This is a holiness that precludes revenge and retaliation while invoking a love that can only come from the One who is Love.

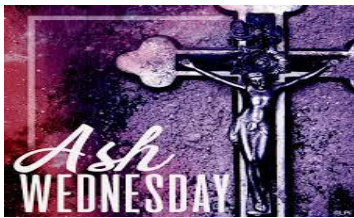
Quotable:

The Liturgical Press

G.K. Chesterton said, “*The Bible tells us to love our neighbors, and also to love our enemies; probably because generally they are the same people.*”

The Journey Begins Rev. Richard Gribble: The Liturgical Press

Lent, our season of grace, which gives us the opportunity to prepare ourselves to return home, begins by asking us to look into our hearts in order to determine what we need most in getting ready for our homecoming with God. The prophet Joel tells us, “Rend your hearts, not your garments, return to the Lord, your God.” He proclaims that the trumpet is to be blown and the people gathered; they are to awaken and begin the inner journey of self-reflection. Preparation for our journey home must begin with self-evaluation of the heart. Some of what we discover on the inward search will please us because it is of God and Holy, but other things will disappoint us, especially when we realize that our own lack of effort, refusal to listen, or inability to love has cast darkness on our souls. Our self-discovery may require us to mend a fence or two along the road.



This week marks the beginning of Lent with Ash Wednesday. You should have received the lenten mailing from the Parish which includes the lenten schedule and details for Holy Week and Easter Sunday, as well as a Little Black Book. There will be extra schedules, Little Black Books and *large print* Little Black Books available at the church entrances. In addition you will be able to pick up a container or envelope for the Operation Rice Bowl 2020 campaign. ** There may have been a misprint on your soup supper schedule, the first date should be March 4th.*

To our Visitors...

The parishioners of St. Gabriel Parish would like to extend a warm welcome to anyone joining us today for worship. If you are interested in joining our parish family, please call the parish office at (989) 662-6861, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday thru Friday.



PICTORIAL DIRECTORY NEWS

Unfortunately, we were unable to get enough appointments to schedule another photo session. So those of you who did not get your picture taken will have to submit a photo to the Parish Office of your choosing or use your photo from the last 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

201 Weber St.
Auburn, Michigan 48611

"LET US LIGHT UP YOUR SMILE"

CYNTHIA SKIBA D.D.S.
Family Dentistry
(989) 631-6760

New Patients Welcome

FICK'S
AUTO PARTS AUTOMOTIVE

"Serving Auburn for over 30 years"

989-662-4469

1021 W. Midland Rd, Auburn
(On the Corner of Midland & Garfield Rd)

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

Auburn Food Center
985 West Midland Road
Auburn
662-2352

Come visit us!

endline / pike
INSURANCE

EvaMarie Hinterman, CISR
Agent

Auto – Home – Life

989.662.6479 eva@endlinepike.com
101 Mustang Ln, Ste 1 Auburn, MI 48611

SEEKING ADVERTISING SPONSORS

St. Gabriel Parish is always looking for advertisers for our weekly bulletin. Support your parish bulletin and promote your business! These advertisements are viewed on printed copies, plus online on the parish website and MyParish App affiliated with St. Gabriel Parish. For more info contact the Parish Office at 989-662-6861 or parishoffice@auburnac.org

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

St. Gabriel Parish

LEN 2020



Fasting, almsgiving, and prayer are the three traditional disciplines of Lent. The faithful, the Elect and those Candidates preparing for Reception into Full Communion in the Catholic Church should undertake these practices seriously in a spirit of penance and of preparation for baptism or of renewal of baptism at Easter.

REGULATIONS FOR FAST AND ABSTINENCE

Ash Wednesday, February 26, 2020 & Good Friday, April 10, 2020
are days of fast and abstinence.

All the Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence.

† † **Fasting** is to be observed by all 18 years of age and older who have not yet celebrated their 59th birthday. On a fast day one full meal is allowed. Two other meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and juices, are allowed.

† † **Abstinence** is observed by all 14 years of age and older. On days of abstinence no meat is allowed. Note that when health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige.

Our Parish Wednesdays Tradition

Soup Supper @ 6 p.m. † Mass @ 7 p.m.

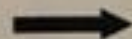
Remember the formula. The Church does a good job capturing certain truths with easy-to-remember lists and formulas:

Ten Commandments, seven sacraments, three persons in the Trinity.

For Lent, the Church gives us almost a slogan

— *prayer, fasting and almsgiving* —

as the three things we need to work on during the season.



What should I do for Lent?

Apologize to someone

Lent is a season of repentance. Most often we think of asking God for forgiveness from our sin, but that is only half of the story. Most sins include hurting others, which mattered to Jesus. He taught that if during worship if you "recall that your brother has something against you... Go first and be reconciled with your brother, and then come back and offer your gift." (Matthew 5:23-24). Lent is a great time to seek forgiveness from those we have harmed.

Perform random acts of kindness

Express your love for Jesus by loving others. Pay for the order of the person behind you in the drive-through. Give an extravagant tip. Carry gift cards to give away. Ask others how they are doing, then stop and listen to their responses. Share the love of Jesus in any way you can think of each day during Lent.



Serve people in need

Identify an organization with which you would like to participate. Sign up and get trained. Then volunteer to serve. When Jesus washed his disciples' feet at the Last Supper, he taught that we are called not to be served, but to serve (John 13:1-17).

Visit the lonely

Jesus also taught his disciples to treat others as we would treat him. This included visiting those who are sick or homebound (Matthew 25:31-36). Talk to a local nursing homes about washing wheelchairs or visiting with residents. Volunteer with a senior center, or any other place where people need some human contact. Play games, tell stories, look at photo albums, and enjoy those about whom Jesus said, "when you have done it for [them], you have done it for me."

Tell others you love them

Some of us struggle to say those three little words. Maybe we assume others already know how we feel. Maybe we think we show our love and don't need to say it. Or maybe we are concerned it won't be reciprocated. Fight the fear and say "I love you" to family members, friends and everyone else you love at least once during the season.

Just wanted to say

I Love you.♥

Serve your parish community

Your parish needs you. Sing in the choir, usher, serve as a lector, serve as a parish council member or commission member, work with the youth, help with funeral luncheons, or find some other way to serve your parish. Don't wait for someone to ask you to use your God-given gifts. Call the parish office today, 989.662.6861, offer yourself in service.

Say "thank you"

Parents, family members, mentors, coaches, teachers, authors, catechists, and others have shaped you into the person you are. Each week during Lent, send a note of gratitude to one of them. Tell them how much they meant to you and how they inspired you.



There are many ways to observe Lent. Be original. Find yours.