

WEEK OF JANUARY 20, 2019

MONDAY

Heb 5:1-10 * Ps 110:1-4 * Mk 2:18-22

TUESDAY 8:00am Word & Com.

Heb 6:10-20 * Ps 111:1-2,4-5,9-10 * Mk 2:23-28

WEDNESDAY 8:00am Mass

Heb 7:1-3,15-17 * Ps 110:1-4 * Mk 3:1-6

THURSDAY 8:00am Mass

Heb 7:25 – 8:6 * Ps 40:7-10,17 * Mk 3:7-12

FRIDAY

Acts 22:3-16 * Ps 117:1-2 * Mk 16:15-18

SATURDAY 4:30pm Mass

2 Tm 1:1-8 * Ps 96:1-3,7-8,10 * Mk 3:20-21

SUNDAY 9:30am Mass

Children's Liturgy of the Word & Nursery

Neh 8:2-6,8-10 * Ps 19:8-10,15 * 1 Cor 12:12-30 * Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21



PARISH ACTIVITIES

Mon., Jan. 21	6:30pm	Choir Practice
	6:30pm	Bible Timeline
Tues., Jan 22	10:00am	Scripture Study
	6:30pm	RCIA
	7:00pm	Bible Study-WC
Wed., Jan. 23	6:30pm	RCIA
Fri., Jan. 25	6-8:30pm	PTO Family Dance
Sun., Jan. 27	10:45am	Religious Education

Wondering...Hoping...Praying: Is God calling you to get involved in your parish? We are looking for a reliable person to fill our staff position of Office Administrator!! You will need the heart of a servant, the love for your parish family as well as the ability to undertake administrative tasks. It's Monday through Friday 8:30am-4:30pm. If interested in becoming part of our Parish Staff, apply at the parish office. A job description is available. Resume is necessary, along with three letters of recommendation. Don't delay!! We would love to hear from you!

New Scripture Study: Tues., Jan. 22 at 10am begins a new 8-week study: *Walking Toward Eternity Making Choices for Today*, by Jeff & Emily Cavins. This study focuses on 8 topics essential for living out the Christian life, using a combination of meditation on Scripture, small group discussion and an inspiring DVD presentation. Last fall a new person began attending this group. Here is what she said:

"Fearing my faith or knowledge of my faith may not be strong enough to participate, I hesitantly decided to give it a try. What a blessing it has been! I have gotten much more out of it than I ever expected. My fears were put to rest shortly after attending, learning it is a very lightly structured, faith-based discussion on how scripture applies to our everyday life. The sessions have no weekly commitment and is very flexible; you can quietly sit and listen or join into the discussion if you wish. If you are looking for fellowship along with many lighthearted conversations, this is for you. I invite anyone interested to attend this open table discussion. Please come and join us." Kathy

LENT 2019 MISSION – Eucharist: A Diamond in our Midst

The Catholic Church teaches that the celebration of the liturgy is the "source and summit of the Christian life" (*Lumen gentium*,11). Participating in the liturgy is the most important act of Catholic Christians, for it is through the liturgy that the faithful give praise to God, thank God for His blessings, and go forth strengthened and challenged to live as Christ's disciples in the world. As a parish community we will spend three evenings and a morning hearing about Eucharist and how it unites ourselves with God and with one another.

Mark your calendar: March 10, 11 & 12.

EDUCATION/FORMATION

Family Talk Time Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families, Sara McGinnis Lee
How can you encourage another to follow the will of God?

► **Reflecting on the Word:** In today's Gospel, we see Mary summon Jesus to solve a dilemma at a wedding feast. Mary is, in effect, calling Jesus to start his ministry. When Jesus turns the water into wine, Jesus is not only solving what seems to be a problem but beginning the work for which his Father sent him. His hour had come. Sometimes we do not realize that we are being called to do the work of God. We must always be open to the mystery of being called and allow God to transform us for the work we must do.

► **Living the Word:** Give each family member water in a see-through cup and some red food coloring. Ask family members to name the kind acts they have seen each other perform. As each person names these kindnesses, add a drop of food coloring to the water. With every act of naming, see how much more the water changes. Noticing someone's spark can help that spark grow. When you are finished, drink up and celebrate the uniqueness that is each person.

AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC

► **AACS** will be hosting a community event called **Eagle Palooza!** with a chicken dinner, cash bar, raffle, silent auction, and entertainment featuring a DJ and polka band, at the **William's Township Hall, Sat., Feb. 16, 5-11pm.** Admission is free. Tickets for dinner \$10, raffle tickets \$5. There are a limited number of dinners being made, so you are encouraged to purchase ahead of time. Chicken dinners can be dine-in or take-out, and you do not have to be present to win the raffle items. For more info, talk to a school family or call the school office.

► **AACS Open House Tuesday, February 12.**

FROM FR. TOM'S DESK

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sr. Mary McGlone, Celebration

Jesus asks the servants to do something utterly simple. He instructs them to fill their empty ceremonial jars. He tells them to fulfill the religious practices they had allowed to fall into neglect. Their obedience provided him with the raw material for working his sign. When they filled the jars to the brim, they demonstrated wholeheartedness and God had something new to work with.

According to the Gospel of John, this was Jesus' primordial sign, the event that foreshadowed everything that was to come. Jesus said that his time had not yet come, but Mary believed that his very presence meant that the time was ripe. Mary refused to accept a wedding feast without joy. More agitator than mediator, she took the problem to Jesus and then told the servants to pay attention to his command. She was convinced of God's extravagance, but her people had become docile to the point of unbelief.

Today she asks us if we want things to be different, if we are willing to risk the experience of God's lavish love. If so, it is time to turn to Jesus and do whatever he tells us. It is time for great expectations.

Called to Relationship (Is 62)

Celebration

Personhood is a relational reality and individualism and exaggerated self-concern pave the road to desolation. We become persons through the relationships that draw us forth and give us identity as daughter/son, sister/brother, parent/child, friend, student, worker, etc. relationship is the heart of our human vocation and its goal. The purpose of human life is to grow in ever-deepening relationship with God and all of creation.

This relates to our selection from Isaiah in that God's offer of redemption is ultimately an invitation to relationship. God promises to rename the people who had made themselves "forsaken" and "desolate." They will soon be called "my delight" and "espoused." This people's primary identity will be based on how much God loves them.

God's love is so intense that it can only be symbolized by the love of spouses: a commitment of love which people freely choose to make and keep, a commitment which becomes fruitful and gives life to the world.

Isaiah has a particular concept of God in mind in writing this. This is no God-judge on the lookout for trespassers. Isaiah's God watches to woo. God's desire is to entice this people into becoming all they are meant to be as images of the God who loves them.

Importance of Diversity (1 Cor 12) Celebration

Paul's insistence that the community recognize the value of diversity is at the heart of this letter. Because of that, 1 Corinthians might be one of the most important letters from the Christian Scriptures for today's world. We who have become caught up in black and white dichotomies find it difficult to appreciate diversity. Our system of education has often formed us to see the world through a competitive lens which judges everything on a scale of better or worse and a belief that there is but one correct answer: Such thinking undergirds every form of prejudice and blinds us to the richness of God's creation.

But Paul tells us that diversity is a divine gift. Because all talents and abilities come from God, none of them can be disparaged without denigrating the God who gives them. And as he will emphasize more as the letter goes on, every gift is given for the benefit of the community, not for the honor of a particular member.

The bottom line of Paul's message is that the more we can appreciate diversity, the more we can open ourselves to God. Therefore, the inverse of that attitude, the elevation of certain gifts over others, becomes an expression of idolatry.

Living Parable (John 2) Celebration

Here for the first time, Jesus mentions his hour, the reason for his being. He tells Mary that his hour has not come. Jesus' hour, the fulfillment of his vocation to unite humanity with God, is a decisive moment, but it is also a reality wherever he is present. Thus, although his hour has not "come," it is already in process. Therefore, Mary can tell the servants to fulfill their human vocation: "Do whatever he tells you."

We know the rest of the story. The six stone jars, as empty as the law once engraved on Moses' stone tablets, are waiting to be filled with newness. The wine that came from the jars symbolized divine love offered again, just when people recognized their need.

At Cana, Jesus performed the first and primary of his signs. The wedding feast symbolized the renewed covenant. At this wedding feast, Jesus acted out a living parable of the announcement he made in the Nazareth synagogue: "Today, this is fulfilled" among you.

Our Helper(s) Dick Folger, Celebration

The film, "Won't You Be My Neighbor?" tells the story of Fred Rogers and his TV program. At the film's conclusion, Mr. Rogers shared the following at a college commencement, "When I was a boy my mother told me to always look for people who are helping. You will always find somebody who will try to help." When he asked the graduates to think about that somebody for them, many cited their mother as that encouraging person.

In today's Gospel, Mary encouraged her son to begin his public ministry at the wedding at Cana. Mary and Mr. Rogers may help us remember those who have cared about us beyond measure encouraging us to be true to the best within us.

Question of One's Identity Angela Butel, Celebration

How do we tell the world who we are when a proclamation of our identity as disciples is tangled up with the complications of history, politics and the actions of individuals that run contrary to our values? I suggest we take a page from Jesus' book and begin with action. The second reading reminds us that we each are blessed with different gifts to use in service of building a better world: gifts of knowledge, faith, healing, prophecy and more. We can each draw on our particular gifts in our day-to-day work, proclaiming to the world through our actions that we are the kind of people who want to create loving, respectful, inclusive communities.

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Target: \$10,961.54 * Offering: \$9,934.00
Food Pantry: \$95.00

Statements Sent: Contribution statements were sent out this past week. If you did not receive one, it means you are not registered as a "parishioner." That can easily be remedied by calling the pastor for an appointment.

If there are any issues/questions about your statement, call Janet our bookkeeper. She's in Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 8:30-4:30. Any questions on the general financial breakdown or the year-end balances can be referred to the pastor or to the Administration Com.

Dearest Members of St. Gabriel, We are so grateful and blessed to have your support. Thank you so much for the generous gifts you gave to our women in the shelter and the "shelter+" program. The joy on their faces when they opened their gifts reminded us of the true meaning of Christmas. God's blessings in 2019! *Mustard Seed*

St. Gabriel Parish, Through your support and generosity, 67 families (188 people) were able to enjoy Christmas a little better because they knew someone cared...both clients and staff are often brought to tears and left speechless. Thank You! *Bay Area Women's Center*

Children's Good Deeds: My Good Deed was...

...I made my Grandma breakfast. ...I was a good friend.

January Wedding Anniversaries

- 40 years or more..... James & Paula Zoller
- 30 years or more..... William & Janette Deshano
Jimmy & Ann Wegener
- 10 years or more..... John & Kathleen Gardai
Terry & Kimberly Luptowski
- Less than 10 years..... William & Kelly Hetherington
Michael & Andrea Shelagowski
Jason & Patty Muehlenbeck



We thank you, O God, for the love You have implanted in our hearts. Bless our marriage, O God, with peace and happiness. Amen

THE PARISH IN THE COMMUNITY

► **Fish Fry & Bake Sale:** Auburn K of C Hall, 4760 Garfield, Feb. 1, 2:30-7pm. Take out dinners only (can be eaten on site but no buffet). Cost \$10. Baked goods sold separately. All are welcome!

► **Sunday Matinee:** Grace Lutheran Church in Auburn January 20 at 3pm. The movie "Same Kind of Different as Me" is based on a true life story and depicts what challenges dedication to a charitable cause can involve. Heartache, suffering, fear and anger all play a role in this serious mission work. Refreshments and popcorn will be served.