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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

PARISH STAFF

Office Administrator

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Bookkeeper

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Sue LeVasseur susanlevasseur@auburnac.org

RCIA/Adult Education Coordinator

Linda Knepfler adulted@auburnac.org

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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..... 496-2873 vicmaryj@hotmail.com
 Sisters of St. Clare.....srsclare.com/prayer

BEFRIENDER

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 2nd weekend each month. Must be active, registered member of parish family. Contact Sandy DesJardins at 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

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 evening activities will be announced by 3:00 PM. Check our website, MyParish app, or Facebook page for up-to-date information.



FROM FR. TOM'S DESK

Thirteenth Sunday (Ordinary Time) Patricia Sanchez, Celebration

Through his experience of God at Horeb, Elijah learned that while his ministry was important, he was not irreplaceable, nor was he unique in his faithfulness to God. He also learned that another prophet would succeed him and God's work would go on without missing a beat.

In today's first reading, Elijah is freshly returned from his escape to the desert and his theophany at Horeb. Here, he hands off his mantle, the symbol of his prophetic service, and Elisha begins to speak for God. From these two prophets, we learn that the work is God's, and ours is but one voice, one life among many whom God has called to serve.

Paul, who gave his voice and his life to preach the Gospel to the gentiles, offers a lesson on freedom. Writing to believers in Galatia, Paul insisted that freedom is not about satisfying every human appetite. Rather, the freedom Jesus won for sinners is something we are to exercise in the loving service of one another.

When the disciples traveling to Jerusalem with Jesus tried to serve the Samaritans, they were rebuffed. Angry that anyone would dare to refuse them, the disciples wanted to see their centuries-old enemies suffer the fiery consequences of their actions. But Jesus, who was patient and tolerant, refused to use his power to punish the Samaritans despite their bad behavior.

One Prophet to Another (1 Kings 19) Celebration

God's choice of Elisha as prophet is signified in the action by Elijah, who threw his cloak over him. The action of casting a garment over another was understood as a sign of ownership and/or responsibility or as a sign of the investiture and designation of a successor. Later, when Elijah's service had come to an end and he was taken up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elisha would pick up the mantle that had fallen from his departing colleague's shoulders and wear it as a sign of God's continuing communication with the people through him.

That Elisha's willingness to accept the responsibility of being God's prophet required a clean break with his past is vividly illustrated by the ancient author. Elisha's resolve to follow his mentor is transparent; in a surprising and magnanimous gesture of detachment, he made an enormous "barbecue" using his plows to grill his oxen for his people before taking leave of them. To put it another way, he shifted the basis of his security from himself (his farm, his oxen, etc.) to God. In this, he prefigures the clean break with the past and total gift of himself to the ministry that Jesus would ask of his disciples centuries later.

Not Freedom From but Freedom To (Galatians 5) Celebration

Paul understood and valued the clean break of discipleship as a freeing experience and would have his readers share that same understanding. Free of all that is *not* Christ, that is *not* good, that is *not* holy, the detachment of the disciple enables him/her to be wholly given over to all that is Christ, to all that is good, to all that is holy. Paul was quick to remind them that the freedom they now enjoyed in Christ was not a freedom from, but a freedom to.

Call and Response (Luke 9) Celebration

The three scenarios of the would-be disciples capture the point of the Gospel. Strains of the Elijah-Elisha story are apparent in this passage. To enter fully into discipleship means to commit to a lifelong and life-

giving relationship. Such a commitment demands the constant moving forward without looking back to what was or was not accomplished. It also entails letting go of those relationships that would hinder the freedom to move the mission forward and to move forward with the mission.

Of the three persons whom Jesus invites to follow him, the first one is impulsive. He is willing to follow Jesus wherever Jesus goes. Surprisingly, Jesus does not encourage him. He gives him a warning instead. The other two would-be disciples want to take care of home matters before they cast their lot as disciples. Discipleship and its related missionary activity, that is proclaiming the reign of God in word and deed, demands a certain single-heartedness and single-mindedness (Luke 14:25-33).

The Gospel sends forth the invitation today, whatever stage we find ourselves in. The important point is to embrace justice, righteousness, lovingkindness, and steadfastness.

Our Response

John Meoska, OSB, Collegeville

These scriptures invite us to reflect on our call to discipleship. Like Elijah and Elisha, and like Jesus' friends in the gospel, we have been called and given the mantle of discipleship in baptism. On some level, God is calling each of us to fulfill our role in proclaiming the kingdom of God. Have I put my hand to the plow, definitively and wholeheartedly, or am I playing the artful dodger? It's so easy to put God off with distractions and diversions. I can get lost in endless activities, including many noble and good things and avoid the *unum necessarium*.

By those same baptismal waters, God has freed us from the yoke of slavery to sin. Saint Paul reminds us that this freedom is not for our indulgence but for our self-spending. When the Spirit entered Elisha, he left his own modest endeavors to serve the prophet Elijah. When we are animated by the Spirit, we become free of the law, free in love, free to spend ourselves in service of each other.

"Lord, may I always follow you."



Dear Lord,

We thank you for our freedom. We thank you for the rights, opportunities, and happiness we enjoy as citizens of the United States.

We pray for the military men and women who serve our country, for we know that our freedom is not free. Like your son, Jesus Christ, who died to save all people from sin, these brave Americans sacrifice so that all citizens of our country may live freely.

We ask you to be with our nation's leaders. Guide them in decision-making and empower them with the Holy Spirit's gifts of right-judgement and wisdom. May they act in your grace, preserving dignity and moving this country along a path of compassion and peace.

Bless this great nation, Dear God. We pray that we may follow the examples of the Americans who founded this country and to live in courage and brotherhood.

We pray this and all things, O God, in your name and in your love.

Amen

WEEK OF JUNE 30, 2019

MONDAY

Gn 18:16-33 Ps 103:1-4, 8-11 Mt 8:18-22

TUESDAY

Gn 19:15-29 Ps 26:2-3, 9-12 Mt 8:23-27

WEDNESDAY

Eph 2:19-22 Ps 117:1-2 Jn 20:24-29

THURSDAY

Gn 22:1-19 Ps 115:1-6, 8-9 Mt 9:1-8

FRIDAY

Gn 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67 Ps 106:1-5 Mt 9:9-13

SATURDAY 4:30pm - Mass

Gn 27:1-5, 15-29 Ps 135:1-6 Mt 9:14-17

SUNDAY 9:30am - Mass

Is 66:10-14 Ps 66:1-7, 16, 20 Gal 6:14-18 Lk 10:1-12, 17-20



UPCOMING

JUNE 30 – Sunday – 1:00-4:00pm – West Campus
Father Tom's 50th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood

JULY – No Daily Masses

JULY 6 – Saturday – No Sacrament of Reconciliation

JULY 29-AUGUST 1 – Monday-Thursday – 9:00am-12:00noon
Vacation Bible School – East Campus

SEPTEMBER 8 – Sunday – 12:00-4:00pm – East Campus
Parish Picnic



PARISH OFFICE SCHEDULE

JULY 4 – Thursday – Closed

JULY 5 – Friday – Open 8:30am-4:30pm

BLOOD DRIVE RESULTS

Thank you! We successfully met our minimal donor goal.
Overall, 54 local hospital patients will receive blood products.

RE-UPPING

This week, Father Tom received the following from Bishop Hurley:
"At this time, I am pleased to re-confirm your appointment as Pastor of St. Gabriel Parish, effective July 1, 2019. I continue to grant you all the powers and faculties of a Pastor in universal and particular law. It is understood that you may wish to discuss transitioning to Senior Priest status at some point in the future."

GOOD NEWS – PROPERTY UPDATE

A buyer has surfaced for the Nine Mile Road property. After encountering red tape at the diocese, Bishop Hurley intervened and gave the green light. We now communicate with the diocesan attorney for property matters to work out a sales agreement.

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Target: \$10,962 Offering: \$5,846

Priests Retirement: \$564

Children G☺☺ Deeds

... I helped clean up the living room
...I helped my Mom pack and do chores ...digging dirt in the yard
...helped babysit my cousin ...helped with bathroom trash
...helped my sister wash my Mom's and brother's cars

EDUCATION/FORMATION

Family Talk Time *Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families*, Sara McGinnis Lee

When was a time you put God first and it helped you accomplish something more easily?

Reflecting on the Word: At first glance, this reading seems harsh, but Jesus' words portray the reality of discipleship. Following Jesus is the Christian's first priority, no matter the importance or worthiness of other matters and relationships. When God is first in our lives, all else will fall in place. What do you let get in the way of your vocation to follow the Lord?

Living the Word: Choose an afternoon for the family to put God first in an obvious way. Encourage each family member to say a prayer before each activity or dedicate the activity to God in some way. While washing dishes or brushing teeth, you may thank God for dishes to wash or teeth to brush. Little children may need to pair up with someone older. Encourage participants to notice if expressing gratitude changes how these tasks are done.

AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

- AACS staff and families congratulate Fr. Tom on the anniversary of his 50th year of ordination to the priesthood. We are thankful for his strong belief in and stewardship of our Catholic school. Blessings to you as your journey continues, Fr. Tom.
- **Considering AACS for your child(ren)'s education? 3 ways to help with tuition:**
New-Family Incentives: AACS and the Diocese of Saginaw both offer a one-time only incentive for new families registering children in K-5.
Year 1: AACS \$500 + Diocese* (K: \$500 / Grades 1-5: \$750)
*Application must be submitted by family to Diocese of Saginaw
Year 2: AACS \$500
- **Spreading the Spirit Fund:** This fund was developed with the hope that anyone who wanted their child(ren) to receive a Catholic education would be able to realize that dream. It is also for those who have multiple children in our school. We understand the sacrifice you make to send your children to AACS and would like to help ease that financial burden. For more information, contact the School Office at 662-6431.
- **AACS will have a float in the Corn Fest Parade.** The parade is Sunday, July 14, at 1:00pm. If you would like to help with the float or walk with us in the parade, contact Sarah Pope at sarah.pope08@gmail.com.

FLOOR REPLACEMENT – ST. ANTHONY CHURCH

As long as the St. Anthony property remains with us, we are responsible for its upkeep. For years, we have been dealing with the gym floor. It has gotten to the point of being a safety hazard with tiles loosening throughout. Members of the Administration Committee have been investigating the proper and most economical replacement. A recommended product was presented to that Committee and to the Parish Council and was approved by both. Last week, the diocese gave its approval. It takes 6-8 weeks to order from China (and tariffs will incur). It should be in place for the start of school. The appraised price of the property will be increased by \$27,200.



Bring your friends and neighbors!



Everyone is welcome! Register today!

Vacation Bible School ~ July 29-August 1

“ROAR! Life is Wild 🐾 God is Good”

This epic African adventure engages the whole herd. At ROAR, kids explore God’s goodness and celebrate a ferocious faith that powers them through this wild life. Daily activities include music, Bible stories, KidVid Cinema, games, and a snack. Join us Monday through Thursday from 9:00am to 12:00noon. Registration fee is \$12 per child/\$30 per family. Registration forms are available at both entrances. Everyone is welcome to come join in the fun!

ROAR! REQUESTING VOLUNTEERS ~ MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

Your help is needed at Vacation Bible School on **July 29–August 1** (Monday through Thursday) from 9:00am to 12:00noon. It’s a great fun opportunity to get service hours! Volunteer forms are available at the school entrance.

SEEKING SPONSORS

St. Gabriel Parish is updating and adding sponsor advertisers displayed in weekly Bulletins. 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.

For information, contact Parish Office at 662-6861 or parishoffice@auburnac.org

PARISH COUNCIL & COMMISSIONS

- Tim Hadd, Chairperson-Parish Council..... 684-2209
- Mike Jamrog, Chairperson-Administration..... 266-3413
- Renee Krager, Chairperson-Christian Service.....662-0135
- Sascha Rivet, Chairperson-Education/Formation..... 667-0930
- Sally Czabala, Chairperson-Worship..... 274-9956

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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
 Come Join Us!
Meet 1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 7:00pm
 4760 Garfield Rd., Auburn, MI 48611
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Bob Kowalczyk (989) 662-6375
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St. Anthony Cemetery
 4485
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 Auburn



CEMETERY

- Plot
- Burial
- Burial of Cremains
- Saturday Burial
- Foundaton

COLUMBARIUM

- Single (1 Urn)
- Double (2 Urns)
- Inurnment

Parishioner

- \$ 500
- \$ 650
- \$ 150
- \$ 200 additional
- \$ 0.40 per sq. inch

Parishioner

- \$ 1,000
- \$ 1,400
- \$ 250 per niche

Non-Parishioner

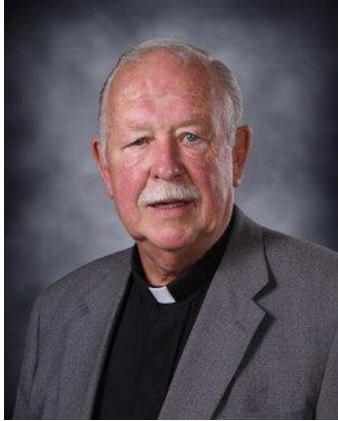
- \$ 1,200
- \$ 850
- \$ 175
- \$ 200 additional
- \$ 0.40 per sq. inch

Non-Parishioner

- \$ 1,500
- \$ 1,750
- \$ 300 per niche

Prices Effective July 1, 2019

Contact Parish Office at (989) 662-6861



ANNIVERSARY THOUGHTS...

The 28th day of June marked my 50th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood. I was ordained in the Sacred Heart Hospital Chapel, which was across the street from the American college where I lived for four years while studying theology at the University of Louvain in Belgium.

As with life itself, the years merge together and so do the assigned parishes and parishioners as well as the various ministerial activities during the way. What remains constant, however, are the wonderfully faith-filled people who have inspired and supported me in a way that enabled me in ministry and brought me the satisfaction and fulfillment that made possible my continuation from one year to the next and to the next.

While there may be some pride in reaching this milestone, believe me, there is more humility. As Gabriel said to Mary at the time of the Annunciation, "With God, all things are possible." I say, "Amen" to that and "Deo gratias" for all that has been.

After a reception to mark the occasion, I will continue to do ministry Deo volente flumina non crescente ~ God willing and the creek don't rise.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fr. Tom". The signature is stylized and written in a cursive-like font.

Fr. Tom

In Celebration of the Special Occasion of Father Tom's 50th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood

Thomas E. Sutton was born in Bay City on July 5, 1942 to Mary Jane and Edward Sutton. He is the oldest of four children, with siblings Susan, Debbie (Mike), and Pat (Lisa). He is blessed with nieces and nephews Jennifer, Melissa, Holly, Jonathan, Adam, Lauren, and Andrea plus seven great-



nieces and nephews. He attended St. James grade school and high school in Bay City. He then attended St. Paul Seminary in Saginaw, Holy Cross Seminary in Wisconsin, and the next four years were spent studying in Louvain, Belgium.

Father Tom was ordained on June 28, 1969 in Louvain, Belgium. He began his career as Associate Pastor at various parishes. In 1976, he began his journey as Pastor. Father Tom was Pastor of Blessed Sacrament in Midland when Bishop Kenneth Untener asked him to pursue a two-year study of Canon Law at Catholic University in Washington, DC.

Upon completion of his studies, Father Tom returned to commit himself to the role of Pastor. Since that time, he has been devoted to the Great Lakes Bay Region and has played an instrumental part in the growth of the Catholic community.

Father Tom's service has included:

1969 – 1971	Associate Pastor – Visitation, Bay City
1971 – 1972	Associate Pastor – St. Stephen, Saginaw
1972 – 1974	Associate Pastor – St. Christopher, Bridgeport
1974 – 1976	Associate Pastor – St. Helen, Saginaw
1976 – 1982	Pastor – Blessed Sacrament, Midland
1982 – 1984	Canon Law Studies, Washington, DC
1984 – 1988	Pastor – St. Hyacinth, Bay City
1988 – 1997	Pastor – St. Stephen, Saginaw
1997 – Present	Pastor – St. Joseph, Auburn
2002 – Present	Pastor – St. Anthony, Fisherville & St. Joseph, Auburn
2014 – Present	Pastor – St. Gabriel, Auburn



Father Tom has also served in the following roles:

Chaplain – West Catholic High School, Bay City
 Serra Club, Bay City & Saginaw
 Board of Education, Diocesan Pastoral Council, Program Review Committee,
 Presbyterial Council, and Diocesan Priests' Senate – Diocese of Saginaw
 Vicar of Vicariate XI – Diocese of Saginaw
 Vicar of Administration – Diocese of Saginaw



CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR GOLDEN JUBILEE, FATHER TOM!

MAY THE GOD OF LOVE AND PEACE BE WITH YOU!