



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

PASTOR

Rev. Marc Hopps.....mhopps@auburnac.org

PARISH STAFF

Office
 Kim Grant.....parishoffice@auburnac.org
 Parish Office Hours...Monday-Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Bookkeeper
 Janet Woronoff.....bookkeeper@auburnac.org

Director of Faith Formation..... (989) 662-4335
 Cassie Romzek.....faithformation@auburnac.org

Music Director
 Sue LeVasseur.....musicdirector@auburnac.org

Youth Minister
 Misty Michelle.....youthff@auburnac.org

LAY MINISTERS

Anne Dearington Cheryl Gedraitis Marilyn Welz
 Kellie Deming Connie Kaczynski Tim Hadd
 Pam Graul-Gwizdala

PRAYER LINE

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

BEFRIENDER

Mary Ellyn Gushow (989) 662-6745

COMMUNION FOR HOMEBOUND

Pam Graul-Gwizdala (989) 513-3027

MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday and Thursday 8 AM (except on the *First Thursday* of the month the daily Mass is at 6:30 PM)
 Wednesday 9 AM – School Mass
First Thursday of the month 6:30 PM (*Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 7pm and Night prayer 8pm to follow Mass*)
First Friday of the month 8 AM
 Saturday 4:30 PM Sunday 9:30 AM

NEW PARISHIONERS

Contact Parish Office for appointment to register.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Must be active, registered member of parish. Contact the Parish Office for more details.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Arrangements should be made by contacting the 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

Also, by appointment. Please email Fr. Marc

5:00 PM on the *First Thursday* of the month
 3-4 PM Saturday at Church

AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

114 W. Midland Rd., Auburn, MI 48611

Phone.: (989) 662-6431 Fax: (989)662-3391

www.auburnacschool.org

Clark Switalski, Principalcswitalski@auburnac.org

School Office.....schooloffice@auburnac.org

SCHOOL ENDOWMENT: "SPREADING THE SPIRIT FUND"

Clark Switalski, School Principal..... (989) 662-6431

WEATHER POLICY

If Bay City Public Schools or AACS 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. Closures will be posted on TV: NBC 25, ABC 12, CBS 5.

Week of January 8th, 2024

MONDAY

21: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 Ps 29: 1a, 2, 3ac-4, 3b, 9b-10 Mk 1:7-11

TUESDAY *Mass 8 am*

306: 1 Sm 1:9-20 (Ps) 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8 Mk 1:21-28

WEDNESDAY *Mass 9 am*

307: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20 Ps 40:2, 5, 7-10 Mk 1:29-39

THURSDAY *Mass 8 am*

308: 1 Sm 4:1-11 Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 25-26 Mk 1:40-45

FRIDAY

309: 1 Sm 8: 4-7, 10-22a Ps 89:16-19 Mk 2:1-12

SATURDAY *Confessions 3-4 pm Mass 4:30 pm*

310: 1Sm 9: 1-4, 17-19; 10:1a Ps 21:2-7 Mk 2:13-17

SUNDAY *Mass 9:30 am*

65:1Sm 3:3b-10,19 Ps 40:2,4,7-10 1Cor 6:13c-15a,17-20 Jn 1:35-42



UPCOMING PARISH ACTIVITIES

Monday, January 8th – Choir Practice 6:30 pm

Thursday, January 11th – Commissions 6:30 pm

Parish Council 7:30 pm

Friday, January 12th – ½ day of school

Food Pantry Weekend, Coffee & Donuts, RaiseRight Sale

Sunday, January 14th – CLOW 9:30 am

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Target: \$11,153.84 **Offering:** \$16,537.29
Retired Religious: \$50 **In Memory of Fr. Tom:** \$1,000

Food Pantry: \$1,320

Children's Good Deeds

...Playing with toys...Helping my mom...Puppy sitting...

...Helping dad pick up...Helping clean the house...

AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Clark Switalski, Principal cswitalski@auburnac.org 989-662-6431

The children returned from a 2-week break and are raring to go in the new year! **Weekly Mass** for the school will start this week at 9 am on Wednesdays. It will be nice to give the students a weekly opportunity to receive Jesus into their lives and take part in the beautiful prayer of Mass. There will be a rotation of the classrooms taking the lead at Mass, so please come and join us!

...God Bless ...

RaiseRight Gift Card Weekend! (Formerly SCRIP)

RaiseRight gift cards will be available for purchase after both Masses next weekend, January 13 & 14. Cash or check payments accepted. Christmas shopping is done but consider using RaiseRight gift cards for your everyday purchases such as for grocery stores, gas stations, restaurants, online shopping, and more! **Thank you for supporting AACSI!**

EDUCATION / FORMATION

Cassie Romzek, Director of Faith Formation

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

The Gospel tells us more about who Jesus came for.

The shepherds lived near Bethlehem, and they were Jewish. What about the Magi?

Reflecting on the Word:



The Magi are searching for the newborn king. Who is this child? He is a king, who will be offered a tribute of gold. He is recognized as God, which is signified by

the gift of incense. Finally, he is also recognized as human with the gift of the myrrh, a perfume used to anoint the dead. Today's Gospel will give us more clues about the identity of this child.

Living the Word:

Even with the star to guide the Magi, they needed more help to find Jesus. Who do we turn to when we need help? Do we turn to God? Are there ways we can let God know we need him?

Youth Ministry Update: dates for January.

Jan. 7th High school group time 6-7:30 pm @ Parish Center

Jan. 14th Middle school group time 6-7:30 pm @ Parish Center

Jan. 21st High school group time 6-7:30 pm – National March for Life discussion.

Jan. 28th Group service project 5-8 pm – Tie fleece blankets

Reminder:

Scripture Series: Now that Christmas is behind us it isn't too early to begin thinking about Lent. We will be offering a Scripture Study called, ***Around the Lenten Circle***. Please consider joining us for this series starting in February. We will have two sessions on the following Tuesdays: February 13, 20, 27 and March 5, 12, 19 at 10 am or 6:30 pm.

Religious Education News: We will be holding additional sessions for children who did not have a chance to make their 1st Reconciliation before Christmas. We will be holding two sessions for children and their parents to attend to prepare for Reconciliation in March. They are February 22nd, 6:30 pm or February 29th, 6:30 pm in the church with a Then there will be a Reconciliation Service on March 9th, at 10 am with a reception to follow. More detailed information is to follow.

*****NOTE: There will be no Religious Education classes Jan 14th due to Martin Luther King Day**



Father Marc's Minutes...

Happy Feast Day of the Epiphany

An epiphany is an insight or revelation. We understand something in a new way, and something clicks in our mind. On this day the Church enters the event when Jesus was revealed to the nations. The shepherds were the first to bear witness to the birth of the newborn King. The Magi represent all the other nations, the Gentiles, that come and encounter Jesus. It is a fulfillment of the prophecy in the first reading. Isaiah foresees a time when nations will come to Israel and be transformed. The light that shines from Israel will provide light for all other nations. The Magi come from the far east, probably from the area around Persia. They were astronomers and were already watching the night sky. The star must have been miraculous to get their attention and lead them all the way to Bethlehem from Persia. Iran is the modern-day country where Persia would have been. The Magi were touched from their encounter with Jesus and returned to their native place by a different road. They were somehow changed from meeting Jesus.

I was blessed to spend some time in Israel during my seminary education. We were in the Holy Land for twenty-five days. We visited Bethlehem and prayed at the church of the Nativity. It is one of the oldest Christian churches in Israel and is the only one that was never destroyed throughout the Crusades and other conflicts. Above the front doors is an image of the Epiphany that details the visit of the Magi. The church was spared from destruction when all the other churches were leveled because the invading army recognized that their own nation was depicted. The Epiphany continues to be a bridge between nations.

School Mass Schedule

I wanted to take a second to address the changes to the school mass schedule. First, beginning this week, Wednesday January 10, we will have school mass every week. That will be the norm going forward. Last semester and throughout the fall

season we slowly introduced the practice of participating in mass as a school community. We roughly had them the first and third Wednesdays of each month. The other weeks I would visit the different grades in their classrooms and talk about a variety of questions. The older grades had a teaching mass where I spent extra time explaining the history and meaning of the ritual and practices. I enjoyed the different experiences with the students. However, this schedule was to prepare the students and parish community for weekly mass in 2024. The liturgy is open to all students, families, parishioners, and anyone that wants to come.

Why make it every week? Maybe you are having that thought while reading this article. I believe this change is important because the mass is a central aspect of our Catholic identity. The mass is the highest and most sublime public prayer of the Church. The mass is where we experience community rooted in God's Word and receive Jesus in the Eucharist. The mass is not an add-on or throwaway aspect of our Catholic heritage. I want to communicate its importance by making time for its celebration in the weekly schedule of the students. I also think it is important to instill and develop the habit for everyone, regardless of age, of fully participating and preparing for mass and an encounter with God. This means preparing in the classroom during the week. For example, I will be talking about the readings in the classroom prior to weekly mass. I encourage parents and other family members to discuss and learn about the mass and its rituals together as a family during the week. It is up to us to prepare for the mystery. The job of the liturgy is not to simply entertain like an amusement park, but to transform our interior self. I thank you for your support and assistance by communicating to old and young alike the importance of mass and liturgy. I look forward to celebrating God's love with everyone.

Fun Fact

As I was growing up my parents would move the Magi around the house until Epiphany. Then they would finally arrive at the manger and greet Jesus.



Food Pantry

2023 was a very busy year for the St. Gabriel food pantry. Including our Thanksgiving box giveaway, we distributed over 1000 boxes of food! As we begin 2024 we hope that *you*, our parishioners continue your generous support so we can continue the good work done through the pantry.

**Spaghetti & Spaghetti Sauce Tissues Canned Tuna
Mac & Cheese Boxed Pasta Tuna Helper
Pancake Mix & Syrup Peanut Butter & Jelly Soup
Canned Fruit Baked Beans Mashed Potatoes
Laundry Detergent Pasta Sides Boxed Cereal
Toothbrushes & Toothpaste Canned Pasta Dish Soap**



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

St. Anthony Cemetery Contact St. Gabriel Parish Office at 989-662-6861



	Parishioner	Non-Parishioner
COLUMBARIUM		
Single (1 Urn)	\$1,100	\$1,600
Double (2 Urns)	\$1,500	\$1,850
Inurnment	\$ 250 per niche	\$ 350 per niche
CEMETERY		
Plot	\$ 600	\$1,300
Burial	\$ 750	\$ 900
Burial of Cremains	\$ 250	\$ 275
Saturday Burial	\$ 250 additional	\$ 250 additional
Foundation	\$ 0.40 per sq. inch	\$ 0.40 per sq. inch