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 Facebook: St. Gabriel Parish, Auburn, Michigan
 MyParish App: St. Gabriel Parish, Auburn, Michigan

PASTOR

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PARISH STAFF

Office, Kim Grant parishoffice@auburnac.org

Bookkeeper
 Janet Woronoff bookkeeper@auburnac.org

Director of Religious Education (989) 662-4335
 Sandy DesJardins 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 | Karen Willsie |
| 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

MASSES

***Weekday masses suspended until further notice**
 Saturday 4:30 Sunday 9:30 AM
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. (**Please check with parish office for current schedule**) 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

***Monthly schedule suspended until further notice**

AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL
114 W. Midland Rd., Auburn, MI 48611
 Phone.: (989) 662-6431 Fax: (989)662-3391
www.auburnacschool.org
 Clark Switalski, Principal cswitalski@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 AACCS 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, 2022

MONDAY

21: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 9-10 Mt 3:13-17

TUESDAY 8 am Word and Communion

306: Heb 2:5-12 Ps 8:2ab, 5-9 Mk 1:21-28

WEDNESDAY

307: Heb 2:14-18 Ps 105:1-4, 6-9 Mk 1:29-39

THURSDAY

308: Heb 3: 7-14 Ps 95:6-7c, 8-11 Mk 1:40-45

FRIDAY

309: Heb 4:1-5, 11 Ps 78:3, 4bc, 6c-8 Mk 2:1-12

SATURDAY 4:30 pm Mass

310: Heb 4:12-16 Ps 19:8-10, 15 Mk 2:13-17

SUNDAY 9:30 am Mass

64: Is 49:3, 5-6 Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10 1 Cor 1:1-3



UPCOMING PARISH ACTIVITIES

Monday, January 9th – Cantor Practice 6 pm

Choir Practice 6:30 pm

Friday, January 13th – ½ Day of School

Saturday/Sunday, January 14th -15th – Coffee and Donuts

SCRIP Sale / Food Pantry Weekend

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Target: \$11,153.84 Offering: \$13, 328

Food Pantry:\$65 Retired Religious:\$70

Children's Good Deeds

...Being good...Helped Daddy put the lights up...

...Help clean the house...Putting my clothes away...

...Helping Daddy take the outside lights down...

...Using my manners...

EDUCATION / FORMATION

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

I wonder how the Magi felt after traveling for so long, following a star, then finally finding what they were looking for. Right after Jesus was born, he was adored by poor shepherds. Later, he was adored by wealthy, educated Magi. What does this tell us about Jesus and his mission?

Reflecting on the Word:



The Magi were not Jewish, but they came and offered gifts to the child, lowering themselves in adoration before Jesus because they knew *who* he was. Their gifts give us clues into their mysterious knowledge about Jesus. Gold is a sign of

kingship, frankincense is a sign of God's presence, and myrrh which was used at burials is a sign of Jesus' forthcoming sacrifice for the whole world. The Epiphany of the Lord is an important feast because it reminds us that Jesus came for all people—then and for all time.

Living the Word:

The Magi came bearing gifts as an offering to the Savior. As a family, put together care packages that you can keep in your car to distribute to anyone in need. Ask your children to help with ideas on what the packages will contain: gift certificates for food? Bottles of water or snack packs? Or blankets or warm gloves? Offer them as gifts remembering that Jesus came for all people.

AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Clark Switalski, Principal

We have returned from break and all the children hit the ground running. There were of course some tired students because of the loss in routine, but overall, they had a good week. We are getting ready to end the 2nd quarter of school and begin our 2nd round of NWEA testing. Testing will run from January 9th through February 10th. This is a good time to see how the students are progressing in their studies throughout the year.



The Epiphany of our Lord marks a monumental event and the end of our Christmas season. Jesus is recognized by the outside world as a king and given gifts that are fit for a king. Many gifts were exchanged this Christmas season between families

and friends, but the most important gift we gave this past year was our time. Spending time with loved ones, friends, and family, is the most important present we can ever receive.

Next Weekend we will be offering SCRIP cards after both masses. Please stop by and help support our school!

...God Bless...



Parish Faith Night focused on the **Practice of Prayer** – Saturday, February 4th following 4:30 p.m. Mass. Everyone is invited!

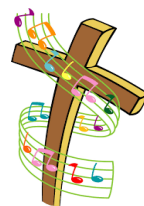
Medical Update from Father Tom

The last two weeks I have been focused on rehab and moving forward in my recovery process. I hope to be moved from the hospital to rehab soon so I can continue to improve my mobility and get on the road back home. It has been a long journey and I know that I still have a way to go but I am working hard on it!



Cantor/Choir Practice

There will be a cantor practice on Monday, January 9th, 2023, at 6 pm followed by our first choir practice for the New Year at 6:30 pm. Choir practice will be scheduled every other week until further notice. Please plan on attending or you can contact Sue LeVasseur @ 989-205-4322.





FROM FR. TOM'S DESK

Feast of the Epiphany

Sr. Mary McGlone, *Celebration*

The Magi followed a star, a sign in their own tradition, but they didn't limit themselves to their own religious background. Upon arriving to Jerusalem, they sought counsel from the faith of the people of that place. When "they sought diligently," Jewish wisdom together with their own tradition led them to the child. Matthew records no commentary about the family's modest setting, but only says that they saw the child prostrated themselves in homage. Then, adding practical content to their religious sentiment, they "opened their treasures" and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. We might say they worshiped in word and deed.

We picture them as three gifts that are named. They could have been two or ten or more; they could have been a retinue including women and children. But what's important about them is what they have to tell us about seeking and finding, about worship that has integrity.

Without mentioning the Magi, St. Augustine reflected on how human nature was created with a thirst for the divine: "Our hearts are restless until they rest in thee." The Magi were people gifted with what Augustine might have called the grace of holy restlessness. Apparently well-to-do enough to take a long journey and arrive with expensive gifts, they set off with enough interior freedom to be responsive to the Spirit who urged them to look for more than they already had and knew.

We use the story of the Magi's seeking and finding as the frame for our feast of the Epiphany, the celebration of God's self-revelation. The combination of this story and the meaning of the feast make a subtle theological statement imitating that only those who are willing to go a distance in their seeking will discover God's self-manifestation.

Unless You're Looking

Sr. Mary McGlone, *Celebration*

Today is a good day for the sort of reading that demands both quiet contemplation and the restlessness of spirit that opens us to what lies beyond anything we already understand. The journey of the Magi is a reminder that the pilgrimage toward God is long. As the Magi seeking a king found a poor child, our journey will surprise us as well. In telling of the Magi, strangers to the traditions of Israel, Matthew intended to shake us out of our ethnocentrism and facile assumptions about other people's beliefs and our own as well.

The story of the star leading to Bethlehem's child is one more rendition of God's gentle yet unrelenting overtures to humanity. In the effort to draw us close, God will use anything from stars and prophecies to poetry or restlessness. If we are open to the grace of seeing, anything and everything can be an epiphany.

Seeing the Light

Celebration

In its own context this passage from "Third Isaiah" is a call to the people who have returned from exile to recognize the wonders God is doing in their midst. As always, it insists that the glory of Israel comes from God but depends on the response of the people. Thus, the command to "Rise up!" is a wake-up call to folks who have become quite good at taking account of how bad things are. Sure,

darkness covers the earth and people's perception seems hopelessly cloudy, but those circumstances are nothing in the light of what God can do with them if they will only open their eyes.

As we hear this reading in the opening days of the new year, it should wake us up as well. It's far too easy to concentrate on the darkness of the world situation. But God's command is "Rise up in splendor" because the light of the world has come.

When Isaiah proclaims, "Rise up!" the prophet is saying that weariness, sadness, and mourning are an indulgence the people of God can no longer afford. The task now is to open our eyes to the Lord's light. In the light of recognizing God's presence, we will find the energy and inspiration we need. With all the assurance of "seek and ye shall find," the prophet says God's self-revelation is here for the seeing. This is the time of epiphany, and the more we recognize it the more we will reflect its light for the nations.

In the Stars

Deacon Dick Folger, *Celebration*

When the sun rules the day, it overpowers all the stars. But evening comes and the world glides into the silence of night. There, in the darkness, God revealed in the twinkling light from the stars. We look back in time to a galaxy that sends its light racing toward our eyes a billion years ago. We see light that may no longer exist. Such galaxies may have gone dark a million years ago. Astronomers and computers can recreate the position of the stars yesterday or two thousand years ago. They reverse the celestial clockwork to precise points in time. Projecting back in time they can recreate the sky as it appeared on the night Jesus was born. We are enabled to search with the Magi for the Christmas star. Some scientists conclude that the "star" was a rare conjunction of the planets Venus and Jupiter. Others speculate that the Christmas star must have been an unidentified flying object. Perhaps it was a celestial "burning bush" coming in power to join the shepherds and shout *Hosanna in the highest*.

Cycle A, Gospel of Matthew

Biagio Mazza, *Celebration*

Matthew has been called the first Gospel, as well as the Gospel of the church. In our Lectionary where there are three cycles, A, B, AND C, Matthew is always associated with Cycle A, which began several weeks ago on the First Sunday of Advent. Exposure to the mind and message of Matthew's Gospel is a fitting way to begin our new year of grace.

One of the best ways to get at the heart of Matthews community mind and message is to reflect on the last two verses of the Gospel, chapter 28:18-20. They summarize the contents of Matthews Gospel clearly and succinctly. It is often referred to as the "Great Commission." It would be appropriate to end by quoting these verses directly. Jesus, as he is about to depart his disciples, leaves them with this beautiful summary of the entire Gospel:

All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of age.



***"Lord, open my eyes
to your presence."***

Food Pantry Needs...

As a New Year begins we wish that not as many people NEED to use the services of our food pantry but HOPE that we are able to help all the people who come to us asking for food.

Some the things that we need are as follows:

| | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Paper Towels | Dish Soap | Boxed Cereal |
| Hamburger Helper | Tuna Helper | Canned Pasta |
| Peanut Butter | Jelly | Canned Fruit |
| Pancake Mix | Syrup | Spaghetti Sauce |
| Mac & Cheese | Boxed Pasta | Mashed Potatoes |
| Soup | Baked Beans | Sloppy Joe Mix |
| Shampoo | Laundry Soap | Tissues |

May the Epiphany
remind us of the good
news of Christ.



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

St. Anthony Cemetery



COLUMBARIUM

Single (1 Urn) \$1,100
Double (2 Urns) \$1,500
Inurnment \$ 250 per niche

CEMETERY

Plot \$ 600
Burial \$ 750
Burial of Cremains \$ 250
Saturday Burial \$ 250 additional
Foundation \$ 0.40 per sq. inch

4485 S. Eleven Mile Rd., Auburn

| | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Parishioner | Non-Parishioner |
| \$1,100 | \$1,600 |
| \$1,500 | \$1,850 |
| \$ 250 per niche | \$ 350 per niche |

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Parishioner | Non-Parishioner |
| \$ 600 | \$1,300 |
| \$ 750 | \$ 900 |
| \$ 250 | \$ 275 |
| \$ 250 additional | \$ 250 additional |
| \$ 0.40 per sq. inch | \$ 0.40 per sq. inch |

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