



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

**PASTOR**

Rev. Thomas E. Sutton ..... (On Leave)

**PARISH STAFF**

Office, Kim Grant.....[parishoffice@auburnac.org](mailto:parishoffice@auburnac.org)  
 Bookkeeper  
 Janet Woronoff.....[bookkeeper@auburnac.org](mailto:bookkeeper@auburnac.org)  
 Director of Religious Education..... (989) 662-4335  
 Sandy DesJardins .....[faithformation@auburnac.org](mailto:faithformation@auburnac.org)  
 Music Director  
 Sue LeVasseur.....[musicdirector@auburnac.org](mailto:musicdirector@auburnac.org)  
 Youth Minister  
 Misty Michelle.....[youthff@auburnac.org](mailto: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](mailto:vicmaryj@hotmail.com)  
 Sisters of St. Clare ..... [srsclare.com/prayer](http://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 PM 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](http://www.auburnacschool.org)  
 Clark Switalski, Principal ..... [cswitalski@auburnac.org](mailto:cswitalski@auburnac.org)  
 School Office..... [schooloffice@auburnac.org](mailto:schooloffice@auburnac.org)

**SCHOOL ENDOWMENT**

**SPREADING THE SPIRIT FUND**

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

**WEATHER POLICY**

If Bay City Public Schools or Auburn Area Catholic School 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 March 13<sup>th</sup> , 2023

### Monday

237: 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab Pss 42:2, 3; 46:3, 4 Lk 4:24-30

### Tuesday 8 am Word and Communion

238: Dn 3:25, 34-43 Ps 25:4-9 Mt 18:21-35

### Wednesday 9 am Word and Communion

239: Dt 4:1, 5-9 Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20 Mt 5:17-19

### Thursday

240: Jer 7:23-28 Ps 95:1-2, 6-9 Lk 11:14-23

### Friday

241: Hos 14:2-10 Ps 81:6c-11b, 14, 17 Mk 12:28-34

### Saturday 4:30 pm Mass

242: Hos 6:1-6 Ps 51:3-4, 18-21ab Lk 18:9-14

### Sunday 9:30 am Mass

31:1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a Ps 23:1-6 Eph 5:8-14 Jn 9:1-41



## EDUCATION / FORMATION

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

*How might the Samaritan woman have felt as she was walking to the well at the beginning of the story? How do you think she felt after meeting Jesus? Jesus calls himself the "living water." What do you think Jesus meant by living water?*

### Reflecting on the Word:

Every human being desire to feel loved, seen, and wanted. The Samaritan woman is no different. The full text reveals that she searched for love and acceptance in the wrong places. Yet God is so good. Jesus knew her before he met her. He sat by the well waiting for her to come to draw water. He saw right into her heart, into her hurts and desires. He invited her to embrace the gift of "living water" that only he can give—the "living water" that would make her feel loved seen and wanted as she so desperately desired. God's love bubbled over so much inside her that she had to share it. She immediately told others about him, desiring for them to experience what she was experiencing.



### Living the Word:

As a family, reflect on all the ways that water helps you in your life. Throughout the week, as you use water, reflect together on how Jesus is like water. How is he living water?

## PARISH ACTIVITIES

**Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup> – Choir Practice 6:30 pm**

**Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup> – Scripture Study 10 am**

**Scripture Study 7 pm**

**Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> – Knitters 10 am**

**Soup Supper 6 pm**

**Lenten Program 7 pm**

**Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup> – Happy St. Patrick's Day**

**½ Day of School**

**Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup> – CLOW/Nursery 9:30 am**

**Religious Ed 10:45 am / Youth Ministry 6 pm**

## STEWARDSHIP

**Weekly Target:** \$11,153.84 **Offering:** \$13,632

**Food Pantry:** \$445 **Catholic Relief Services:** \$165

**Other Diocesan Collections:** \$300

**Children's Good Deeds**

...Helped get ready for my brother's birthday...

...Helping Mom clean up the living room...

...I filled the dog's water bowl...

...Helping Papa make cookies, helping Mama pack for Disney...

## AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Clark Switalski, Principal

[cswitalski@auburnac.org](mailto:cswitalski@auburnac.org) 989-662-6431

This week during school we had a nice surprise! The doors we purchased through the security grant with the State of Michigan finally arrived. They look very similar to the old doors, but are much safer than the old, and also have the proper working parts to operate. There are a lot of moving parts to the entire process, and it was stressful, but also very nice to know that we have made some improvements for the safety of all individuals in the building.

We had a visitor from the Great Lakes Loons.

**Lou E. Loon** came into the school and acted out a story (because he doesn't talk) with a few of our students. We have partnered with the Loons to provide some extra incentives for March is Reading month. The more we can get

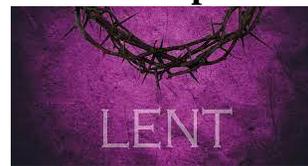
them to read, the more successful the students will be in all their subjects!

...God Bless...



**Shadow Stations of the Cross** will be presented by our Youth Ministry on Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup> @ 7 p.m. in church.

### Lenten Scripture Study will be offered on



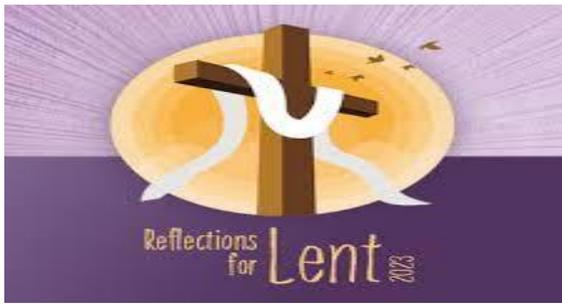
Tuesday's: February 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. and at 6:30 p.m. at the Parish Center.

Mike Lance will be leading

the evening sessions. Everyone is welcome to gather, to share and discuss the Sunday readings of Lent. We will be using "**Around the Lenten Circle**" as our resource. Gatherings will include prayer, scripture passages, questions for reflection and sharing. If you have any questions contact Sandy, 989-662-4335 or [faithformation@auburnac.org](mailto:faithformation@auburnac.org)



**Special Dispensation...** Bishop Gruss has granted dispensation from abstinence for Friday March 17<sup>th</sup> St. Patrick's Day. So you can enjoy your green beer and corned beef! He asks the faithful to choose another day to abstain from meat.



**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent:** Sr. Mary McGlone, *Celebration*

Nobody would be surprised to hear that the account of the Samaritan woman at the well is called a conversion story. Some will compare her to the woman caught in adultery or other famous women in Scripture. In reality there are many similarities among them all, but they don't necessarily lead to traditional themes of repentance and penance.

If we start by looking at the Samaritan woman as an apostle in her hometown, we might ask about the message she took to her people. After all, she had engaged in quite a theological discussion with Jesus, going from questions about whether he had something better than Jacob's well (tradition) to where people should really worship (liturgy) and ending with hearing Jesus identify himself as the Christ (theology). So, what was her message? "He told me everything I have done>" That is all that we hear from her.

What we have in this story is a rather complex encounter in which Jesus first approaches this woman on the level of human need. He asks her for water. But oh, how the simplest things can be complicated!" The Samaritans now owned Jacob's well, a symbol of the common roots and tradition they shared with the Jews. But how could a Jew ask a Samaritan for anything? The Jews had destroyed the Samaritans' temple on Mount Gerizim, they disdained the Samaritans for being backwoods idolaters whose intermarriage with non-chosen people had contaminated bloodlines. In short, they were antagonistic peoples inextricably related to one another at the deepest level of their religious history. Jesus was taking on all of that with his simple request for a drink.

What's interesting about this in the context of Lent is that we have a conversion story that doesn't focus at all on sinfulness or even traditional repentance but rather on being known and accepted. When the conversation about husbands began, the woman said she had none, and Jesus replied that she had known at least five. But there is no follow-up on the topic. No talk about straightening out her life, no discussion about laws concerning divorce and remarriage, nor about whether she should commune with him in her current state.

She told her people, "He told me everything I have done." One gets the sense that Jesus explained her to herself. The symbolism of five husbands speaks to a person seeking something on a human level. Her discussion about where to worship, about prophets and the coming Messiah showed that she was well versed in the tradition and had real theological questions and religious hopes. But the message she took home spoke of none of that. She had been accepted for everything she was, just as she was. That fulfilled a need that no affair of the flesh or the mind could ever satisfy.

**Samaritan Apostle:** Sr. Mary McGlone, *Celebration*

Pope Francis writes, "Every Christian is a missionary to the extent that she or he has encountered the love of God in Christ Jesus." That is exactly what happened to the Samaritan woman. Theology, liturgical correctness and the question of who has the better tradition; are no more distractions in the face of an encounter with Christ. Her interaction with Jesus filled her with the living water (the Spirit) that made her an apostle, who enticed others into a similar encounter.

The church offers us this story in this third week of Lent and invites us to meditate on the woman and her transformation. It reminds us that our faith is based on a personal encounter with Christ, the one

whose effect on us is like cascading water. Water filling us and bubbling over into joyful expressions of being so loved just as we are, that we are impelled to continue the relationship and share it. The conversion revealed here is about focusing on Jesus and God's love, nothing more and nothing less.

**Journey of Faith:** *Celebration*

The route of the Exodus was not just a journey from one country to another. That trip could have been accomplished in a rather straight line in much less than forty years. The Exodus pilgrimage was a passage from slavery to freedom, from being no-people to being the people of God. They were moving toward faith, a journey that began in those forty years and would be repeated somehow by every succeeding generation—a fact sacramentalized in every Passover celebration.

The desert was a testing ground where the people faced the question of whether or not they could learn to trust God and God's providence. In the process, the people tested God, demanding that God act on their terms to prove that they had not been abandoned or duped in their acceptance of the offer of freedom. Their grumbling about thirst expressed a murmuring doubt about God's care. It was a lack of faith as much as a need for hydration. Moses understood that and rather than send out scouts looking for wadis or wells he turned to God, being sure to mention that the dearth of water was about to have disastrous consequences for himself.

Using his staff, the symbol of his vocation as a shepherd of the people, Moses struck the rock where God promised to be present. From that very place water flowed and God saved the frightened people. God the thirst-quencher passed this round of testing with flying colors. The people, however, were still in process.

**The Right Source:** Deacon Dick Folger, *Celebration*

The Samaritan woman who encountered Jesus at the well declared: "Sir, I can see you are a prophet." After her lengthy conversation with Jesus, she said to her townspeople: "Come and see someone who told me everything I ever did!"

The world seems to have always known people who claim clairvoyance. Today if you type "fortune teller" into the browser of your computer you can find hundreds of psychics listed. For \$3.99 a minute you can talk to one who claims to be "gifted, honest, caring psychic who can help you with all issues." Also available are astrologers, mediums, palm readers and tarot card readers.

It costs nothing to visit Jesus in prayer. He is the only one who can really tell you everything you ever did, the long-awaited Messiah who said to the Samaritan woman: "I, who speak to you, am he."

*"God may Your light guide my day, and your spirit bring me peace. Amen."*

*During Lent our parish tradition continues Wednesday with soup supper at 6 pm and at 7 pm our Lenten program: Eucharist: All in with Father José Cabrera's presentation of The Liturgy of the Eucharist. As a faith community this is our time to come together, be renewed and to deepen our encounter with Christ in the Eucharist. Please join us!*



**Food Pantry Thank you!... *Thank you to everyone who so generously donated to the Food Pantry over the last week!*** We have served 35 families as of Friday March 10<sup>th</sup> and we still have 3 weeks to go this month! The parishioners of St Gabriel Parish always come through for us and we are very grateful for that!

***“Never be so busy as to not think of others.”***  
*--Mother Theresa--*



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<b>COLUMBARIUM</b>	Parishioner	Non-Parishioner
Single (1 Urn)	\$1,100	\$1,600
Double (2 Urns)	\$1,500	\$1,850
Inurnment	\$ 250 per niche	\$ 350 per niche
<b>CEMETERY</b>	Parishioner	Non-Parishioner
Plot	\$ 600	\$1,300
Burial	\$ 750	\$ 900
Burial of Cremains	\$ 250	\$ 275
Saturday Burial	\$ 250 additional	\$ 250 additional

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