



84 W. Midland Rd., Auburn, MI 48611
 Ph.; (989) 662-6861 Fax: (989) 662-0064
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

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, 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 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 March 20th, 2023

MONDAY

543: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16 Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29 Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22 Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a

TUESDAY 8 am Word and Communion

245: Ez 47:1-9, 12 Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9 Jn 5:1-16

WEDNESDAY 10 am School Mass

246: Is 49:8-15 Ps 145:8-9, 13c-14, 17-18 Jn 5:17-30

THURSDAY

247: Ex 32:7-14 Ps 106:19-23 Jn 5:31-47

FRIDAY

248: Wis 2:1a, 12-22 Ps 34:17-21, 23 Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

SATURDAY 4:30 pm Mass

545: Is 7:10-14;8:10 Ps 40:7-11 Heb 10:4-10 Lk 1:26-38

SUNDAY 9:30 am Mass

34: Ez 37:12-14 Ps 130:1-8 Rom 8:8-11 Jn 11:1-45



UPCOMING PARISH ACTIVITIES

Monday, March 20th – Choir Practice 6:30 pm

Tuesday, March 21st – Scripture Study 10 am
Scripture Study 7 pm

Wednesday, March 22nd – Stations of the Cross 2:30 pm
Soup Supper 6 pm – Lecture w/ Fr. Gohm 7 pm

Friday, March 24th – Shadow Stations of the Cross 7 pm

Sunday, March 26th – CLOW & Nursery 9:30 am
Religious Ed 10:45 am

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Target: \$11,153.84 **Offering:** \$7,525
Catholic Relief Services: \$15 **Food Pantry:** \$175
Children's Good Deeds

...Played outside a lot with puppies...Washed the windows...
 ...I played nicely with my brother...Playing with S.J...Being kind...

AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Clark Switalski, Principal

cswitalski@auburnac.org 989-662-6431



Wednesday's Stations of the Cross is going well. The students have been showing different ways we can take part in this wonderful experience. This

Wednesday we have a double bonus, Mass, and Stations! Mass is at 10 am and stations are at 2:30 pm, please join us for one or both!

This Friday is St. Patrick's Day and also the end of the 3rd quarter. It is still surprising that we are 3/4th of the way through our school year, but it is also exciting. The children have grown a lot this year and are doing a great job in all their studies. Please continue to pray for them as they grow in their academics and Faith!

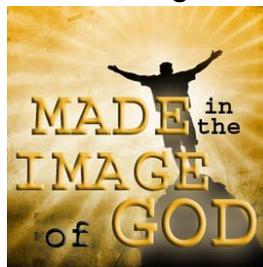
...God Bless ...

EDUCATION / FORMATION

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

What are some ways that God might be made visible through you? I wonder how the blind man felt when Jesus said that God would be made visible through him.

Reflecting on the Word:



In Genesis we are told that God created us in his "image and likeness." When God created people of different sizes, he created them in his image. When God created people of different colors, he created them in his image. When God created people of different abilities: deaf, blind, autistic, ADD, dyslexic, and so on, he created them in his image. God does not make mistakes. When God created each human being he said, "It is very good." Every part of what makes them who they are is "very good." God has a plan to use each of us to build his Kingdom and he needs our unique looks, personalities, and abilities to do that. God made you exactly as you are so the "the works of God might be made visible" through you! Praise God for you, exactly as you are.

Living the Word:

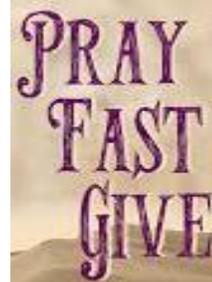
As a family read the first story of creation, Genesis 1:1-31. Discuss words that you hear repeated and what they might mean. Discuss the difference between the creation of human beings and every other creation. What does this say about us? What does this say about you individually?



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

Lent Prayer for Strength and Guidance

Lord God Almighty, shaper and ruler of all creatures, we pray for your great mercy, that you guide us towards you, for we cannot find our way. And guide us to your will, to the need of our soul, for we cannot do it ourselves. And make our mind steadfast in your will and aware of our soul's need. Strengthen us against the temptations of the devil, and remove from us all envy and every unrighteousness, and shield us against our foes, seen and unseen. Teach us to do your will, that we may inwardly love you before all things with a pure mind. For you are our maker and our redeemer, our help, our comfort, our trust, our hope; praise and glory be to you now and forever. Amen.





4th Sunday of Lent

Sr. Mary McGlone, *Celebration*

Doesn't it seem strange that the man who was transformed in today's Gospel passage said nary a word until after he was healed? He didn't ask Jesus for a cure, nor did he tell his tale of being relegated to begging as the odd-one-out in a world he had never seen. In the beginning, he was just there, the object of other people's judgement. He was just there for Jesus to see.

Jesus saw in him the potential of carrying God's works forward. Thus, continuing the work of the Creator he molded clay and touched the man. Using the mud as if it were the oil of anointing he smeared it on the man's useless eyes. This scriptural account bursts with images of creation, reminding the reader that everything begins with God's loving initiative. God always takes the first step.

The second step, acceptance, depends on humanity. The man who could not see was receptive to Jesus' word. He accepted Jesus' command although he could have had no clue as to the outcome of his obedience. He came back transformed.

We See, You Say

Sr. Mary McGlone, *Celebration*

The man called Jesus, the source of transformation, became the center of confusion and discord. The religious leaders, self-assured arbiters of true faith, found a quick and easy answer: "This work can't be from God because it was done on the Sabbath. Everyone knows that neither God nor man are allowed to work on that day."

Even some of the religious leaders choked on that answer. If the man called Jesus had brought about a great good, how could he be a sinner? So, the authorities again questioned the man. Insisting that he tell the truth, they prefaced their question with their question with their own certainty: "we know that he is a sinner." The man-who-saw refused to go along with that description. He simply repeated what had happened to him: "I was blind, and now I see." He then took the liberty of offering his own theological commentary: "Never, ever, has anyone healed someone born blind! How could he do it without God's help?" His challenge to their rigid, dogmatic logic proved intolerable. To back up their unassailable orthodoxy they reminded the healed man that his condition was obvious—he was born blind, he was immersed in sin. How dare he instruct them? They then did the only thing that made sense to them: They excommunicated him, presumably for having been healed and for saying that the person who did it must be on God's side.

Our Blindness

Sr. Mary McGlone, *Celebration*

The man who saw was never named. The word used to describe him was "Anthropos" the Greek word designated a human being without specifying gender, ethnicity, or historical context. The man born blind is everyone. When we hear this Gospel we are challenged to figure out which part we are playing in the drama and which we wish to play. We may be people definitively bound by our unshakable convictions. We may be people who wonder what God might be up to. We may choose to allow authorities to give us the answers. Regardless, we are invited to be Anthropos, people who realize we are somehow blind and are willing to be given sight.

Seeing God's Way

Celebration

Jesus tried to tell them, blindness is no sin, but choosing blindness, refusing to believe in God's ongoing self-revelation and

activity in the world is unforgivable because those who do so close themselves off from God.

Today's readings call us to the discernment that is based upon openness to the unruliness of God's word. We must accept that we are all blind when it comes to seeing the range of God's possibilities. As we learn to do that we may be surprised by a brand-new vision

Our Call

Loretta Pehanich, *Celebration*

In the spirit of Samuel, who, in today's first reading, is being sent for a mission, we can ask ourselves: "What is my mission?" or "How is God calling me to serve?"

Samuel's motives are to follow God's call, and that means going beyond what he sees. Additionally, Samuel was invited to experience the unexpected. David, seemingly the weakest, is God's choice. The theme of seeing carries through to the Gospel. Imagine being blind and overhearing Jesus say that your blindness is because "the works of God might be made visible" -seen-in you. God will use you. God sees something special when God looks at you.

Jesus doesn't heal you instantly. You must journey to wash. You are sent. Does your faith allow you to expect healing?

"Lord, let me see the right path."

Our parish tradition continues this Wednesday with soup supper at 6 pm and at 7 pm our Lenten program: Eucharist: All In. With Father Bert Gohm presenting Communion and Concluding Rites. This will wrap up our Lenten lecture series. We hope you have enjoyed this program and learned something in the process. As a faith community it is our time to come together, be renewed and deepen our encounter with Christ in the Eucharist. Please join us for soup supper and this last lecture!

The value of a smile...

It costs nothing but creates much.

It enriches those who receive it without impoverishing those who give it.

It happens in a flash and the memory of it sometimes lasts forever.

It is the outward reflection of God's love within us; the greater that love the brighter the smile.

None are so rich they can get along without it and none so poor but are richer for its benefits.

It creates happiness in the home, fosters goodwill in a business, and is the countersign of friends.

It is rest to the weary, **daylight** to the discouraged, **sunshine** to the sad and **natures' best antidote** for trouble.

Yet it cannot be bought, begged, borrowed, or stolen, for it is something that is no earthly good to anybody until it is given away.



Volunteers needed...

Looking for volunteers to take part in the Catholic Jail Ministry

Program. Volunteers would be asked to commit to about one hour every 4 to 6 weeks. The program consists of taking part in a one-hour prayer service that is held inside the Bay County Jail on Saturdays at 1 pm. If interested or for more information please contact Dave Salogar at 989-213-2613 or davesalogar@yahoo.com

Update for CMA... Here is the latest info for CMA. A recent report from the diocese indicates that \$58,926.58 (79% of our goal) has been pledged toward our target of \$74,253 by 48% of our parish families. If you have not pledged please do so and help us reach our goal.



Handy Man Service

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St. Anthony Cemetery

COLUMBARIUM	Parishioner	Non-Parishioner
Single (1 Urn)	\$1,100	\$1,600
Double (2 Urns)	\$1,500	\$1,850
Inurnment	\$ 250 per niche	\$ 350 per niche

CEMETERY	Parishioner	Non-Parishioner
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

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