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 MyParish App: St. Gabriel Parish, Auburn, Michigan

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Connie Kaczynski	Karen Willsie	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

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 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

Available 1st Saturday each month at 11:00 AM in the Sacristy at St. Gabriel Parish *Please call Parish Office for appointment.

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 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 March 21st, 2022

MONDAY

237: 2 Kgs 5:1-15b Pss 42:2-3; 43:3-4 Lk 4:24-30

TUESDAY 8 am Word and Communion

238: Dn 3:25, 34-43 Ps 25:4-5b, 6, 7bc, 8-9 Mt 18:21-35

WEDNESDAY 7 pm Mass

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

THURSDAY 8 am Mass

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

FRIDAY 9 am School Mass/ 7 pm Stations of the Cross

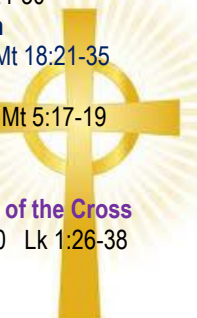
545: Is 7:10-14; 8-10 Ps 40:7-11 Heb 10:4-10 Lk 1:26-38

SATURDAY 4:30 pm Mass

242: Hos 6:1-6 Ps 51:3-4, 18-21b Lk 18:8-14

SUNDAY 9:30 am Mass

33: Jos 5:9a, 10-12 Ps 34:2-7 2 Cor 5:17-21 Lk 15:1-3, 11-32



UPCOMING PARISH ACTIVITIES

Monday, March 21st – RCIA – 6 pm / Choir Practice – 6:30 pm

Tuesday, March 22nd – Lenten Scripture Study 10-11:30 am

Wednesday, March 23rd – Soup Supper 6 pm

Thursday, March 24th – PTO 6 pm / School Committee 7 pm

Sunday, March 27th – CLOW / Nursery 9:30 am

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Target: \$10,962 Offering: \$8988.99 Food Pantry: \$125

Catholic Relief Services: \$115

Children G☺☺d Deed

...Played with my cat ...Getting the dishes done...Being thankful...

...Setting the table without being asked...Played with the dog...

...Ran the clock at kids' basketball game...

AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Clark Switalski, Principal



This is the final week of school before spring break and marks the end of "March is reading" month. With $\frac{3}{4}$ of the year completed, the students are looking forward to our final quarter and improving academically and spiritually. We have continued to emphasize the virtue of forgiveness and how we can utilize this virtue when we make mistakes. God died for our sins, and offers us all redemption, so it is fitting to focus on forgiveness during Lent.

Jesus calls for us all to have patience and repent this week. A lot of times, we have a haste to action attitude about our daily lives. Instant gratification has become normal in many families. This is troubling to me, because many times it takes time to work through the issues you are dealing with. God has patience for all of us, but we need to repent, work on our faith, and continue to do good deeds throughout the year. If we cultivate a relationship with God, our overall faith will improve and bear fruit.

...God Bless...

PATIENT REPORT: Fr. Tom

A case of *Arrythmia*, i.e., racing heartbeat, trouble breathing, sent me to the emergency room on Saturday morning. Over the two days I was hospitalized they managed to bring the heart back into rhythm. In the meantime, I received every test known

to mankind. The result is that there are several "issues" I need to attend to. The good news, in my opinion is that they are superficial and not critical. I am kind of whipped out and will be out of action for a while. I hope to be back on Wednesday of this week.



EDUCATION / FORMATION

Family Talk Time Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families, Sara McGinnis Lee
God is merciful. Think of a time when you felt forgiven by God for something wrong you have done.

Reflecting on the Word:



The parables that Jesus used help us explore in many ways the rich significance of Jesus' teachings. In the story of the fig tree, we can see ourselves. We are called to produce good fruit but sometimes we are not successful. However, we are not forsaken.

The gardener advocates for mercy to allow the tree one more chance to produce good fruit. Jesus teaches that when we repent, and when we cultivate our relationship with God, we will bear fruit.

Living the Word:

As a family, schedule an educational visit to a green house or botanical garden. Some questions to discuss with your children are: Why does a gardener need to prune plants to help them to stay healthy? What would a gardener do to cultivate the soil around a tree to help it produce more fruit? How much patience must a gardener have to work with plants?

What Can Our Family Do for Lent?



Lent doesn't need to be a solitary journey. Try these family Lenten practices to get closer to God and each other this Lent:

- Decide to go to Mass each week during Lent together as a family. It will make Easter Sunday Celebration very special. Discuss what you heard at Mass while you drive home.
- Decide as a family how you can reach out to someone. Perhaps you could volunteer as a family at a local agency or event, visit a care facility or reach out to someone in your family.
- Place a bowl on your kitchen table and put extra change you saved by eating a smaller meal in it. Then decide who you will give the money. Operation Rice Bowl is a wonderful option.
- Attend a soup supper on Wednesday evening as a family. This will give you an opportunity to gather with your faith community and eat a smaller meal.
- Plant seeds or bulbs and care for them in the hope of flowers to bloom for Easter. This is a great way to illustrate to children the resurrection of Jesus.

Rice Bowls



With CRS Rice Bowls as our guide, we set out to encounter and love our neighbor. Check out these amazing facts about how we can help those served by Catholic Relief Services:

- 1 in 8 people go to bed hungry each night. We fast so they eat.
- \$50 = provides for seeds to help farmers grow healthy crops.
- \$80 = provides for a lamb to provide milk to a family.
- \$170 – provides for fruit trees that produce food and income.

CRS Rice Bowl provides a tangible way for us to help those in need. For more information on rice bowls go to: CRSricebowl.org Rice bowls or envelopes are available at the church entrances. Please return them on Palm Sunday.



FROM FR. TOM'S DESK

Third Sunday of Lent: Patricia Sanchez, *Celebration*

When Moses, drawn by the burning bush, stood by himself before God, he may have wished for somewhere to hide. Indeed, Moses was on the lam, hiding from the authorities in Egypt for having murdered one of their citizens. Although he had been provoked by the Egyptian's mistreatment of an Israelite, he had committed a crime nonetheless, and Pharaoh wanted him dead. Despite his past, God called Moses and revealed the divine name "I AM" to him. During that encounter, Moses became God's emissary and the mediator who would win his people's freedom from slavery. His only credentials were God's call, God's grace, and God's promised presence with him at every juncture of his mission.

Paul, in today's second reading from his Corinthian correspondence, invites readers to learn from the mistakes of the past so as not to repeat them. As we consider the track record of our ancestors in the faith, it might be easy to find fault and cast blame. But Paul's words, during this holy season of Lent, challenge each of us to level no accusations at others. Rather, standing alone and in truth before God, we are to give an accounting of ourselves and only ourselves. Just as God protected ourselves and only ourselves. Just as God protected our ancestors despite their failures, so God tends to the needs of all who rely on God rather than themselves. Paul's warning to those who think they are standing secure brings a sobering reminder, Salvation does not dropdown on us like a security blanket. It is a gift made available by God that the humble and hopeful appropriate each day.

Today's Gospel, unique to the Lucan evangelist, features the ancient and not so ancient notion that tragedy is the direct consequence of sin. According to this narrative, Pilate killed some of Jesus' contemporaries as they offered sacrifice; others perished when a tower fell on them. In both instances, some people assumed that those who died were being punished by God for their misdeeds. Like Paul in today's second reading, the Lucan Jesus turned the event into a teachable moment. Just as Paul advised his listeners to withhold judgement against their ancestors, Jesus warned against making assumptions about the guilt and sinfulness of others. Look, learn, remember, and repent, insisted Jesus and Paul. But do not point fingers at anyone

The Revelation (Exodus 3): *Celebration*

In the presence of God, Moses was stuck with overwhelming awe and debilitating fear. He wanted to approach but knew himself to be unworthy. He wanted to run, but his feet were riveted to the ground. He was terrified in the presence of Someone so wholly other and infinitely more holy than himself. There, in that frightening space between staying and fleeing, God welcomed Moses and was revealed to him as the God of the patriarchs who had lived some six centuries before. God also revealed a deep concern for the plight of the patriarchs' descendants and indicated that Moses would play an important role in securing their freedom.

Desert Experience (1 Corinthians 10) *Celebration*

Calling the escape from Egypt via the Sea of Reeds a "baptism into Moses," Paul likened baptism in the name of Jesus to a new exodus. Just as the first exodus affirmed the Israelites as God's own and initiated the process of their salvation, so does Christian baptism

initiate believers into the life and saving action of Jesus. Paul referred to the manna and quail and the water from the rock that nourished the Israelites in the desert as spiritual food and drink. His readers could readily understand the Eucharist in similar terms. He also referenced a rabbinic legend concerning the wilderness experience; the rabbis taught that the rock Moses struck became mobile and traveled with the people as a ready water source. Paul said that Jesus has become the rock who gives the life-giving water through which all are saved.

On Personal Tragedy (Luke 13): *Celebration*

When Jesus' Contemporaries approach him with the news that Pilate had killed some people as they were offering sacrifice, the crowd probably wanted him to comment on the age-old association between sin and personal tragedy. Many still held the mistaken notion that if someone was suffering, their plight could be traced to sin—either their own or that of their parents or ancestors—even though the prophets (Jeremiah, Ezekiel) and Jesus himself (John 9) had repeatedly corrected this idea. Here, in driving his point home, Jesus offered another example: the tower in Siloam that toppled, killing 18 people. Were those 18 people guilty of sin? Probably, but their tragic demise was not a punishment from God. The depravity of the human heart (Pilate) and natural calamities (toppled tower) are inevitable aspects of life in an imperfect world, not divine judgements. By the same token, those who are spared from such tragedies should not attribute their survival to their own worthiness. Jesus said that the light of light could be snuffed out just as easily for a good person as for an evil one. The absence of tragedy in one's life should not read as a sign of approval, but as a gift of God's mercy that allows us time to repent.

Lesson of the Fig Tree: *Celebration*

Ordinarily, fig trees produce fruit within three years of being planted. If it had not borne any figs by that time, the tree was dug up and another was planted in its place. In Jesus' parable, however, even though the fig tree was without fruit, it was allowed more time to produce positive results. Some have compared the three years allotted to the fig tree to the three-year ministry of Jesus. While there may be some degree of comparison, the main point of the parable is the sense of urgency surrounding Jesus' mission. Time was short, and people had to heed his call to repentance. Those who continued to ignore him and his preaching would find themselves in circumstances like that of the barren fig tree. The Galileans who died at Pilate's hand, and those crushed by the falling tower at Siloam, did not have the advantage of more time to repent. Those who heard Jesus that day and those who hear his words today have a chance.

On Fire: Jessica Kimmet, *The Liturgical Press*

Life in Christ is not exactly a *safe* proposition; this is, after all, the one who calls us to pick up our crosses and follow him to calvary. When we consent to this life, we promise our whole selves. We are, in a sense, inviting God to set us on fire. Letting God set us on fire is not comfortable; it is, in fact, a fearful proposition. It strips away that which is false about us; it takes away much of what makes us comfortable as we forsake our selfishness and those things to which we are inordinately attached. Dying to self is how we find ourselves; giving up our lives is how we enter the truer, fuller life for which we were made. We are called into a truer version of ourselves, to be who God meant us to be before we were all scarred by sin. The fire set by God in our hearts is not a fire that burns out and leaves ash in its wake. It is one that, by the grace of God, burns eternally.



"I pray to grow in good deeds"

"Journeying Together"

By now you have heard about our participating in the synod called by Pope Francis. Everyone is invited to participate! Synodality entails receptivity to change, formation, and on-going learning. How does our church community form people to be more capable of "walking together," listening to one another, participating in mission, and engaging in dialogue? What formation is offered to foster discernment and the exercise of authority in a synodal way?



Let us trust in the Holy Spirit, and let us enter this synod with joy, hope, and a new energy for the future of the Church! Please prayerfully consider participating in an upcoming listening session. More information can be found in the brochures available at church entrances or the parish website along with The Synod Prayer. For questions or to volunteer to help with implementing the upcoming listening sessions, contact Kelly Hadd (tkhadd@hotmail.com, 989-295-5339).

Putin's Legacy:

The news events in the Ukraine are most disturbing. It may well be that Putin wins the battle but there is little doubt that he is going to lose the war. In history that is known as a Pyrrhic Victory, the gain will not be worth the cost. Putin's actions will insure him of a status in infamy right next to Adolf Hitler. One little boy was absolutely correct when he identified him as a "monster."



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St. Anthony Cemetery



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4485 S. Eleven Mile Rd., Auburn

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\$ 250 per niche	\$ 300 per niche

Parishioner	Non-Parishioner
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\$ 150	\$ 175
\$ 200 additional	\$ 200 additional
\$ 0.40 per sq. inch	\$ 0.40 per sq. inch

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