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

**PASTOR**

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**PARISH STAFF**

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**LAY MINISTERS**

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Kellie Deming	Tim Hadd	Dave Willsie
Dan Derdowski	Connie Kaczynski	Karen Willsie

**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 .....662-6745

**COMMUNION FOR HOMEBOUND**

Pam Graul-Gwizdala .....513-3027

**SCHOOL ENDOWMENT  
 SPREADING THE SPIRIT FUND**

School Principal .....662-6431

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend each month. 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 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday each month at **11:00 AM** in the Sacristy at St. Gabriel Parish **or call Parish Office for appointment.**

**AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**114 W. Midland Rd., Auburn, MI 48611**  
 Ph.: 662-6431 Fax: 662-3391 [www.auburnacschool.org](http://www.auburnacschool.org)  
 Clark Switalski, Principal ..... [cswitalski@auburnac.org](mailto:cswitalski@auburnac.org)  
 Chris Kaczynski, Secretary ..... [ckaczynski@auburnac.org](mailto:ckaczynski@auburnac.org)

**WEATHER POLICY**

If Bay City Public Schools 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 30, 2020

### MONDAY

251:Dn 13:1-9, 15-17,19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62 Ps 23:1-6 Jn 8:1-11

### TUESDAY

252: Nm 21:4-9 Ps 102:2-3, 16-21 Jn 8:21-30

### WEDNESDAY

253: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95 (Ps) Dn 3:52-56 Jn 8:31-42

### THURSDAY

254: Gn 17:3-9 Ps 105:4-9 Jn 8:51-59

### FRIDAY

255: Jer 20:10-13 Ps 18:2-7 Jn 10:31-32

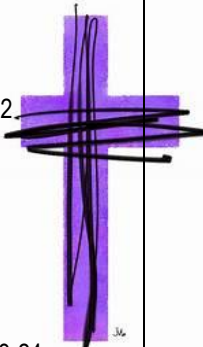
### SATURDAY

256: Ez 37:21-28 (Ps) Jer 31: 10-13 Jn 11:45-56

### SUNDAY

37:Mt 21:1-11 38:Is 50:4-7 Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24

Phil 2:6-11 Mt26:14—27:66 or 27:11-54



## EDUCATION / FORMATION

**Family Talk Time** *Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families*, Sara McGinnis Lee  
*Have you ever had to comfort someone who experienced the death of a loved one? Have you ever been the one who was comforted?*

### Reflecting on the Word:

The context for the Gospel reading is the Jewish leaders growing hostility toward Jesus. Jesus has been in Jerusalem, and the people have been pressing him to pronounce plainly that he is the Messiah. Jesus tells them to decide for themselves by looking at his works, which testify to his coming from God.

As you listen to this story, another of Jesus' miracles, we are reminded that death is not an end to life; rather, it leads to life anew. We recognize that it is still painful when death separates us from our loved one. But we also remember the promise that, like Lazarus, we too will one day rise.



### Living the Word:

Discuss how Mary and Martha and their friends must have felt when Lazarus died. How do you think they reacted when he walked out of the tomb? How would you react if you were there? What does this story tell us about God? Pray for all of the dead, that they might rise to a new life like Lazarus did.

## PARISH ACTIVITIES

**ALL parish activities and gatherings are currently suspended per Bishop Gruss as of March 17<sup>th</sup> through AT LEAST April 13<sup>th</sup>. Further details to follow as they are available.**

## STEWARDSHIP

**Weekly Target:** \$10,962    **Offering:** \$10,710

**Food Pantry:** \$1,400    **CRS:** \$82.00    **Easter Flowers:** \$60.00

*Thank you to everyone who has continued to support the parish financially during the cessation of masses. It is truly appreciated!*

### Children Good Deeds

...Even though there were no children's envelopes this week we hope that children at home are doing still "good deeds" and we would love to hear what they are. [parishoffice@auburnac.org](mailto:parishoffice@auburnac.org)

### Online Giving...

**During these uncertain times, your parish STILL needs your support.** You can drop off your donations at the parish office or mail them. *But don't forget the availability of online giving.* You can go to the parish website and "click" online giving, you can also go to My parish App or use the link below. While we are unable to attend weekly mass and may be worshipping at home, your vital support can still happen regardless of where you are.

<https://www.osvhub.com/auburnac/funds>



## AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

**Cark Switalski, Principal**



As we continue being away from school, I am reminded of how much I miss all of those smiling faces! The children are moving to an online platform to help continue their learning. This is a major change in both the teachers' and the students' lives. The thought is to help them reach their academic

goals even if it has to be at home for now. I am praying daily for the parish and school, and I ask for your extended prayers.

When Jesus raises Lazarus, he asks Mary if she truly believes he is the resurrection and the life, and Mary says she believes. Mary was at one of the low points in her life, grieving the loss of her brother. She even blamed Jesus to a point, because she says if he had been there, then his death wouldn't have happened. This is the point where our faith is tested. When things aren't going the way we expected or wanted, Jesus is there to raise us up and give us new life. The more my faith is tested, the stronger I find it becomes. In tough times, Jesus carries us and pulls us through, we just need to have faith.

✝ **God Bless**

### Food Pantry Needs!!!

Because we have been serving more families thru the food pantry we are running low on much needed supplies. **Below is a list of things we are out of:**



- |                     |                  |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Pancake Mix         | Syrup            | Instant Potatoes |
| Macaroni & Cheese   | Boxed Cereal     | Kleenex          |
| Peanut Butter/Jelly | Toothpaste       | Dish Soap        |
| Canned Beans        | Mouthwash        | Hand Soap        |
| Laundry Detergent   | Hamburger Helper | Canned Corn      |

*\*With the suspension of the Masses we would ask that you bring your donations by the Parish Office between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm*

## Liturgy Corner Rev. Robert E. Brassard

**Do You know why we respond with an acclamation following the Words of Institution?** In

different traditions there are different ways of involving the people in the Eucharistic Prayer. In the East it is very common for the people to sing "Amen" after the Words of Institution are pronounced over the bread and over the cup. The custom of a separate acclamation proclaiming the "Mystery of Faith" is an innovation found only in the West (the Roman Liturgy). The "Mystery of Faith" is a very ancient phrase signifying the mystery of Easter, the mystery of Christ's dying and rising to new life. The insertion of this acclamation not only expresses our belief and our hope, but also highlights the importance of the involvement of all those gathered in the church for the proclamation of the Eucharistic Prayer. One of the developments that has occurred in the first 30 years has been the addition of further acclamation to be sung during the Eucharistic Prayer. I suspect that in the future this will be seen more and more in order to highlight the reality that it is all of us who celebrate the Eucharist. It is not just something that we watch happen. We all celebrate the Eucharist because we are called to live it.





FROM  
FR. TOM'S  
DESK

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Rev Mark Strobel, *The Liturgical Press*

Today, Ezekiel speaks hope to hopeless people. At the time he writes, God's own beloved people had been attacked by the Babylonian army, the military superpower of their day. These same people of God had been taken into exile. They were forced to live as slaves and refugees in Babylon. Their cities were ruined, their temple destroyed. It looked as if all God's promises had reached a dead end. Thus, in the verse just before today's first reading begins, the people lament, "Our bones are dried up, our hope is lost, and we are cut off." But to hopeless people who feel abandoned by God, to people worn down by endless war and little chance for new life and peace, Ezekiel speaks God's promise. The God who once breathed life into the first creation will breathe new life in his people once again. "I will put my spirit in you that you may live," says the Lord. Here is hope for resurrection. God speaks to a dead Israel and life is restored.

We meet the same speaking and life-giving God in today's gospel when Jesus calls Lazarus out of the tomb and gives him new life. The gospel does show Jesus with us in our deepest need. This gospel gives strength in times of grief because it shows Jesus with us when we are in the valley of the shadow of death. This gospel can give hope in sorrow because it shows Jesus' own emotion at the death of his friend. He is troubled. The incarnate Son of God weeps. In him we see God, not distant and far-removed from our pain and our doubts, but a God who is with us in our sadness, our grief and our failure, who is with us when we feel like "our bones are dried up, our hope is lost, and we are cut off." Jesus is the man of sorrows who knows our pain, shares our pain, and bears it to the point of his own tears.

Today's gospel has any number of reasons to throw our hands up and give in to the hopelessness of it all. But Jesus doesn't just do resurrections. He is the resurrection. Resurrection is not just God's promise for the future, though it is that. Resurrection is God's future coming to us now in our present lives to bring hope for us today. When we are hopeless and surrounded by death, when our future looks dark, the same God whose Spirit gives life to the Valley of Bones is the God who comes to us in Jesus Christ bringing life out of all death.

Resurrection is not just a doctrine. Resurrection is not only what Jesus did on the third day after his crucifixion. Resurrection is who Jesus is. He brings life out of death. Jesus speaks and Lazarus is raised. When life is out of our hands, when everything around us is hopeless, when death is at work among us, God acts to bring new life. And where our Lord is, where he speaks, life is made new.

**New Life: (Ezekiel 27)**

*Celebration*

This reading comes from the end of Ezekiel's most famous and graphic passage: the scene in which God transforms the blanched, broken skeletons of the chosen people with the life of the divine Spirit.

On one hand this prophecy looks back to the creation story, reminding the people that all life comes from the breath of God. At the same time, Ezekiel proclaims a new exodus in which God will lead people out of the realm of death into the life of their promised land. Most importantly, his message is that the people have done nothing to deserve this. It is God's, free gift with no strings attached. All they need to do is accept God's offer and follow God's lead. That is summed up in the last line in which God declares: "I have said it, and I will do it."

**Flesh/Spirit: (Romans 8)**

*Celebration*

What Paul is talking about in his contrast of flesh and spirit is one's basic orientation in life. Being "in the flesh" is self-centered, subconsciously but irrevocably oriented to the processes of degeneration and death. People who live that approach to life "cannot please God" because they have opted out of the realm of God's influence; they have no room in their lives for anything bigger than their bellies.

Being "in the spirit," on the other hand is first of all a grace, an undeserved but joyfully received gift of God which flows over into a life of love of God and others. Being "in the spirit" is a reciprocal relationship. Because the Spirit of God dwells in us, we actually live in God as well. Not only has God given us life, but we share, like Christ, in God's own life. We are not "of the flesh"—not because we reject anything of creaturely existence, but because we are oriented to much more.

**His Humanity: (John 11)**

*Grace Works*

The crowds are weeping, the sisters are weeping. It is a time of profound emotion. To Martha, the practical sister, the one who serves and believes so beautifully, he offers a profound theological response to her statement. "I am the resurrection and the life." She affirms her faith in that truth but assumes that the resurrection Jesus offers is only realized at the end of time. Jesus assures her that it is true NOW for Lazarus, and for all who believe in him. It is the word that Martha needs, for she is a thoughtful believer, and his word challenges her to stretch her heart to allow the immediate in-breaking of God's resurrection life. But when Mary falls at Jesus's feet, and repeats the same phrase as her sister, she does not need a theological discourse; she needs something else from Jesus. Mary is the spontaneous one, the devoted one, the one who is lavish with her emotions and love. To her tears, Jesus simply adds his own.

A God who weeps. Imagine that! Jesus showed us the broken heart of God. Remember this when you are walking through your own valley of tears. God weeps with you. He is not removed at a safe distance. In fact, God is never closer to you than when you are vulnerable, broken, afraid, suffering, dying.

*"Lord, call me to a new life"*

**Walk in the Light:**

Sr. Mary McGlone, *Celebration*

Jesus had told Thomas and friends that with him, they could walk in his light, which meant that they could be with him in facing down death. They took that on like brave Marines: *semper fi*. At least at that moment, nothing would deter them. Jesus wanted Martha to go a step further; to realize that God is the God of life. Death does not exist for God, at least not as tragedy, not as the defining limit of life, not as punishment, therefore, not with the meaning the world ascribes to it.

Jesus said that perceiving the light of the world opens us to allowing that light to live in us, so too he tells us that we who believe, even if we die will live, and the life he gives can never be touched by death. Knowing Jesus as the resurrection and the life changes everything. In Paul's language, it moves us from the realm of the flesh into the realm of the spirit. The story of the raising of Lazarus offers a variety of models of discipleship. John presents those who saw the restoration of life and came to believe. Then there's Thomas and friends whose simple, sincere faithfulness would put them on the path to living in Jesus' light. Finally, we have Martha, invited to let Jesus be not just a teacher, healer and Messiah she expected, but the one who offered her his very life. Discipleship is a journey we're invited to take in the light of the God of life.



**Food Pantry...During these uncertain times, there will be community members who will need our support.**

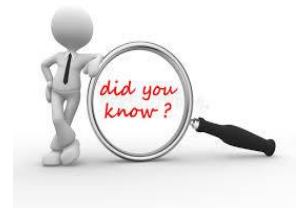
We currently serve between 8 and 10 families a week and will continue to serve the clients who come into the Food Pantry in any way we can. We want to say a **BIG THANK-YOU** to everyone who came by the office this week to drop off food donations. You made it possible for us to help more than our usual number of clients. It was heartwarming to say the least!!!!

**FYI...**

To the parishioners of St. Gabriel Parish, we will continue to publish the bulletin both hard copy and on our website and we will have additional copies available in the drop box outside of the Parish Office.

We will try to keep you "in the know" during the shutdown. **Please let us know, via email of items you would like published such as, kind or heroic acts, family news, local stories, things to keep us connected.**

[parishoffice@auburnac.org](mailto:parishoffice@auburnac.org)



**PICTORIAL DIRECTORY UPDATE**

We have been working diligently on the pictorial directory. However, we are at somewhat of a standstill with the shutdown. Know that we are still in the process and hope that we can have it completed in the not too distant future, then get it into the publisher. Thank-you for your patience!

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**St. Anthony Cemetery  
 4485 S. Eleven Mile Rd., Auburn**

COLUMBARIUM	Parishioner	Non-Parishioner
Single (1 Urn)	\$1,000	\$1,500
Double (2 Urns)	\$1,400	\$1,750
Inurnment	\$ 250 per niche	\$ 300 per niche
CEMETERY	Parishioner	Non-Parishioner
Plot	\$ 500	\$1,200
Burial	\$ 650	\$ 850
Burial of Cremains	\$ 150	\$ 175
Saturday Burial	\$ 200 additional	\$ 200 additional
Foundation	\$ 0.40 per sq. inch	\$ 0.40 per sq. inch

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

Prices Effective July 1, 2019

**In this time of feeling hopeless, here are some things we do have control over...**

## *What You Can Do...*

**Stop the spread.** Even if you are not particularly concerned about the risk to yourself or your own family, these tactics will protect *others* who may be more vulnerable. Many of us will carry the virus before having any symptoms (and may never develop any).

**Wash your hands well** for at least 20 seconds with soap and water. Sing the refrain to Michael Joncas' song "On Eagle's Wings" ("And he will raise you up...") while you wash.

**Avoid touching your face.**

**Cough or sneeze into your elbow** or a tissue.

**Follow the guidance of local officials.**

**Stay home if you become ill.**

**Don't take what you don't need.** Hoarding worsens the situation and can lead to more infections and more impacts for the most vulnerable.

**Leave the masks to others.** Masks only make sense for health care workers and those who are infected. They are not guaranteed to prevent transmission anyway.

**Do not overbuy supplies.** Retailers are being wiped out of disinfectants and other supplies, leaving some who most need them without. Be prepared but be thoughtful and reasonable.

**Advocate for the vulnerable and targeted.**

**Have compassion for those most at risk.** Stand up for those who need the most help and make sure they are being cared for, without judgment.

**Fight racism.** Discrimination against those with Asian background only hurts the situation.

**Proactively love your neighbor!**

**Check in on isolated or vulnerable neighbors** and offer to help with specific tasks such as shopping, child or pet care, cleaning, etc.

**If you are in a position of power,** use that power for the good of all. Allow workers to work from home or take time off, limit large gatherings, follow government guidance, etc.

**Thank those on the front lines** who are protecting us, such as health care workers, police, firefighters. Be gentle and kind with them.

*One more thing...*

*Pray for all those affected by the crisis.*

**Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of good health and peace that we have enjoyed for so many years. As we find ourselves in this time of crisis today, we ask for your divine intervention and mercy to be upon each of us.**

**Come and guide the minds of those working to discover a treatment to the COVID-19 virus. Grant them wisdom, knowledge, and clarity of mind, so that all peoples will be free from the threat of this ailment.**

**We also pray for the healthcare workers that are standing in the front line of this battle. Father, we thank you for their hearts of service, putting the needs of society before their own, generously responding to the cry of your people. We ask that You grant them strength and protection. As they give of themselves in selfless service, may You fill them with your Holy Spirit as they work to be Your healing hands and feet!**

**Father, we also surrender to You all those who have been afflicted with the virus. Grant them Your healing grace, merciful Father, so that they may recover swiftly and continue to be witnesses of Your love in their lives.**

**Mother Mary, we ask your intercession in this great time of need. Cover each of us with your blue mantle of protection, so that we may be preserved in good health to continue to glorify your son, Jesus Christ. We make this prayer through Christ, our Savior and Redeemer. Amen**

[www.popefrancisdaily.com](http://www.popefrancisdaily.com)

