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PARISH STAFF

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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 May 1st , 2023

MONDAY

279: Acts 11:1-18 Pss 42:2-3;43:3-4 Jn10:11-18

TUESDAY 8 am Word and Communion

280: Acts 11:19-26 Ps 87:1-7 Jn 10:22-30

WEDNESDAY

561: 1 Cor 15:1-8 Ps 19:2-5 Jn 14:6-14

THURSDAY

282: Acts 13:13-25 Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27 Jn 13:16-20

FRIDAY

283: Acts 13:26-33 Ps 2:6-11 Jn 14:1-6

SATURDAY Mass 4:30 pm

284: Acts 13:44-52 Ps 98:1-4 Jn 14:7-14

SUNDAY Mass 9:30 am

52: Acts 6:1-7 Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 1 Pt 2:4-9 Jn 14:1-12



UPCOMING PARISH ACTIVITIES

Wednesday, May 3rd – May Crowning 9 am

Sunday, May 7th –CLOW / Nursery 9:30 am, Youth Ministry 6 pm

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Target: \$11,153.84 Offering: \$9,507.50

Food Pantry:\$160

Children's Good Deeds

- ...Helping Papa change the battery in my Jeep...
- ...Putting away my laundry...Puppy sitting...Going to church...
- ...Helping Savannah...Playing with my cousin...
- ...To help with my baby sister...Helped Daddy clean...

AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Clark Switalski, Principal

cswitalski@auburnac.org 989-662-6431



I am so sorry! I posted the wrong time for May Crowning last week! It will be held at 9:00 AM on Wednesday, May 3rd at the *Our Lady of Fatima* statue weather permitting! Please join us to take part in crowning Mary. Grandparents' mass this

week was a huge success! Thank you to everyone that helped make it possible. Loons' tickets will be available for purchase in the school office and after mass at the SCRIP table. Sunday, June 11th is the date for the Great Lakes Loons game. We invite you to enjoy a fun afternoon of fellowship and baseball!

We are wrapping up the virtue of modesty this month. As a school we have talked about how we can be modest.

Practicing decency in all areas of our lives helps us to grow closer to God and treat others with the respect they deserve.

We are the body of Christ and no matter what the circumstances, we are called to work together to make this world a better place. Together, we have the power to affect change and do some good in this world.

...God Bless ...

Mark your calendars... The collection for the migrant program begins in May! Stay tuned for more information next week!

EDUCATION / FORMATION

Family Talk Time:

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families, Sara McGinnis Lee

I wonder what it feels like for the Good Shepherd to call you by name. I wonder what it feels like to be a sheep of the Good Shepherd. Why do you think the sheep recognize the Good Shepherd's voice? Do you spend enough time with Jesus to recognize his voice?

Reflecting on the Word:

The shepherd described in the Gospel is not like other shepherds, he is the Good Shepherd. He knows his sheep so well that he can tell them apart, he knows them each by name. The sheep have spent so much time with him that they know his voice. They recognize his voice over all other voices. This love between the Good Shepherd and his sheep is the model for all love. The Good Shepherd knows his sheep, wants them to be with him, and loves them so much he will die for them. These basic human needs to be known, wanted, and loved are universal to us all. The Good Shepherd is waiting to provide these things for us abundantly.



Living the Word:

The Gospel helps us ponder who Jesus is. Throughout this week, reread this Scripture passage as a family a few times to allow yourselves to really ponder the deep meanings in it. Provide blank paper and crayons so that your children can draw a response to what they have heard.

Youth Encounter Service (Y.E.S.)



Youth Encounter Service, or Y.E.S., is open for registration! Y.E.S. is a weeklong, local service camp and immersion experience sponsored by the Diocese of Saginaw from June 18 to 23.

Y.E.S. gives high school students an opportunity to learn about and fight poverty, while reaching out to the poor. Youth spend five days of their summer vacation sprucing up yards and making minor repairs to homes in the city of Saginaw. In addition to hands-on work, participants learn more about Catholic social teaching. Part of the week is spent volunteering at local outreach organizations such as the East Side Soup Kitchen, City Rescue Mission and Mustard Seed Shelter. Evening activities include guest speakers, prayer and reflection on the experiences of the day. Y.E.S. is designed for youth entering 9th grade in the fall of 2023 and older and first-time participants. The deadline to register is May 12. Register at [www.https://saginaw.org/youth-encounter-service-yes](https://saginaw.org/youth-encounter-service-yes)

From the family of Loretta Kozuch... We would like to extend our gratitude to the St. Gabriel Homebound Ministry for their dedication in helping our mother stay connected to Christ and her Christian family through their home visits. Also thank you to Fr. Richard for the beautiful Mass, Sue LeVasseur for her help with the arrangements and playing music at the funeral, along with the choir. Also thank you to the parishioners who worked on the luncheon, preparing food, and serving it. May God bless all of you!





4th Sunday of Easter

Sr. Mary McGlone, *Celebration*

The 4th Sunday of Easter is traditionally “Good Shepherd Sunday,” but John 10:1-10 refers to Christ as the gate as much as the shepherd. John presents the idea of Jesus as Good Shepherd and gate immediately after the story of the man born blind. That emphasizes Christ as the entrance gate for the one who was driven out of the community and as the shepherd who defies the robbers while protecting the defenseless.

The audience of leaders who had debated with the once-blind man is the same group that hears Jesus talking about the brigands who try to enter the sheepfold from illegitimate positions. As John has built up to this incident near the end of Jesus’ active ministry, the tensions have grown between Jesus and the religious leaders, and he has not held back critique of them. Now he contrasts the sort of pastor who expels the blind man with the one who calls his own by name, knows them and is therefore the only one they will follow.

One key that brings together the roles of Jesus as the gateway into safety and as the shepherd who cares for the sheep is that both focus on the good of the sheep. The conclusion of today’s reading summarizes the point of it all as Jesus says, “I came that they might have life and have it more abundantly.” When we hear that statement considering the other readings we realize that as we receive the gift of his abundant life, our most genuine response will be to share it with everyone.

Knowing His Voice

Deacon Dick Folger, *Celebration*

Shepherds have always known that their sheep recognize their familiar voices. Sheep won’t follow a stranger’s command. Mothers have always known that their newborn infants show a preference for their gentle voices. A study by Canadian and Chinese researchers shows that babies in the womb can also recognize their mothers voice, their heart rate quickens. Unfamiliar voices had the opposite effect. Researchers concluded that the fetus’ heart rate decelerated because they were busy listening closely to an unfamiliar voice and were trying to recognize it.

For the faithful it is the same. Listening to God’s voice within us is reassuring. We know right from wrong: when an evil voice calls us, we may be tempted, but we don’t follow it. God’s true voice makes our hearts quicken, and we want to follow his command.

Abundant Life

Ted Wolgamot, *Celebration*

Today’s Gospel of John ends with these striking, hope-filled words: “I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly>” But what does Jesus mean by the word “abundantly”? Is he referring to acquiring more stuff, more possessions, more things?

Quite the contrary. What Jesus is really talking about is our openness to receiving a gift, a grace. It is the grace we find when we believe that only God can fill the hole in our soul. And it comes precisely when we abandon the incessant acquisition of more stuff.

Ultimately, Jesus is talking about developing an “abundance mentality,” a way of thinking and acting that says: “There is enough

for everyone, more than enough food, love...everything!” When we live with this mindset, we begin to see the miracle of what we give away multiplying to the point of having plenty left over.

Jesus is trying to help us understanding today’s Gospel, and throughout his whole ministry, that true abundance comes not from what we possess, but from how deeply we love, how generously we share. Jesus sends each of us an invitation: Spend less time acquiring more stuff and more time developing a mind-set of abundance, and abundance mentality.

Identity

Sr. Margaret Michaud, Collegetown Minn.

An interesting and profoundly significant feature of John’s gospel is the repeated “I AM” formula. In the story of the Exodus, when the Lord God tells Moses to lead the people out of Egypt from slavery into freedom, Moses asks the Almighty for his name. The reply is, “I AM WHO I AM.” When the Gospel of John has Jesus make an “I AM” statement, it is a clear assertion of his identity as the divine Son of God. There are seven “I AM” expressions in John. Seven is always an indication of completeness, reminiscent of the seven days of creation in Genesis. Seven reminds us that Almighty God is the source of all that is.

Our Gospel today has Jesus proclaim, “I AM the gate for the sheep.” Reading on a bit further beyond today’s passage, we read, “I AM the Good Shepherd.” When Jesus says, “I AM the gate for the sheep,” he is telling us that he is the one who opens for us the path to salvation. Entering the blessed life of the Christian through the gate that is Jesus, we will “have life and have it more abundantly.” He is the only gate that leads to a blessed life. Attempting to gain entry through any other way will lead to disaster. There is much to reflect upon in the Good Shepherd story.

“Shepherd of my soul, show me the path to life.”

**In Memoriam...St Gabriel and AACS have received \$5,595 to date in memorial contributions for Fr. Tom. \$1,165 for St Gabriel and \$4,430 for AACS. To all who contributed, we offer a heartfelt thank you for your generosity.*



God's Spring Prayer

Spring is a breath of fresh air, cool – not cold, gentle – not bold. Its life sprouting up from the ground, the birds and insect sounds. A reminder of renewal, a marvel from You. Your gift to me is deserving of all the thanks and praise I can offer. Blessed are You, Creator of seasons.




Update for CMA... Here are the end of March numbers for CMA. A recent report from the diocese indicates that \$61,466.60 (83% of our goal) has been pledged toward our target of \$74,253 by 49% of our parish families. If you have not pledged please do so and help us reach our goal. A little at a time we are getting there. Please help us reach our target!



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



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