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www.auburnac.org
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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 15th, 2023

MONDAY

291: Acts 16:11-15 Ps 149:1-6a, 9b Jn 15:26—16:4a

TUESDAY 8 am Word and Communion

292: Acts 16:22-34 Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8 Jn 16:5-11

WEDNESDAY

293: Acts 17:15, 22—18:1 Ps 148:1-2, 11-14 Jn 16:12-15

THURSDAY

294: Acts 18:1-8 Ps 98:1-4 Jn 16:16-20

FRIDAY

295: Acts 18:9-18 Ps 47:2-7 Jn 16:20-23

SATURDAY Mass 4:30 pm

296: Acts 18:23-28 Ps 47:2-3, 8-10 Jn 16:23b-28

SUNDAY Mass 9:30 am

58: Acts 1:1-11 Ps 47:2-3, 6-9 Eph 1:17-23 Mt 28:16-20



UPCOMING PARISH ACTIVITIES

Wednesday, May 17th – Knitters 10 am

SCRIP Sale after both Masses

Sunday, May 20th-21st – CLOW / Nursery 9:30 am
Youth Ministry 6 pm

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Target: \$11,153.84 Offering: \$11,008.87

Food Pantry:\$250

Children's Good Deeds

...Planted Grandma's daffodils...

...Picking up my mess...Doing my chores...

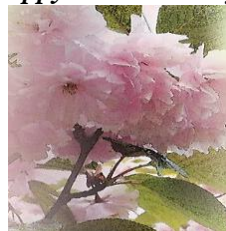
AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Clark Switalski, Principal

cswitalski@auburnac.org 989-662-6431

This week our 5th grade students are attending Camp Timbers. They will be gone until Wednesday and have this as a final field trip as a class. It is very bittersweet, because I am happy for them to grow onward and upward with their educational endeavors, but a small part of me wishes they could stay at AACCS forever. Their graduation will follow the 9:00 mass on May 24th with Father Marc Hopps presiding.

I want to wish all the mothers a **Happy Mother's Day!** You all do so much more than is required of you, spend countless hours helping your children with everything, and do it for the most unselfish reasons. Mothers, thank you for all you do now and in the future!



... God Bless ...

SCRIP Sale... This is a reminder that representatives from AACCS will have SCRIP gift cards available in the Social Hall after mass next weekend, May 20 & 21. This will be the last weekend they will be offered on the weekends until September. SCRIP will still be available at the Parish Office throughout the summer. Check out our selection of gift cards for your favorite store, restaurant, or gas station! We appreciate your support!

EDUCATION / FORMATION

Family Talk Time:

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families, Sara McGinnis Lee

What are the ways you can show Jesus that you love him? Is it difficult to keep Jesus' commandments? Is there one commandment that is harder for you to follow?

Reflecting on the Word:



What you are in love with determines everything about your life. It decides how you spend your time, what you think about, what decisions you make. When we are in

love with Jesus, we desire to follow him. We desire to keep his commandments. Keeping the commandments is rooted in our relationship with the one who gave them to us. Our actions must first be rooted in our being in relationship with him; otherwise, we are following them out of fear and obligation rather than from an authentic response to God's love.

Living the Word:

Jesus gave us two commandments that summarize all the commandments. Read Matthew 22:37 and Matthew 22:39, and then discuss them as a family. Which of these two commandments do you think is harder to follow?

Youth Ministry

All high school and college graduates are invited to attend graduation Mass on Saturday, June 3 at 4:30 p.m. A reception in your honor will immediately follow. RSVP to Misty Michelle youthff@auburnac.org or Parish Office 989.662.6861 or parishoffice@auburnac.org



Vacation Bible School – Mark your calendar!

July 25, 26, 27 from 9 am - 12 noon. For children in grades K – 5th (Fall 2023) Help needed from youth in grades 6th – 12th Registration forms & youth volunteer forms are available at the west entrance of the church. If you have any questions please contact Mrs. Mocny at kmocny@auburnac.org

Migrant Ministry... The collection for the migrant program has begun! The collection trailer will remain in the driveway at the Parish Office until May 21st. Please Donate!

SPIRIT OF TRUTH

6th Sunday of Easter

Sr. Mary McGlone, *Celebration*

One of the unique features of today's Gospel is that Jesus speaks for the first time of the disciples' love for him. Previously he's told his disciples that he is the way, the bread of life, the light of the world—all descriptions of himself that speak of what he wants to offer them. Jesus often called his disciples to believe in him and to trust him, but now he gets to the deep, interpersonal level of loving him for who he is. The only other time in the Gospels that Jesus speaks of the disciples' love for him is after the resurrection when he asks Peter if he loves him (John 21:15-16).

When Jesus talks to his disciples, to us, about loving him, he's talking about something more than ordinary friendship, even more than familial commitment or love between spouses. When we pay attention to the broader context we realize that he's talking about our loving him the same way he loves the Father. The love between Jesus and the Father is a mutual devotion born of their identification with one another. In Jesus' relationship with the Father, obedience has nothing to do with rules. It is about loving one another and sharing the same desire.

As Andrew Lloyd Weber's song explains, "Love changes everything." That's what Jesus is talking about in this reading. He's not telling the disciples to obey rules, he is inviting them to share his heart. The opening line of today's Gospel is, "If you love me, you will keep my commands." That's a request for love. All that Jesus did in his life was aimed at that one thing: to entice humanity into falling in love with God, and the way to do that is through loving him.

For Jesus, love is the only thing that matters. Loving him includes accepting him for who he is and what he offers. As he says in this reading, loving him brings us into the realm of his Spirit and allows us to share his own perspective and desire. In the opening line of this reading Jesus could just as well have said, "If you love me you will love what I love and want what I want." Keeping his commandments is a matter of the heart, a heart willingly invaded by God.

Proclaiming Our Hope

Katy Beedle Rice, *Celebration*

The disciples are moving into a new time—one of great hope and also of great pain. Shortly after promising to send them the Advocate, Jesus tells the disciples why they would need one: "If they persecuted me, they would persecute you" (John 15:20).

Our first reading picks up after Stephen is stoned in Jerusalem—the first of the apostles to be martyred. As many disciples are scattered from Jerusalem, Phillip finds himself in Samaria. Instead of seeking shelter and protection, we are told he "Proclaimed the Christ to them: thereby sharing the joy of the good news at every opportunity."

The second reading is drawn from the First Letter of Peter, who, tradition suggests, wrote it shortly before his martyrdom in Rome. Peter urges the community to "always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope." Indeed, that is the audacious message of these first followers of Jesus—continue to proclaim the Christ to all who will listen even as your very lives are demanded of you.

In our own lives as Christians, we also face challenges, persecutions, and transitions. Some may be as simple as bearing

with a difficult coworker or a cranky child, but others (the death of a spouse, mental illness, addiction) may demand everything of us. In all that we encounter, we can hold onto Jesus' promise, "I will not leave you orphans." We know that we have an advocate who remains with us and an attentive parent who holds us close as we embrace a new reality. We now are the ones who must proclaim the Christ to a world desperately in need of mercy and love.

Growing In Faith

Celebration

As we are preparing for the feast of Pentecost, seeing the way the early community grew in faith invites us to reflect on our own faith development. Perhaps those of us who were baptized as infants might identify with the Samaritans who apparently didn't receive the full experiential effect of the faith all at once. As they grew in union with the entire community and received the laying on of hands from the apostles, their faith took on new dimensions. Others, like Cornelius and many of our present-day catechumens, experienced the presence of the Holy Spirit before "conversion," and came to baptism already impelled by that grace. Finally, although Luke doesn't underline it, Peter and John had to be growing in their own process of faith as they confirmed Samaritans while being rejected by their co-religionists in Jerusalem.

Perhaps one of the underlying messages of this reading is a reminder of what Pope Francis has called the unruly freedom of God's word. The entire community is called to evangelize and none of us can predict who will accept God's word nor through whom the Spirit of God will choose to work.

Proof of Love?

Deacon Dick Folger, *Celebration*

The marriage was on the rocks. The man loved his wife and wanted to prove his love, so he decided to swim across the ocean. She was not impressed. Undaunted, he walked across the Gobi Desert. He sent her a victory picture of him at the Chinese border with parched, cracked lips. She was still unimpressed. He decided to climb Mount Everest. They took a photo of him standing atop the 29,142-foot peak, holding up his black, frostbitten thumb. He was sure he had won her back. When he returned home, the divorce went through. He asked "Why?" She answered, "You were never home!"

In today's Gospel Jesus doesn't expect us to swim oceans, cross deserts or climb mountains. He only asks that we keep his commandments. That alone is proof of our love for him.

Reason for Hope

Celebration

Tom Bodett, the spokesperson for Motel 6 who ends every ad with the promise, "We'll leave the light on for you," also said, "They say a person needs just three things to be happy in this world—someone to love, something to do and something to hope for." When we reflect upon the situation of the early disciples, we can readily observe that they found all three of those things in Jesus. His love for them, which found its fullest expression on the cross, engendered in them a love for others. That love also inspired their "something to do"; they served the needs of others, and even when they were made to suffer (as did Jesus) for doing good, they persevered. Their steady perseverance was fueled by their hope, a hope that probably made others wonder at their spiritual stamina. The recipients of 1 Peter and all who hear these words today are urged to be ready to explain the reason for our hope. His name is Jesus.



Mother's Day Facts

- 22 million Phones Will Ring on Mother's Day
- Greeting Cards Top the List of Mother's Day Gifts
- Mother's Day Was Made Official on May 9, 1914
- Mother's Day is the Busiest Restaurant Day of the Year
- Americans Will Spend \$31 Billion Mother's Day
- The Carnation is the Official Flower of Mother's Day
- Mother's Day is the Third Most-Attended Church Service



Update for CMA... Here are the end of April numbers for CMA. A recent report from the diocese indicates that \$61,506.60 (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!



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St. Anthony Cemetery

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