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LAY MINISTERS

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Kellie Deming	Tim Hadd	Dave Willsie
Connie Kaczynski	Karen Willsie	

PRAYER LINE

Mary Jane.....(989) 513-5137 vicmaryj@hotmail.com
 Sisters of St. Clare srsclare.com/prayer

BEFRIENDER

Mary Ellyn Gushow662-6745

COMMUNION FOR HOMEBOUND

Pam Graul-Gwizdala513-3027

**SCHOOL ENDOWMENT
 SPREADING THE SPIRIT FUND**

Clark Switalski, School Principal662-6431

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 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 ***Currently Suspended 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
 Clark Switalski, Principal cswitalski@auburnac.org
 Chris Kaczynski, Secretary 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 all (including the St Anthony site) evening activities will be announced by 3:00 PM. Closures will be posted on TV: NBC 25, ABC 12, CBS 5

EDUCATION / FORMATION

Family Talk Time Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families: Sara McGinnis Lee
How do seeds grow? Ask your children to recall what happened to the various seeds. Can we make our hearts into good soil where God's love will grow? How?

Reflecting on the Word:

God is constantly scattering the seed of his Word in our lives. At different times, we might be the vulnerable path. The inhospitable rocks, or the rich soil. Our openness to the Word of God changes as we go through fruitful times and barren times, experience joy and sorrow. God does not force us to hear him. But if we transform our hearts into fertile soil, he will sow his Word in us, and his Word will produce abundant fruit: more grace and goodness than we can possibly imagine.

Living the Word:

A good way for children to meditate on Scripture, particularly the parables, is to have them draw the story. Prepare some paper and coloring materials. Ask your children to focus on today's Gospel by sitting comfortably and paying attention to what you will read. Then have your children draw the four different places where the seed was thrown, using one page per area. There is no need for in-depth explanation at this moment; let the children simply draw.

AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Clark Switalski, Principal

There was a time when I was ready to get out of the house, and now I can't believe it is almost halfway through summer! Where does time go?! As we move closer to the date of school returning, please pray for us and all the students. This will truly be a difficult, confusing, different year for all of us involved in educating our students.

This week, Jesus uses a parable to teach the disciples. The parable of the sower offers some insight into how our reactions will affect our journey to the Kingdom of Heaven. Some seeds will fall on the path and not even pay any mind to God. Some will fall on rocky soil and have exuberance for God, but eventually when they are pressed about their beliefs they will cave. Other seeds will fall into the thorns where temptation of worldly and personal achievements makes it difficult to live as though God planned. And finally, the rich soil is for those who listen, understand, and live the Gospel Jesus is referring to, and ultimately gain entrance into the Kingdom of Heaven. As we work through difficult times socially and medically, there are many options for us to take when it comes to our faith, but there is only one outcome desired. When judgement day comes for me, I would rather have listened and tried to make a positive difference in the world and community around me, because regardless of my choices, God is watching.

✠ **God Bless**

**HELP
WANTED**

Job Position(s) Open:

With a desire to prepare for the Fall of the year, we are opening a search for a maintenance/janitor position. Depending on the availability of an applicant, we either will go with one full-time person for both the St. Joseph and St. Anthony sites, or two part-time people. Job descriptions are available upon request from the parish office. Interested individuals are asked to submit a resume and 3 letters of recommendation.

The family of **Sharon Lukowski** would like to say thank-you to Fr. Tom for the heartfelt burial service last week, it brought great comfort her loved ones. Also, thank-you to all our parish friends for their expressions of sympathy.

Thank you

WEEK OF JULY 13, 2020

MONDAY

389: Is 1:10-17 Ps 50:8-9, 16b-17, 21, 23 Mt 10:34—11:1

TUESDAY

390: Is 7:1-9 Ps 48:2-8 Mt 11:20-24

WEDNESDAY

391: Is 10:5-7, 13b-16 Ps 94:5-10, 14-15 Mt 11:25-27

THURSDAY

392: Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19 Ps 102: 13-14b, 15-21 Mt 11: 28-30

FRIDAY

393: Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8 (Ps) Is 38:10-12, 16 Mt 12:1-8

SATURDAY 4:30 pm Mass

394: Mi 2:1-5 Ps 10:1-4, 7-8, 14 Mt 12:14-21

SUNDAY 9:30 am Mass

106: Wis 12:13, 16-19 Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16 Rom 8:26-27 Mt 13:24-30



PARISH ACTIVITIES

Re-opening phase two continues as follows; this up-coming weekend, July 18th & 19th, we will welcome, L thru Z, then next weekend, July 25th & 26th, A thru K. We will alternate these two groups and see how that goes for the foreseeable future.

*PLEASE REMEMBER MASKS ARE REQUIRED AND SOCIAL DISTANCING RULES WILL APPLY. Thank-you for cooperating

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Target: \$10,962 Offering: \$9438.75

Priests Retirement: \$180 Mission Co-op: \$310

Thank you to everyone for your continued support financially.

It is truly appreciated!

Children Good Deeds

...Helped clean the pool...

...Helped my friend when she fell off her bike...

Looking for something "fun" and "safe" for the kids to do this summer?

Vacation Bible School Days:

Rocky Railway:

"Jesus Power Pulls Us Through"

4 year old preschool – 5th grade (as of Fall 2020)

This session will be held Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, July 28th - 30th 9 am – 12 noon

Registrations are due by Monday, July 20th

No registrations will be taken on Tuesday, July 28th

Youth volunteers are also

needed grades 6th – 12th (as of Fall 2020). All forms are available at Parish Center or by email request parishoffice@auburnac.org

Space is limited, so make plans for a trip on the "Rocky Railway!"





**FROM
FR. TOM'S
DESK**

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Sr. Mary McGlone, *Celebration*

Why did Jesus speak in parables? In part it surely put everyone in his audience on equal footing. The learned had no better access to his riddles than did the simple, and in this case, farmworkers had the head start. The disciples were among the curious who learned how to wrangle a special advantage. When they didn't know what it meant, they could ask the storyteller himself. To them Jesus gave an explanation, of each phase of this story. But, because it is a parable, there will be more than even his explanation tells us on first hearing.

Apparently then, when Jesus said, "Whoever has ears to hear, ought to hear," he was not saying that they had to comprehend what he said. The real requirement was that they must want to understand more than they did. When it comes down to it, we know that those who think they have a firm grasp on something will usually be the least likely to enter into genuine dialogue. We can hand it to the disciples in this instance for being humble and caring enough to ask.

Jesus explained the parable to them, summarizing the fate of his teaching about the kingdom of heaven by describing four ways people respond to his message. Some folks simply don't understand, and the evil one robs them of the little they might have grasped if they had bothered to ask. Others are originally delighted with a Gospel of prosperity, the miracles, and great dinners that everyone loves, but take away the carte blanche and they can't find it in themselves to pay the price. Then, there are those who from the beginning have been in it for the prestige; before long the desire to get ahead or to guarantee their fortune chokes the little life there was in their fledgling faith. Finally, Jesus says there are those who hear, understand & bear fruit to such a degree that even the least of them enjoy a miracle harvest.

Power of the Word: (Isiah 55) *Celebration*

Isaiah proclaims that the word of God is as effective as the rain or snow; it always produces results. That certainly cannot mean that the word of God always brings conversation, otherwise, our world would not be as it is. Isaiah is talking about God's word as a word of dialogue. He's saying that God of Judeo-Christianity desires and initiates relationship with creation. Our God speaks to us in our own tongue inviting us into communion.

Once heaven reaches out to earth, the horizon has changed, and earth can never be the same. The coming of the word of God invites humanity into the possibility of relationship with God, something that no person can achieve on her or his own. Whether or not we accept the offer, the possibility will forever be there. Like an open window cut in what used to be a solid wall, we need not to go through it, but everything is different because we could. That is Isaiah's message: Once the word of God has come, nothing is the same.

Suffering to Glory: (Romans 8) *Celebration*

Paul envisioned a future exodus for believers through which present suffering and sorrow would yield to glory, freedom and redemption. In his day, the prophet firmly believed that this passage would be accomplished by God's potent Word. Paul understood that a similar experience is afforded believers in Jesus, the Word of God made flesh. Spoken and sent into the world to achieve God's will, Jesus would not return to God until every aspect of that will had been enunciated and affirmed. This, as Paul indicates here in his Roman correspondence, would include speaking to the problem of human suffering.

It is through the Spirit that the Christian engages in the present with the ongoing battle that derives from the victory on the cross. To put it another way, the ethical struggles of the Christians are the beginning of the sovereign rule over the created order that will be fully realized in the new world. Each of us, in our own body, represents the smallest part of that created world which is groaning in labor pains. We are part of the process forward, and it is our responsibility not to move the process backward or bring it to a halt.

Straining onward, uniting ours to the sufferings of Jesus and those of all of suffering humankind, we continue with the labor contractions that are prayer and the service of others. One day, the glory of God will be fully revealed. In that moment, God will be God, and all that God has intended for the world will also come to glorious fulfillment.

Being Good Soil: (Matthew 13) *Celebration*

Many disagreements between persons can be traced to either a misunderstanding or a misperception of words. When words and their intent are misconstrued, frictions can build and bonds can be broken, but when both speaker and hearer are on the same wavelength, words can strengthen, deepen and enrich relationships. Words were Jesus' choice for communicating himself and his message. Some refused him a hearing; others took his words and tried to turn them against him. Others heard Jesus and for a time were interested, even fascinated, but then they moved on to toy with the other words. Still others took Jesus' words to heart. They carried Jesus' words with them, and his words began to be the light that aided their decision-making and directed their daily journey. Jesus' words offered comfort, clarity and courage. They also shared Jesus' words with those who had not heard them so that the truth of his message could be heard even when he could not speak it. All these "fruits" of the word became possible because, in the moment Jesus spoke his word into the human condition, believers opened themselves to become the soil where the word of God could be sowed.

Get it?: Deacon Dick Folger, *Celebration*

Have you heard the one about the man who had two chihuahuas that he named Timex and Rolex because he was training them to be watch dogs? A simple joke, but even so, some people may not get the punch line. Jesus communicated with parables, little stories with punch lines that not everyone got. Jesus told his disciples that some people look and don't see, listen and don't understand. Isaiah was a bit more direct when he said, "their minds are dull."

God's message, like the seeds in one of Jesus' parables, needs to penetrate deeply in order to take root in us. But these seeds can easily bounce off the top of our thick heads. We need to be open; we must look and listen carefully.

On Being the Word: Carolyn Wright, *Celebration*

What is the word of God that you need to speak by your life fully lived? Is it a word of kindness and compassion? Is it a word of redress and challenge? Is it a word of forgiveness and healing? Is it a word of guidance? Sustenance? Nurture? Liberation? Is it the word of love?

We are a word spoken by God. Who we become in this life gives voice to that word. For those who have eyes to see and those who have ears to hear...what word will they hear in their hearts because of our life well-lived in resonance with the Gospel message? How will we each be a "holy word" in this world, in our workplace, in our neighborhood and in our families? How will we as words spoken by God, accomplish the will of God through the action of the Word in, with and through us so that we, too, might water a parched creation?

Look Around: *Connect*

Have you ever tromped through a cornfield this time of year? It is early enough yet in many places that an adult can still be seen over the tops of the growing corn. In a few weeks, that won't be possible. The corn will overshadow any person walking in the field. As the cobs on the corn stalks grow, the plants will produce rich harvest.

Our growth in the Christian life may not be as dramatic as the few short months it takes for a field of seed to be transformed into full granaries. When you look at a field day after day it is hard to notice the growth. But it is clearly there. You may not be able to see from day to day that there is much change, but from week to week or month to month you notice the difference.

Maybe today's Christian living isn't much different from yesterday. But what about from last year's? or five years ago? If you can't see much difference over that span of time, when will you be ready for the harvest?



Food Pantry Requests:

We are in need of a few items for the food pantry. If you can think of us when you do your grocery shopping it would be so appreciated!

- | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Canned Tomatoes | Pancake Mix | Tuna Helper |
| Boxed Cereal | Tissues | Canned Potatoes |
| Canned Fruit | Deodorant | Mouthwash |
| Spaghetti Sauce | Taco Meal Kits | Pasta |

Online Giving...

During these uncertain times, your parish still needs your support. Do not 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. Your vital support can still happen regardless of where you are.

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



PICTORIAL DIRECTORY UPDATE


We have been working diligently on the pictorial directory. We have completed the activity picture pages and will be ready to submit it once we have proofed names, addresses and hope that we will have it completed soon and then get it to the publisher for printing. Thank-you for your patience!



Michael Kaczynski
Painting/Carpentry

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St. Anthony Cemetery 4485 S. Eleven Mile Rd. Auburn, MI 48611



COLUMBARIUM		
Single (1 Urn)	Parishioner \$1,000	Non-Parishioner \$1,500
Double (2 Urns)	\$1,400	\$1,750
Inurnment	\$ 250 per niche	\$ 300 per niche
CEMETERY		
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