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Kellie Deming	Connie Kaczynski	Karen Willsie
Tim Hadd	Pam Graul-Gwizdala	

**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)

**BEFIENDER**

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 PM

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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](http://www.auburnacschool.org)

Clark Switalski, Principal ..... [cswitalski@auburnac.org](mailto:cswitalski@auburnac.org)

School Office..... [schooloffice@auburnac.org](mailto:schooloffice@auburnac.org)

**SCHOOL ENDOWMENT**

**SPREADING THE SPIRIT FUND**

Clark Switalski, School Principal..... (989) 662-6431

**WEATHER POLICY**

If Bay City Public Schools or Auburn Area Catholic School 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

## Week of August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022

### Monday

622:Rv:11:19a;12:1-6a,10abPs 45:10-12,16 1Cor15:20-27Lk 1:39-56

### Tuesday

420: Ez 28:1-10 (Ps) Dt 32:26-28, 30, 35cd-36b Mt 19:23-30

### Wednesday

421: Ez:34-1-11 Ps 23:1-6 Mt 29:1-16

### Thursday

442: Ez 36:23-28 Ps 51:12-15, 18-19 Mt 22:1-14

### Friday

423: Ez 37:1-14 Ps 107:2-9 Mt 22:34-40

### Saturday 4:30 pm Mass

424: Ez 43:1-7b Ps 85:9ab, 10-14 Mt 23:1-12

### Sunday 9:30 am Mass

123: Is 66:18-21 Ps 117:1-2 Heb 12:5-7, 11-13 Lk 13:22-30



## EDUCATION / FORMATION

**Family Talk Time:** *Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families*; Sara McGinnis Lee

Ask your children what questions they have about today's Gospel. Discuss whether they think that Jesus wants families to be divided. Why could his message have that effect?

### Reflecting on the Word:



It might seem alarming to some that Jesus says that he came to bring division, not peace. Jesus is talking about the cost of doing the will of God. He speaks of accomplishing something

great—the realization of God's kingdom—and doing so with the kind of passion and fortitude that might harm our relationships with others. Others might have lukewarm responses to discipleship, an attitude that could cause rifts and conflicts. Jesus challenges us to continue his work and make this our highest priority.

### Living the Word:

We hold up saints as examples of those who follow Christ unconditionally. Some saints suffered ridicule, cruelty, and even death at the hands of family members because of the path they chose. Research a saint who was persecuted by his or her family. Some examples are St. Francis of Assisi, St. Clare, St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, and St. Kateri Tekakwitha. Discuss their responses in light of today's Gospel.

## PARISH ACTIVITIES

**Wednesday, August 17<sup>th</sup> – Knitters 10 am – Parish Office**

**Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup> - Office closes at noon-(summer hours)**

## STEWARDSHIP

**Weekly Target:** \$11,153.84 **Offering:** \$11,200  
**Priest Retirement Fund:** \$40 **Food Pantry:** \$130

### Children's Good Deeds

- ...Helping SJ get ready for today...Helping change a diaper...
- ...Helping to take care of my little sister...
- ...Helping Mom with the baby...Helped make zucchini bread...

## AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Clark Switalski, Principal

As you know, we are looking for a few positions in the school. We are in a rather desperate situation at this point with the opening of school only a week away. So **"PLEASE"** if you know anyone

interested in a part-time position, contact the school office for further information, 989-662-6431

**Pre-School Aide and Classroom Aide** (School year August - June) Auburn Area Catholic School is looking to hire a classroom aide. The position will be for 3.75 hours a day from 8:30 - 12:15 daily. Applicant must be over 18.

**Lunch Server** - 10:30-12:30 on school days. This position is only handing food out to students and helping clean the tables in between lunches. The 5th graders help with the overall end cleaning. No cooking or ordering is required.

...God Bless...

**Medical Update...** Despite at times going one foot forward and two steps back, I have passed the half way mark of my treatment. Horray! I did have the feeding tube inserted this week, so it is on to the second half of treatment. Thank you so much for all your cards, well wishes and of course, prayers. They are so very appreciated. ~Fr. Tom ~



**Good News!** The bookkeeper has informed me that we have passed our CMA target although some parishioners are still paying on their pledges made. As long as those pledges are kept, we should start getting monies rebated to the parish.



**FROM  
FR. TOM'S  
DESK**

**Twentieth Sunday Ordinary Time:** *Grace Works*, Dallas, Texas

It is easy to have faith in God when your body is whole and strong, when you are surrounded by loving friends and family, and when you live in luxury and comfort atop a mountain, high above the suffering and danger of a broken world. Thank God for such times, and indeed, we do.

But what happens to faith in God when your body is racked by chronic pain, or when the closest people surrounding you end up betraying your trust, or when your mountaintop retreat turns out to be a live volcano? When life tumbles in, what then? Where does faith go when you find yourself waist deep in the muck and mire of tragedy or suffering? How could a loving and powerful God let this happen to us? Can we maintain faith in God, even when life is the pits?

That is the subject of our scripture lessons today from the prophet Jeremiah and from Jesus, a word for those times when our experience of life is the pits—diseased or aging bodies, betrayal by intimate relationships, unjust suffering and random violence, or “acts of God” like hurricanes and tsunamis—and we are left to survey the landscape of our lives littered with the shattered fragments of broken dreams, broken promises, or broken bones.

**Rejected Prophet:(Jeremiah 38)**

*Grace Works*

The prophet Jeremiah preached in Jerusalem for over fifty years, during some of the very worst decades of the nation’s history. It was an unpleasant calling at an unpleasant time, and most of Jeremiah’s messages were unpleasant to hear. When the nation appeared safe and prosperous, Jeremiah predicted an impending doom. And when the armies of the Babylonians were at the gates laying siege to the city, Jeremiah was still preaching destruction and judgement instead of hope and rescue. Needless to say, Jeremiah was not popular, and after fifty years of ministry, had only one convert to show for all of his effort, his scribe Baruch.

Our Old Testament lesson today is taken from those last months during the siege of Jerusalem. Tensions were high, food was scarce, moral was low. And still Jeremiah kept preaching in the streets, calling the people to recognize that God was sending this calamity upon them because of their sins, foretelling the eventual fall of the city. Finally, the leaders and the army defending the city had enough. Jeremiah was no longer just a nuisance; he had become a traitor, and a threat to the public good. So, the powers protecting the status quo threw the prophet in a deep pit, actually an empty cistern used for storing water, but now waist deep in mud. He was not sentenced to this pit to serve out a jail sentence. There was no food in that pit, and no facilities, and no jailer to check on him. Jeremiah was thrown in that pit to die.

**Importance of Hope: (Hebrews)** Richard Gribble, *Collegeville*

The author of the letter to the Hebrews tells us that there is a reason that we must persevere in running the race. We are to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, “who inspires and perfects our faith.” The Lord was forced to endure many trials. He was opposed by people on all sides; his message was rejected by many. He was betrayed and abandoned by those he knew best. Through it all, however, Jesus was able to persevere because he knew that one day he would return to God. Such must be our hope and prayer as well.

**In the Light and the Dark: (Luke 12)**

*Grace Works*

In the enigmatic saying from Luke’s gospel, Jesus describes his ministry, and the impending suffering he would endure on the cross, in language that seems awful dark. What was this talk about setting a fire to blaze, and the division he would provoke between families and friends? And what was this baptism that caused him such anguish? The disciples must have been as shocked and puzzled as we are. Many times, Jesus was gentle and consoling, healer, and reconciler. But this occasion his words were alarming and disruptive, and his mood was somber and foreboding. Because when he uttered these words Jesus was on his way to the cross, not a coronation. And even though he was the Divine Son of God, he was still human too. No one, not even Jesus, looks forward to life in the pit, the time of betrayal and suffering, when you can feel God-forsaken at times.

But that is the point, if you know the story of Jesus Even when he felt God-forsaken, Jesus was not. God was still there, closer even than his blessed mother Mary at his feet, present in the suffering, present in the darkness, so present God could feel the pain of the cross in Himself. Yes, sometimes God sends a rope to rescue us from the pit, like the servant who interceded with the king to save Jeremiah, or fish that swallowed Jonah when he was going down for the last time, or the ram in the thicket that replaced Isaac on the altar of sacrifice. But sometimes, as it was with Jesus on the cross, the rescue of God comes as God joins us in the pit and holds us tight to the very end, even if we cannot feel His embrace for the pain. This is the God in whom we have placed our faith. He is a God we can believe in, even, and perhaps especially, in the dark.

**Support from Above:** Mary McGlone, *National Catholic Reporter*

The Swiss theologian Hans Urs von Balthasar warned Christians about the danger of getting involved with God. He said that God offers us the impossible. While we might be quite content to seek a simple, peaceful life, God always wants more. Balthasar writes that if God had been satisfied with the chasm that separates us from the divine, we could please God simply by standing in awe of the divine majesty, singing songs of praise. But, says Balthasar, “that is not what God wants. God presents [Jesus’] victory over death as an example to be imitated, God draws us beyond our limits into the divine adventure, which is always fatal.

This is one of those weeks when the readings won’t let us off the hook. Jeremiah’s people got so angry with his prophesying that they were ready to let him rot in the muddy cistern—it took a pagan foreigner to talk to king into letting him live. Jesus puts it right out there—following him will lead us into the life-death-resurrection mystery of baptism in his name.

Our best comfort, the genuine consolation this week’s readings offer us, comes from the “cloud of witnesses” mentioned in the Letter to the Hebrews. While Jesus and Jeremiah may have felt alone in their mission, our belief in the communion of saints offers us the universe’s largest extended family for encouragement. These sainted witnesses are like a cheering crowd of elders who know what we are facing because they have been through it themselves. They want nothing more than to see us succeed and cheering others on.

Unless we are zombies, life is going to present us with conflicts. Today’s Scriptures call us to discern how grace and God’s Spirit are at play in the conflicts that come our way. Some are nothing more than a clash of preferences and call for charity and generosity. In others, the values of the reign of God are at play. That is when Christians must be prepared to play with fire.





*Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!* To everyone who so generously



brought food to the Parish Office this last week and those who brought donations to church this weekend,

**THANK-YOU, THANK-YOU, THANK-YOU!** By Wednesday morning we had given away 15 boxes of food, so your generosity was much appreciated!

**Save the Date** ... We are actively planning for the "2022 St. Gabriel Parish Picnic!" This year's date is Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup> from noon-4 pm. So mark your calendar, and make a plan to be there!



**Michael Kaczynski**  
Painting/Carpentry

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mckaczynski@sbcglobal.net

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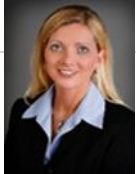
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**St. Anthony Cemetery 4485 S. Eleven Mile Auburn, MI 48611**



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

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

Prices updated 7-1-2022