



84 W. Midland Rd., Auburn, MI 48611
 Ph.; (989) 662-6861 Fax: (989) 662-0064
www.auburnac.org
 Facebook: St. Gabriel Parish, Auburn, Michigan
 MyParish App: St. Gabriel Parish, Auburn, Michigan

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PARISH STAFF

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Kellie Deming Tim Hadd Dave Willsie

Connie Kaczynski Karen Willsie

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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 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

Lisa Gandy, Secretary..... lgandy@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

WEEK OF AUGUST 22, 2020

MONDAY

629: Rv 21:9b-14 Ps 145:10-13ab, 17-18 Jn 1:45-51

TUESDAY

426: 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17 Ps 96:10-13 Mt 22:23-26

WEDNESDAY 8 am Mass

427: 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18 Ps 128:1-2, 4-5 Mt 23:27-32

THURSDAY 8 am Mass

428: 1 Cor 1:1-9 Ps 145:2-7 Mt 24:42-51

FRIDAY

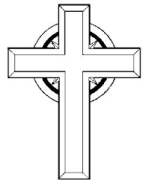
429: 1 Cor 1:17-25 Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11 Mt 25:1-13

SATURDAY 4:30 pm Mass

430: Cor 1:26-31 Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-21 634: Mk 6:17-29

SUNDAY 9:30 am Mass

124: Jer 20:7-9 Ps 63:2-6, 8-9 Rom 12:1-2 Mt 16:21-27



Family Talk Time Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families: Sara McGinnis Lee
St. Peter is the Church's first pope. He was graced with the recognition that Jesus is the Christ. Who is our current pope? How does he continue Jesus' work today?

Reflecting on the Word:

If we, with Peter, profess that Jesus is the Son of the living God, then our lives must change. If we truly believe that God has sacrificed everything, even life, out of love for us, then we who are made in the image and likeness of God are called to do the same. That radical love can hurt, it will upset our lives and make us less comfortable. But when we love as Christ loves, we build up his church. In daring to proclaim who Jesus is, we also profess our own selves: Who am I? Who am I called to be?

Living the Word:

In 2016 Pope Francis wrote *Amoris Laetitia* to advise the Church on how to care for families. He reflects deeply on the meaning of love in the day-to-day reality of family life. Discuss with your spouse how you are raising your children to be Christians. How does our family teach Christian values? How do we teach them to be sensitive to others' sufferings?

PARISH ACTIVITIES

Tuesday, August 25th - School Starts!!

Wednesday, Aug 26th - Blood Drive, Social Hall - 1:30-6:30pm

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Target: \$10,962 Offering: \$10,862

Food Pantry: \$290

Thank you to everyone for your continued support financially.

It is truly appreciated!

Children Good Deeds

....Helped feed my dog Willow...

...Helped with the laundry...Raked the grass...

AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Clark Switalski, Principal



This week school will start on Tuesday. We are very excited and looking forward to the beginning of a new school year. The teachers have been preparing all summer for this one week. It will be quite different in some respects but similar in others. The parents will not be entering the building, the students will have their temperatures checked daily and there will be more mitigation strategies to space children and keep them as safe as possible.

This week, Jesus asks the disciples who they really think he is and Simon Peter tells him that he is the Christ, living Son of God. This test was a cementing point where Jesus chooses Peter to lead his Church after his death and resurrection. Whenever we have a test, it seems as though it is almost always placed in a pass/fail format where we will either show that we have the information or not. Jesus offers us another type of test daily. While there is a right answer, our God offers us chances over and over to make up for our wrongs by forgiving us for our mistakes. No matter what you have done, God is willing to forgive, as long as you have the humility to seek forgiveness and truly be sorry.

✠ **God Bless**

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>



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.

Food Pantry Thank-you!

A big thanks to everyone who donated to the food pantry last week, it helped us make it through a VERY BUSY week! We were able to give out 19 boxes of food, toiletries and household items to needy individuals and families. *Your generosity is truly overwhelming!* Remember that you can drop off donations for the food pantry at the office *anytime* between 8:30 am & 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday.



[versiti.org/MI](https://www.versiti.org/MI)

or by calling 866-642-5663 and help us meet our goal! Versiti will also be doing COVID-19 antibody testing on donors to let them know if they had a prior COVID infection. Donors with antibodies *may* also be eligible to donate COVID-19 convalescent plasma to help currently infected ill patients recover.

Blood Drive Reminder!

St. Gabriel Parish is hosting a blood drive on Wednesday August 26th from 1:30-6:30 pm. If you have not already signed up to give blood *please* do so at

COVID-19
Antibody Testing



versiti



**FROM
FR. TOM'S
DESK**

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time Patricia Sanchez, Celebration

Authority is the focus of today's scripture readings—authority conferred, authority revoked, authority abused in the service of self and authority used rightly, in the service of the kingdom. By definition, the word authority means: (1) the power to enforce laws, exact obedience, command, determine or judge; (2) one who is vested with this power; (3) power assigned to another; (4) an accepted source of expert information or advice (*The American Heritage Dictionary*) Etymologically, our English word authority is rooted in the Latin word *auctorem* or *auctor*, which means “enlarger,” “founder” or. More literally, “one who causes to grow.” Therefore, it could be said that those on whom authority has been conferred are vested with the power and the responsibility to help others grow. Unfortunately, and as is reflected in today's first reading from Isaiah, some, Like Shebna, do not use their authority appropriately and, for that reason, their authority may be better exercised by another.

In today's Gospel, the Evangelist tells his readers how Peter's authority was conferred. Notice that Peter was not asked to compile his curriculum vitae listing his job skills and education. He was not required to present references or recommendations. Jesus was not conducting a job interview on that long-ago day, in the Caesarea Philippi; he was enlisting the help and loyalty, the love and service of a friend. To that end, preparing him for the authority that would be his, Jesus asked Peter one question: “Who do you say I am?”

Peter's response was forthright and unequivocal: “You are the Messiah; you are the Son of the living God!” That response was, in effect, Peter's curriculum vitae. Peter's knowledge of Jesus and his true and intimate awareness of Jesus' purpose and mission was what prepared him for the authority being given to him. That same intimate knowledge of Jesus and his mission is what prepares all others who share in that authority. Such knowledge and such a loving relationship keep one mindful of who the “boss” really is and enable those who represent the “Boss” before others to do so faithfully, humbly and without self-importance.

Job Performance: (Isaiah 22) Celebration

Anyone who has ever lost a job can commiserate with Shebna. If the job was forfeited because of poor performance, then our understanding of his predicament is even keener. Shebna, called here “master of the palace” and described in other translations as “royal steward,” “majordomo” “treasurer” and “prime minister,” served as a high official in the royal court of Hezekiah at the end of the eighth century B.C.E. In that capacity, Shebna wielded considerable power, with the authority to grant or to deny access to the king. His special position in the court was evidenced in the large key that he wore on his shoulder.

The prophet Isaiah challenged Shebna's position and his right to wear the key. As the royal prophet, Isaiah had advised Hezekiah and his predecessors to avoid foreign alliances and remain faithful to the one alliance that truly mattered—the covenant with God. Shebna, on the other hand favored the alliance of Judah with Egypt to fend off the Assyrians, and he encouraged Hezekiah to make it so.

Although it was probably this disagreement that led Isaiah to push for the replacement of Shebna, other reasons are also given in Isa 22:16-18. Shebna had behaved in a manner inappropriate for a steward by erecting an elaborate tomb for himself on a high place and by collecting costly chariots, Isaiah regarded such behavior as unworthy of an advisor of the king and delivered the oracle against Shebna that constitutes today's first reading.

Paul's Prayer: (Romans 11)

Celebration

In the course of Romans 9-11, Paul had conducted himself like a seasoned attorney; he had set forth his position clearly and convincingly, and then cinched his case with a powerful and effective closing argument. He had done all he could to convince his fellow Jews to accept Jesus as the Savior they had long awaited. He offered every opportunity for them to acknowledge that God's plan of salvation had begun with the people of Israel and was then extended, through them, to all the peoples of the earth. Having exhausted all his options and arguments, Paul then sat back to await God's action and God's judgement. This hymn beautifully expresses Paul's surrender of his will and his desires for his fellow Jews to God's greater wisdom. Also acknowledged in these verses is Paul's belief that God can and does use negatives, such as Israel's rejection of Jesus, in inscrutable ways to accomplish the divine purpose.

Keys of the Kingdom: (Matthew 16)

Celebration

Whatever its literary context, this Gospel is central to the understanding that the church is not a mere human institution but rather one whose architect is Jesus: “I will build.” This does not mean that Jesus would necessarily recognize the church of the 21st century as his own, but that the concept originated with him of a community of believers brought together in faith, empowered by grace and commissioned for service.

What remains quite amazing, is the willingness of Jesus to entrust the community we call church to such flawed vessels. Here Peter is stellar; in but a few verses he will be called “Satan” by Jesus for his refusal to grasp the mysterious manner, in which God was to affect the salvation of sinners: through rejection, suffering and the cross.

As each of us follows Peter in moving from stellar to shame-faced and from saint to Satan, we are also to remember that certain keys have been entrusted to each of us. For that reason, it behooves us to use those keys to open rather than close the way to Jesus. If our ministry is truly to be a continuation of Jesus' ministry, then we should open more doors than we close, build more bridges than we burn, welcome more people than we turn away and serve more people than we refuse. Only then can we be more stellar than shame-faced.

Call It What It Is:

Fr. James Smith, Celebration

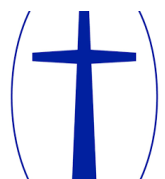
Sin is a lack of goodness, a missing of the mark, a falling short. Which means that we cannot do anything completely evil. There is always some goodness, no matter how small, in everything we do. And that is what saves us. That little spark of goodness is the foothold from which we scramble back to safety.

That little speck of goodness is a handhold for God, a little pocket of grace waiting for us to change our mind, to recognize what we have really done, to be sorry. That is in fact what repentance is: It is to call sin by its right name. Up until that moment, we have been calling it something good, or at least good for us.

When we sin, God waits, and grace hangs around, and we mellow a little and our passion for whatever it was cools off, and we feel guilty, maybe even somewhat silly. We begin to realize that it wasn't a very good thing after all. In fact, it was a bad thing. In truth, it was a sin.

Just as soon as we admit this truth, then goodness is free to go to work. The pocket of grace overflows, floods all of us, and we become good again. And we are good. Maybe a little bent and tarnished, but basically good. So good that we have no choice but to choose good things. Oh course, we can kid ourselves about what good is, but it is a measure of our goodness that we would have to lie to ourselves to do something bad.

“With Peter, I profess Jesus is Christ,
Son of the living God”

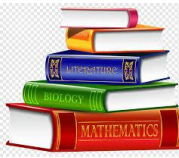




Baptism Prep

Preparation sessions are being offered either in-person or virtually for parents wishing to have their children baptized in the coming months. Please contact Sandy at 662-4335 or via email at sdesjardins@auburnac.org

The Staff and Parishioners of St Gabriel would like to wish all students starting school, a successful year....*whatever* this new school year brings, may it be filled with God's blessings!



PICTORIAL DIRECTORY UPDATE

We have been working diligently on the pictorial directory. We have completed the activity pages and submitted them along with the parish roster of names and addresses. The publisher will produce a proof and once we have approved everything it will go to print. Thank-you for your patience!

Michael Kaczynski
Painting/Carpentry

989-662-7747
Cell: 303-242-2650
mckaczynski@sbcglobal.net

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



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