



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

**PASTOR**

Rev. Marc Hopps.....[mhopps@auburnac.org](mailto:mhopps@auburnac.org)

**PARISH STAFF**

Office  
 Kim Grant.....[parishoffice@auburnac.org](mailto:parishoffice@auburnac.org)  
 Parish Office Hours...Monday-Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Bookkeeper  
 Janet Woronoff.....[bookkeeper@auburnac.org](mailto:bookkeeper@auburnac.org)

Music Director  
 Sue LeVasseur.....[musicdirector@auburnac.org](mailto:musicdirector@auburnac.org)

Youth Minister  
 Misty Michelle.....[youthff@auburnac.org](mailto:youthff@auburnac.org)

**LAY MINISTERS**

Anne Dearington Cheryl Gedraitis Marilyn Welz  
 Kellie Deming Connie Kaczynski 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)

**BEFRIENDER**

Mary Ellyn Gushow ..... (989) 662-6745

**COMMUNION FOR HOMEBOUND**

Pam Graul-Gwizdala ..... (989) 513-3027

**MASS SCHEDULE**

Tuesday and Thursday 8 AM (except on the *First Thursday* of the month the daily Mass is at 6:30 pm)  
 1<sup>ST</sup> and 3<sup>RD</sup> Wednesday of the month at 9 AM  
*First Thursday* of the month 6:30 PM  
*First Friday* of the month 8 AM  
 Saturday 4:30 PM Sunday 9:30 AM

**NEW PARISHIONERS**

Contact Parish Office for appointment to register.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Celebrated the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend each month, during Mass. Must be active, registered member of parish. Contact the Parish Office for more details.

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE**

Arrangements should be made by contacting the 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**

**Also, by appointment. Please email Fr. Marc**  
 5:00 PM on the *First Thursday* of the month  
 3-4 PM Saturday at Church

**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 AACS 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 September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023

### MONDAY

431: 1 Thes 4:13-18 Ps 96:1, 3-5, 11-13 Lk 4:16-30

### TUESDAY 8 am Mass

432: 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11 Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 Lk 4:31-37

### WEDNESDAY 9 am Mass

433: Col 1:1-8 Ps 52:10-11 Lk 4:38-44

### THURSDAY 6:30 pm Mass followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

434: Col 1:9-14 Ps 98:2-6 Lk 5:1-11

### FRIDAY

636: Mt 5:1-4a Ps 13:6abc Mt 1:1-16, 18-23

### SATURDAY Confessions 3-4 pm Mass 4:30 pm

436: Col 1:21-23 Ps 54:3-4, 6, 8 Lk 6:1-3

### SUNDAY Mass 9:30 am

127: Ez 33:7-9 Ps 95:1-2, 6-9 Rom 13:8-10 Mt 18:15-20



## UPCOMING PARISH ACTIVITIES

**Monday, September 4<sup>th</sup> – Happy Labor Day!**

**No School/Parish Office closed.**

**Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> – Parish Picnic, Noon-3:30**

## STEWARDSHIP

**Weekly Target: \$11,153.84 Offering: \$9,118**

**Food Pantry: \$70**

### Children's Good Deeds

...Helping make my bed... Behaving at the Loons game...

...Helped clean the house with my mom...

...Helping my little sister... Shared with friends... Helping out...

## AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

**Clark Switalski, Principal**

[cswitalski@auburnac.org](mailto:cswitalski@auburnac.org) 989-662-6431



We have had some wonderful days this week and the soccer season has officially started with practices. The  $\frac{2}{3}$  and  $\frac{4}{5}$  teams will play on Mondays and Wednesdays this year in our back lot. We currently have 28 students spread out in 3 different teams. Getting the children active is one of the great positive experiences we offer at AACCS and we have the space to utilize! Thank you to all the people who have helped get us set up and running. All the staff and students appreciate your efforts and are excited for the season to start. ...*God Bless*...

**WE NEED YOUR HELP**

**Auburn Area Catholic School** is looking for help in the afterschool program. The program runs 3:30-5:30 Monday - Friday. This is a much-needed program, and **we need staff!** If you are interested, or know someone who is interested, please have them contact the school office at 989-662-6431 or email the principal at

[cswitalski@auburnac.org](mailto:cswitalski@auburnac.org). Job description available upon request.

## EDUCATION / FORMATION

### Family Talk Time:

**Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families**, Sara McGinnis Lee  
*What does it mean to follow Jesus? Do we ever act like Peter and stand as an obstacle for others on their journey to follow Jesus?*

### Reflecting on the Word:

Jesus never said following him was going to be easy. He said he is the only source of complete joy, he will give us eternal life in heaven, but he never promises that our lives would have no burdens. Jesus tells us we must "take up our cross and follow him." "Follow him where? Well, where did he go? To be crucified. But the story doesn't end on



Good Friday. We follow him all the way to Easter Sunday. Jesus promises his light will always be stronger than the darkness. But to get to that light, we must follow him.

### Living the Word:

As a family, think of some people in your life who are good examples of following Jesus. Discuss how their lives have shown you how to follow Jesus, too.

**We will be having a renewal of certification for Eucharistic Ministers and refresher training for lectors here at St. Gabriel.**

As a current Eucharistic Minister this training will "renew" your certification. For Lectors it will be a refresher course. Fr. Marc will be the facilitator at these **REQUIRED** events. Please see the monthly bulletin calendar for scheduled training dates.

If you have *never* been certified by the Diocese as a Eucharistic Minister (Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion) you must attend a diocesan sponsored certification course before you can serve at St. Gabriel Parish. If you have a conflict with this schedule please contact the Parish Office. We welcome and appreciate your continued or "new" service to your Parish (**See the sessions scheduled below**).

### Diocesan EMHC certification training schedule

September 20 (Wednesday) 7-8:30 PM

Holy Trinity Parish (Pinconning)

September 21 (Thursday), 7-8:30 PM

St. Mary University Parish (Mt. Pleasant)

Presenter: Fr. Jim Bessert

### **One week to go!**

**We are one week away from the Parish Picnic! Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> from 12 - 3:30 pm. There will be wonderful food, fun for the kids, a rummage sale, lots of prizes, and Bingo! We hope you can join us for a fun-filled day and a chance to meet and greet Fr. Marc at this time-honored tradition!**



## Self-Denial



The prophet Jeremiah has a complaint against God in the first reading. He laments how his prophetic ministry often results in rejection and being labeled as an outcast. People do not like him and mock him and the message he proclaims. So, the prophet concludes that he will no longer speak the word of the Lord. However, the call of God is irrevocable. The imagery Jeremiah uses is

very striking. He compares the fire of God's word to a fire burning in his heart. I hope each Christian has the same fire that burns constantly in their heart to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ.

In the second reading Paul encourages the Romans to avoid conforming to the world and its standards. Instead of conforming to the world and minimizing God, he wants the Christians to be transformed by the renewal of your mind. When our mind is renewed then good discernment can happen. Oftentimes the battleground with temptation lies in the mind. Jesus recognized this when he said that if someone looks at another with lust, they have committed adultery in their heart. The Holy Spirit can and will bring clarity to our intentions, motivations, and thoughts. Paul also reminds us that we can offer our very selves as a living sacrifice to God. That means whatever we do, whether it be work, sports, relaxation, fellowship, mass, or prayer can be offered as a spiritual sacrifice. Sometimes this means denying ourselves a bit so we can offer a sacrifice to God for ourselves and others. Athletes deny themselves all sorts of things in their preparation for games. The spiritual life is no different. I hope we are all edified and encouraged by this reality and can see our everyday activities as acts of spiritual worship.

## Training Sessions

I am offering some certification sessions for Eucharistic Ministers/Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. I want to address the reason for these sessions and hopefully clear up the confusion regarding the certification process. First, I will talk about the reasons for these certification sessions. The universal church wants to make sure that ministers understand what is going on with the practical and theological aspects of ministry. We believe the Eucharist is the source and summit of our entire faith. We also believe that the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus Christ are truly and substantially present in the Eucharist. As such, it requires particular attention to detail and reverence.

The **first** reason for these sessions is for unity and understanding. We want to be unified in our theology and practice with the universal, diocesan, and local church. The **second**, current Eucharistic Ministers have approached me and asked for this opportunity to give thanks to God, reflect, and be renewed in our service to God. Third, it is important that we follow what is asked of us by the diocese and canon law for the worldwide church. These are the

reasons I am **requiring** your attendance at **one** of the parish certification sessions offered here at St. Gabriel. You will be certified for 3 years following these sessions. These parish formation sessions are only for those that have **previously attended** the diocesan certification program. If you have never been trained by the diocese, please look at the dates in the bulletin and attend one of those first. I welcome new people into these ministries as well. Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns.

The bulletin calendar also has dates on there for refreshing on lectoring/reading at mass. I would ask if you currently lector or are interested in serving in that ministry to please attend **one** of these sessions. We will reflect on the gift of God's Word, our calling to proclaim God's Word, and conclude with some practical aspects to consider. One final note I want to say. The Eucharistic training requirements are not new but have been in place for some time now. However, I understand this may come as a surprise. I humbly ask that we approach this with enthusiasm and optimism. It is done for love of and respect for our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and in the scriptures. I have witnessed your deep love for Jesus in the mass, and I am confident that by reflecting on the gift we have received that love will continue to grow.

## First Thursday

Thursday September 7<sup>th</sup> is the first Thursday of September. As a reminder, there will just be the 6:30pm mass followed by exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, private prayer time, and concluding around 8pm with night prayer. I hope you can join me for this solemn and awe-inspiring time together. In the bulletin last week, I talked about this prayer style. Going forward, the first Thursday of each month will follow this format.

## Fun Fact

My fun fact this week: As a child I was sick all the time, and had tubes put in/taken out of my ears 7 times before I was 4 years old!



**Can you spot Fr. Marc in this picture from his World Youth Day trip?**

**Food Pantry needs!** When we say "needs" we really mean "We are desperate!" We are serving between 75-80 families a month currently. This is a significant number of people. There is a lot of need out there right now, with people having to decide between paying rent and utilities or buying food. Not an appealing choice. Please help in any way you can.

- Hamburger/Tuna Helper    Canned Tuna    Tissues
- Toilet Paper    Dish Soap    Canned Soup    Treats
- Sloppy Joe Mix    Boxed Cereal    Toothpaste/Brushes
- Canned Pasta    Baked Beans    Mashed Potatoes
- Pancake Mix/Syrup    Canned Vegetables    Jelly
- Peanut Butter    Mac & Cheese    Pasta Sides
- Canned Fruit    Spaghetti and Sauce    Bar Soap



### Handy Man Service

General maintenance inside and out!  
 Plumbing, Heating, Air Conditioning  
 Electrical, Dryer Vent Cleaning/Install.  
 Call Terry Matuszewski (989) 493-4862

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 989-662-6061  
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 Auburn MI 48611                      after hours: 810-990-5673

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**(On the Corner of Midland & Garfield Rd)**  
 Weekdays: 8:00-6:30, Saturday 8:00-2:00, Sunday 10:00-2:00



### St. Anthony Cemetery

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