



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. Thomas E. Sutton ..... [tsutton@auburnac.org](mailto:tsutton@auburnac.org)

**PARISH STAFF**

Office, Kim Grant..... [parishoffice@auburnac.org](mailto:parishoffice@auburnac.org)

Bookkeeper

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

Director of Religious Education..... (989) 662-4335

Sandy DesJardins ..... [faithformation@auburnac.org](mailto:faithformation@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	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)

**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 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 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 5<sup>th</sup> , 2022

### MONDAY

437: 1 Cor 5:1-8 Ps 5:5-7, 12 Lk 6:6-11

### TUESDAY Funeral 10 am

438: 1 Cor 6:1-11 Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b Lk 6:12-19

### WEDNESDAY

439: 1 Cor 7:25-31 Ps 45:11-12, 14-17 Lk 6:20-26

### THURSDAY

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

### FRIDAY

441: 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27 Ps 84:3-6, 12 Lk 6:39-42

### SATURDAY 4:30 pm Mass

442: 1 Cor 10:14-22 Ps 116:12-13, 17-18 Lk 6:43-49

### SUNDAY 9:30 am Mass

132:Ex 32:7-11,13-14 Ps 51:3-4,12-13,17,19 1Tm1:12-17 Lk 15:1-32



## UPCOMING PARISH ACTIVITIES

**Monday, September 5<sup>th</sup> – Happy Labor Day!**

**School Closed, Parish Office Closed**

**\*Food Pantry Weekend, Scrip Available after Mass**

**Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup> – Parish Picnic! – noon-4 pm**

## STEWARDSHIP

**Weekly Target: \$11,153.84 Offering: \$6,176.33**

**Food Pantry: \$15**

**Children's Good Deeds**

...Helped Papa organize canning supplies...

## AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

**Clark Switalski, Principal**

Two weeks down and more to come! It is exciting as we move into our virtues for September. This month, we will focus on trustworthiness. Being truthful and honest to all people we meet is how we can develop this virtue. When the students are asked to do something, the AACs staff must be able to trust that they will follow the expectations. It is a learning experience, and some students are quicker learners than others, but all of them can grow in their understanding and practice of trustworthiness.

The Gospel this week Jesus gives us a roadmap to how we can be Disciples of Christ. We have a plan set forth by God, and the choice to follow it or not. Will you take up the cross, or find an excuse to not follow Jesus? Truthfully, we all have these choices daily as we go through our day-to-day interactions, and I pray that we make the right choice. Will you answer God's call to Discipleship or make an excuse?

**Scrip Sale!** PTO will be offering Scrip cards after both Masses next Weekend, September 10<sup>th</sup>. and 11<sup>th</sup>. It is a whole new year of fundraising, and we hope you will support us!

**...God Bless...**

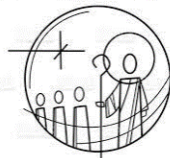
## Annual Soccer Challenge!

The Monsignor A. Forbes Knights of Coloumbus #3590 will be hosting, in conjunction with AACs and St. Gabriel Parish our annual "Soccer Challenge 2022." In conjunction with our "**Parish Picnic**" on Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm. Anyone 9 to 14 years of age can participate **as long as they belong to the Parish**. Parents will be asked to sign an entry form, available at the Picnic or the School Office. Please call Ed Piotrowski 989-859-8504 for further details.

## EDUCATION / FORMATION

**Family Talk Time** Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families, Sara McGinnis Lee  
*What does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus Christ? What are some ways that we could make Jesus first in our lives?*

### Reflecting on the Word:



At first glance this Scripture passage seems, well, wrong! Jesus wants us to hate our mother and father. If we go back and look at the original language, however, we see that the word hate here is an expression that is better translated as "preference." Jesus is telling us that we should not

prefer anyone, even our family, or anything in our lives before him, or we cannot be his disciples. He defines for us what a disciple is: someone who puts Jesus before everyone and everything. Jesus doesn't want us to abandon our families or to hate them. That wouldn't follow his teachings on loving and respecting our parents. If we prioritize him, then our lives will have the proper foundation.

### Living the Word:

Throughout this week find ways to make Jesus more important in your family's life. Before you get out of bed in the morning, talk to him. Before you eat or play a game, thank him for what's in front of you. When you are nervous or afraid, remember Jesus is there and thank him for being with you. As you drive in your car, talk or think about one moment from Jesus' life.

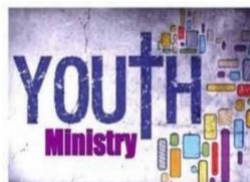
**Religious Education** registration is being taken until Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup>. Forms are at the west church entrance. We will begin formation on Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup> @ 10:45 a.m. Please know that any child preparing to receive sacraments must be in formation **1 year** prior to receiving their sacrament and the year of celebrating the sacrament.



**Youth Ministry** registration forms are available at the west church entrance.

There will be weekly gatherings this year. That schedule will be published soon.

Misty Michelle is our youth minister & Cindy Abraham will be the lead catechists for the Middle School Youth Formation.



### The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

is the process for adults who desire to join the Catholic faith and for those seeking more information on the Catholic Church. OCIA can also be a method for Catholics to complete their reception of the initiation sacraments. Do you know someone who might consider becoming Catholic or would like more information about our Catholic faith? Contact Sandy DesJardins, [faithformation@auburnac.org](mailto:faithformation@auburnac.org) or 989-662-4335.



**HELP!** We need you to work in the nursery Sunday morning. If you love interacting with children 6 months through 5 years of age this ministry is for you! Please contact Sandy if you are willing to minister to our young families!!  
[faithformation@auburnac.org](mailto:faithformation@auburnac.org) or (989) 662-4335.

### Cantor Practice

We will be meeting on Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. Scheduling for September, October and November. If you are unable to attend please email Sue LeVasseur  
[musicdirector@auburnac](mailto:musicdirector@auburnac)



## FROM FR. TOM'S DESK

### Twenty-Third Sunday Ordinary Time:

Patricia Sanchez, *Celebration*

As the believing community gathers today to celebrate their individual and collective lives in Christ, the scripture readings put before them (us) a mixed message. On the other hand, the ancient sage and author of Wisdom reminds us of the fragility, vulnerability, and limitations of those who share the human condition while, at the same time, acknowledging God has gifted humankind with wisdom and the Holy Spirit. These gifts bring light to the darkest hours and enable those who appropriate them to walk a straight and just path.

Similarly, Paul, in his correspondence with Philemon, shares with us the fact that his discipleship was the main cause of his vulnerability and often weighed heavily upon him. Again, his commitment to Christ has landed him in prison. Nevertheless, he finds strength in his faith and courage in his participation in the Cross of Christ. In today's gospel, the Lucan Jesus continues the theme of the cost of discipleship and follows it up with two parables that set an additional message before the praying assembly. Through the image of the tower builder and the embattled king, Jesus teaches his own that theirs must be an attitude of perseverance that assesses this situation, counts the cost, accepts the risk, and stays the course. Aware that his disciples would soon have to learn to live committed lives without the benefit of his earthly presence, Jesus would not have them unprepared.

### God's Gift (Wisdom 9):

*Celebration*

In this brief text the unnamed first century BCE author of wisdom identified those factors that make perseverance difficult for humankind as well as those that make it possible. Whereas timidity, uncertainty, and the corruptible nature of the human condition challenge those who would persevere in living an upright, honest, and just life, God's gifts of wisdom and the Holy Spirit equip those who receive them with the capacity and courage to do so. A realist, the ancient sage knew and understood well the foibles and weaknesses that weigh upon every finite mortal; however, as a person of faith, the author of Wisdom was also keenly and personally aware of the infinite possibilities to those who believe and are willing to appropriate the strength and stamina that God, wisdom, and the spirit will afford those who pray for them.

### Slave to Brother (Philemon verse 9ff):

*Celebration*

Paul wrote to Philemon from prison (either Ephesus, ca. 55 CE, or Rome, ca. 61-65 C.E.) to request mercy for Onesimus. A common name for slaves in the ancient world, Onesimus means 'useful' his fugitive status had made Onesimus "useless" to Philemon, but the young man had evidently endeared himself to Paul who desired that he remain with him and become "useful" in the service of the word (see v. 11). Although, there can be no certainty as to how Paul and Onesimus met, Paul regarded the slave whom he had probably converted as his "child" and even more affectionately as his "heart" (vv. 10, 12). Nevertheless, despite his fondness for Onesimus and his need for assistance in his ministry, Paul acceded to Philemon's ownership and sent the slave back to Colossae (see Colossians 4:9) with the letter that has made its way into the Christian canon.

As rightful owner, Philemon could have had the runaway executed. Obviously, Paul was aware of this; nevertheless, he appealed to Philemon to welcome Onesimus back into his household, no longer as a slave but as his brother in Christ (v. 17).

### Cost of Discipleship (Luke 14):

*Celebration*

A pair of complementary parables completes today's gospel. Both counsel disciples to enter their commitment to Christ and the church with open eyes and level heads; only complete awareness as to conditions, cost, and consequences of their commitment will enable Jesus' disciples to persevere in their calling. Like the world-be tower builder, Jesus advised his would-be disciples to "sit down and calculate the outlay;" like the king about to do battle he suggest that they "sit down and consider" the struggle that would lie ahead of them. The lesson is plain. Jesus does not want followers who naively rush into discipleship without knowing what is involved. Moreover, he is clear about the price: The cost of discipleship is not less than everything the disciples has to offer. Jesus wants his own to count the cost so that they can enter into the exhilaration of full-blooded discipleship. Means giving without counting the cost, fighting without heeding our wounds, toiling without seeking rest and laboring without asking for any reward, save that of knowing that I am doing your will, O Lord. Amen! Never give up!

### Power of Money:

Fr. James Smith, *Celebration*

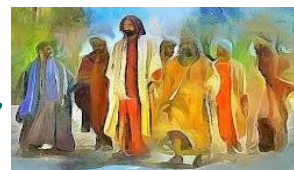
Before money is about other people, it is about us. Its pernicious power sickens us before it affects other people. So, what, precisely, is the matter with money? Well, as Emerson wrote, "Sometimes money just costs too much."

Getting and spending, we lay waste our human potential. With years riveted to the bottom line, we miss the brilliant beauty of the universe. It is not just a matter of money, its' a matter of perspective. The poor are not poor because they have little but because they want more. You and I are not rich because we have some money but because we want more. And this incessant craving contorts our lives.

Why do we constantly want more? Why do we keep accumulating things? It surely can't be just a hoarding pathology. We increase our domain for a reason: We are trying to get happy, and we think that the next possession will put us over the top. We persist in our delusion no matter how often we are disappointed. We may file bankruptcy, the nation may be in a depression and the world economy plummeting—but we remain unwaveringly convinced that with a bigger house, a better car, all will be well with us.

We allow ourselves to be deceived because we have misplaced the font of happiness. Having diminished our inner life by frantic activity, having handed over control of our life to outside forces, we automatically assume that happiness comes from having more.

*"Lord, strengthen my  
commitment to follow you"*



### Medical Update...Fr. Tom

Two steps back this past week came about because I went into Afib. The result was five days in the hospital. While I still have the condition, medications have since brought my pulse to an acceptable level.

The incident threw my final week of treatment into chaos as I missed some chemo and radiation treatments. The plan is to make them up ASAP. So this coming week will be the end of both chemo and radiation. I will be a happy camper!

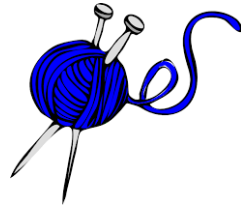


## Food Pantry Weekend

As you have probably noticed that we regularly ask for the same items when we are approaching "Food Pantry weekend." Paper Towels, Toilet Paper, Tissues, Dish Soap, Boxed Cereal, Boxed Meals, etc. What you may not realize is that we make-up boxes with an idea in mind that several "meals" can be prepared. Tuna and tuna helper with a can of vegetables, pancake mix and syrup for breakfast, Sloppy Joe mix and baked beans and so on. So, when we ask it is with a purpose. And when we give out 35-40 boxes a month you can see how quickly it goes! Thank you for your support in "any capacity" we truly appreciate it!

## Yarn Donations Needed!

The Knitting/Crochet Club is looking for yarn to make hats, mittens, and scarves for both the school and the food pantry Thanksgiving dinner giveaway. We are looking for some darker colors and a lighter weight material. Also, anyone who would like to join the knitting/crocheting club is welcome to come to our gatherings!  
*Thank-you, Jane Soldan*



## Handy Man Service

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## Space available for Advertising!

Please contact the Parish Office at  
**(989) 662-6861 or parishoffice@auburnac.com**

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## St. Anthony Cemetery



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 Double (2 Urns)  
 Inurnment

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 Burial of Cremains  
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Parishioner	Non-Parishioner
\$1,100	\$1,600
\$1,500	\$1,850
\$ 250 per niche	\$ 350 per niche

Parishioner	Non-Parishioner
\$ 600	\$1,300
\$ 750	\$ 900
\$ 250	\$ 275
\$ 250 additional	\$ 250 additional
\$ 0.40 per sq. inch	\$ 0.40 per sq. inch

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

\* Updated 7-1-2022