



# St. Gabriel Parish

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**

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**LAY MINISTERS**

Anne Dearington	Cheryl Gedraitis	Marilyn Welz
Kellie Deming	Tim Hadd	Dave Willsie
Connie Kaczynski	Karen Willsie	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

**HELPING HANDS COMMITTEE**

Stephanie Schacher..... (989) 878-2898

**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 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**

Available 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday each month at 11:00 AM in the Sacristy at St. Gabriel Parish \*Please call Parish Office for appointment.

**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.

## EDUCATION / FORMATION

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

How might we open ourselves up to everything that surrounds us—in the neighborhood, in the community of faith, in our own families? What might God be telling us?

### **Reflecting on the Word:**

In the work of creation, God brought the whole world into being. When Jesus opened the ears of the man and enabled him to speak, he created a whole new life for him. The prophets foretold that when the Messiah comes the deaf would hear, the lame would leap, and the mute would sing (Isaiah 35:5-6). By the work of Jesus, people began to recognize him as the savior they had been waiting for. He is the one who has come to bring us new life. Sometimes we are deaf to words we need to hear and do not always speak the truth people need to hear. Let us ask Jesus to open our ears so we can hear his world and bless our tongues so we can speak his word.

### **Living the Word:**

Do we pay attention to what God might be telling us? How do we make time to listen to him? Setting aside time for prayer as a family will help us be more open to listening to God and to proclaim the Gospel by the way we live.

### **Religious Education**

Registration is being taken until Monday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. Forms are at the west church entrance. We will begin formation on Sunday, September 26<sup>th</sup>.



### **Youth Ministry**

Misty Michelle is our new Youth Minister. She will be leading a weekly program for middle and high school students. She is planning to kick off the year on Sunday, September 26<sup>th</sup> with a campfire, s'mores, and some fun "getting-to-know-you" activities! A schedule and more information are to follow. We encourage all youth of the parish to consider joining and invite your friends too! The registration forms are available at the west church entrance or by calling the Parish Office, 989.662.6861.

**Sacramental Preparation** applications are available at the west church entrance. Your eligibility to participate in the sacramental programs is dependent upon the following factors: \* must be a registered parishioner with evidence of family participation at weekend liturgies \*currently enrolled in a parish sponsored religious education program or Auburn Area Catholic School \*participation in a religious education/formation program the previous year \*parish participation in various church ministries and financial stewardship is encouraged \*commitment to church attendance and religious formation after reception of first-time sacrament Prayerful consideration should be given as to the suitability of committing your child to sacramental preparation.

Reconciliation prep begins in November and Eucharist prep begins in February. **Forms are due Monday, September 24<sup>th</sup>.** With sessions offered during the week.

### **Education Commission**

We are in need for people to serve on the Education Commission this year. We meet the 2nd Thurs of each month from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. If you are willing to give your time to help evaluate and discuss education/formation for our parish, let Sandy DesJardins know at [sdesjardins@auburnac.org](mailto:sdesjardins@auburnac.org) or 989.662.4335

## **Week of September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

### **MONDAY**

437: Col 1:24—2:3 Ps 62:6-7, 9 Lk 6:6-11

### **TUESDAY**

438: Col 2:6-15 Ps 145:1b-2, 8-11 Lk 6:12-19

### **WEDNESDAY 8 am Mass**

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

### **THURSDAY 8 am Mass**

440: Col 3:12-17 Ps 150:1b-6 Lk 6:27-38

### **FRIDAY**

441:1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14 Ps 16:1b-2a, 5, 7-8, 11 Lk 6:39-42

### **SATURDAY 4:30 pm Mass**

442: 1 Tm 1:15-17 Ps 113:1b-7 Lk 6:43-49

### **SUNDAY 9:30 am Mass**

131: Is 50:4c-9a Ps 116:1-6, 8-9 Jas 2:14-18 Mk 8:27-35



## **UPCOMING PARISH ACTIVITIES**

**Monday, September 6<sup>th</sup> Happy Labor Day! –Parish Office closed  
No School**

**Thursday, September 9<sup>th</sup> – Commission Meetings 6:30 pm  
Parish Council Meeting 7:30 pm**

**Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup> – PARISH PICNIC! 12-3:30**

## **STEWARDSHIP**

**Weekly Target: \$10,962 Offering: \$7,457**

**Food Pantry: \$10**

**Children Good Deeds**

...Helping with groceries...

## **AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

### **Clark Switalski, Principal**

We are now ending our second week of school and I can tell you it is nice to be back in session. I am still currently looking for a 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, so if you know of someone, please send them my way. I pray that God gives us all patience and understanding through this beginning of school, because we can always use prayers for one thing or another.

We are also looking for some help for our aftercare program.

If you would like to work just a couple of hours with some of the children in the school, this could be the job for you! The hours are from 3:30-5:30 during the school

year when we are in session. We do not have aftercare during any of our breaks from school. If you know anyone interested in either position, please have them email/call me at [cswitalski@auburnac.org](mailto:cswitalski@auburnac.org) or 989-662-6431.

# HELP WANTED!



✝ **God Bless**



**FROM  
FR. TOM'S  
DESK**

**Twenty-third Sunday Ordinary Time:** Patricia Sanchez, *Celebration*

While it is one thing to *hear*, it is quite another to *listen*. Have you been part of a conversation and suddenly became aware that the other person may have been hearing you, but wasn't truly listening? Or perhaps you were the one who did not listen, who did not understand and appreciate what was being communicated.

For some among us, listening is difficult because of a hearing impairment. This was the experience of the man featured in today's Gospel. Unable to hear, he could not listen to Jesus; unable to listen, he could not speak. Jesus' cure of this man freed him from his solitary silence and opened his ears. Once freed, he proclaimed the wonderful healing he had known in Jesus. This nameless former deaf man bears witness this Sunday to the importance of hearing and listening to the Word that challenges us to exercise truthfulness, justice, love, and service.

In his joy at being healed, the man attests to the fulfillment of the messianic hopes that they were given voice by Israel (first reading). In the healing of the deaf, the blind and the lame, the Messiah would be made known, and the salvation they had so long awaited would be accomplished through him. At each communal gathering for worship, the call to listen is renewed. The sacred texts are proclaimed, and the words are heard. The presider offers a homily. But unless we also listen—that is, unless we take the word to heart, surrender to the call of the word, are willing to be transformed by the proclaimed word, and desire to respond to the word in faith and in service—then the word has been spoken in vain.

**Reason to Hope:** *Celebration*

The prophet advises readers that there are times (as during the exile) when every imaginable response to God is fraught with too much danger for us to do anything but remain silent and trustful in God's care. Into that silent trustfulness, the prophet wished to inject hope and a fearlessness born of faith. "God will come with vindication," promises Isaiah and that deliverance will vanquish evil. In Hebrew thought, evil was masked in many disguises: as physical illness; handicaps; scorched, barren land; sinful conduct and death itself. With the deliverance here promised—a journey homeward reminiscent of the exodus, the restoration of life and water to the desert and a healed humankind—God is greater than evil, and grace is more powerful than any affliction, be it spiritual, political, or physical. Early Christians were quick to understand and affirm their belief in the fact that Isaiah's promises of healing and restoration were fulfilled in the person and ministry of Jesus.

**Unbiased?:** *Celebration*

Opinions about clothing and its significance for human beings have varied widely through the centuries. Henry Ward Beecher, for example, declared: "clothes and manners do not make the man, but, when he is made, they greatly improve his appearance." A century and a half earlier, William Shakespeare included this line in "Hamlet": "the apparel oft proclaim the man." American wit and prolific author Mark Twain agreed; he once quipped: "Clothes make the man; naked people have little if any influence on society." But it is the opinion of Samuel Johnson that comes nearest to the notion James wished to correct in today's second reading. Said Johnson, "A man with a good coat upon his back meets with a better reception than a bad coat.

Both Johnson and James understood the human penchant for responding to others based on external appearances rather than respecting them for who they truly are. James understood that such behaviors should not be found among those who had given themselves over to Jesus Christ in faith. He addressed this issue in frank, practical terms: Do not show favoritism to the rich over the poor.

**Hear AND Listen:**

*Celebration*

While the narrative of the deaf-mute obviously recounts a physical healing, it also contains an inherent challenge for contemporary believers. Deafness can be more than physical; it can be a moral condition, and it is no stranger to our times. How often do we hear but not listen? The latter requires careful attentiveness; the former does not. All too often we hear God's word but do not listen attentively, and as a result it does not take root within us. Appropriately, the Marcan Jesus has framed his teaching with the command to hear *and* to listen, He teaches us, that understanding the Word requires devoted hearing (4:23-25), and careful devoted hearing alone can result in deeper understanding. In a world filled with words that are cheapened by their vulgarity or sheer multiplicity, we might recall, that God has given human beings two ears but only one mouth—which suggests that we might listen twice as much as we speak. Just as we would readily use a hearing aid to enhance physical hearing, so must we be willing to rely on God's grace as an aid to our moral and spiritual hearing

**Signed in Baptism:** Dick Folger, *Celebration*

A cartoon shows two men waiting at the speech therapist's office. One of them asks the other: "I wonder whose idea it was to put an 's' in the word lisp?" If you have ever had difficulty saying, "Sally sells seashells by the seashore," then you get a glimmer of what it is like to live with a speech impediment.

In today's Gospel, Jesus opens a man's ears and heals his speech impediment. This opening of the ears and the release of the tongue is part of the rite of every baptism. When you are baptized, the presider said the prayer of Ephphatha. He touched your ears and prayed that you would one day hear God's word. Touched your mouth and prayed that you would proclaim God's word.

**Without Favoritism:** Patricia Sanchez, *Celebration*

Favoritism, or its negative expression, prejudice, is incompatible with Christianity. Nevertheless, how many can claim to be immune to or entirely free of it? While we can readily identify prejudice in others, many of us are less able to recognize it in ourselves. With little effort, we can easily summon to mind a host of examples that attest to the presence of favoritism, discrimination or prejudice in our own experiences well as on the global level. Who does not recall the injustice we sensed when, as children, we realized that a teacher favored some students over others? "Teacher's pets," we called them. Who has not witnessed the example James cites, that the rich are given preferential treatment the poor are discriminated against?

Prejudice, favoritism, and discrimination can become so engrained in the human psyche that they can become habitual. Moreover, these tendencies are likely to go unchecked until someone calls them to our attention. Today, James serves us admirably in this regard. His words, combined with the words and works of Jesus (he did not discriminate against a deaf man because he was not a Jew) challenge us to look inward and to allow the light of God's truth to unmask those prejudices that parade about in our thoughts, influencing our attitudes and behaviors. Once unmasked, daily and continued effort will be needed to keep such tendencies at bay. While prejudices are not inherent to the human heart, once they are learned (and they are learned), they take deep root and unfortunately they seem to be quite contagious. Today, James and Jesus remind us that our Christian faith precludes both prejudice and favoritism. and deeper questions require deeper answers. No one escapes the mystery of suffering and loss that leads to either hope or despair.



***"Lord, may I both hear and speak your word"***





## Parish Picnic Countdown!

**Next Week** is the Parish Picnic, Sunday, September 12 from 12-3:30 pm. We will have food, drink, games, and giveaways but most important a chance to gather with our fellow parishioners and enjoy a summer afternoon! Hope to see you there!

John D. McNally 989-662-6952



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## St. Anthony Cemetery

4485 S. Eleven Mile Rd., Auburn



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**