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[www.auburnac.org](http://www.auburnac.org)  
 Facebook: St. Gabriel Parish, Auburn, Michigan  
 MyParish App: St. Gabriel Parish, Auburn, Michigan

**PASTOR**

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**PARISH STAFF**

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

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RCIA Coordinator  
 Kellie Deming.....[adulsted@auburnac.org](mailto:adulsted@auburnac.org)

**LAY MINISTERS**

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

**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 .....662-6745

**COMMUNION FOR HOMEBOUND**

Pam Graul-Gwizdala .....513-3027

**SCHOOL ENDOWMENT  
 SPREADING THE SPIRIT FUND**

Clark Switalski, School Principal .....662-6431

**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 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**  
 Ph.: 662-6431.....Fax: 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)

**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 evening activities will be announced by 3:00 PM. Closures will be posted on TV: NBC 25, ABC 12, CBS 5.

## WEEK OF OCTOBER 19, 2020

### MONDAY

473: Eph 2:1-10 Ps 100:1b-5 Lk 12:13-21

### TUESDAY 8 am Word and Communion

474: Eph 2:12-22 Ps 85:9-14 Lk 12:35-38

### WEDNESDAY 8 am Mass

475: Eph 3:2-12 (Ps) Is 12:2-3, 4c-6 Lk 12:39-48

### THURSDAY 8 am Mass

476: Eph 3:14-21 Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 11-12, 18-19 Lk 12:49-53

### FRIDAY

477: Eph 4:1-6 Ps 24:1-4b, 5-6 Lk 12:54-59

### SATURDAY 4:30 pm Mass

478: Eph 4:7-16 Ps 122:1-5 Lk 13:1-9

### SUNDAY 9:30 am Mass

148: Ex 22:20-26 Ps 18:2-4, 47, 51 1 Thes 1:5c-10 Mt 22:34-40



## EDUCATION / FORMATION

**Family Talk Time** Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families, Sara McGinnis Lee  
*What matters belong to humanity? What matters belong to God?*

### Reflecting on the Word:



The Pharisees, scholars of Jewish law, were trying to trick Jesus into denouncing the rulers of his day. But Jesus refused to be tested and told them to give to Caesar what is Caesar's,

and to God what is God's. There is a separation between the earthly realm and the realm of God. Although we are part of a society on earth and must pay our dues and taxes, the realm of God can intercept and weave through every aspect of our lives. We can acknowledge the primacy of God by doing God's work in all areas of our lives—not just during Mass and prayers, but by doing our daily work and living in a way that reflects God's will.

### Living the Word:

Explain that throughout history there have been clashes between laws of humankind and laws of God. But how might we, as Catholic Christians, live in the secular world and reflect our religious values?

### Baptism Preparations Sessions.

We offer 2 preparation sessions. Prep I session is for first time parents & Prep II is for those parents who have already attended a Prep I session. We are currently offering these sessions in person and virtually. Contact Sandy, 662-4335 or [sdesjardins@auburnac.org](mailto:sdesjardins@auburnac.org) to register for a preparation session and set your celebration date.

## UPCOMING PARISH ACTIVITIES

**Thursday, Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup> – Blood Drive – 1:30-6:30 pm – Social Hall**

**Saturday, Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> – CMA (CSA) Weekend**

**Sunday, Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> – CMA (CSA) Weekend**

## STEWARDSHIP

**Weekly Target:** \$10,962     **Offering:** \$7,859.20

**Food Pantry:** \$75     **Diocesan Collection:** \$105

*Thank you to everyone who has continued to support the parish so generously. We truly appreciate your support!*

Children Good Deeds

...Played with my sister...Helped my sister when she got hurt...

...Played with the puppy and cleaned the house...

## Reminder...

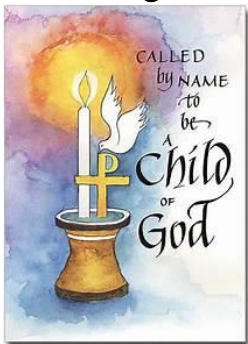
- AACS is selling Scrip **this** weekend! This is a great time to get a start on your Christmas shopping! Remember that the school does get a percentage of the purchases that are made so it is a win-win situation!



## Congratulations!

*Cruz David Klein  
son of Abby Edgington  
& Joshua Klein*

*Maeve Kennedy Neal  
daughter of  
Chad & Brookelynn Neal*



**Phone system note:** We are experiencing an outage of the voicemail system within the parish office, school and rectory. We are working to resolve this problem, but for the interim, please call the parish office or school during regular business hours so we can receive your calls in person. *Thank-you for your cooperation!*

## AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

**Clark Switalski, Principal**

Fall is my favorite season out of all of them. I love the changing colors and mild temperatures. Understanding the concept of constant change is always difficult to hear, and even harder to accept. Jesus tells us that we must always remain diligent and not become complacent in our lives. Well, this connects to my faith life, because when I am complacent, I find myself moving in the opposite direction I really want to go in my relationship with God. I am a firmly believe that you are either moving toward or away from God with every action you take and every word you say. I struggle because words are always my downfall, and interpretation/understanding is not determined by the person talking, rather the person listening. Knowing what to say and when to say it is a lesson learned through past mistakes and I will continue to work on it. The staff and students have been wonderful this year, so please keep us all in your prayers!!

This week, the Pharisees are trying to catch Jesus saying something inappropriate. They are hoping his words will get him into trouble, Jesus does not contradict the government officials in charge, nor give them absolute authority. Instead he "changes" the focus of the question and lets everyone know that God has true and ultimate authority. God is the overseer of everything, and once this is realized, our lives do become much simpler. Having more faith in God and doing what is right has made my life better and I hope yours too!

- **Administrative Assistant position in school office is available.** If you are interested, a job description can be picked up in the parish office during regular business hours 8:30-4:30 M-F. All paper applications can also be dropped off at the parish office. Questions and electronic applications to be submitted to [cswitalski@auburnac.org](mailto:cswitalski@auburnac.org)

✝ God Bless



**FROM  
FR. TOM'S  
DESK**

**Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Patricia Sanchez, *Celebration*

We belong to God as citizens of heaven before we are citizens of any earthly society, this is an important aspect of our identity as believers.

As a theocratic society, the Israelites did not ascribe to a strict dichotomy between the sacred and the secular or the separation of church (synagogue, temple, mosque) and state. Rather, they perceived the hand of God at work in every aspect of their individual and collective lives. They made no distinction between the active and passive will of God, and they also attributed to God their blessings as well as their struggles and sufferings. Accordingly, they interpreted both the exile and their liberation from exile as being guided by God, as were the human agents through whom these events were realized.

This understanding of the Israelite view of history as the canvas where God's involvement with humankind is played out makes the question posed to Jesus by the Pharisees and Herodians appear disingenuous. They wanted to trap him by goading him into choosing sacred over secular power, or vice versa. But Jesus would not fall prey to their artifice. He acknowledged the power of the secular world and its agents and acquiesced to the demands it made upon the material goods of its citizens. And then Jesus went on to affirm the even greater responsibility we owe to God. Caesar's portion makes claim on our purse, but God's rightful claims lay hold of our heart, mind, soul and strength. Living according to the demands and loving overtures of God develops those qualities of character that will make us good citizens of the world.

Some suggest that a tithe (10 percent of our income) is enough. This may be generous, but only if it is affirmed by 100 percent of our willingness to be given to God in all things, at all time, in all places.

**Only One God: (Isaiah 45)**

*Celebration*

This text bears eloquent witness to the evolution of Israel's awareness of God as the one and only. But the strict monotheism reflected here was achieved slowly and not without struggle.

The sacred authors tell us that when Moses bartered with Pharaoh for the freedom of his people enslaved in Egypt, his God, Yahweh, proved to be more powerful than the gods of Egypt. As a result, the enslaved Hebrews were free to follow Moses into the desert, where their God cared for them and guided them to the Promised Land. But when the desert trekkers settled in Canaan and began to live a more agrarian lifestyle, many were tempted to turn to the ba'als and fertility cults, believing they must court the local gods if their crops and flocks were to thrive. Through every deviation from the one true God, the prophets urged the Israelites to be faithful. Only in the sixth century B.C.E., amid the crisis of the exile, did a strict monotheism emerge among the Israelites. They finally understood their God, the God of Israel, was with them in Babylonia...they finally realized their God was all-powerful, that *there were other gods*: "I am Lord there is no other!"

**Church's Dependency: (1 Thessalonians 1)**

*Celebration*

Writing in the name of those who had brought the Gospel to them, Paul reminded his readers of their special identity: they were (as we are) the church "in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." Paul and his companions planted the seed of the good news, and the Thessalonians responded generously, but it is God who is to be thanked (1:2) just as it is God who directs and strengthens the church (3:11-13) and God who always remains faithful (5:24). God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, there can be no church, but with God and in Jesus, the church thrives in "grace and in peace." A customary salutation used by Paul in several of his letters, this greeting also affirms the fact that the church is founded upon the grace and peace that come from God.

**Dual Loyalty: (Matthew 22)**

*Celebration*

When he was approached by the Pharisees and Herodians with their insincere but true praise, Jesus did not mince words. He called them hypocrites, "play actors." The fact that they readily produced the coin of the realm confirmed their implicit acceptance of the very system they wished him to criticize. Taking such a stand would have put Jesus at odds with the empire; not taking a position against Rome would have roused the wrath of his fellow Jews.

Scholars agree that the coin offered to Jesus probably had the image of the reigning emperor. Tiberius. Minting coinage in one's own likeness was an act of sovereignty. Each successive emperor would begin his reign by destroying the currency of his predecessor in order to replace it with his own. In the first part of Jesus' answer, he did not defend or detract from Tiberius' power to exact taxes, but in the second part of his response, he offered a perspective that probably startled his questioners. Caesar might have made a claim upon their material resources, but God's claim was far more comprehensive than taxes.

"Give to Caesar" calls upon the allegiance we owe to temporal authority as good citizens of heaven and of the empire; believers are to perform their civic duties and pay their dues, however difficult and unwelcome these may be. But "Give to God what belongs to God" is a challenge that taps into the limitless claim upon us of our Creator, Liberator, Redeemer and Lord

**Lasting Wealth:**

Deacon Dick Folger, *Celebration*

The Gospel reminds us of the old adage "You can't take it with you." As death approaches, the rich can't seem to imagine leaving their wealth behind. The Pharaohs of Egypt built great pyramids to house their wealth so that they could take it with them into the afterlife. Jokes abound about this great human folly.

One dying rich man told his wife to stuff two pillowcases with cash and put them in the attic. "As I go to heaven, I will grab the pillowcases on my way up," he said. Two weeks after the funeral she found the pillowcases, still in the attic. "Too bad," she said to herself. "I knew I should have put them in the basement."

**Herodian or Christian?:**

From Good News

The challenge Jesus poses to his opponents is one that he continues to pose to his disciples through the centuries and to us today. We too need to avoid the responses of the Herodians and the Pharisees, a too ready identification of God and Caesar, and a too rigid division (in theory if not in practice) of civic and religious spheres. We don't live under Nero or Stalin, but this doesn't mean we can complacently assume that loyalty to country and loyalty to God are never at odds. While we are blessed to live in a democratic society that professes, and at least much of the time practices, a commitment to freedom and dignity, we must be on guard against the temptation to equate love of country and love of God. The former is a relative good and a relative obligation; the latter is an absolute good and an absolute obligation. We owe absolute allegiance not to a flag, or even to the republic for which it stands, but only to the Lord.

Our nation, like everything else in the world, is "under God," but like all else in this fallen world, including ourselves individually and corporately, it is not always willing to recognize and accept that it is not almighty, is not always right or just or honest or generous. To be a disciple is to say yes to human institutions when we can but to say no when we must. It sometimes means taking unpopular positions when these positions are a way of giving to God what belongs to God, even though it requires not giving to Caesar what Caesar thinks belongs to him. To do any less is to become a Herodian rather than a Christian.

*"Lord, may I always serve you"*







This is an invitation if YOU are unbaptized or if YOU are a baptized Christian and wish to become a member of the Catholic Church, our parish community welcomes and invites you to consider the Catholic Faith through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. An informal session to explore these questions and faith issues in relation to Catholic beliefs is scheduled for Tuesday, October 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. For more info contact Kellie Deming at [kdeming@dioceseofsaginaw.org](mailto:kdeming@dioceseofsaginaw.org) or you may also call the parish office at (989) 662-6861.

Pre-registration is required. **Kellie will be available after mass the weekend of Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>.**



**Pop Can and Bottle Drive!**

AACS will be collecting pop cans and bottles from St Gabriel Parishioners on **Monday, October 26<sup>th</sup> from 8 am till 4 pm.** You can donate your returnable cans and bottles by placing them in the trailer which will be parked in the church parking lot. Please help us achieve our fundraising goals through this great event!

**PICTORIAL DIRECTORY UPDATE**

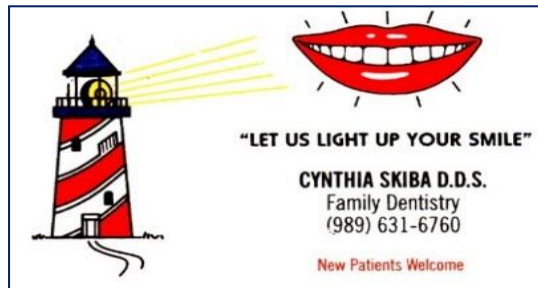
The publisher has produced a proof! We will work on approving names and addresses and once that is completed it will go to the publisher for print. Keep in mind that Lifetouch is working with a skeleton crew because of the pandemic but they have assured me they will get the directories to us as soon as possible. Thank-you for your patience!

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