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PARISH STAFF

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LAY MINISTERS

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

PRAYER LINE

Mary Jane.....(989) 513-5137 vicmaryj@hotmail.com

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

School Office..... 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 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

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 23, 2020

MONDAY

503: Rv 14:1-3, 4b-5 Ps 24:1b-4b, 5-6 Lk 21:1-4

TUESDAY Word and Communion

504: Rv 14:14-19 Ps 96:10-13 Lk 21:5-11

WEDNESDAY 8 am Mass

505: Rv 15:1-4 Ps 98:1-3b, 7-9 Lk 21: 12-19

THURSDAY 9 am Mass

506: Rv 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 9a Ps 100:1b-5 Lk 21:20-28

FRIDAY

507: Rv 20:1-4, 11—21:2 Ps 84:3-6a, 8a Lk 21:29-33

SATURDAY 4:30 pm Mass

508: Rv 22:1-7 Ps 95:1-7b Lk 21:34-36

SUNDAY 9:30 am Mass

2: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7 Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 1 Cor 1:3-9 Mk 13:33-37



PARISH ACTIVITIES

Monday, Nov. 23rd – Thanksgiving Food Giveaway

Wednesday, Nov. 25th – No School

Thursday, Nov. 26th – HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Friday, Nov. 27th – No School / Parish Office Closed

Giving Tree Weekend

Sunday, Nov. 29th – First Sunday of Advent

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Target: \$10,962 **Offering:** \$10,408.43

Food Pantry: \$160 **Diocesan Collections:** \$ 400

Christmas Flowers: \$520

Thank you for your continued financial support. It is appreciated!

Children Good Deed

....Feeding my dog Willow...Fold towels...

AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Clark Switalski, Principal



With Thanksgiving coming up, I stopped and thought about what being thankful really means to me. I am thankful for dedicated teachers who have worked tirelessly through tough circumstances, with few complaints, even when I know they are exhausted or stressed out. I am

thankful for the students, who have adjusted well to everything thrown at them and still have a smile on their faces. I am thankful for the parents, who take the time to check their children daily and keep them home if something doesn't "seem" right. I am thankful for a parish that supports a school and gives us the opportunity to express our faith in actions and words. I am thankful for a parish staff who support and promote our Catholic Values by offering many suggestions for staff, teachers, students, and parents. I am thankful for a Priest that leads his congregation to being one of the most generous and supportive I have ever experienced. Finally, I am thankful for my family, immediate and extended, because they continuously sacrifice of themselves to help everything work. Regardless of how you celebrate your Thanksgiving this year, know that you have been weighed and counted, and that Jesus never leaves us even during tough times.

✠ **God Bless**

***Reminder: AACS will be selling Scrip after masses this weekend in the Social Hall. Remember that if you choose a tag off the Giving Trees for a gift card you can purchase it from Scrip at the same time!**

EDUCATION / FORMATION

Family Talk Time *Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families:* Sara McGinnis Lee
How can we help bring about love, justice and mercy into our lives?

Reflecting on the Word:

As we end our liturgical year and enter a new season, Advent, we deepen our image and understanding of Jesus Christ as the King of the Universe. Jesus is both a king sitting on his throne before all the nations and a shepherd separating the good sheep from the bad. The imagery of a judgement leads us to ask by which measure we will be judged. As Jesus told us a few weeks ago, the greatest commandments are the love of God and the love of neighbor. How have we ministered to or failed to minister to God and neighbor? Jesus as King and Good Shepherd wants to rule over our lives and hearts in the works of love, justice and mercy.

Living the Word:

Have your children create a crown and decorate it ornately. Announce that every day this week, one member of the family will be king or queen for the day. Discuss what are the job responsibilities for the king or queen, such as determining the chores, schedule, meals for the day, and so on. Then discuss how Jesus rules. How can the day's ruler also imitate Jesus and bring love, justice, and mercy into the day?

Congratulations!

Kallie Jae Heminger

daughter of Jacob & Amanda Heminger

Layla Grace Waibel

daughter of Tyler & Katie Waibel



Advent is coming...

This church season is a time for preparation and a new beginning of a Church year. We take the four Sundays before Christmas and prepare our homes and our hearts to celebrate the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ. It is a time to reflect and remember with great hope and joy why we are doing all this preparation and share that with others. Historically, the primary color of Advent is purple. This color indicates a time of penitence and fasting as well as the color of royalty to welcome a King. The color purple of Advent is also the color used during Lent to remember the importance connection between Jesus' birth and death. This year your preparations will be a bit different with the COVID 19 restrictions. Perhaps you will send more Christmas cards or be making front porch drops. However, you spread the spirit of this season consider praying for safety, healing or blessings for the Holy Spirit to touch their lives in a special way for each person or family. Christmas caroling is another option. It is a non-contact offering to your neighbors, friends, family or a care facility. Taking time to read the Christmas story is also a great way to prepare the way, Matthew 1:18-25.



First Report: The Diocese is doing all the record keeping for Christ's Mission Appeal (CMA). We received a

report last week. Our target this year is \$71,201. So far 110 parishioners have responded pledging or donating \$23,925. If you have not responded, I ask that you do so. Despite the turbulent times the parish still has an obligation to support the diocesan budget.



FROM FR. TOM'S DESK

Feast of Christ, the King

Patricia Sanchez, *Celebration*

As one who went about doing good, Jesus healed the sick, fed the hungry, welcomed strangers and reached out to those imprisoned by their own sins or through the injustice or apathy of others. No need was too small to merit his attention; no effort was too great. In all he said and did, Jesus revealed the loving care and attentive mercy of God for this world's least ones.

The loving mercy of God as exercised by Jesus was beautifully anticipated by the prophet Ezekiel in today's first reading. Like a devoted shepherd whose life is completely given over to the care of his sheep, Jesus directed his mercy toward every human being, no matter where they had strayed or been scattered. He gave of himself to the extent that, in the end, he surrendered his own life so that the lost would be found, the strays would be gathered in and the wounded would be made whole.

When Jesus' followers realized all the good gifts of God that had come into their lives through his efforts, they were probably moved to thank and honor him as a sign of their gratitude. Some even wanted to make him king. But Jesus redirected their gratitude into gracious outreach toward others. Jesus challenged his disciples to pass on to others what each had received from him. By extending God's gifts to others, believers become participants in a dynamic that makes of salvation a here-and-now experience for others rather than relief that comes only with death—salvation becomes an existential rather than merely an eternal experience.

We may pray for the hungry, thirsty, sick, imprisoned, the naked, the homeless and the lost, but unless our prayer is translated into positive and practical action on their behalf, then we have obscured the reason for which Jesus came to give so that we might give, too.

Like a Shepherd: (Ezekiel 6)

Celebration

Ezekiel and his fellow Jews had been sorely disappointed by the lack of pastoral care shown to them by several of their kings. According to the prophet, poor leadership and a lack of faithfulness to God had resulted in the demise of Judah. Conquered by the Babylonians, their capital and temple destroyed, their elite citizenry in exile, the Judahites were precisely as Ezekiel described. They were scattered, strayed, sick, injured and in need of rescue.

Human leadership having failed them, Ezekiel turned the eyes of his contemporaries to the God who would never fail. God would come, he promised, to shepherd the people rightly, God acted on behalf of Judah through Cyrus the Persian. After conquering the lands held by the Babylonian empire, Cyrus arranged for the exiles held by Babylonia to return to their respective "sheepfolds." But God's ultimate shepherding of the people of Israel and Judah would be accomplished through the person and mission of Jesus.

First Fruits: (1 Corinthians 15)

Celebration

Along with promoting the *necessity* of faith in Jesus' resurrection, Paul wanted to make sure his readers appreciated the consequences of that central event for believers. Christ is the first fruits of the universal harvest of those who will be gathered unto God and to glory because of Jesus' saving death and resurrection. A Jewish cultic term, *aparche* or first fruits referenced the custom of consecrating and offering the first-picked produce of the fields and the firstborn of the flocks to God, thus acknowledging God's rightful ownership of all that exists. First fruits were also regarded as a hope filled sign of what was yet to come as the growing season progressed: an abundance of fruits and vegetables and numerous sheep and goats. In his rising from death, Jesus signaled the end of the reign of sin and death and the beginning of a new era of forgiveness,

Ongoing Giving: (Matthew 25)

Celebration

What is distinctive in this Matthean scene of judgement is the fact that Jesus has chosen to be known and represented in the world's powerless and needy. Jesus is being revealed through their hunger, their thirst and in all their struggles. This recognition of Jesus traveling incognito in the most distressing of disguises calls forth our compassionate care for those who hunger and thirst or are naked, imprisoned, sick or in danger of being displaced and deported. This recognition of Jesus in this world's least ones calls for giving that is steady and sacrificial, not just occasional. Inspired by the one who sacrificed Godhead, glory, his own will and his very life, we can describe our outreach to the poor as authentic re-gifting only if we give in the manner of Jesus—fully, freely, frequently and without expectation of reciprocity.

Give the Gift:

Rev. Michael Kwatera, OSB, *Celebration*

This parable warns us that judgement is not a matter of adding up the pluses and minuses of our lives in God's account book. Judgment is simply God's confirmation of the daily choices that we have made in our lives, of what we have done or failed to do for others.

But the parable also gives us encouragement. If we are trying to help people who need our help, we need never *fear* judgment. It is not that our "good deeds" earn us a row of gold stars in God's account book. Rather, Jesus tells us that if we are genuinely selflessly trying to serve others' needs as he did, we will seldom fail to reflect goodness in other areas of our lives as well. And whatever failures remain in our lives will be forgiven by God.

The love of Christ, poured out so generously for us, must become our gift to others. When we to respond to others with our love, Jesus Christ becomes our way of life our everlasting blessedness.

Surprise!:

Grace Works

We expect great judgment to be based upon great actions. Huge acts of patriotism receive the Congressional Medal of Honor. Great exertion and prowess is rewarded with the gold medal at the Olympics. And conversely, horrendous acts of cruelty receive the harshest penalties. The more heinous the crime; the stiffer the sentence. But in this parable of Jesus, the ultimate punishments are based on relatively minor actions. Feeding the poor, clothing the naked, visiting the prisoner, showing compassion to the stranger—these are noble acts, to be sure, but they do not seem to be the stuff of final and eternal judgment. And yet, this seems to be precisely the point in the parable.

Few times in our lives will we have the opportunity to make some great act of heroism, some headline-making act of courage or compassion. Few of us will have the chance to make major changes in world policy, to discover a cure for a ravaging disease, to broker the peace between nations. But all of us have the chance, indeed many chances, to do the small things well—to offer the cup of cold water, to alleviate one small corner of suffering, to light one small candle against the darkness, to speak out against just one injustice that we witness. It may not seem like much, but apparently Jesus thinks the way we handle these small moments—or fail to do so—is of eternal importance.



"I pray, Lord, to be a generous person"

Status: This past week both the Administration Commission and the Parish Council met. Out of concern for the effects of the pandemic, focus was on the state of the parish's income and expenses during this time. A report from the bookkeeper revealed that this year income from the first three quarters (Jan. thru Oct.) was greater than it had been for each of the last three years, and expenses were less than those of the same time in the last three years. Evidence attests to the generosity of the parish in good times and bad

Giving Trees... The Giving trees are up and available for parishioners to select tags! We have arranged the trees in the social hall to allow for social distancing and we ask that you please wear a mask. The trees will be up for this weekend and next weekend provided that there are still tags available. *Please*, if you are able, help us make Christmas more joyful for those who are in need..



A Prayer for Thanksgiving

Loving God,
 We turn our hearts to you on this day for giving thanks, mindful of your many gifts.
 For each one, we are grateful.
 For each one, we are blessed.
 For each one we are opened to the abundance of your love.
 May this Thanksgiving Day offer a reminder to be generous with others, as you are with us.
 We praise you.
 We rejoice in you.
 We give you thanks.
 Amen.

Michael Kaczynski
 Painting/Carpentry

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 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