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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
 Sisters of St. Clare 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 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

***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
 Clark Switalski, Principal cswitalski@auburnac.org
 School Office schooloffice@auburnac.org

**SCHOOL ENDOWMENT
 SPREADING THE SPIRIT FUND**

Clark Switalski, School Principal (989) 662-6431

WEATHER POLICY

If Bay City Public Schools or AACCS 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 December 12th, 2022

MONDAY

690A: Zec 2: 14-17 (Ps) Jdt 13:18bc, 19 Lk 1:26-38

TUESDAY Word and Communion 8 am

188: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13 Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19, 23 Mt 21:28-32

WEDNESDAY Word and Communion 9 am

189: Is 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25 Ps 85:9-14 Lk 7:18b-23

THURSDAY

190: Is 54:1-10 Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13 Lk 7:24-30

FRIDAY

191: Is 56:1-3a, 6-8 Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8 Jn 5:33-36

SATURDAY 4:30 pm Mass

193: Gn 49:2, 8-10 Ps 72:1-4, 7-8, 17 Mt 1:1-17

SUNDAY 9:30 am Mass

10: Is 7:10-14 Ps 24:1-6 Rom 1:1-7 Mt 1:18-24



UPCOMING PARISH ACTIVITIES

Monday, December 12th – Choir Practice – 6:30 pm

Tuesday, December 13th – Scripture Study – 10 am

Penance Service – 7 pm

Wednesday, December 14th – Blood Drive 1:30 - 6:30 pm

Friday, December 16th – School Christmas Program 6 pm

*Holiday Scrip Sale after both Masses

Sunday, December 18th – CLOW/Nursery 9:30 am

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Target: \$11,153.84 Offering: \$12,045.95

Food Pantry: \$255 World Mission Sunday: \$195

Retired Religious: \$105 Mission Co-op: \$30

In Memory of Raymond Wenglikowski: \$480

Children's Good Deeds

...Putting my dishes in the sink...Helping feeding the dog...

...Helping my family...Helping my Dad clean...

...Played with sister...Helped put up the tree...Go potty...

AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Clark Switalski, Principal

We are entering our third week of Advent.

Annually we light the Advent candles on the wreath before our morning prayers, but this year is even more special because we will be able to fully celebrate all 4 weeks of Advent. The students will be in school until the 21st of December, thus giving them the full Advent season. This coming week, the

school will be having their annual Christmas concert on Friday December 16th. It's a great time for the children to show off all their talents and hard work through our music classes and children's choir.

This week we revisit the relationship between John the Baptist and Jesus. Jesus gives an explanation on the importance of John the Baptist but gets clarification by saying "[...] Among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the Kingdom of Heaven is greater than he. In essence, John is important in God's plan oh, but we are all important in the Kingdom of Heaven.

...God Bless



EDUCATION / FORMATION

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

Who were the people who waited for the coming of the Messiah over two thousand years ago? Are you also waiting for Jesus? Jesus was able to make blind people see and lame people walk. What does this reveal to us about who Jesus is?

Reflecting on the Word:



Advent is a season of waiting. Waiting for Jesus' birth. Waiting for Jesus to come again. Hundreds of years before Jesus was born, prophets told how the Messiah would be born and what he would do. The people were watching and waiting for those signs to know when the Messiah and come. Isaiah, a prophet, said that the Messiah would make "the eyes of the blind shall be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped". Jesus knew that these signs were what the people were waiting for and would help them understand who he is. How they must have felt when they realized they didn't have to wait any longer for the Savior!

Living the Word:

Jesus cared for many who were poor and forgotten. As a family this week, find a way to care for someone who is poor or forgotten in your area. Do you have an elderly neighbor to visit? Could you volunteer time or contribute to a food pantry? Your children may want to write a letter or draw a picture for someone to let them know that they are loved and not forgotten. Whom can you bring the love of Christ to this week?



Keller, Grant Lefevre, Baylor OKeefe, Jack Putt and Zoi Wegener. May they discover the joy of God's unconditional love and forgiveness!

Congratulations to the following children who celebrated their 1st Reconciliation this past Wednesday: Avery Beckham, Silas Bock, Austin Brown, Savannah Brandt, Lucy Connors, Isaiah Dallas, Mariella Grzegorzczuk, April Gwizdala, Austin Gwizdala, John Hadd, Jayden Ignash, Leah

Advent by Candlelight

was a wonderful afternoon filled with prayer, friendship, and delightful treats. Thank you to the hostesses. Each table radiated the season so beautifully. This was our first year for this event, Ashley Bock was the chairperson. Ashley did a marvelous job organizing this event. Thank you Ashley and our Education Commission.



Congratulations to

Laken Nichole Vouaux

Daughter of Nicholas & Melissa





FROM FR. TOM'S DESK

Third Sunday of Advent:

Mary McGlone, *Celebration*

After John had been arrested for his prophetic activities, his disciples told him how Jesus was going around preaching: unarmed and disarming. It's hard to imagine the faith crisis John was going through. He probably didn't worry too much about his own life, after all, he had known what he was risking when he spoke out against Herod. But he was surely concerned about his mission and message. Was Jesus really the one he was called to herald? If so, where was the action? Where was the fire?

John sent his disciples to ask Jesus to testify: "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" Jesus tended to avoid that sort of question; it was too tied up with each person's definition of a messiah. Turning the question back on them, Jesus told John's disciples to look at what they had seen and heard in his presence. "Judge for yourselves. What kind of activities will demonstrate God's presence?"

John had been described as a paragon of austerity. Nobody questioned his integrity, but few, even if they looked forward to the apocalypse he predicted, wanted to live exactly as he did. His lifestyle of fast and abstinence was harsh, reflecting his concept of God. Jesus, on the other hand, was criticized for eating and drinking, for mixing with all manner of folk. That mirrored his experience of God. Little wonder that John's primary sacrament was a baptism of repentance while Jesus' was a communion feast.

Responding to John's disciples, Jesus gave evidence from his works rather than words. Wherever he encountered people, the result was transformation: the blind saw, the deaf heard, people were restored to the fullness of their humanity in a community of love.

Today's celebration asks us to judge our faith in the light of Jesus' message. What does the salvation we hope to see look like? Are we waiting for the decimation of our evil enemies or do we long for the transformation of sinners—including ourselves? Many in today's world seem ready to offer the first option. It is the general solution offered by prisons, war and every other form of vengeance. The second option is much costlier. It requires real love to hope for the transformative salvation of those who have done us harm, and it requires humble courage to look for our own conversion.

The more we participate in Jesus' work of transformation, the more we will understand that we have encountered God with us and need not look for another.

A Vision for All:

Celebration

Those who live in desert climates know looks about sand and water. One of the things that surprise strangers to those climes is that an unusual rain can make the desert bloom. Where the ordinary eye detects nothing more than barrenness, life is teeming underneath the surface, simply awaiting the wake-up call of a good shower. But those seemingly spontaneous plants are short-lived, ever vulnerable to a heat wave.

What Isaiah describes is a monetary flourishing, but really a thoroughgoing transformation. He's not just talking about wildflowers, but a desert become forest with the splendor of the mountains. Hosea, Isaiah's near contemporary, proclaimed that God would rename the faithless "no people" as "my people" and "children of the living God" (Hosea 2:1,25). This, says Isaiah, is what is in store for the people of God who knew themselves to be beaten down, defeated

and far from their God. This reading is a prediction of their homecoming parade, their song-filled return to the Promised Land.

What may not occur to westerners about this vision is that it is thoroughly communal. The salvation God promises is not an individual heavenly experience but the restoration of a community. The community that desires this dream is one in which the seeing long for others to enjoy sight, the strong do not lord it over the weak but carry their burdens. This is a community that wants to sing with the harmony that can only result from the full contribution of every voice. Those who long for this restoration are truly longing for the reign of God as Jesus said in Mathew 5:6, those who hope for righteousness will be blessed with their fill. This is the promise Isaiah foretells.

Your Messiah?:

Celebration

John had preached a fiery message about the one who was to come and separate wheat from chaff, destroying all that did not bear fruit. Even though he had acknowledged John's ministry of baptism, Jesus' preaching and practice were very different from John's. Therefore, what we have in this reading is something of a trail. John asks Jesus for a testimony: are you the real thing?

Following his interchange with John's disciples, Jesus made one of the more definitive and audacious statements of his entire ministry. Praising John, he called him "more than a prophet," saying he was greater than anyone born of a woman. At the same time, making a clear distinction between the past and present, Jesus went on to say, "the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he." This was not a put down of John but the announcement that something new was happening.

Jesus represented God's definitive intervention in human history. The time of prophecy, the time of waiting had come to an end. From Moses through John, the prophets had talked about God. In Jesus, God had come to dwell among the people. With the culmination of Jesus' life in his death and resurrection, God would be fully revealed as will ever happen in human history. The least of those who recognize that truth have received a greater revelation than John.

Your Response:

Deacon Ross Beaudoin, *Celebration*

What if someone were to ask us the question put to Jesus: "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" How would we answer?

Jesus ascended to the Father when he had completed his work on this earth. He left it to continue his work here. The hungry will be fed, the homeless will be sheltered, the lonely will be visited...and all will find a cause for great joy when each baptized person continues the ministry and compassion of Jesus.

And we will find our own joy, too, as Jesus ministers to us through others, even (or especially) the ones to whom we are ministering.

CMA Update...As of December 7th \$41,236 has been pledged by 162 parishioners towards the goal of \$74,253. That is 55% of our target by only 35% of parish families. We need everyone to participate so we can reach the target and make Fr. Tom proud!

*"Lord, let me see the signs of
your presence among us."*



Christmas Bucket List

1. ~~Buy~~ ^{Be} Presents
2. ~~Wrap Gifts~~ someone in a hug
3. ~~Send Gifts~~ Love
4. ~~Shop For~~ ^{Donate} Food
5. ~~Make Cookies~~ Memories
6. ~~See The Lights~~ ^{Be}



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 Weekdays: 8:00-6:30, Saturday 8:00-2:00, Sunday 10:00-2:00

St. Anthony Cemetery



COLUMBARIUM

Single (1 Urn) \$1,100
 Double (2 Urns) \$1,500
 Inurnment \$ 250 per niche

CEMETERY

Plot \$ 600
 Burial \$ 750
 Burial of Cremains \$ 250
 Saturday Burial \$ 250 additional
 Foundation \$ 0.40 per sq. inch

4485 S. Eleven Mile Rd., Auburn

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