



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  
 My Parish App: St. Gabriel Parish, Auburn, Michigan

**PASTOR**

Rev. Marc Hopps.....[mhopps@auburnac.org](mailto:mhopps@auburnac.org)

**PARISH STAFF**

Office Kim Grant.....[parishoffice@auburnac.org](mailto:parishoffice@auburnac.org)  
 Parish Office Hours...Monday-Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

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

Director of Faith Formation..... (989) 662-4335  
 Cassie Romzek.....[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 Tim Hadd  
 Pam Gaul-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 Gaul-Gwizdala..... (989) 513-3027

**MASS SCHEDULE**

Tuesday and Thursday 8 AM ( On the *First Thursday* of the month the daily Thursday Mass is at 6:30 PM)  
 Wednesday 9 AM – School Mass  
*First Thursday* of the month 6:30 PM (*Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 7pm and Night prayer 8pm to follow Mass*)  
*First Friday* of the month 8 AM  
 Saturday 4:30 PM Sunday 9:30 AM

**NEW PARISHIONERS**

Contact Parish Office for appointment to register.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Must be active, registered member of parish. Contact the Parish Office for more details.

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE**

Arrangements should be made by contacting the 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**

**Also, by appointment. Please email Fr. Marc**  
 5 -6 pm *First Thursday* of the month  
 3-4 PM Saturday

**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.....  
 School Office.....

**SCHOOL ENDOWMENT: "SPREADING THE SPIRIT FUND"**  
 Clark Switalski, School Principal.....

**WEATHER POLICY**

If Bay City Public Schools or Auburn Area Catholic School 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 January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

**Monday 9 am Mass**

18: Nm 6:22-27 Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8 Gal 4:4-7 Lk 2:16-21

**Tuesday 8 am Mass**

205: 1 Jn 2:22-28 Ps 98:1-4 Jn 1:19-28

**Wednesday 9 am School Mass**

206: 1 Jn 2:29—3:6 Ps 98:1-3, 6 Jn 1:29-34

**First Thursday Confessions 5-6 pm, Mass 6:30 pm, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 7 pm, Night Prayer 8 pm**

207: 1 Jn 3:7-10 Ps 98:1, 7-9 Jn 1:35-42

**First Friday 8 am Mass**

208: 1 Jn 3:11-21 Ps 100: 1-5 Jn 1:43-51

**Saturday Confessions 3-4 pm 4:30 pm Mass**

209: 1 Jn 5:5-13 Ps 147:12-15, 19-20 Mk 1:7-11

**Sunday 9:30 am Mass**

20: Is 60:1-6 Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13 Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 Mt 2:1-12



### PARISH ACTIVITIES

**Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup> – Parish office closed Happy New Year!**

**Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> – OCIA meeting 5:30 pm**

### STEWARDSHIP

**Weekly Target: \$11,153.84 Offering: \$25,297**

**Campaign for Human Development: \$165 Food Pantry: \$2335**

**Retired Religious: \$160 Priests Retirement: \$120**

**Children's Good Deeds**

...Checking out books at the library...

...Helping S.J...Playing with my little sister...

...Helping my mom clean the kitchen...

## AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Clark Switalski, Principal

[cswitalski@auburnac.org](mailto:cswitalski@auburnac.org) 662-6431

The students are off on their second week of break and will return on the 3rd of January. When we return, a lot is going to happen in a short amount of time. We are going to end the second quarter, start our second round of testing, have *Catholic Schools week*, and in the middle of February, begin the registration process for next year. I know those may seem like only a few things, but they are a lot more in depth and require a lot of planning to accomplish properly. Have a great week and *Happy New Year!*



...God Bless...

**Thank you to the young people who performed with hand chimes at the Christmas Eve Mass. They worked so hard in preparation, and it was a delight for all who attended!**



## EDUCATION / FORMATION

Cassie Romzek, Director of Faith Formation

**Family Talk Time:** *Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families:*

By Sara McGinnis Lee

Today's Gospel tells us about Jesus, and that the favor of God was upon him. What could this mean, to live in the favor of God? Baptism is our birth into the family of God; through it, we become members of the Church. How do we mark the baptism anniversary of the members of our family?

### Reflecting on the Word:

In every community, there are rituals and responsibilities for new parents. Mary and Joseph were obedient to the law of Moses and fulfilled the requirements of the law after Jesus' birth. The child Jesus grew up in this obedience, in this faith. Like Mary and Joseph, we as parents are called to model faith for our children. We do not hear much about the childhood years of Jesus, only that "the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him." How can we make our homes into an environment where our children can grow in faith and find favor with God?



### Living the Word:

How do we mark the baptism anniversary of the members of our family? Besides telling the story of the day, display photos, the baptismal candle, and the white garment in a special place or prayer table in your home. As your parish priest for some holy water and use it at home to bless one another. Finally, write a thank-you letter to godparents and the priest or deacon who baptized each family member.

### Religious Education and CLOW:

*CLOW and Religious Education* classes will resume January 7th meeting at our regularly scheduled time.

**OCIA:** (*Order of Christian Initiation of Adults*)

OCIA classes begin again January 17. We will meet on Wednesday, Jan 17th from 6 to 7 pm, in the parish center.

**I hope you had a Blessed Christmas and have a Happy New Year!**



## *Father Marc's Minutes...*

### *The Feast of the Holy Family*



This Sunday we celebrate the Holy Family. We give thanks for the gift of Joseph, Mary, and Jesus. The readings speak of the attitude of children towards parents in the first reading. Children are called to honor, support, and care for their parents. Parents have spent time nurturing and providing for their children, so the Lord expects

children to do the same. The Lord remembers the kindness shown to parents. The second reading lays out the different virtues that the Lord desires for all families to practice. These virtues were certainly present in the Holy Family. Pope Saint John Paul the second called the family a domestic church. The domestic church is where we learn about God, how to pray, how to love God and love our neighbor. In these ways the word of Christ dwells in our hearts. The Holy Family reminds us that the family is the basic building block of society and the world. We enter the world as a member of a family. God chose to save us as a people and family. Jesus comes to us in a family and fully experiences life in a family. In the gospel Mary and Joseph are doing their duties as parents. They present Jesus to the Lord in the temple and express their thanksgiving by offering a sacrifice. Saints Simeon and Anna rejoice at the newborn king and praised God. Jesus comes back home and is obedient to Mary and Joseph. Those thirty years are unknown for the most part, but we can be sure that Jesus was formed in virtue by his parents. This week I encourage all families to ask for the intercession and support of the Holy Family as we seek to make our families holy as well.

### *The refinished ciborium*

I already talked about the symbolism and meaning of our newly refinished ciborium before the Christmas Eve Mass. However, I want to restate the explanation here for everyone that was not there or has not seen it yet. The ciborium is the vessel which holds the consecrated hosts in the tabernacle between masses. This ciborium became available from the diocese, and I wanted to have it restored. The result is stunning. When we look at this vessel



we are reminded of the incredible marvel of God and moved to deeper worship. It is a physical reminder of the mystery of Jesus in the Eucharist. The bottom of the ciborium has three Latin words: *ego sum vita*. This literally means "I am the life." It is a shorthand reference to Jesus as the Way, Truth, and Life. Above that is a silver circle with the four gospel writers and their corresponding symbols.

If we continue up the vessel the twelve Apostles are named with an image of each. The lid has the Alpha (the beginning) and Omega (the end). This is a reference to the book of Revelation where Jesus says that he is the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning, and the end of all things. On the very top of the vessel is an image of the fish and loaves which foreshadows the gift of the Eucharist with the feeding of the five thousand in the gospels. Next time you are at mass I encourage you to look at it and be moved to reflect more deeply on the incredible presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. I want to thank the Knights of Columbus for donating the money to accomplish this beautiful gift to Jesus and the parish.

### *The Beautiful Christmas Masses*

Thank you to everyone who gave their time to make our Christmas celebrations truly wonderful. It takes many hands to make everything flow and come together. As we come to the end of the year I also want to acknowledge the excellent work of our food pantry. It is evident that the need has only increased over time. Through your kindness and generosity, we have taken care of the Body of Christ in our community, and the Body of Christ in the Eucharist.

### *Happy New Year*

The parish will offer mass at 9am on Monday, January 1st to celebrate the feast day of Mary, Mother of God. This is usually a Holy Day of Obligation, but this year that has been lifted. Still, I invite everyone to join me as we pray for a blessed New Year and give thanks to the Lord for Mary as Jesus' mother and our spiritual mother as well.



## 23-24 Christ's Mission Appeal Update

Our Christ Mission Appeal assessed amount is \$65,504 for this year. The current pledged amount is \$38,600 which is 59% of our assessment for the 23-24 year pledged by 32.5% of our Parish families as of December 2023. **Keep up the good work for 2024!**

## Spaghetti Dinner!



The Freeland Boy Scout Troop 323 is hosting a Spaghetti dinner on Sunday January 14<sup>th</sup> from 11 am to 6 pm at St Agnes Catholic Church, 300 Johnson St. Freeland, MI. The cost is \$10 for ages 5-adult, 4 and under are free and takeout is available. Tickets are available at the door and also for pre-sale by contacting either Noah Dallas or Jessica Dallas at 989-225-4817

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## St. Anthony Cemetery 4485 S. Eleven Mile Auburn, MI 48611



	Parishioner	Non-Parishioner
<b>COLUMBARIUM</b>		
Single (1 Urn)	\$1,100	\$1,600
Double (2 Urns)	\$1,500	\$1,850
Inurnment	\$ 250 per niche	\$ 350 per niche
<b>CEMETERY</b>		
Plot	\$ 600	\$1,300
Burial	\$ 750	\$ 900
Burial of Cremains	\$ 250	\$ 275
Saturday Burial	\$ 250 additional	\$ 250 additional

Contact the Parish Office at (989) 662-6861