



84 W. Midland Rd., Auburn, MI 48611  
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 Facebook: St. Gabriel Parish, Auburn, Michigan  
 MyParish App: St. Gabriel Parish, Auburn, Michigan

**PASTOR**

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**PARISH STAFF**

**Office Administrator**

Jill Arndt ..... parishoffice@auburnac.org

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Janet Woronoff ..... jworonoff@auburnac.org

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**Music Director**

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**Pastoral Care Coordinator**

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**Youth Ministry**

Stephanie Schacher ..... sschacher@auburnac.org

**LAY MINISTERS**

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

**PRAYER LINE**

Mary Jane ..... 496-2873 vicmaryj@hotmail.com  
 Sisters of St. Clare ..... srsclare.com/prayer

**BEFRIENDER**

Mary Ellyn Gushow ..... 662-6745

**HELPING HANDS COMMITTEE**

Stephanie Schacher ..... 878-2898

**COMMUNION FOR HOMEBOUND**

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

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend each month. Must be active, registered member of parish family. Contact Sandy DesJardins at 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 or 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  
 Chris Kaczynski, Secretary ..... ckaczynski@auburnac.org

**SCHOOL ENDOWMENT  
 SPREADING THE SPIRIT FUND**

School Principal ..... 662-6431

**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. Check our website, MyParish app, or Facebook page for up-to-date information.



## FROM FR. TOM'S DESK

### **Eighteenth Sunday (Ordinary Time)**

Sister Mary M. McGlone, [National Catholic Reporter](#)

Our Liturgy of the Word begins with the depressing cry, "Vanity of vanities! All things are vanity!" That's the refrain Qoheleth, a skeptical teacher of wisdom, uses to begin and end his reflection on the worth of human endeavors.

This sets the stage for the Gospel story in which feuding brothers ask Jesus to judge between them, only to hear him expose the pathetic silliness of their ambitions. It's easy to miss Luke's irony in this tale. The two brothers are fighting over an inheritance. That means that someone, presumably their father, has died and that nothing he ever possessed is now of any value to him.

But the bickering brothers ignore the lesson of Dad's demise and invest all their energy into acquiring the stuff that his death had rendered meaningless to him.

These readings, including Paul's suggestion that we "put to death, then, the parts of you that are earthly," could be pretty depressing on a Sunday morning in August. On the other hand, they might be perfect for a relaxing hour in the shade, sitting on a beach, or contemplating the mountains or clouds.

Today's Scriptures invite us to think realistically about "earthly things," about vanities, about bequests, about bigger barns and storage facilities.

Whether we picture our deathbed, think about the futility of a dead man's big barns, or simply sit to appreciate the grandeur of nature, these August days are made for more than busyness and stuff. Let's make time for the long view.

### **Pessimistic View (Ecclesiastes 1 and 2)**

[Celebration](#)

For the fifth-century author known as Qoheleth, human existence was regarded as vanity because of its futility. For all his hard work and all her toil what, in the end, do human beings have to show for their efforts? *Nada*, said Qoheleth, i.e., vanity. Qoheleth understood life as an endless round of events, some important, some less so, that in the end produce nothing new but merely repeat themselves playing out yet another round of events. Since work is laborious and the round of events is predictably repetitive, the ancient thinker did not see any point in making long-range plans. Rather, Qoheleth recommended living in the moment, for all too soon, another will enjoy the shade of the seedling you planted and where shall you be? Here today; gone tomorrow – a puff of wind that is no more.

Although Qoheleth seemed to have traveled in the dark for most of his life and although his message needs to be balanced by other voices from scripture, Qoheleth makes us think and, in itself, this is a valuable contribution.

### **The Things Above (Colossians 3)**

[Celebration](#)

Just as Qoheleth was influenced by his life experience and the time in which he lived, so was the author of the letter to the believers in Colossae. Because of Jesus – his presence, his ministry, his preaching, his passion, death, and resurrection – those who appropriated the gift of salvation by faith had an entirely new outlook on life. Through Jesus, the ancient author affirmed God's involvement in creation and with all of human-kind. No longer was life regarded as a brief span of years that was halted forever by death. Nor was life to be regarded as a *means* of salvation. On the contrary, Christian life in Christ was appreciated as a *consequence* of salvation. In this

excerpted text, the Colossians author was intent upon affirming how the grace of salvation is to be reflected in the believer's daily existence.

### **Proper Priorities (Luke 12)**

[Celebration](#)

When Luke recounted this parable for his contemporaries, he was intent upon sharpening their preparation for the coming of the kingdom of God. Because decades had passed since Jesus promised that he would return, it was imperative that believers not lose hope or forget the lessons he had taught them. With eyes set on God and with hands and heart dedicated to the service of others, believers are to live each day as if it were their last.

Believers are also to learn how to use their possessions in a manner that frees them so that they are able to accept God's gifts as well as benefit the needy. None of us earns God's gifts. The poor cannot buy them with their poverty, nor can the rich with their riches. All is gift, but in order to be able to receive, your hands and heart cannot be full of other things. You cannot make room for God if all your rooms are full. You cannot follow God if you are not free to go. Therefore, let us take care to find our true and lasting treasure in God alone.

*Let me seek, Lord, that which lasts forever.*

### **Just Enough**

Deacon Dick Folger, [Celebration](#)

In Leo Tolstoy's famous short story, "How Much Land Does a Man Need?" a peasant makes a deal – for 1,000 rubles, the peasant can have all the land he can circle in one day. But if he does not make it back to the starting point by sunset, he will lose his money and receive no land. In a thrilling finish to the story, the peasant is racing against the setting sun. He was greedy and tried to cover too much area. He drops dead from exhaustion just short of the finish line. The peasant is buried in an ordinary grave, only six feet long, thus ironically answering the question posed in the title of the story.

### **Important Lesson**

Karen Johnson, [Celebration](#)

In his book, "*With Open Hands*," Henri Nouwen teaches us how to pray. He says a first prayer is often a painful one because we must open our clenched fists and let go of what we grasp most tightly. With him, let us pray:

*Dear God,*

*I am so afraid to open my clenched fists!*

*Who will I be when I have nothing to hang on to?*

*Who will I be when I stand before you with empty hands?*

*Please help me to gradually open my hands and discover that I am not what I own, but what you want to give me.*

*And what you want to give me is love~unconditional, everlasting love.*

*Amen*

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

At the direction of the Bishops of Michigan, our parish will participate in the solicitation of signatures to put a partial abortion bill on the election ballot. The petitions will be available for signing one weekend in August and another in September. We are needing volunteers to cover the signing process. If willing to assist, call Andrea Szymanski at 989-430-3386 or the Parish Office.

### **PARISH FALL RAFFLE**

The drawing will be at the Parish Picnic on Sunday, September 8. Sold tickets may be returned via the collection basket or delivery at the Parish Office. Additional tickets are available at the Parish Office.

## WEEK OF AUGUST 4, 2019

### MONDAY

Nm 11:4-15 Ps 81:12-17 Mt 14:13-21

### TUESDAY

Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9 2 Pt 1:16-19 Lk 9:28-36

### WEDNESDAY 8:00am - Mass

Nm 13:1-2, 25-14:1, 26-29, 34-35 Ps 106:6-7, 13-14, 21-23  
Mt 15:21-28

### THURSDAY 8:00am - Mass

Nm 20:1-13 Ps 95:1-2, 6-9 Mt 16:13-23

### FRIDAY

Dt 4:32-40 Ps 77:12-16, 21 Mt 16:24-28

### SATURDAY 4:30pm - Mass

2 Cor 9:6-10 Ps 112:1-2, 5-9 Jn 12:24-26

### SUNDAY 9:30am - Mass

Wis 18:6-9 Ps 33:1, 12, 18-22 Heb 11:1-2, 8-19 or 11:1-2, 8-12  
Lk 12:32-48 or 12:35-40



## UPCOMING

SEPTEMBER 8 – Sunday – 12:00-4:00pm – East Campus  
Parish Picnic

OCTOBER 8-10 & 12 – West Campus [See Bulletin Back Page]  
Photography Sessions for Pictorial Directory

## FOOD PANTRY ITEMS REQUEST

Food Pantry items most needed are tomato soup, chicken noodle soup, SpaghettiO's, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, cereal, and shampoo. Bring your donated items to Mass the **weekend of August 10/11**. Thank you

**POSITION OPENING:** Our Secretary/Receptionist, Jill Arndt, has submitted her resignation effective August 9. Anyone interested in applying for the position may pick up the Job Description at the Parish Office. The more an individual is involved in the Church, the easier it will be to understand the responsibilities of the position.

## THANK YOU!

### ROAR! Life is Wild - God is Good VBS

What a great Vacation Bible School! We had over 55 children and 12 youth involved in this year's VBS. We learned new songs, learned wonderful ways to care for others, heard Bible stories and how they speak to us, played games, and shared a wonderful snack.

A special thank you to our leaders in each of those areas: Lindsey Walter, Chloe Leaman, Tim Hall, Mandy Swenberg, Jessica Spencer, and Sam Szilagyi. And for the youth who came and made our time together GREAT! Without all of you giving your time and talents, it would not have been as wonderful as it was!!

God's Peace & Blessings,  
Sandy

## STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Target: \$10,962      Offering: \$7,475

Mission Co-Op: \$35

### Children G@od Deeds

...helped my Mommy and Daddy with my new baby brother  
...I don't know. I'll try better next week. ...I helped Dad.  
...cleaned my bedroom ...helped pick blueberries for the family

## EDUCATION/FORMATION

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

Do you know anyone who missed a meal because it could not be afforded? What might that feel like?

**Reflecting on the Word:** This man's treasure benefited no one. It did not help him, for he was going to die before he could use what he had stored. The treasure did not aid those who were in need because he did not offer it to them. The man was rich, but his wealth did him no good. We can consider whether we are rich in what matters to God or we invest in things that will do us no good.

**Living the Word:** Walk through the neighborhood as a family looking for the abundance that nature offers during this time of year. Encourage everyone to notice the variety of flowers and plants. Discuss how you will eat the foods that are grown in gardens and fields and how they get to the table.



### • Considering AACS for your child(ren)'s education? Three ways to help with tuition...

New Family Incentives: AACS and the Diocese of Saginaw both offer a one-time only incentive for new families registering their child in K-5. Year 1: AACS - \$500 + Diocese of Saginaw\* - K: \$500 or entering Grades 1-5: \$750 \*Application must be submitted by family to Diocese of Saginaw. Year 2: AACS - \$500

- **Spreading the Spirit Fund:** This fund was brought about with the hope that anyone who wanted their child to receive a Catholic education would be able to realize that dream. It is also for those who have multiple children in our school. We understand the sacrifice you make to enroll your child(ren) in AACS and would like to help ease the financial burden. For more information, call the School Office at 662-6431.

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL...

Education at its foundation is the progression of one's mind, learning information while using achievement to recognize success. In short, students learn and show what they learn. I agree the school's job is to provide a fundamental base for someone to live a successful life no matter what their profession, trade, or job.

Catholic education is everything previously stated, and then more. The goal of a Catholic school is to educate the entire child, not just academics. True that is a little harder to measure and there really isn't a set pass/fail test for it, but it can be seen and experienced. It can be seen by the child who stops to pick up the lunch boxes that fell from the basket, from the child holding the door for someone walking into the restaurant, or even from the love you give and get from your kids on a nightly basis.

Sure, a Catholic education has sacrifices associated with it; missed vacations, shopping trips, cars, houses, RV's, boats to name a few. But when you can look into your children's eyes and know that there is kindness, love, and faith, you know you have made the right choice. Thank you for choosing to give your children an experience with God on a daily basis.

God Bless,  
Clark Switalski, Principal



## PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

THANK YOU to all members who participated in the photograph sessions this past week.

**The next opportunity...**

### APPOINTMENT SCHEDULE AT ST. ANTHONY CHURCH


October 8-10 (Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday): 2:00-9:00pm

October 12 (Saturday): 9:00am-3:00pm

**To schedule your appointment, call the Parish Office at 662-6861 or click the link in our [auburnac.org](http://auburnac.org) website or myParish App.**

Use Prior Directory's Photo? If desire, you may use photo from the prior Directory for a \$10 fee. You will receive a complimentary upcoming Directory. Notify the Parish Office of this request – no need for you to retrieve the photo.

General Information: For every family photographed, Lifetouch will provide the Directory at no cost. Plus, those families will receive a complimentary Directory and 8x10" portrait, with no sitting fee. From a variety of poses, you will select one for the Directory. In addition to the 8x10" portrait, you may purchase portraits the day of your session, though you are under no obligation to do so.



**Michael Kaczynski**  
Painting/Carpentry

989-662-7747  
Cell: 303-242-2650  
mckaczynski@sbcglobal.net

201 Weber St.  
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Auburn

COLUMBARIUM

Single (1 Urn)  
Double (2 Urns)  
Inurnment

Parishioner

\$ 1,000  
\$ 1,400  
\$ 250 per niche

Non-Parishioner

\$ 1,500  
\$ 1,750  
\$ 300 per niche

CEMETERY

Plot  
Burial  
Burial of Cremains  
Saturday Burial  
Foundation

Parishioner

\$ 500  
\$ 650  
\$ 150  
\$ 200 additional  
\$ 0.40 per sq. inch

Non-Parishioner

\$ 1,200  
\$ 850  
\$ 175  
\$ 200 additional  
\$ 0.40 per sq. inch

### SEEKING SPONSORS

St. Gabriel Parish is updating and adding sponsor advertisers displayed in weekly Bulletins. Support your parish Bulletin and promote your business! Begin advertising or notify a potential advertiser of this opportunity. These advertisements are viewed on printed copies, plus online on the Parish website and MyParish app affiliated with St. Gabriel Parish.

**Contact Parish Office**  
**662-6861 [parishoffice@auburnac.org](mailto:parishoffice@auburnac.org)**