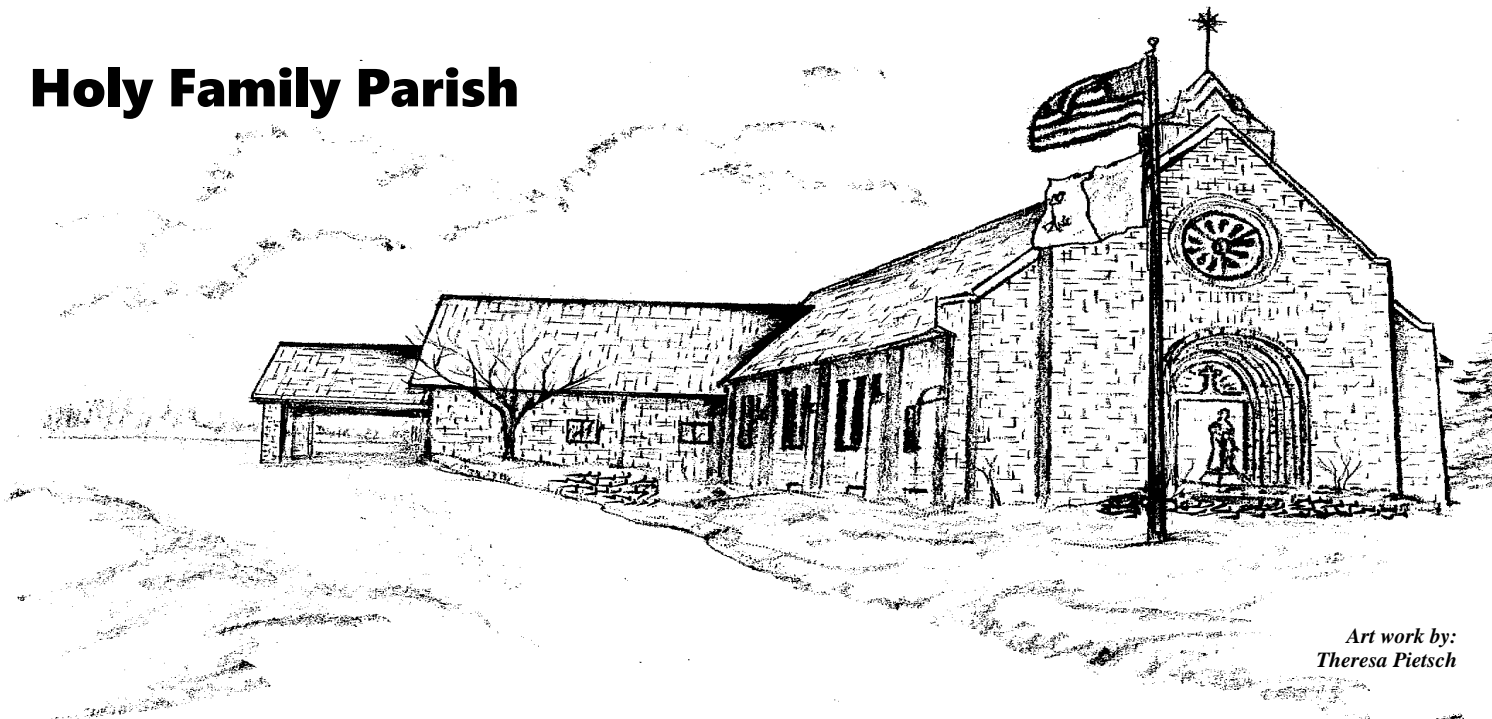


Holy Family Parish



Art work by:
Theresa Pietsch

Fr. Sebastian K. Chacko, skavumkal@yahoo.com

4011 Co. 416-20th Road, Gladstone, MI 49837

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time – July 26, 2020

Pastor

(906) 786-1209 Ext. 3

Parish Secretary

Pam Leisner (906) 786-1209 Ext. 1 (H) 789-1710

Office hours: Monday thru Thursday 9 am to 3 pm

Bulletin articles should be submitted

by Noon on Wednesdays

E-mail Address: secretary@holyfamilyparish.net

Website: www.holyfamilyparish.net

Faith Formation Coordinator

Chris Olesak 428-9431

Email: colesak@allsaintsgladstone.org

Maintenance

Mike Rabitoy 786-1209

Pastoral Council Members

Pam Marenger – President Diane Danhoff

Wanda Chenier – Secretary Harold Flagstadt

Kevin Dubord Tina Cryderman

Pam Marenger – Liturgy Committee

Bob Berbohm – Evangelization Committee

Finance Council Members

Gerald Miron Piper Desy

Bill Smith Mary Kay Nolde

Sacrament of Marriage

Notice of six months is required

REQUIREMENT FOR SACRAMENTS

The basic requirement for the sacraments of First Communion, Confirmation and Marriage is that you be a practicing Catholic. One parent must be a practicing Catholic to present a child for Baptism

Sacrament of Baptism

Please notify the pastor during the pregnancy in order to schedule sacramental instruction, if necessary.

Sacrament of Penance

Saturday 3:00 to 3:30 P.M.

7:15 am – 7:45 am and 5:15 pm – 5:45 pm
before daily Mass or by appointment

Sacrament of the Sick

The sacrament is for anyone you know who has any continuing or serious illness, or is having surgery and would like to celebrate this healing sacrament.

Please remember our sick in your prayers.....

Bob Gascon

Attention parishioners. We will start with our prayer list back in the weekly bulletin. If you have a family member or friends who are sick and in need of prayers, please call the parish office at 786-1209. This will be the new corner for the names. The Mass intentions are now listed in the weekly calendar.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We will strive to imitate the Holy Family: by being a loving, welcoming, and forgiving community – fully alive in the Spirit of God; by teaching our children the Gospel way of life and encouraging them always to share fully in the life of our parish; by celebrating the Liturgy as a joyful remembrance of our Lord's Sacrifice for us; by being a family of prayer; by respecting all life, and by having our arms open always to embrace the sick and needy.

CATECHETICAL CORNER

EXISTENCE OF GOD

In the modern age we see quite a few religions active in the world. Among them we are familiar with the major religions like, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism. But there are a few more religions in the world which are not known to many. One thing we see common in these religions that they all believe in a Supernatural Power which they call it God. He is the creator of everything on earth and outside. He created man to be the apex of all created things and man is the only being with reasoning and freewill. Only man has the immortal soul who has no death but an eternity of life, in heaven or hell. But the idea of God and eternal life varies from religion to religion and they call that Power in different names. These religions help their followers to have a better understanding of God and insist them to follow him by observing his laws and precepts. These religions have teachers whose duty is to educate the people in religious matters. So those who belong to one of these religions don't have any difficulty to accept the existence of God and accept God as the creator of everything in the Universe including human beings. But unfortunately in the modern world there are great number of people who don't belong to any established religion and they don't care about a Supernatural Power. They totally refuse to believe in the teaching of a particular religion. Then the question arises whether this great majority which remains outside of an established religion have any other means to know about God.

NATURAL REVELATION

Natural Revelation is the knowledge we acquire about God by human reason through the wonderful works of his creation. It is called natural because we can rise to some knowledge of God by the light of our native reason through reflection on the objects and activities of nature. We can know that God exists by concluding from the effects in the Universe to the existence of a First Cause who is himself not caused. Of course, the believer in God does not need any proof for the existence of God. At the same time for the unbeliever any amount of proof will not do any good. But if he/she is a little open minded, though does not have any faith in an established religion or sect can know the existence of God through this Universe alone. Scientists are convinced that our universe began with one enormous explosion of energy and light, which we now call the Big Bang. This was the singular start to everything that exists today in the Universe: the beginning of the universe, the start of space, and even the initial start of time itself. But there should be somebody behind to make this start. The scientists don't explain how the explosion took place. But the simple logic or reasoning shows that there should be a super power behind this great start. The scientific world has yet to know many things about the millions of stars in the Universe. But leaving alone the other planets and stars if we look at our Earth we know how amazing the things existing in the world in proper order and system. The Earth rotates around the sun 67,00 mph and at the same time it remains on the same orbit. Look at the natural resources on Earth, the air, water, mountains, the ravines, the rocks, the trees and plants; how perfect is the seasonal changes; how rich is the Earth with the great raw materials like gold, iron, copper, coal etc! How perfectly they are arranged in the nature! Can one claim that they all came into being by themselves without a super power or designer behind them? Above all how mysterious is the human being who is totally different from other beings. If we want to show such examples in the world, they are enormous. So if one is a little open minded the Universe itself declares the existence of God.

(Will be continued next week).

Seventeenth week in Ordinary Time

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY

Mon.	July 27 th	8:00 A.M. - Mass – Donald Theoret
Tues.	July 28 th	6:00 P.M. - Mass – Eugene Tourangeau 6:30 P.M. - St. Vincent de Paul Society meets
Wed.	July 29 th	Saint Martha 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Gladys Cousineau
Thurs.	July 30 th	Saint Peter Chrysologus, Bishop and Doctor of the Church 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Francis Beauchamp
Fri.	July 31 st	Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest 8:00 A.M. - Mass – For the healing of Casey Randall Weidert ----- Parish office closed
Sat.	Aug. 1 st	Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church 3:00 P.M. - Confessions heard until 3:30 PM 4:00 P.M. - Mass – For the Parishioners of Holy Family Parish
Sun.	Aug. 2 nd	Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Eva Paquin (1 st Anniv.) 10:00 AM - Mass – Pete & Willa DeMay

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

69 envelopes were returned Sunday, July 12th

Adults.....	\$3,420.00
Loose.....	65.00
General Maintenance.....	35.00
Donation.....	200.00
Votive Lights.....	<u>108.00</u>
Total.....	\$3,828.00
 Budgeted weekly Income & Expense...	 \$3,786.83
Surplus of.....	\$ 41.17
 St. Vincent DePaul Society.....	 <u>71.00</u>
Total.....	\$ 71.00

Thank you to all who sent in or dropped off your weekly contribution to Holy Family. We are very grateful for your support of your parish.

Holy Name Catholic School News

They have an opening for a fifth grade teacher and for an office assistant. The job descriptions can be found on their website.

If you feel you have been called to serve in either of these ministries, you may submit a letter of interest, resume, and references to the attention of Joseph L. Carlson, principal by either e-mailing: jcarlson@holynamercrusaders.com or mailing to Holy Name Catholic School, 409 South 22nd Street, Escanaba, MI 49829. Resumes posted to Facebook will not be accepted or considered.

Serve God joyfully. Let there be no sadness in your life. The only true sorrow is sin. Mother Teresa

SPIRIT LIFTERS

July 26th - Half our trouble comes of wanting to have our own way, and the other half is due to failure to face the facts.

July 27th - Salvation is given....not gained!

July 28th - There are hundreds of languages in the world, but a smile speaks all of them.

July 29th - The surest way to go broke is to sit around waiting for a break.

July 30th - A Christian is one who makes it easier for others to believe in God.

July 31st - Instead of waiting upon the Lord, some people want the Lord to wait upon them.

Aug. 1st - God often entrusts us with a little to see what we will do with a lot.

St. Vincent de Paul Employment Opportunities

TRADES HELPER: The Escanaba SSVdP Warehouse is in need of a full-time 40 hrs./wk. trades helper. Limited benefits. Please either call the Warehouse Manager, Cindy B., at 789-1281, or come into the Warehouse at 815 1st Ave., N., and ask for the Manager, Cindy B. EOE

Pandemic Prayer before a Crucifix

O Cross of Christ, save me. May zeal for your house free me. The Cross conquers; the Cross reigns; the Cross rules; by the sign of the Cross free me, O Lord, from this plague. Defend us, O Crucified Christ, You who are kind and merciful and true. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Join us this Sunday July 26th at 1:00 PM. The Jesus love walk starts at Ludington Park at the Band Shell. Lets come together for a prayer walk of love and a time of workshop. Sponsored by local churches.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Monday

Jer 13:1-11
Mt 13:31-35

Wednesday

Jer 15:10,16-21
Jn 11:19-27

Friday

Jer 26:1-9
Mt 13:54-58

Tuesday

Jer 14:17-22
Mt 13:36-43

Thursday

Jer 18:1-6
Mt 13:47-53

Saturday

Jer 26:11-16,24
Mt 14:1-12

Sunday

Is 55:1-3 Rom 8:35,37-39
Mt 14:13-21

Life of Saints

July 31st - ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA, priest – Today's saint, founder of the Jesuits, has since the 16th Century had a profound influence on Catholic history. Born in the Basque area of Spain, at Loyola (1493), Ignatius after being wounded as a soldier found Christ. A strong and holy organizer, Ignatius founded the Society of Jesus along military lines at Paris in 1534. At a critical time the Jesuits were magnificent in resisting Protestantism, reforming the Church, laboring in mission lands and in the educational apostolate. His "Spiritual Exercises" helped many others to conversion. Ignatius, demonstrating manly love for Christ and unconditional loyalty to the Pope, died at Rome on July 31, 1556. He was canonized a saint in 1622.

Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.



July 12, 1817 –This day will always remain with me." F. Baraga. It was the first time Baraga met Father (St.) Clement Hofbauer and thirteen days later,

Baraga made the general confession to start on the upward road to sanctity.

17th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME; Cycle – A; July 26th 2020
1Kings 3:5, 7-12; Romans 8:28-30; Matthew 13:45-52

Dear Sisters & Brothers,

Here is the story of a man who prayed hard to God for days to grant him a wish. Finally God allowed him to have one wish materialized. But the man became over excited and didn't know what to ask for. First, he thought of asking for enormous amount of wealth. Then he thought, 'if the life is going to be short, what good the wealth can do?' So he thought of asking for long life. Then he got perplexed, 'if there isn't enough wealth what is the use of long life?' Finally, having failed to make a choice, he asked God as what He would recommend. So God said to the man, *"If you want to be happy in the world, be content with what you have and what you are."* It is a common tendency in us that we always think and worry about what we don't have, instead of appreciating what we have. It is also the wrong concept of many that material affluence is the criterion of happiness.

As soon as King Solomon assumed the throne as King of Israel, God took the initiative and said to him, *"Ask something of me and I will give to you."* The offer was unconditional and unlimited. So Solomon had a wide range of choices before him. As a young king he had many legitimate needs. He needed wealth, long life, powerful military, fame, security from his enemies, prosperity for the nation and you name it! But even to the amazement of God, Solomon asked for none of the above needs rather he asked for **true wisdom** so that he might have an understanding heart to know **right from wrong**. In other words, he wanted to lead a righteous life before God. In the materialistic point of view, Solomon's act can be considered to be mere stupidity; he simply wasted a golden opportunity. But on the other hand, being pleased by Solomon's right choice, not only God granted him wisdom but also fame and prosperity as well.

Exemplary wisdom is also featured in today's gospel where Jesus continues with his Kingdom Parables. In the first two parables the two men, as soon as they found something precious, sold everything they had and went after it. In these two Kingdom Parables, **Jesus makes it very clear that the Kingdom of God or Kingdom of Heaven is the most precious pearl or treasure and one should take all measures to possess it.** It is worth to make all sacrifices to attain the Kingdom of God which is lasting forever. Whatever the kingdoms man builds on earth are either destroyed or left behind. Solomon's example invites the gathered assembly to be careful in what they choose and ask of God. Sometimes, being

overwhelmed by material and physical needs, when you and I pray, we may forget to pray for the spiritual needs. When our list of things is very long we may not waste time in asking for wisdom or understanding from God. But Solomon's experience shows that when he asked only for wisdom, God blessed him with wisdom as well as material prosperity and fame. That is why Jesus says in *Matthew's gospel 6:33*, "***But seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides.***" In the light of Solomon's prayer and the two Kingdom Parables we are challenged to make an examination of conscience and see what the main theme of our daily prayer is and what type of priorities do we have in our prayers?

The modern age is dominated by secularism and materialism and also we face a distorted value system. So most of the people don't see anything beyond this world and they believe that heaven and hell are in the world itself and they are nothing but the creation of man. These people seek their heaven in the material things and comforts. They believe that the more material possessions they have the happier they become. So they start accumulating things in the world, assuming that they have found precious pearls. Though their houses become overfilled with these things, their hearts still remain empty. In other words, they don't find the joy and peace they are looking for. Finally, they leave all these things behind and die in utter disappointment. Whereas, those who keep a balance between the Kingdom of Heaven and the material world, they will be happy, though they may not have many things to fill their houses. In Proverbs 11:28 the author warns us, "***He who trusts in his riches will fall, but like green leaves the just flourish.***" And the author says in Prov. 3:13-14, "***Happy the man who finds wisdom, the man who gains understanding! For her profit is better than profit in silver, and better than gold is her revenue.***" *We should know that the greatest treasure or wealth God has given us is Jesus Christ. The one who finds him and keeps him as the treasure will have wealth on earth as well as wealth in heaven.* That is why St. Paul writes in Philippians 3:8, "***I count everything as a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus, my Lord. For his sake I have accepted the loss of all things and I consider them so much rubbish, that I may gain Christ.***" Let us keep the words of Jesus in Matthew's gospel 6: 19-21, "***Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and decay destroy, and thieves break in and steal. But store up treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor decay destroys, nor thieves break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.***"