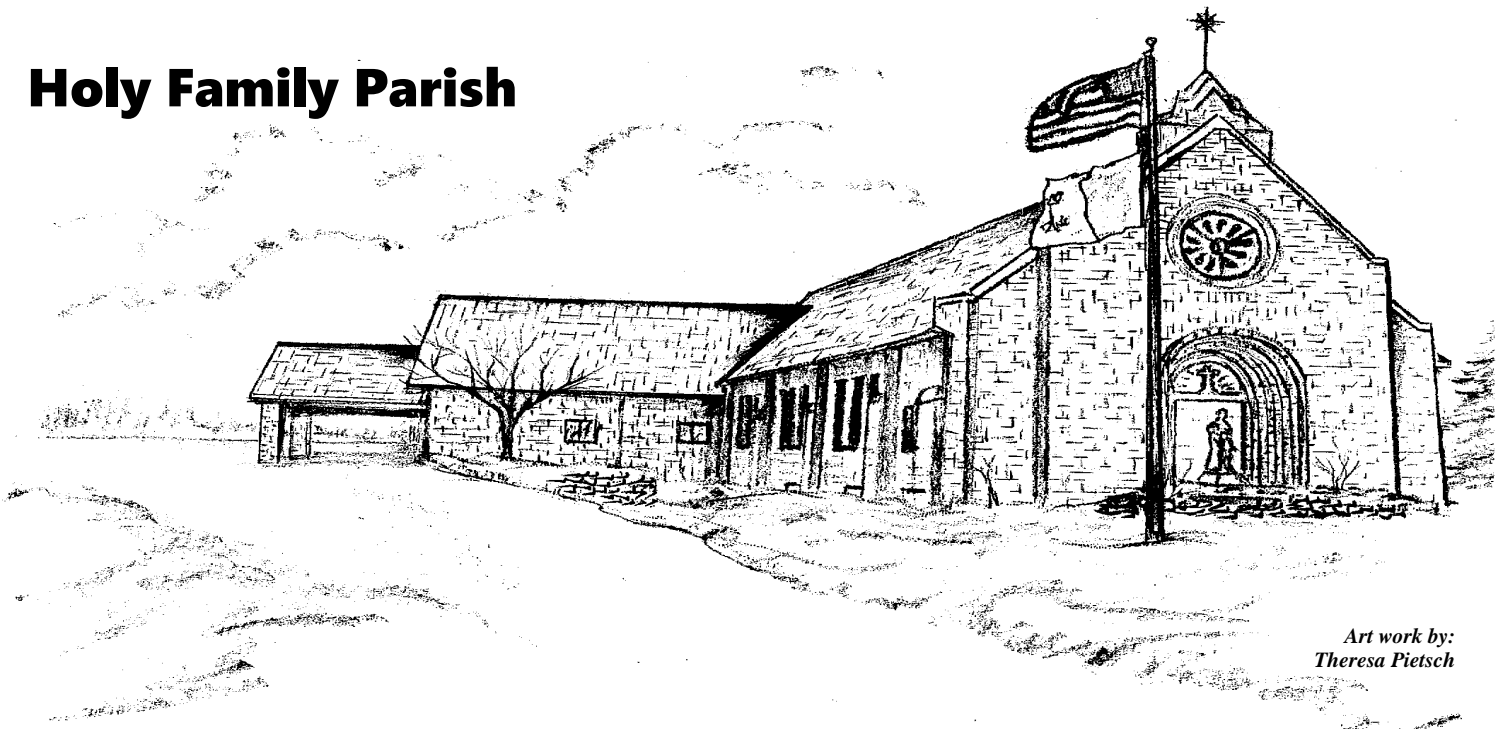


Holy Family Parish



Art work by:
Theresa Pietsch

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

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

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time – August 16, 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 Frank Chenier

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.

CATECHETICAL CORNER

SUPERNATURAL REVELATION (Cont.)

How is Supernatural Revelation revealed to us?: In the Old Testament time the Divine Revelation was revealed to individual persons who were known as Prophets and being inspired by God they have put down in writing, what they have received. Later all the writings combined together are called the Sacred Scripture. In New Testament period the Divine Revelation came to us through the person and preaching of Jesus. After his death and resurrection the Holy Spirit continued to reveal the truths to the Apostles. Finally, the Evangelists (the Gospel writers) put down in writings which we call the New Testament. St. Paul, though he was not one of the 12 Apostles too was inspired by the Holy Spirit and he has written down his Divine Revelation through the Letters.

The Scripture written before Christ is known as the Pre-Christian Revelation and anything written after Jesus is called the Christian Revelation. As Judaism is the parental religion of Christianity due to the birth of Jesus in Jewish community we Christians consider the Old Testament also as the Inspired Book. The Jews who don't accept the New Testament writings jealously guard the Old Testament Scripture. Besides fully accepting the Scripture we Catholics equally acknowledge the Apostolic Tradition handed down to the next generations by the Apostles. The Apostolic Tradition which is the teachings of the Apostles is given great importance by the Catholic Church. This rich wealth which mainly came down through the oral teachings of the Apostles were preserved in writing by the great Church Fathers. As I have mentioned it before, the Divine Revelation came to an end with the death of Apostle John, the last of the Apostles.

DIVISION OF THE SACRED SCRIPTURE/THE BIBLE

Introduction: Most of the non-Christians think that the Bible is one single book like the Hindu Religious Books Ramayana and Mahabhartha and Muslim sacred Book the Qur'an. But the Bible is the combination of several books which contains history, sociology, biography and prophecy. The name Bible comes from the Greek word, '**Biblion**' simply means **Book**.

Divisions: Let us see how the Bible is divided. The Bible is divided into two sections known as the Old Testament and the New Testament. The Old Testament contains the Hebrew Scripture which begins with the Book of Genesis and ends with the Book of Prophet Malachi. According to the Jews there are only 24 books in the Old Testament whereas the Catholics recognize 46 books in the Old Testament.

Jewish Books: Five Books of Moses (Chumash) or the Torah or Books of Law: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy

The Eight Books of the Prophets (Neviim): Joshua, Judges, Samuel, Kings, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel and The Twelve (minor prophets).

The Eleven Books of the Writings (Kesuvim): Psalms, Proverbs, Job, Song of Songs Ruth, Lamentations, Ecclesiastes, Esther, Daniel, Ezra/Nehemia, Chronicles.

We have already seen that the Catholic Church recognizes 46 Books in the Old Testament. That doesn't mean that the Catholic authors had written and added 22 books to the Old Testament. Those 22 Books were still written by Old Testament authors; but the Jews don't consider those Books as Inspired by God, Catholic Church does. So the Jews have eliminated those books from their official Scripture. And also the Jews consider the Books of the 12 Minor Prophets as one Book; whereas we consider them as 12 different books. Next week we will see the Catholic division of the Old Testament and the Protestant stand point on the Bible.

(Will be continued next week)

Twentieth week in Ordinary Time

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY

Mon.	Aug. 17 th	8:00 A.M. - No Mass
Tues.	Aug. 18 th	6:00 P.M. - No Mass
Wed.	Aug. 19 th	Saint John Eudes, Priest 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Larry Beauchamp 1 st Anniversary
Thurs.	Aug. 20 th	Saint Bernard, Abbot, Doctor of the Church 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Gloria Gereau
Fri.	Aug. 21 st	Saint Pius X, Pope 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Jim Gascon ----- Parish office closed
Sat.	Aug. 22 nd	The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary 3:00 P.M. - Confessions heard until 3:30 PM 4:00 P.M. - Mass – Stella Wiecech
Sun.	Aug. 23 rd	Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Tom & Dorothy Srock 10:00 AM - Mass – For the parishioners of Holy Family

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

69 envelopes were returned Sunday, Aug. 9th

Adults.....	\$2,810.00
Loose.....	25.00
General Maintenance.....	135.00
Fuel.....	160.00
Roof Fund.....	100.00
Donations.....	1,055.00
Mass Stipends.....	30.00
Total.....	\$4,315.00

Budgeted weekly Income & Expense... \$3,786.83
Surplus..... 528.17

St. Vincent DePaul Society..... 25.00
Total.....\$ 25.00

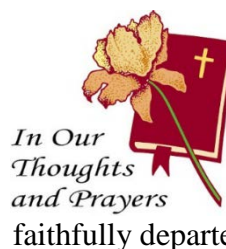
Thank you to all who sent in or dropped off your weekly contribution to Holy Family. We are very grateful for your support of your parish.



We welcome Most Reverend John F. Doerfler, STD, JCL to Holy Family Parish next Sunday, August 23rd.

Bishop John will be here only for the 10:00 AM Mass on Sunday to do the Installation of Fr. Sebastian as our pastor.

Our deepest sympathies to the family and friends of **Grace Hughes** and **Kathy LaCosse**. Grace's funeral Mass was celebrated Aug. 6th and Kathy's funeral Mass was Aug. 15th. May their souls and the souls of all the faithfully departed rest in peace.



SPIRIT LIFTERS

- Aug. 16th** - The size of your troubles generally depends on whether they are coming or going.
- Aug. 17th** - A SMILE - It creates happiness in the home, fosters goodwill in business, and is the countersign of friends.
- Aug. 18th** - One of the beautiful surprises of middle age is the discovery that mature love is not only richer and deeper, but every bit as breathtaking as it was in the beginning.
- Aug. 19th** - Casting our burden on the Lord frees us to help carry another's burdens.
- Aug. 20th** - Sitting and wishing won't change your fate; God provides the fishing, but you've got to dig the bait.
- Aug. 21st** - He who forgives, ends the quarrel.
- Aug. 22nd** - It's the little things that bother us, And keep us on the rack; We can sit upon a MOUNTAIN, But not on a TACK.

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.



Anyone have any old buttons laying around that you're not using? Carol Belongie has been making masks and extensions to give away. She is in need of $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch button pairs. If you can help, please bring them to church and place in the bucket marked or you can call Carol at 786-6365.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

- | | |
|---|--|
| Monday
Ez 24:15-24
Mt 19:16-22 | Tuesday
Ez 28:1-10
Mt 19:23-30 |
| Wednesday
Ez 34:1-11
Mt 20:1-16 | Thursday
Ez 36:23-28
Mt 22:1-14 |
| Friday
Ez 37:1-14
Mt 22:34-40 | Saturday
Ex 43:1-7b
Mt 23:1-12 |
| Sunday
Is 22:19-23
Rom 11:33-36
Mt 16:13-20 | |

Life of Saints

Aug. 22nd - QUEENSHIP OF MARY – One week after the Assumption we celebrate the Fifth Glorious Mystery of the Rosary. In 1954 Pope Pius XII directed that this feast be celebrated each year on this day. The Pope called for a renewal on this day of the consecration of the human race to the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

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.

Mary did not feel ashamed. She proclaimed Jesus her son. At Calvary we see her standing upright – the mother of God, standing next to the cross. What a deep faith she must have had because of her love for her son! To see Him dishonored, unloved, and object of hatred. Yet, she stayed upright. ~Mother Teresa

20th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME; Cycle – A; Aug. 16th 2020
Isaiah 56:1, 6-7; Romans 11:13-15, 29-32; Matthew 15:21-28

Dear Sisters & Brothers,

A story is told about a pious Catholic who was a newcomer in heaven. One day he asked St. Peter: “Are there Hindus in heaven?” St. Peter replied: “No Hindus.” Then he asked: “What about the Muslims?” “Not even one,” replied St. Peter. The man was much pleased and said: “Oh then, there are only Christians in heaven?” “No there are no Christians in heaven either,” replied St. Peter. “Do you mean, only Catholics are in heaven? – asked the man. St. Peter said: “No Catholics at all.” Then he continued, “Heaven is not meant for a particular group of people. Here there is no distinction between Hindus, Muslims, Jews or Christians, for all are welcome in heaven who are believers in God and tried to lead a good life on earth.” Almighty God does not keep any discrimination against people of different religions. All are His children whom He loves equally. Today’s three readings refer to the non-Jewish people who were chosen by God to be in His favor and the universality of salvation. In other words salvation is granted to all irrespective of religious differences. In the words of St. John in his gospel, **“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.”** Two phrases of John to be noticed. He says, ‘God so loved the world’ -means not a particular nation; but the entire world with all people; then he says, ‘everybody who believes in him’ - no matter who they are. In fact, according to St. Matthew the first visitors to the Infant Jesus were the non-Jewish astrologers or the magi. Isaiah says that the foreigners, the non-Jews will come and worship the true God on His Holy Mountain. St. Paul, in the Letter to the Romans, speaks about the favor, God has given to the Gentiles. **Our focus today is the gentile Canaanite woman’s faith and her perseverance in prayer.**

The theme of last Sunday’s gospel was also the faith, where we find the shaky faith of the apostles and especially that of Peter. In contrast to the shallow faith of the apostles, in today’s gospel we find the deep faith of a desperate Canaanite (gentile) woman who trusted in the power of Jesus. The Canaanite woman had only a little bit of knowledge about Jesus which she might have got from some people. But she believed strongly that Jesus could do her a favor. Perhaps, as a Gentile she had the hesitation and fear to make a request to a Jewish Rabbi, as the Jews hated bitterly the Gentiles. Apparently Jesus seems to be rude to that poor woman in his answer, *“I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.”* If we take any healing miracles of Jesus, we know that Jesus is not a kind of person who denies a favor. Sometimes the sick approached him with a request and other times he himself took the initiative and healed the sick. He was never rude to the sick or even the sinners. So in order to understand the comment of Jesus in this context we need to understand a little bit about the existing hostile attitude of the Jews to the Gentiles. The Jews had the pride to be the chosen nation of God and they despised the Gentiles and called them *‘stray dogs.’* They condemned them to eternal punishment. According to the Scripture scholars Jesus was just teasing her in the language of the Jews and testing her faith. Perhaps anyone would have left the area with this insult. But the tit for tat answer of that woman, *“Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters,”* amazed

even Jesus and it made Jesus say, *“Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.”* The woman was very persisting and prevailed over Jesus. Literally she conquered the heart of Jesus.

The perseverance of this woman in prayer is a great model for those of us who lose faith in prayer because God has not answered our prayers the way we wanted. Discarding the initial refusal of Jesus, the woman went on with her plea and she won. Through the ‘parable of the unjust judge and the widow’ Jesus asks us to persist in our prayers. He concludes the parable with the saying: **“Will not God then secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night? Will he be slow to answer them?”** The Psalmist expresses his trust in the Lord in these words, **“You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. You, O Lord, are near to all who call upon you.”** These days people are getting more impatient with one another. Many keep the same attitude to God too. If God doesn’t answer thier prayers instantly, many even quit the faith. But we should not be discouraged by the initial refusal of Jesus to answer our prayers. Let us keep in mind one thing that God never turns His back against our genuine prayers. But at the same time He will not answer them the way we want but as God thinks what is good for us. St. Monica prayed for the conversion of her son Augustine for long 17 years and she got what she prayed for. Sometimes, God tests our faith and perseverance too. Please remember, God didn’t answer the intense prayer of Jesus at Gethsemane the way Jesus thought to be good for him. Even Jesus felt that he was abandoned by his Father and that is why he cried on the cross, *“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”* Perhaps, we too have such experience. But God will never forsake us at any moment. Let us not give up our hope in prayer. Sometimes people complain that they cannot concentrate on prayer as they are too sick or sad. Other times we are distracted while we sit to pray. At such situations the best prayer we can offer is our sickness or sadness even our distractions. When we offer it to the Lord with a positive attitude, they become pleasing prayer to God. At the same time we should not dictate God how He should act rather let us wait patiently for God to act in His own way and His Will be done. But our perseverance in prayer will bring us the fruit.