

Holy Family Parish



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

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time – October 18, 2020

Pastor

(906) 786-1209 Ext. 3

Parish Secretary

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Office hours: Monday thru Thursday 9 am to 3 pm

Bulletin articles should be submitted

by Noon on Wednesdays

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Maintenance

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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 3:45 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.....

Lincoln Noel, 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

Apostles' Creed (Cont.)

Article 6: He Ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. The Ascension reminds the faithful that after the human and divine natures of Christ were united in the Incarnation, they could never be separated. In other words, after the saving death and Resurrection, Jesus didn't dump his human body as if he didn't need it anymore. Catholicism teaches that his human body (*which is the glorified body*) will exist forever. Where Jesus went, body and soul, into heaven, the faithful hope one day to follow.

Article 8: I believe in the Holy Spirit: This is a unique mystery we believe. This reminds the believer that God exists in three persons – God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. This is the only article where Holy Spirit is mentioned, though no explanation or clarification is given. So far we are in agreement with the Jewish brethren regarding the understanding of God as the Creator of everything. But the idea of God in three persons is alien to the Jews which is also strictly against the monotheistic idea of God. We will see later in detail about the Holy Trinity.

Article 9: The Holy Catholic Church, the Communion of Saints: Catholics believe that the Church is more than a mere institution and certainly not a necessary evil. It's an essential dimension and aspect of spiritual life. Christ explicitly uses the word Church (ekklesia in Greek) in Matthew 16 when he says, "I will build my Church." Here the word Catholic is used to show that the Church is universal.

Article 10: The Forgiveness of sins: Christ came to save the world from sin. Belief in the forgiveness of sins is not just a Christian belief. The Jews too believe in the forgiveness of sins and did a lot of sacrifices in the Temple for the forgiveness of their sins. Catholicism believes sins are forgiven in Baptism and in the Sacrament of Penance. Forgiveness of sins is very essential for eternal life and forgiving one another is also emphatically stressed by Jesus. The hope and belief in the forgiveness of sins are needed for one to approach God seeking forgiveness.

Article 11: The Resurrection of the body: From the Catholic perspective, a human being is a union of body and soul, so death is just the momentary separation of body and soul until the end of the age, the Second Coming of Christ, the General Judgment, and the Resurrection of the dead. It is believed that the just go, body and souls, into heaven, and the condemned too go body and soul into eternal punishment.

Article 12: And life everlasting: As Christ our Savior died, so, too, must mere mortals. As he rose, so shall all human beings. Death is the only way to cross from this life into the next. At the very moment of death, private judgment occurs-means the souls are judged by Christ according to his/her deeds. If one is extraordinarily virtuous and holy he/she goes straight to heaven.

If one is evil or wicked and dies in mortal sins, he/she is condemned to eternal punishment.

If a person lived a life not bad enough to warrant hell but not holy enough to go right to heaven, Catholic Church teaches that the soul needs a purification before it becomes eligible for eternal life and that purification takes place in Purgatory which is the middle ground between heaven and hell. And also the Church teaches that the prayers of the living, especially offering the Holy Sacrifice of Masses will speed up their redemption.

With this short explanation we complete the Apostles' Creed. But I recommend you to take any good book of Catechism and read a little more in details.

(Will be continued next week).

Twenty-Ninth week in Ordinary Time

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY

Mon.	Oct. 19 th	<i>Saints John de Brebeuf and Isaac Jogues, Priests and Companions, Martyrs</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – For your intentions
Tues.	Oct. 20 th	<i>Saint Paul of the Cross, Priest</i> 6:00 P.M. - Mass – Kathy LaCosse
Wed.	Oct. 21 st	8:00 A.M. - Mass – Jim Gascon 6:30 P.M.- Livestreaming for all students 1-12 and their parents
Thurs.	Oct. 22 nd	<i>Saint John Paul II, Pope</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Amy Chenier Kositzke
Fri.	Oct. 23 rd	<i>Saint John of Capistrano, Priest</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – James Paquin ----- Parish office closed
Sat.	Oct. 24 th	<i>Saint Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop</i> 3:00 P.M. - Confessions heard until 3:45 PM 4:00 P.M. - Mass – James Wiecech
Sun.	Oct. 25 th	<i>Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Tom & Dorothy Srock 10:00 AM - Mass – For the people of our parish

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

73 envelopes were returned Sunday, October 11th

Adults.....	\$3,845.00
Loose.....	190.00
General Maintenance.....	45.00
Fuel.....	95.00
Donations for Pasty Sale.....	170.00
Total.....	\$4,345.00

Budgeted weekly Income & Expense...	\$3,786.83
Overage.....	\$ 558.17

St. Vincent DePaul Society.....	5.00
Total.....	\$ 5.00

Thank you to all who have dropped off or mailed in their weekly envelopes and have returned their U.P. Catholic Services Appeal Card.

U.P. Catholic Services Appeal Update

Parish Goal.....	\$40,139.00
Pledged to date.....	\$24,490.00
Still needed.....	\$15,649.00

Thank you to the 92 parishioners who have sent in their pledges. With 115 cards outstanding. We can do this!!!

2020 St. Vincent DePaul Society Christmas Baskets

SVdP will be distributing Christmas Baskets on December 10th and 11th from the Ruth Butler bldg. We are looking for monetary or physical donations. Please consider donating to our less fortunate in our community. Checks may be written out to SVdP and please specify on the check that the money is to be used for Christmas Baskets. Thank you. Call Julie at 906-280-1315 if you have any questions.

SPIRIT LIFTERS

- Oct. 18th** - "He is no fool who gives up what he cannot keep to gain that which he cannot lose."
- Oct. 19th** - A Christian's purpose is to win souls - not arguments.
- Oct. 20th** - "I have so much to do (today) that I shall spend the first three hours in prayer."
Martin Luther
- Oct. 21st** - There is no freedom on earth or in any star for those who deny freedom to others.
- Oct. 22nd** - No brain is stronger than its weakest think.
- Oct. 23rd** - There is a very good reason why God did not put eyes in the back of our head. He wants us to look AHEAD.
- Oct. 24th** - Whatever our race, creed, or background, we are all children of God.

THE BLUE ARMY ROSARY HOUR

The Rosary Hour on WDBC 680 AM Radio at 10:00 am on Sunday benefits our homebound parishioners and nursing home residents. Donations are needed to keep this worthwhile program on the air. Please send your donation to: The Blue Army, P.O. Box 895, Escanaba, MI 49829. Thank you!

Survivors of Suicide Support Group will meet the 2nd Monday of every month starting in October, 6:00 PM at St. Anthony Parish Hall. For more information, you can call Cindy Bintner at 789-0003 or Janet Lindstrom at 786-3852.

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.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Monday Eph 2:1-10 Lk 12:13-21	Tuesday Eph 2:12-22 Lk 12:35-38
Wednesday Eph 3:2-12 Lk 12:39-48	Thursday Eph 3:14-21 Lk 12:49-53
Friday Eph 4:1-6 Lk 12:54-59	Saturday Eph 4:7-16 Lk 13:1-9
Sunday Ex 22:20-26 1 Thes 1:5c-10 Mt 22:34-40	

Life of Saints

Oct. 19th - STS. ISAAC JOGUES and JOHN DE BREBEUF, priests and martyrs, and COMPANIONS, martyrs - The Northern American soil is hallowed by the blood of these unbelievably heroic martyrs. There were eight - all of French origin, all working in the mission area known as the New France. Six were Jesuit priests and two were unpaid lay helpers. All were martyred from 1624 to 1649 - five of them in present Canada and three near Auriesville, N.Y. The priest Isaac Jogues had been tortured and mutilated but courageously returned to the missions. Jogues and La Lande, priest and layman, were tomahawked on Oct. 18 and 19, 1646, by a Mohawk war party. A beautiful shrine at Auriesville (near Interstate 90) recalls their martyrdom. They were canonized as saints in 1930.

THANK YOU

A **HUGH THANK YOU** for all of the support that has been shown so far for the pasty sale that will be Nov. 6th & 7th. We are still looking for donations of flour and shortening and a few more workers for the different shifts. If you would like to help or donate please contact the parish office 786-1209 or there are sign up sheets at the back of church.

29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME; Cycle – A; Oct. 18th 2020
Isaiah 45:1, 4-6; 1Thessalonians 1:1-5; Matthew 22:15-21

Dear Sisters & Brothers,

In 1950 Mother Theresa founded the Congregation of *'The Missionaries of Charity'* in a very small way and she remained to be its Superior General till she died in 1997. By that time the Congregation had grown and spread its branches all over the world with more than 4,000 religious sisters taking care of hundreds of orphanages and houses of destitute. When Mother Theresa passed away, the big question arose in the minds of the Church leaders as well as ordinary people as *'who would be capable of stepping into her big shoes?'* By that time in the Congregation there were a lot of sisters who had high qualification and most of them came from very good Catholic families. But to the surprise of many the one who was elected to be the new Superior General was *Sr. Nirmala Joshi a Hindu convert*. When Nirmala met Mother Theresa, she was a Hindu girl of 24 years of age and she was baptized and confirmed after she joined the Congregation in 1958. So leaving aside the sisters came from good Catholic families, God chose one without much Christian background. Once again *God proved: "My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways" (Is. 55:8)*. *God also says to Prophet Samuel, "Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance but the Lord looks into the heart" (1Samuel 16:7)*. Sr. Nirmala led the Congregation till 2009 very successfully and she passed away in 2015.

In today's first reading we see a quite unusual incident happening in the Babylonian exile where people of Israel spent almost 70 years. It is interesting to notice the strange way of God. For the repeated sins of infidelity God handed Israel to the exiles. But in Babylon God used Cyrus the Great, the founder of the Persian Empire (*modern day Iran*) to conquer Babylon to free Israel. By this time, people had already lost their hope of freedom and never expected anything better with the change of regime. But God was using Cyrus an instrument in his hands to free his people from the bondage. Thus, Cyrus let the Jews go back to their native land and helped them to rebuild Jerusalem city and the Temple. God makes it very clear to Isaiah that Cyrus was the instrument in his hands and he anointed him and handed Babylon to his power. God calls Cyrus, **'the anointed one.'** Remember, this title is given in the New Testament only to the *'Messiah'* and in the Old Testament it is reserved only to the kings of the Davidic origin. And this is the only occasion we come across in the Bible a pagan king who is the enemy of the true God being given this Messianic title. This call of Cyrus is a clear example that God can choose any one whenever He wants to accomplish something, no

matter he/she is a non-believer or non-Christian, weak or strong. Once the person is chosen, it is God who makes him/her the fittest instrument in his hands.

If we go through the salvation history we know that God always acted in a strange way in choosing people for his mission. Starting from Abraham down to this very day God always chose unexpected or least expected people. We have number of concrete examples. For instance, Moses who ran away from the wrath of Pharaoh was sent back to him by God to deliver his people; David, the great king was a shepherd boy; many of the Prophets were not outstanding figures in Israel, before they were chosen. Jesus chose the least or the outcaste as his 12 apostles; he selected Paul, the persecutor of the Christians and made him a great apostle to the gentiles. The young ambitious philosophy professor, Francis Xavier was chosen by God to be a great missionary to India.

The Almighty God, if wanted could have made a direct intervention and free his people from the Babylonian captivity. But he looked for the help of a human being, who was only a creature of his hands, to do the job. Does God really require the help of the human beings to do His work? Please listen to the words of St. Teresa of Avila whose feast falls on Oct. 15th; she says in one of her books, **“Christ has no body now on earth but yours; no hands but yours; no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which he looks at people with compassion; yours are the feet with which he is to go about doing good; yours is the hands with which he is to bless people now.”**

Remember at our Baptism you and I were anointed to do a particular mission for God. We all have got something to accomplish in the world for God. Very often people make excuses that they are incapable of doing anything big to the community. So, many people confine themselves to their little world of self-interest. But God does not count how big a thing we can do rather he counts how willing we are to do something for him. God does not look for our talents or qualification rather what he needs is our goodwill and cooperation. Please remember, we are all different types of instruments in the hands of God and we all can do something. We can make a difference in the community by our good deeds. We should not wait for big things to do rather, as St. Mother Theresa says, *“Most of us are not called to do big things; but we all can do small things with great love.”* In the words of Edward Everett Hale, the American historian, *“I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do.”*