

Holy Family Parish



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

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – January 24, 2021

Pastor

(906) 786-1209 Ext. 3

Deacon

Deacon: Robert Berbohm 786-9082

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

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Faith Formation Coordinator

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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 3:45 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.....

*Bob Gascon, Brevyn Willford, Lincoln Noel, Kambria
Don Anderson, Duane & Nancy Marenger
Marjorie VanDamme, Jean Lancour*

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

The Church (Cont.)

Deacons (Cont): In the Roman rite you will find two types of deacons. (*Many Eastern Churches don't have deacons anymore*). They are known as **transitional** deacon and **permanent** deacon. The transitional deacons are seminarians preparing for priesthood and at the end of their third year theology course or towards the end of the seminary course, they are ordained deacons by the bishop. But they don't remain in that stage for long and eventually they are ordained priests. While they remain in that stage of diaconate they have all duties and rights which a deacon is entitled to have. The second type of deacon is the permanent deacon who will not be ordained priest and he will continue in that stage for the rest of his life. The one who opts to be ordained as permanent deacon should undergo a theology course which may last at least three to four years. The candidate should be at least 25 years of age before the ordination; if married he should be at least 35 years old and in that case he should seek the consent of his wife. Once ordained, he is not allowed to get married again, in case of the death of his wife. You may have seen the deacons assisting priests at the Mass. If there is a deacon at the Mass, it is his duty of proclaim the gospel and lead the prayer of the faithful. He helps the priests in visiting the sick and giving them communion; **but he is not allowed to anoint a sick which only a priest or bishop is allowed to do.**

Laity: In hierarchical structure of the Church, those who remain in the bottom line are known as the lay people or the laity. But they are not the least rather they are the foundation of the structure of the Church. If there are no lay faithful there will be no structure of the Church at all. According to the **survey of 2012 currently there are 2956 dioceses and Church jurisdictions in the world where 5065 bishops, 410,593 priests and 38155 permanent deacons serve the 1.18 billion Catholics** all over the world. So you, as lay faithful, should not feel inferior or least in the Church; rather the Church structure is resting on you.

According to Vatican II *“The laity is here understood to mean all the faithful except those in holy orders and those in the state of religious life specially approved by the Church. These faithful are by baptism made one body with Christ and are constituted among the People of God; they are in their own way made sharers in the priestly, prophetic, and kingly functions of Christ; and they carry out for their own part the mission of the whole Christian people in the Church and in the world.”*

In the early Christianity besides the Apostles, the laity was the great ambassadors of evangelization. Their exemplary Christian life drew many people to Christianity. Unfortunately, by the arrival of the ordained ministers, the laity's role was diminished the level of just supporting the Church materially and to be present in the liturgical service. The evangelization work solely rested on the clergy and the religious. Vatican II made a good effort to bring the laity back to their original role in the Church. Again, Vatican II defines the role of laity in the following words: *“The laity's specific character is secularity: they are Christians who live the life of Christ in the world. Their role is to sanctify the created world by directing it to become more Christian in its structures and system. The laity, by their very vocation, seek the kingdom of God by engaging in temporal affairs and by ordering them according to the plan of God. The laity are full members of the Church, fully share in the Church's purpose of sanctification, of inner union of men with God, acting with freedom and personal responsibility and not as mere agents of the hierarchy.”*

Our own times require of the laity no less zeal: in fact, modern conditions demand that their apostolate be broadened and intensified. With a constantly increasing population, continual progress in science and technology, and closer interpersonal relationships, the areas for the lay apostolate have been immensely widened particularly in fields that have been for the most part open to the laity alone. Some of the tasks in the areas of evangelization are better suited to the laity than the clergy are: being exemplary husbands, wives, fathers and mothers; being model doctors, businessmen and politicians. In the modern age where priests are becoming fewer, the role of laity is crucial.

(We will continue next week).

Third Week in Ordinary Time

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY

Mon.	Jan. 25 th	<i>Conversion of Saint Paul, Apostle</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – For all of your Special Intentions
Tues.	Jan. 26 th	Saints Timothy and Titus, Bishops 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Brenda Henry
Wed.	Jan. 27 th	<i>Saint Angela Merici, Virgin and Religious Founder</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Jim Gascon
Thurs.	Jan. 28 th	<i>Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Ken Beuachamp
Fri.	Jan. 29 th	8:00 A.M. - Mass – Elaine Gareau ----- Parish office closed
Sat.	Jan. 30 th	<i>Saint Vincent, Deacon and Martyr</i> 3:00 P.M. - Confessions heard until 3:45 PM 4:00 P.M. - Mass – For the people of our parish
Sun.	Jan. 31 st	<i>Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Henry, Patrick & Ronald Hughes 10:00 AM - Mass – Lester Ness, Jr.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

65 envelopes were returned for Sunday, Jan. 17th

Adults.....	\$3,045.00
Loose.....	78.00
General Maintenance.....	60.00
Fuel.....	45.00
Mass Stipends.....	180.00
Seminary Fund.....	20.00
Total.....	\$3,428.00

Budgeted weekly Income & Expense... \$3,786.83
Short Fall..... \$ 358.83

Diocesan Collection.....	134.00
U.P Catholic Services Appeal.....	450.00
St. Vincent DePaul Society.....	65.00

A huge thank you to the parishioners who have donated another \$450.00 to the U.P. Catholic Services. We are **still \$6,864.00 short** of our Goal! Please return your card if you have not done so yet!

Reconciliation and First Communion

Information has been mailed to all parents of 2nd graders in our parish regarding the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion. Applications must be received by January 25th. If you have an eligible student and have not received anything, please contact Chris Olesak at 420-1206. Preparations for the sacraments will begin in early February.

Thanks to anonymous person(s) who donated \$750.00 for the Sound System. It is greatly appreciated!!!

ADULT CATECHISM CLASS RESUMES

AT ST. JOSEPH & ST. PATRICK CHURCH WEDNESDAYS, 6:00-7:00 PM The adult faith formation class taught by Mike Cousineau at St. Joseph & St. Patrick Church will resume at 6:00 pm in the parish hall.

SPIRIT LIFTERS

Jan. 24th - To attain the highest good of true man and womanhood, simply do your honest best - God with joy will do the rest.

Jan. 25th - The secret of life is to know who you are and where you are going.

Jan. 26th - Where there is great love there are always great miracles.

Jan. 27th - Others, Lord, yes others, Let this my motto be, Help me to live for others, That I may live like Thee!

Jan. 28th - Happiness is not a station you arrive at, but a manner of traveling.

Jan. 29th - Humility is a strange thing - when you think you've gained it, you've lost it.

Jan. 30th - Bibles that are falling apart usually belong to people who are not.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Looking for financial assistance with your college education? Applicants must complete the on-line application found at www.dioceseofmarquette.org/bbscholarshipink and either mail an Official Transcript and ACT/SAT scores (via postal mail) to: Bessette Scholarship Fund, Diocese of Marquette, 1004 Harbor Hills Drive, Marquette, MI 49855 or email transcripts to Irene McCauley at imccauley@dioceseofmarquette.org Applications must be received no later than March 15, 2021.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

March for Life will be held on Sunday January 31, 2020 at All Saints Church in Gladstone, starting at 1:00 PM. Please wear a mask & social distance.



In honor of Catholic Schools Week, listen to what Frederic Baraga is teaching you: "My dear children, make use of your faith; learn well and firmly believe all that Jesus taught us."

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Monday

Acts 22:3-16 or
Acts 9:1-22
Mk 16:15-18

Wednesday

Heb 10:11-18
Mk 4:1-20

Friday

Heb 10:32-39
Mk 4:26-34

Tuesday

2 Tm 1:1-8 or
Tm 1:1-5
Mk 3:31-35

Thursday

Heb 10:19-25
Mk 4:21-25

Saturday

Heb 11:1-2,8-19
Mk 4:35-41

Sunday

Dt 18:15-20
1 Cor 7:32-35
Mk 1:21-28

SAINTS FOR THE WEEK

Jan. 25th - CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL, apostle – The conversion of Saul, persecutor of the church, was of pivotal importance for the world-wide development of Christianity. Paul means much for our faith and for the New Testament. Today we commemorate that significant event on the road to Damascus.

Jan. 28th - ST. THOMAS AQUINAS, priest and doctor – This great Dominican teacher lived only 49 years (1225-1274). But he traveled much: from his birthplace at Aquino in central Italy to Cologne, to Paris, to Rome and to the monastery near Naples where he died. He wrote much. His two Summas should not obscure his other biblical, theological and philosophical writings. Thomas prayed much - and dedicated his brilliant talents to investigating the sublime truth of God in the light of faith and the human intellect. On this date his body was transferred to the Dominican Monastery at Toulouse. Canonized in 1323, he is Patron of all Catholic Schools and is titled the "Angelic Doctor."

Being unwanted, unloved, uncared for, forgotten by everybody, I think that is a much greater hunger, a much greater poverty than the person who has nothing to eat. ~Mother Teresa

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME; Cycle – B; Jan. 24th 2021
Jonah 3:1-5, 10; 1Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20

Dear Sisters & Brothers,

Last Sunday the theme in the first reading and the gospel brought our attention to the call of Samuel and the first disciples. Initially almost all the Prophets made all sorts of excuses before the Lord to evade from the mission. But no one has ever resisted and became disobedient as Prophet Jonah. If we take the first part of the small book of Jonah we read about his futile attempt to run away from God's command and how God turned him around to do his mission. Of course, Jonah had reason to refuse God's plan for him to take up this mission in Nineveh, the capital of Assyria. Assyria was a very cruel pagan nation which kept Israel under captivity for long. Finally Israel was freed by God. As Assyria was the bitterest enemy of Israel Jonah was afraid that they would kill him for declaring to them the news of their destruction. Finally, though quite unwillingly, Jonah started his mission in that big city announcing to the residents, **"In Forty days more and Nineveh shall be destroyed."** But in the heart of heart Jonah didn't wish their conversion, rather their ruin. But to his amazement, when he just finished only one day's journey in the city, the people took seriously the message of the prophet and wore sackcloth as a sign of their repentance. When the king heard about it he too left his royal robes and even sat in the ashes wearing the sackcloth. It is said in the book how God changed His mind, **"When God saw by their actions how they turned from their evil way, he repented of the evil that he had threatened to do to them, he did not carry it out."**

We can learn couple great lessons out of this incident. Though Assyrians were the enemies of Israel, God didn't consider them as the same; rather He viewed them as weak human beings who should be saved. It is clear that God does not show any sort of discrimination to any one irrespective of nations, religions, caste and creed. Of course, God's benevolent attitude towards the people of Nineveh outraged Jonah. The second lesson we learn from this incident is that God does not ask for any big penitential acts from sinners, rather only a **simple repentance** for their sins. The people of Nineveh declared a fast and wore the sackcloth as the sign of their repentance and God changed his mind. The history shows that the chosen people of Israel never remained faithful to God at any time in their lives. But the moment when they repented, God simply forgave them. We have got number of such incidents in the Old Testament. In the Book of **Isaiah 1:18** God says, **"Though your sins be like scarlet, they may become white as snow; though they be crimson red, they may become white as wool."** It shows

how merciful and forgiving God is. The sum and substance of the teachings of all the Prophets were the same, “Repent for your sins and come back to God.” Please listen to the words of Prophet Joel, “**And rend your hearts and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster**” (Joel 2:13).

In today’s gospel Mark gives us the opening statement in the public ministry of Jesus which is nothing but the repetition of the instruction of the Prophets. Jesus says, “**The Kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the gospel**” Jesus does not place any impossible tasks before the sinners; but the simple demand of repentance for their sins. He is a merciful and forgiving God to those who just repent. In the entire Bible the word Forgiveness occurs 47 times and the word mercy comes up more than 250 times.

Sometimes people doubt, whether God will forgive their sins which are very grave? If the good parents can forgive the wrong doings of their children, no doubt, our heavenly Father can forgive us of any grave sins and we should not doubt this great truth even a moment. Here is the true story of a young man in our country. He came from a very good family and parents. Once he was away from home for his college studies, he joined the bad company and finally ended up in jail for drug possession and use. Once he was out of jail, he wrote to his father, “I know how bad I am in your eyes; but I am sorry for my mistakes and I will never repeat the same. You may no longer open the house for me. But I would like to see you and mom, and my sisters once. I will be coming home next weekend. If I see a white ribbon on the tree in our front yard, I will know that you welcome me, if not I will turn away.” With so much fear, shame and hesitation, finally, he reached near his house and to his great amazement there was not one ribbon, rather the whole tree was filled with white ribbons. Yes that is the quality of good parents. Then what about the depth of the mercy of God!

We, the children of our heavenly Father, fail in many ways and offend Him. But when we repent and make a comeback we will see the tree full of white ribbons and the Father waiting at the door to welcome us. As Jesus says in the parable of the lost sheep, “**I tell you; in just the same way there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance.**”