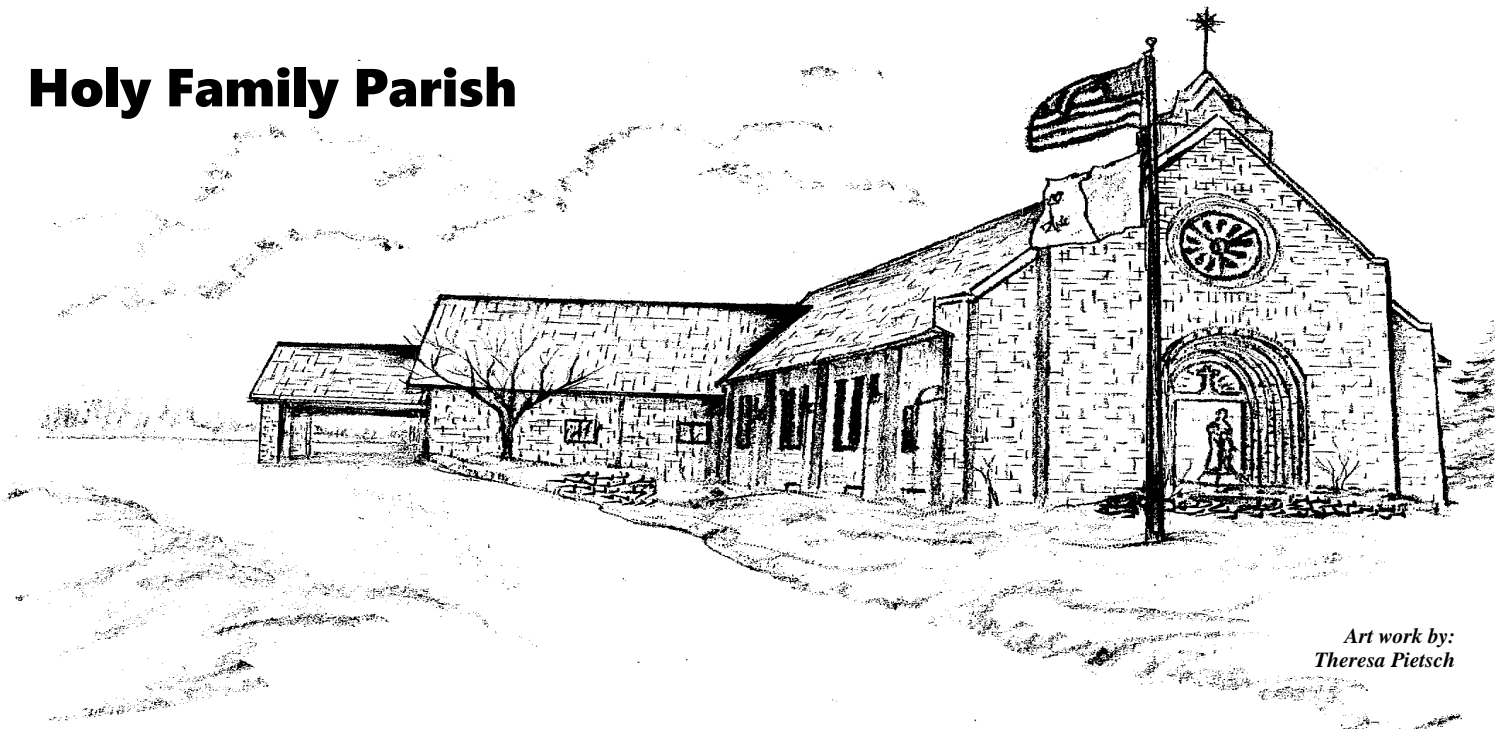


Holy Family Parish



Art work by:
Theresa Pietsch

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

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

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – February 7, 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

Website: www.holyfamilyparish.net

Faith Formation Coordinator

Chris Olesak 428-9431

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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 Marenger

Marjorie VanDamme, Jean Lancour, Barb

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 LITURGICAL SEASONS

Introduction: In the world calendar 1st of January marks the beginning of another New Year which ends on December 31st. But in the Church calendar a New Year does not begin with January 1st rather the beginning of Advent marks the starting of a Church Liturgical Year. It is interesting to notice that there is no specific date which marks the beginning; rather it depends on what Sunday the Advent begins. But it will commence between November 28th and December 3rd of each year. And also every New Liturgical Year belongs to one of the three cycles known as A, B and C. This cycle system is kept for the convenience of selecting particular passages from the Bible for the Liturgical Celebration. Each cycle has got specific authors from both the Old Testament and the New Testament. The cycle, A, B and C rotates every third year and the authors selected for a particular cycle will remain the same. We have four Evangelists who wrote the gospels. But mainly at Mass, Matthew, Mark and Luke are chosen for A, B and C respectively. Though John is not given a particular cycle, he comes up in our readings especially in Lent and Easter Season. Similarly, in the Old Testament readings we have specific Books and authors. The notable factors in the Liturgical Year are the various Liturgical Seasons which occur in the specific part of the year.

Advent: I have already mentioned that the New Liturgical Year begins with the Advent which is the first season. It is interesting to know how this Season came into existence. The literal meaning of Advent is: the arrival or coming of somebody or something long awaited. In Christianity it denotes the arrival of Jesus Christ in history. So it is very clear that it has something to do with the Christmas, the birth of Jesus Christ. In the first three centuries the Church didn't have any Festal celebrations other than the Sunday Eucharistic Celebration. But as early as in the 2nd century the Eastern Church started celebrating the Epiphany of the Lord, especially the visit of the Magi. The idea of celebration of the Christmas came into the Church in the 4th century. As the birth of Christ was a major event in the history, many bishops thought that it would be a best thing to have a period of preparation before the event of Christmas proper. So in France bishop Perpetuus of Tours issued a regulation asking the faithful to fast three days in every week, starting on Nov. 11th through Dec. 24th which would come to an end on the eve of Christmas. This period of preparation had the strict penitential nature. Soon this practice was spread to different countries varying the starting date of preparatory period. Rome introduced the period of preparation only in the 6th century starting on Dec. 1st and ending on Dec. 24th. There was no penitential character attached to that. Eventually this practice has become common in the Universal Church. During this Season the tone of the Liturgies and selection of the reading are filled with the theme of anticipation- Jesus is coming. During the second and third Sunday of Advent we meet St. John the Baptist with his invitation to repentance.

Advent Wreath: The custom of keeping and lighting of Advent Wreath started first among the Protestants in Germany in 1500s. Soon the custom spread to the Catholics in the Roman Church. The Eastern Catholic Churches don't have the custom of lighting the Advent Wreath. The evergreen wreath symbolizes the continuation of life. The circular formation shows the eternity of God who has no beginning or end. It has three purple candles and one pink one. The purple is the sign of penance and the pink the sign of hope and joy. We light the pink candle on the third week of Advent and also we are happy that the Christmas is pretty close. During the Advent Season the priest wears the purple vestment and if he wants he is free to wear a pink one on the third week of Advent. The third week of Advent is also known as "Gaudete Sunday- or the Sunday of rejoicing. On the vigil of Christmas the Advent season comes to an end.

Christmas: Literally Christmas means Mass of Christ which came into use only in the 11th century among the English speaking population. Originally this day is referred to the birth of Christ. The Church provides four Masses, the Vigil Mass, Midnight Mass, Mass at dawn and Mass during Day. But for pastoral reasons the priests are free to reduce the number of Masses. The Christmas celebrations are common to all Christian denominations. The Christmas season is very short and it lasts only three weeks and during this time we celebrate the Feast of Holy Family, Epiphany and the Baptism of the Lord. During this season the color of the vestment is supposed to be white.

(We will continue next week)

Fifth Week in Ordinary Time

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY

Mon.	Feb. 8 th	<i>Saints Jerome Emiliani; Saint Josephine Bakhita, Virgin</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – For all of your Special Intentions ----- Parish Office Closed
Tues.	Feb. 9 th	8:00 A.M. - Mass – John Marcella
Wed.	Feb. 10 th	<i>Saint Scholastica, Virgin</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Joe Gareau
Thurs.	Feb. 11 th	<i>Our Lady of Lourdes</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Colleen Miller
Fri.	Feb. 12 th	8:00 A.M. - Mass – Jim Fassbender (<i>6th Anniv.</i>) ----- Parish office closed
Sat.	Feb. 13 th	3:00 P.M. - Confessions heard until 3:45 PM 4:00 P.M. - Mass – Darlene Smith
Sun.	Feb. 14 th	<i>Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – For the Celebrities of the Day 10:00 AM - Mass – For the People of our Parish

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

74 envelopes were returned for Sunday, Jan. 31st

Adults.....	\$3,052.00
Loose.....	88.00
General Maintenance.....	25.00
Fuel.....	95.00
The Word Among Us.....	20.00
Total.....	\$3,280.00

Budgeted weekly Income & Expense...	\$3,786.83
Over.....	\$ 506.83

Diocesan Collection.....	20.00
St. Vincent DePaul Society.....	451.00

A huge thank you to the parishioner who upped their pledge by another \$50.00, another one by \$500, and one who pledged \$210 to the U.P. Catholic Services. Also to the Men’s club who donated \$1,000. We are So thankful for your generosity. We are **still \$5,054 short** of our Goal! Please return your card if you have not done so yet!

On Sunday, February 14th, we will be honoring the longest married couple and our parishioners who are 80 years or older and still active in the parish. This will take place at the 8:00 AM Mass.

If you have been married 65 plus years please call the parish office no later than Thursday Feb. 11th.

The Catholic Diocese of Marquette presents a **PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND!** Join Spiritual Director Father Ryan Ford and hosts Dcn. Steve & Jackie Gretzinger on an amazing Journey deeper into God’s Divine Mercy & Infinite Grace! Tentative travel dates: Oct. 5 - 13, 2021 For more information visit: gateway.gocollette.com/link/989418 or call Laura 906-228-6355

Celebrating the Wisdom of Bishop Frederic Baraga

“Don’t be discouraged, but push forward with energy and confidence. The greater the trouble in a good work, the greater the merit before God”

SPIRIT LIFTERS

Feb. 7th - The person who is always finding fault, seldom finds anything else.

Feb. 8th - We cannot direct the wind, but we can adjust our sails.

Feb. 9th - Don't grumble because you don't have what you want; be thankful you don't get what you deserve.

Feb. 10th - Happiness is found along the way, not at the end of the road.

Feb. 11th - My abilities, however small are valuable because they are God's gifts.

Feb. 12th - I don't think much of a man who is not wiser today than he was yesterday. Abe Lincoln

Feb. 13th - I cannot conceive how a man could look up into the heavens and still say that there is not god. A. Lincoln.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL WAREHOUSE NOW HIRING TRUCK DRIVER

Are you looking for a part time job? Love to help our community? Have a positive attitude? Apply at the St. Vincent de Paul warehouse located at 815 1st Avenue North, Escanaba!* No CDL required* Must have a valid drivers license* 29 hours per week* Must be able to lift up to 50 lbs* Good oral communication skills required* Able to work in hot and cold environments

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 imccauley@dioceseofmarquette.org Applications must be received no later than March 15, 2021.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Monday

Gn 1:1-19
Lk 6:53-56

Wednesday

Gn 2:4b-9,15-17
Mk 7:14-23

Friday

Gn 3:1-8
Mk 7:31-37

Tuesday

Gn 1:20—2:4a
Mk 7:1-13

Thursday

Gn 2:18-25
Mk 7:24-30

Saturday

Gn 3:9-24
Mk 8:1-10

Sunday

Lv 13:1-2,44-46
1 Cor 10:31—11:1 Mk 1:40-45

SAINTS FOR THE WEEK

Feb. 8th - ST. JEROME EMILIANI - - Today's saint, born in 1486 was a typical Venetian soldier. When 25 he was captured and imprisoned - and in prison was converted to Christ and to serving the poor of society. In times of pestilence he was heroic in caring for the orphans. Jerome started a religious order, died of the plague in 1537 and was canonized a saint in 1767.

Feb. 10th - ST. SCHOLASTICA, virgin - Today's saint was the twin sister of Benedict, founder of the Benedictine Order. She lived in a century and country full of difficulties - during the 6th Century in central Italy, when armies of Goths and Byzantines crisscrossed the land and repeatedly terrorized the people. Scholastica demonstrated her holiness, peace and strength. Rivaling her brother in holiness, Scholastica died in 547.

I used to believe that prayer changes things, but now I know that prayer changes us, and we change things.
~Mother Teresa

5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME; Feb. 7th 2021; Cycle – B
Job 7:1-4, 6-7; 1Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23; Mark 1: 29-39

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

In the very first chapter of his gospel Mark right away draws our attention to the busy public ministry of Jesus which contains preaching, driving out demons, healing the people with various illnesses, raising the dead and feeding the crowds. As we heard in last Sunday's gospel Jesus chose four disciples and came to Capernaum and preached the Word of God in the Synagogue. His first miracle, according to Mark was the driving out of an unclean spirit from a man there. That healing created a commotion among the people and you can imagine how fast the news flashed across. As soon as Jesus left the Synagogue and entered Simon's house, he found Simon's mother-in-law sick and he healed her. No surprise, within no time Simon's house and surroundings were filled with people of all sorts of sicknesses and Jesus didn't leave anyone disappointed as he cured each and everyone. We don't know at what time of the night he finished the healing ministry? No doubt, Jesus got only a short time of night rest. But Mark says, **“Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed.”** Of course, the excited Simon and companions perhaps didn't give Jesus much time to be with his Father in prayer. They wanted him not to waste time but jump into action.

In today's gospel we get the full picture of Jesus' ministry, such as preaching and healing. Mark's Gospel tells us that Jesus did the same throughout Palestine. In today's Gospel we also notice the importance of **prayer** in Jesus' daily life. Jesus rose early in the morning, removed himself from the crowds, and went to a deserted place to pray which means he wanted to keep connection with his Father.

More than in the other three gospels we find Jesus praying on several occasions in Luke's gospel. Luke presents us a praying Messiah. Before doing or after doing any important ministry Jesus prayed alone. Jesus not only teaches about prayer in several unique parables like the friend begging for three loaves of bread from his neighbor, in 11: 5-8 and the widow and the unjust judge in 18:1-8. Let us see the moments of Jesus praying in Luke.

Jesus was praying after His baptism when the heavens opened and only Luke says the same. (3:21).

Jesus spent 40 days in the desert praying and fasting before he started his public ministry. (4: 1-12).

After the cure of the leper Jesus withdrew to the wilderness and prayed (5:16). Jesus spent all night on the hill in prayer before He chose the Twelve (6:12-16). Jesus was praying alone when He asked the disciples “Who do the people say I am?” (9:18-22).

“Eight days later He took Peter, James and John and went up on the mountain to pray” (9:28) and “while praying he was transfigured” (9:29).

Jesus went to the garden of Gethsemane and prayed for long time. (22: 42-43).

Jesus prayed for Simon that his faith might not fail (22:32).

Only Luke tells us that Jesus prayed for His crucifiers (23:34) and committed His spirit into the hands of Father (23:46).

Thousands of books are written on prayer to show the importance of prayer in our life. We all wish we could pray more. But in our busy life and various distractions we deny Jesus a few minutes he would like to spend with us. In the matter of prayer we always think about tomorrow; tomorrow I will spend more time in prayer, let me finish this job now. Prayer keeps us in union with Jesus always and in that union we are safe and can do things with ease. Jesus makes it very clear in **John 15: 5, “I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing.”** The best image of our union with Jesus can be illustrated in the story of a little boy walking in the field with his father. All along the way, the boy holds the hand of his father, and with his other hand he picks up stones, or picks grains and flowers, or tries to catch butterflies passing by. His eyes are all over the vast field, and his feet are at times going in different directions. But he never let go of his one hand holding on to his father.

As we walk in this vast field of the stressful world, we encounter countless distractions, varied directions and attractive choices. But let us never, even for a moment, detach our hand from the hand of our friend Jesus. That is what Jesus did. No matter how busy and exhausted he was, he always had time to be alone and pray. That was his way of being united with the Father – and of finding peace, inspiration, direction and inexhaustible strength to continue and fulfill his mission. When we are stressed and feel that the burden of life is just too much, perhaps it is a sign that we are drifting away from the hand of Jesus. We have to stop and find time to be with God in silence and in prayer. Jesus always invites us: **“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest” (Mt 11:28).** St Francis de Sales says, **“Every one of us needs half an hour of prayer every day, except when we are busy—then we need an hour.”** Mother Theresa says, **“Souls without prayer are like people whose limbs are paralyzed; they possess but can’t control them.”**