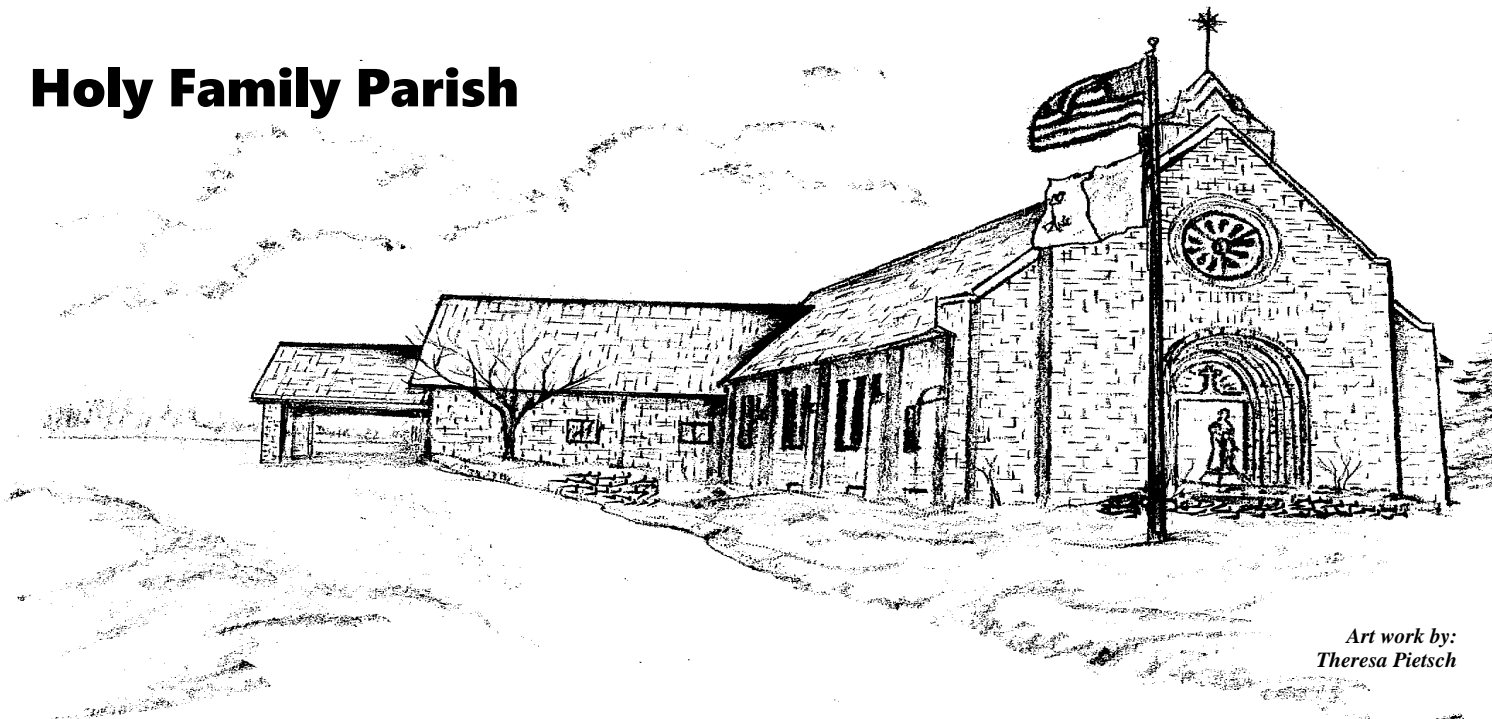


Holy Family Parish



Art work by:
Theresa Pietsch

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

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

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time – January 31, 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

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 3:45 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*

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

Church, the Mystical Body of Christ

For the last few weeks we have been going through the structure of the Catholic Church, starting from the Pope down to the Laity. There are no other religions in the world as structurally firm as the Catholic Church. Sometimes there is a tendency among people to consider Church as a big corporate or moral body like any other firms in the world which starts with CEO, managers, supervisors, workers etc. When we speak about Church, more than a moral body, it is referred to as the *Mystical Body of Christ*. Unfortunately, that word mystical has other associations, and is liable to give false ideas. It does not mean that the Church is something intangible and mysterious. It simply implies that the Church is distinct from physical Christ and that the Church is the mystery of God's bounty and wisdom and omnipotence. Further, the term mystical distinguishes the Church from a mere moral body, such as the business corporation we have been thinking about. It is true that the head and members of such a company form a moral unity, a moral person, but in the Church there is a unity of a higher order, compared to Christ to that unity between the vine and its branches, and it has been traditionally described by the term *Mystical*. For functional convenience the Church is being made as a hierarchical structure; but in reality Christ is the only head of the Church, the body, and all Christians are members of that Mystical Body.

At the time of the Ascension our Lord promised his apostles: **“And behold I am with you always, until the end of the age” (Mt 28:20b)**. Here he hints at the union that is to exist between him and the members of his Church. Before he said this to his apostles he made it very clear in his parable of the **‘Vine and Branches’** in John 15, as how united he will be with his Church in the world. In this parable Jesus says: *“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 second analogy of Christ as the body and we as members, derives from the teaching of St. Paul to his communities. The term "body," when referring to the Church, derives its meaning from the analogy used by St. Paul, where he speaks of Christians: **"You are Christ's body, individually part of it" (I Corinthians 12:27), and of Christ: "He is the head of the Body, the Church" (Colossians 1:18).**

Corollary to being a body, the Church must have a multiplicity of discernible members because the possession of parts is an essential feature of anything bodily. And just as a natural body is formed of different organs with different functions arranged in due order, so the Church is bound together by the combination of structurally united parts, and has a variety of members that are reciprocally dependent. Another name for this interdependence is the hierarchy, with its graded levels of orders and jurisdiction, of superiors and subjects, beginning with the Sovereign Pontiff and coming down and in the laity.

The body (soma) that St. Paul identifies with the Church is a living reality, and like every organism requires suitable means to enter into life, to grow and mature and prosper according to its nature. Similarly in the Catholic Church, the sacraments are available for every spiritual need and circumstance of human life.

Moreover, the Roman Catholic Church regards herself as the Body of Christ. He was the originator of the Church by his preaching and choice of the Apostles to carry on his work, by his death on the Cross when he merited the graces to be channeled through the Mystical Body, and by the descent of the Holy Spirit, whom he sent on Pentecost. He continues to rule the Church from within by supernatural means that are permanent and constantly active within the members.

The Church is called Mystical because she is a mystery, which God revealed to be true but whose inner essence must be accepted on faith and without full comprehension by the mind. Otherwise than in other societies, the end or purpose of the church is not temporal or earthly but heavenly and eternal; its spiritual bond is the will of God; incorporation in the Church effects a profound internal change in the members; and the whole reality is called supernatural because it leads to the destiny of seeing God in the beatific vision after death. But the Roman Catholic Church is mainly said to be the Mystical Body of Christ because it is **sacramental**. The Church is the great sacrament of the New Law, instituted by Christ for the communication of invisible grace to the whole world.

(We will continue next week).

Fourth Week in Ordinary Time

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY

Mon.	Feb. 1 st	8:00 A.M. - Mass – For all of your Special Intentions
Tues.	Feb. 2 nd	<i>The Presentation of the Lord</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Lela and Kent Dubord
Wed.	Feb. 3 rd	<i>Saint Blaise, Bishop and Martyr; Saint Ansgar, Bishop</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Joanne Fassbender (8 th Anniv.) 6:30 P.M. - Livestream CCD Classes for families
Thurs.	Feb. 4 th	8:00 A.M. - Mass – Von Strickfaden
Fri.	Feb. 5 th	<i>Saint Agatha, Virgin and Martyr</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Darlene Kelloniemi ----- Parish office closed
Sat.	Feb. 6 th	<i>Saint Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs</i> 3:00 P.M. - Confessions heard until 3:45 PM 4:00 P.M. - Mass – Grace Hughes
Sun.	Feb. 7 th	<i>Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Amy Chenier Kositzke 10:00 AM - Mass – For the People of our Parish

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

70 envelopes were returned for Sunday, Jan. 24th

Adults.....	\$3,848.00
Loose.....	65.00
General Maintenance.....	38.00
Fuel.....	25.00
Votive Lights.....	190.00
Roof Fund.....	275.00
Mass Stipends.....	100.00
The Word Among Us.....	20.00
Total.....	\$4,561.00

Budgeted weekly Income & Expense... \$3,786.83
Over..... \$ 774.17

U.P Catholic Services Appeal.....	150.00
St. Vincent DePaul Society.....	30.00

A huge thank you to the parishioner who upped their pledge by another \$100.00 and one who pledged \$50 to the U.P. Catholic Services. We are **still \$6,714 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. 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.

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.

***Our Parish Sympathies and Prayers
are extended to the family of***



Nancy Marenger

May she rest in peace

SPIRIT LIFTERS

- Jan. 31st** - A smooth sea never made a skillful mariner.
- Feb. 1st** - He who has no money is poor, but he who has nothing but money is the poorest of all.
- Feb. 2nd** - Hold to a true friend with both hands.
- Feb. 3rd** - A good thing to remember And a better thing to do, Is to work with the construction gang and not the wrecking crew.
- Feb. 4th** - The only sharp-edged tool that gets sharper with use is the tongue.
- Feb. 5th** - To overlook the little things in life is to miss the biggest part of life itself.
- Feb. 6th** - "Cheerfulness and content are great beautifiers and are famous preservers of youthful looks."

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.

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.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

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

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

- | | |
|--|--|
| Monday
Heb 11:32-40
Mk 5:1-20 | Tuesday
Mal 3:1-4
Heb 2:14-18
Lk 2:22-40 |
| Wednesday
Heb 12:4-7,11-15
Mk 6:1-6 | Thursday
Heb 12:18-19,21-24
Mk 6:7-13 |
| Friday
Heb 13:1-8
Mk 6:14-29 | Saturday
Heb 13:15-17,20-21
Mk 6:30-34 |
| Sunday
Jb 7:1-4,6-7 1 Cor 9:16-19,22-23 Mk 1:29-30 | |

SAINTS FOR THE WEEK

- Feb. 2nd - PRESENTATION OF THE LORD** – It was Jewish Law that the first born son belonged to God and had to be bought back from God 40 days after birth. At that time the mother was to be ritually purified after childbirth. Today, 40 days after Christmas, the Church notes this event in the life of Jesus when significant developments took place.
- Feb. 3rd - ST. BLASE, bishop and martyr** - - St. Blase was bishop of Sebaste - of Mrmenia in modern Turkey. It is know that he was tormented and killed during the persecution of Licinius (320-324). Among the stories about St. Blase is that he cured a young man choking from a fishbone. The blessing of St. Blase is invoked against throat ailments. It is appropriately given in winter, when colds and viruses are more frequent.
- Also, ST. ANSGAR, bishop** - - With the Protestant Reformation, the Scandinavian countries as a unit went over to Lutheranism. Now, four centuries later, Catholics in Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Finland are a scattered, struggling minority. But we should not forget the long Catholic history of those nations or their evangelizer, St. Ansgar. Ansgar (801-865) was a monk of a French abbey. Named bishop and papal legate to all Scandinavian lands, Ansgar worked courageously in the face of discouraging results.

Love cannot remain by itself – it has no meaning. Love has to be put into action, and that action is service.
~Mother Teresa

**4th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME; Jan. 31st 2021; Cycle – B
Deuteronomy 18:15-20; 1Corinthians 7:32-35; Mark 1:21-28**

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

During this liturgical year mostly we listen to the gospel of Mark and his gospel has some special features different from other three gospels. First of all, Mark's gospel is the shortest one which has only 16 chapters. Secondly, this gospel was the first one written, may be around 65 AD. Amazingly enough both Matthew and Luke are indebted to Mark for the resource of their gospels. Thirdly, in Mark's gospel the miracles of Jesus are written in great details and have some sort of chronological set up. Mark introduces the public ministry of Jesus with the context, **“After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the Gospel of God.”** John just finished his role as the forerunner of Jesus. So it was time for Jesus to take over. It is interesting to notice that before he called the first disciples, Peter, Andrew, James and John at the lake of Galilee, he never reveals to them his identity at all. These young men followed Jesus assuming that he was a young Rabbi. Perhaps they felt honored for being chosen by a Rabbi as they were outcaste in the society.

This week's gospel is just the continuation of last week's passage. Jesus and his four disciples reach Capernaum, the neighboring town of Galilee, on a Sabbath day. It was a custom at that time that whenever a new Rabbi emerges in the area, the synagogue official in a particular locality would invite him to share the word of wisdom and Jesus too was given such opportunity. As Marks writes, people were amazed by Jesus' teaching for the very reason that he taught with **authority**. But the appearance of a demoniac on the scene changes the whole situation. First of all, the demoniac considers Jesus to be a threat and questions him and claims that he knows him as the **“Holy one of God.”** People never considered a Rabbi of that time as the Holy one of God. For the title **Holy one** is attributed to God alone. As people were confused, Jesus cast out the demon with word of authority. By this time the amazement and marvel of people reached the highest point. They started with all sorts of questions. They wonder, **“What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands the unclean spirits and they obey him.”** It is interesting to notice that during the entire public ministry Jesus never manifested clearly his identity as the Son of God. Very often his identity was revealed by the people with unclean spirits.

In this short passage one thing draws our attention. **Mark says, “He taught them as one having authority, not as the scribes.”** Here Marks makes it very

clear that there was no dichotomy in Jesus between what he preached and what he practiced. The scribes, though they taught people they didn't live what they taught. They were not a good role model for the people. In a way there was hypocrisy in them. On the other hand people could see moral integrity and authenticity in Jesus. A person with authority can be a good model to all. Only an honest person can speak with authority. In the past the world witnessed great political and social leaders who lived what they preached and led the people along the right track. There were a lot of religious leaders who were great saints and their model is still a big inspiration for us. There were great parents and school teachers who were great moral strength for the younger generation.

These days we have a lot of leaders around us in every area of life. Unfortunately we are running short of leaders who can speak with authority. When the religious leaders fail to practice what they preach, naturally they lose the moral courage to speak against the evils of the time. When the political leaders lack the integrity, the nation is misled. These days many parents are unable to teach their children with authority as their model is not very helpful for the formation and growth of the children. Many teachers consider their profession as just like another career. So they don't think that their moral life or good example has anything to do with the formation of their students. A few years ago a Catholic School in New York dismissed the Kindergarten teacher from the school. The reason was that she became pregnant outside of wedlock. Many didn't find anything wrong with it as such incidents are common these days. Even the major TV channels came out with severe criticism against the school authority and the local Bishop. But the school management made it very clear that the teacher who is not a good model to the young children has no moral right to teach them. They never changed their decision at all. We all have different roles to play and the younger generation looks at us for model. So when, we the leaders become capable of speaking with authority we will be able to build up a morally and politically healthy future society. Our one bad example may cause an innocent one to be misled. Jesus is very stern on the sin of scandal. Listen to the words of Jesus, **“Woe to the world because of things that cause sin! Such things must come, but woe to the one through whom they come.” (Mt 18:7).** So I as pastor, you be the parents and teachers should be very careful in what we say and do.