

Holy Family Parish



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

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

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time – February 14, 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

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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, 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

Ordinary Time: After the Christmas season is over, with the Baptism of our Lord there comes a short period of a Season called Ordinary Time. The extent of this period will not be more than 8 weeks, depending on the date of the beginning of Lent. It is known as 'Ordinary' because there isn't any special event celebrated during this period. This is a little break for the faithful before the beginning of Lent. During this period the color of the vestment is green.

Lent: As the Christmas celebration started in the Church around the middle of the 4th century, the Easter celebration, commemorating the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ too came into being. Of course, at every Eucharistic celebration we remember the death and resurrection of Christ. But as this great event is the center of our Christian faith, the Church Fathers felt the need of having a special day to celebrate the Easter. As in the case of Christmas, many felt the need of a strict preparatory period, with strict penitential character, before the Feast of Easter is celebrated. Thus the Season of Lent was introduced in the Church. This was a period of Spiritual preparation for Easter which typically involved fasting, penance and prayer. It was originally established by various communities in different length of time, ranging a few days to a few weeks. It was eventually fixed by the Universal Church as 40 days. Perhaps in the mind of the Church was the 40 days of fast and prayer of Jesus in the desert. But, the number 40 has several religious significances both in the Old Testament and New Testament. For instance, Israel spent 40 years in the desert before they could enter the Promised Land; Moses spent 40 days on Mount Sinai in prayer; Prophet Elijah walked 40 days and 40 nights in the desert before he reached Mount Horeb. The Ascension of Jesus took place on the 40th day of his Resurrection. Among the Roman Catholics the Lent lasts strictly for 38 days spread across six and a half weeks before Easter. It begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes on Holy Thursday with the celebration of the Lord's Supper. During this period Sundays are not considered to be part of Lent, as it is the Lord's Day. The days, Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil are known as the Sacred Triduum. In the Eastern Orthodox Church the Lent is observed for 8 full weeks.

As we have already seen, Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent in the Roman Catholic Church. On this day many Churches have more than one Mass celebrated and the people are marked with ashes on their forehead. Of course, ashes have very important significance in the life of Israel. In the Old Testament we see how people applied ashes on their head and body as a sign of repentance for their sins. As the focus of Lent is repentance and conversion, it is proper to apply ashes on our forehead to show our willingness to repent for our sins and make changes in our lives.

As the Lenten Season has got strict penitential nature, the Catholics are supposed to fast on Ash Wednesday and abstain from eating meat. Of course, the children, the elderly and the sick are exempted from fasting. On fasting day one is allowed to eat only one full meal and fruits and simple snacks are allowed during the day. The next day of fasting is on Good Friday with the same manner. During the Lent the devotion of the Stations of the Cross is observed in every Catholic Church, recalling the journey of Jesus to the Mount of Calvary. It is divided into 14 stations; but many Churches added a 15th Station called the Resurrection of the Lord. The reason may be to give the faithful the hope of Resurrection, before they left the Church. Towards the end of the Lenten Season a few great events take place, such as the Palm Sunday which is also known as the Passion Sunday of the Lord. It commemorates the triumphant entry of Jesus to Jerusalem Temple. Also on that day the Passion of the Lord is narrated in full. The faithful are given the blessed palms in the beginning of the Mass. Wherever the weather permits, a small procession of the faithful with palm branches in hands take place outside of the Church and at the end the priest solemnly enters the Church through main door.

(We will continue next week).

Sixth Week in Ordinary Time

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY

Mon.	Feb. 15 th	8:00 A.M. -	Mass – For all of your Special Intentions
Tues.	Feb. 16 th	8:00 A.M. -	Mass – Gerald Moilanen
Wed.	Feb. 17 th	Ash Wednesday	
		8:00 A.M. -	Mass – Julia Desy
		6:30 P.M. -	Mass - Francis Beauchamp
Thurs.	Feb. 18 th	8:00 A.M. -	Mass – Marion Sodergren
Fri.	Feb. 19 th	8:00 A.M. -	Mass – Virginia Paquin
		5:30 P.M. -	Stations of the Cross
		-----	Parish office closed
Sat.	Feb. 20 th	3:00 P.M. -	Confessions heard until 3:45 PM
		4:00 P.M. -	Mass – For the People of our Parish
Sun.	Feb. 21 st	First Sunday of Lent	
		8:00 A.M. -	Mass – Carl Carlson
		10:00 AM -	Mass – Kathy LaCosse

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

64 envelopes were returned for Sunday, Feb. 7th

Adults.....	\$3,657.00
Loose.....	255.00
General Maintenance.....	91.00
Fuel.....	193.00
The U.P. Catholic Newspaper.....	70.00
Total.....	\$4,266.00

Budgeted weekly Income & Expense... \$3,786.83
Overage..... \$ 479.17

U.P. Catholic Services Appeal.....	\$250.00
St. Vincent DePaul Society.....	\$ 70.00

A huge thank you to the two parishioners who upped their pledge by another \$50.00, another one by \$200. We are So thankful for your generosity. We are **still \$4,804 short** of our Goal! Please return your card if you have not done so yet!

Our Lenten Season begins this Wednesday, Feb. 17th. Our Ash Wednesday Masses are at 8:00 AM & 6:30 PM. The following is just a littler reminder for all of us:

1. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday remain days of fast and abstinence. Abstinence is also to be observed on the Fridays of Lent.
2. Fasting is required of all the faithful in good health from the age of 18 to the beginning of their 60th year. Abstinence binds everyone over the age of 14.
3. Fasting usually is interpreted to mean one full meal and, if necessary, two other small meals. One should not eat between meals, but milk, fruit juices, and other liquids are permitted.
4. Abstinence means no meat should be eaten during the entire day.
5. Anyone unable to observe the fast or abstinence obligations because of health or other serious reasons, should substitute another penance.

*Join us for Stations of the Cross on Fridays
at 5:30 PM during the Lenten season*

SPIRIT LIFTERS

Feb. 14th - Love in your heart wasn't put there to stay. Love isn't love 'til you give it away.

Feb. 15th - "I expect to pass through this world but once. Any good therefore that I can do or any kindness that I can show to any fellow creature, let me know it now...for I shall not pass this way again.

Feb. 16th - Let each day be your masterpiece.

Feb. 17th - there is no greater invitation to love than in loving first.

Feb. 18th - Some people have strong will power, and some have strong won't power.

Feb. 19th - The smallest good deed is better than the grandest good intention.

Feb. 20th - It is a great experience to walk where Jesus walked, but it is better to walk like Jesus walked.

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

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

If you have any old palms laying around, please bring them to church.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Monday
Gn 4:1-15,25
Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday
Gn 6:5-8;7:1-5,10
Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday
Jl 2:12-18
2 Cor 5:20—6:2
Mt 6:1-6,16-18

Thursday
Dt 30:15-20
Lk 9:22-25

Friday
Is 58:1-9a
Mt 9:14-15

Saturday
Is 58:9b-14
Lk 5:27-32

Sunday

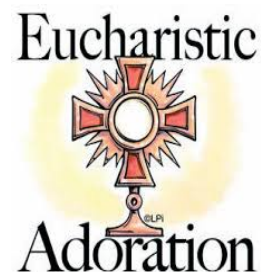
Gn 9:8-15 1 Pt 3:18-22 Mk 1:12-15

SAINTS FOR THE WEEK

Feb. 14th - STS CYRIL, monk, and METHODIUS, bishop – These brother saints are of great importance as links between the Eastern and Western Churches and as Apostles to the Slav nations. Born around 825 in Greece, they became Byzantine missionaries in Moravia, Bohemia and Bulgaria. Cyril died in Rome (869). Methodius achieved missionary success and papal legate to the Slav nations and died (885) in Czechoslovakia.

Feb. 17th - SEVEN FOUNDERS OF THE ORDER OF SERVITES – The 13th Century in Italy saw many remarkable religious developments. Today's memorial recalls how seven businessmen (wool merchants) of Florence followed Christ so completely that they together left their city to live as monks in the nearby mountains. They founded the order of Servites of Mary. In 1888 they were canonized saints. On this date in 1310 the last of the seven, then over a century old, died.

Eucharistic Adoration in the OSF St. Francis Chapel will begin again on March 1? Adorers can return at their previously arranged times. For questions or to sign up to pray with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, please call Jean or Jim Simon at 786-1450.



6th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME; Cycle – B; Feb. 14th 2021
Leviticus 13: 1-2, 44-46; 1Corinthians 10:31-11:1; Mark 1:40-45

Dear Sisters & Brothers,

The ancient people always considered the deadly diseases and natural calamities as God's punishment for people's sins. The people of Israel were not an exception to this belief. The deadly disease like leprosy was the clear sign of one's grave sins and God's wrath. As leprosy was contagious in most cases, the affected person was cast out of the community to live in isolation. So the pain of the leper was more mental than physical. The book of Leviticus which is the liturgical guide and source book of Israel, gives in details the measures that should be taken against a person who was found with leprosy. Today's first reading gives us the glimpse of the harsh treatment a leper received.

For the past three consecutive weekends we have been listening to the first chapter of Mark which describes the eventful Galilean ministry of Jesus. Today Mark concludes the same chapter with Jesus' controversial healing of a leper. Mark gives only one such miracle whereas Luke, besides repeating the same miracle in chapter 5, also gives the account of the healing of 10 lepers in chapter 17:11ff. As you have listened to the reading, perhaps, you have noticed the human emotion of Jesus. Mark presents Jesus to be more human than divine. ***In Mark Jesus is emotional; at times, angry, critical and impatient.*** For example, in today's gospel Mark says that seeing the sad fate of the leper **Jesus was moved with pity or compassion.** Though Matthew and Luke narrate the same incident, they don't say that Jesus was moved with pity. In Mark every person can identify himself/herself with Jesus; he seems to be one like us.

To avoid public contact the lepers were supposed to stay 50 yards away from the ordinary people. But Mark says that the leper came very close to Jesus and knelt before him. It means that he broke the Law literally. Perhaps, Jesus shocked the crowd more by touching the leper. Anyone who happened to touch a leper would be ritually unclean and he should remain outside of the community for seven days. But the compassion of Jesus saw only the sad fate of that leper.

We have couple lessons to learn from this leper who broke the barrier of Mosaic Law and came to Jesus. First of all, the faith of the leper in Jesus' healing power is amazing. He believed that Jesus could heal him. At the same time he knew that he could not demand a healing from Jesus as he was labeled to be a big sinner. That is why, considering his unworthiness, he humbly knelt down before

Jesus and begged, **“If you wish, you can make me clean.”** In other words he was ready to accept the positive or negative answer of Jesus. **Mark says, ‘Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched him and said to him, “I do will it. Be made clean.”’**

In the modern age many don't believe in miracles, rather they consider that medical science can work miracles. Of course, even today the miracles are possible, but they don't happen simply. Even Jesus didn't work miracles always during his public ministry. A miracle is possible only when two conditions are fulfilled. **First one is the absolute faith of the person in the power of God and the second one is the compassion of God.** When the leper's deep faith met with the compassion of Jesus, he was healed. No doubt, God's compassion is unchanging in all ages; but our faith, very often, becomes fragile. We live in a world of instant satisfaction or gratification. We approach God also with the same attitude. In other words, when we pray we want immediate answer from God. If not we quit. I hear many complain that they prayed to God for a genuine cause, but God didn't grant them the wish. So they lose their faith. That is a wrong attitude and we should not demand anything from God rather we need the humility of the leper to say, *“Lord if you wish you can do it for me.”* If we take both the Old Testament and New Testament, we come to know how compassionate God is. The pity or compassion of Jesus mentioned in Mark is nothing but the reflection of God's compassion towards the people of Israel. Prophet Isaiah has seen the delivering power of God and in chapter 41:10 God says, **“Fear not, I am with you; be not dismayed; I am your God. I will strengthen you, and help you, and uphold you with my right hand of justice.”** Yes there are a lot of reasons we have to be distressed and feared. But God says that we should not fear. This is what Jesus too said to his disciples on several occasions, “Fear not; do not be afraid.” With faith, when we cling to God or kneel down before him, we will hear his voice, **“I do will it.”** God's love and compassion are beyond our imagination. Again in Isaiah 49:15-16 God says, **“Can a mother forget her infant, be without tenderness for the child of her womb? Even should she forget, I will never forget you? See upon the palms of my hands I have written your name.”**