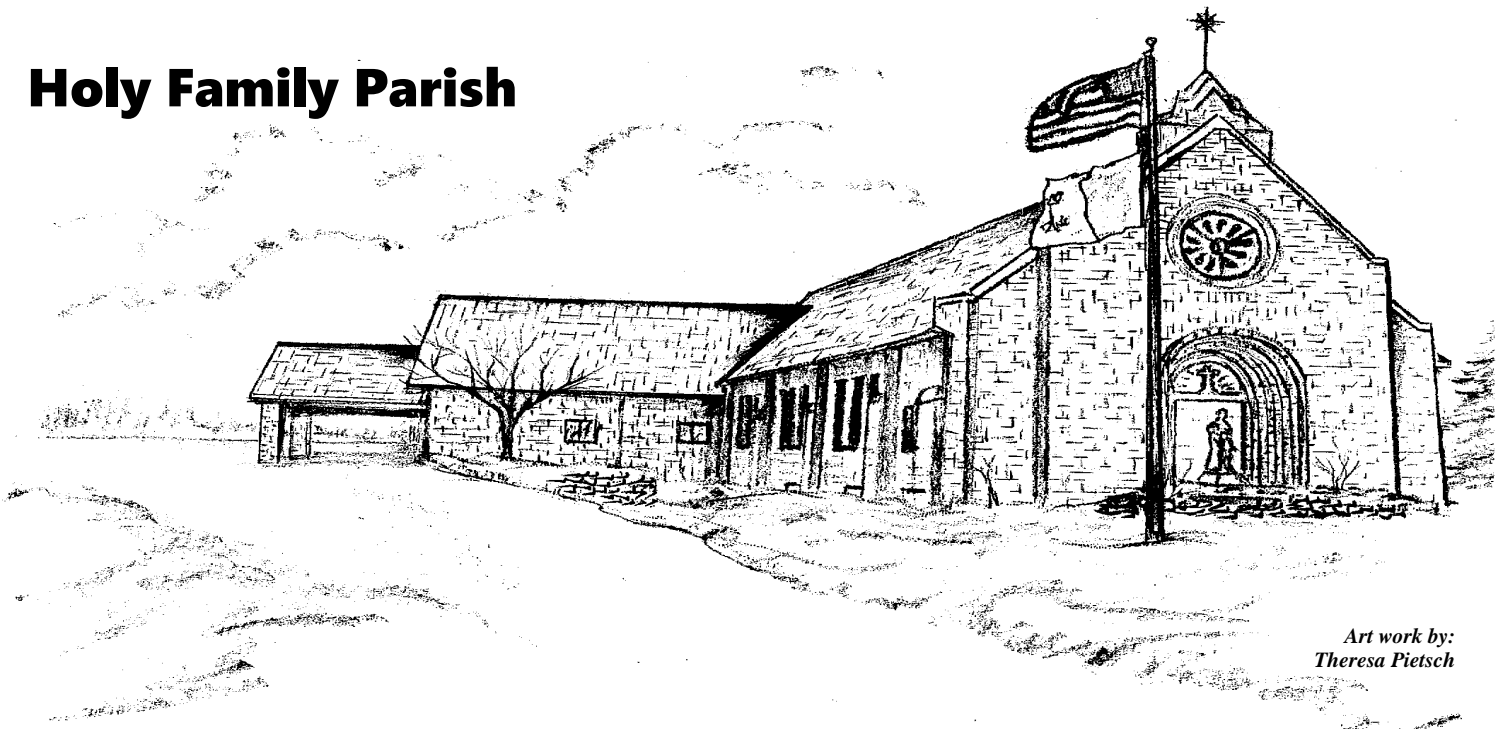


Holy Family Parish



Art work by:
Theresa Pietsch

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

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

First Sunday of Lent – February 21, 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, 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.

Lenten Resolutions suggested by Pope Francis

- 1. Get rid of the lazy addiction to evil:** “[Lent] is a ‘powerful’ season, a turning point that can foster change and conversion in each of us. We all need to improve, to change for the better. **Lent helps us and thus we leave behind old habits and the lazy addiction to the evil that deceives and ensnares us.**” – General Audience, March 5, 2014
- 2. Do something that hurts:** “Lent is a fitting time for self-denial; we would do well to ask ourselves what we can give up in order to help and enrich others by our own poverty. Let us not forget that real poverty hurts: no self-denial is real without this dimension of penance. **I distrust a charity that costs nothing and does not hurt.**” – Lenten Message, 2014
- 3. Don’t remain indifferent:** “Indifference to our neighbor and to God also represents a real temptation for us Christians. Each year during Lent we need to hear once more the voice of the prophets who cry out and trouble our conscience. God is not indifferent to our world; he so loves it that he gave his Son for our salvation.” –Lenten Message, 2015

“During this Lent, then, brothers and sisters, let us all ask the Lord: ‘*Fac cor nostrum secundum cor tuum*’: **Make our hearts like yours** (Litany of the Sacred Heart of Jesus). In this way we will receive a heart which is firm and merciful, attentive and generous, a heart which is not closed,
4. Pray: Make our hearts like yours!: indifferent or prey to the globalization of indifference.” – Lenten Message, 2015
- 5. Take part in the sacraments:** “Lent is a favorable time for letting Christ serve us so that we in turn may become more like him. This happens whenever we hear the word of God and receive the sacraments, especially the Eucharist. There we become what we receive: the Body of Christ.” – Lenten Message, 2015
- 6. Prayer:** “In the face of so many wounds that hurt us and could harden our hearts, we are called to dive into the sea of prayer, which is the sea of God’s boundless love, to taste his tenderness. Lent is a time of prayer, of more intense prayer, more prolonged, more assiduous, more able to take on the needs of the brethren; intercessory prayer, to intercede before God for the many situations of poverty and suffering.” – Homily, March 5, 2014
- 7. Fasting:** “**We must be careful not to practice a formal fast, or one which in truth ‘satisfies’ us because it makes us feel good about ourselves.** Fasting makes sense if it questions our security, and if it also leads to some benefit for others, if it helps us to cultivate the style of the Good Samaritan, who bends down to his brother in need and takes care of him.” – Homily, March 5, 2014
- 8. Almsgiving:** “Today gratuitousness is often not part of daily life where everything is bought and sold. Everything is calculated and measured. Almsgiving helps us to experience giving freely, which leads to freedom from the obsession of possessing, from the fear of losing what we have, from the sadness of one who does not wish to share his wealth with others.” – Homily, March 5, 2014
- 9. Help the Poor:** “In the poor and outcast we see Christ’s face; by loving and helping the poor, we love and serve Christ. Our efforts are also directed to ending violations of human dignity, discrimination and abuse in the world, for these are so often the cause of destitution. When power, luxury and money become idols, they take priority over the need for a fair distribution of wealth. **Our consciences thus need to be converted to justice, equality, simplicity and sharing.**” –
- 10. Evangelize:** “The Lord asks us to be joyous heralds of this message of mercy and hope! It is thrilling to experience the joy of spreading this good news, sharing the treasure entrusted to us, consoling broken hearts and offering hope to our brothers and sisters experiencing darkness.” – Lenten Message, 2014

You probably won’t be able to take huge steps forward in all of these areas. Instead, pick a couple that stand out to you and try to find practical ways to grow in your love of God and your love of your neighbor.

First Week of Lent

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY

Mon.	Feb. 22 nd	<i>The Chair of Saint Peter the Apostle</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – For all of your Special Intentions
Tues.	Feb. 23 rd	<i>Saint Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Pete & Willa DeMay 5:00 P.M. - Adoration until 6:00 PM
Wed.	Feb. 24 th	8:00 A.M. - Mass – Lela & Kent Dubord
Thurs.	Feb. 25 th	8:00 A.M. - Mass – Sirena & Brian Nieman & family
Fri.	Feb. 26 th	8:00 A.M. - Mass – Don Plourde 5:30 P.M. - <i>Stations of the Cross</i> ----- Parish office closed
Sat.	Feb. 27 th	3:00 P.M. - Confessions heard until 3:45 PM 4:00 P.M. - Mass – For the People of our Parish
Sun.	Feb. 28 th	<i>Second Sunday of Lent</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Leda Chenier 10:00 AM - Mass – Joy Berbohm

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

62 envelopes were returned for Sunday, Feb. 14th

Adults.....	\$2,851.00
Loose.....	124.00
General Maintenance.....	67.00
Fuel.....	118.00
The U.P. Catholic Newspaper.....	135.00
Total.....	\$3,295.00

Budgeted weekly Income & Expense... \$3,786.83
Shortage..... \$ 491.83

St. Vincent DePaul Society..... \$ 70.00

We are **still \$4,804 short** of our U.P. Catholic Services Appeal Goal! Please return your card if you have not done so yet!

Knights of Columbus Escanaba Council #640

The Knights of Columbus Council #640 is again sponsoring "40 Cans for Lent". Beginning Ash Wednesday and continuing through Lent, canned goods and non-perishable items can be left in the containers located at the Church entrance. All items collected will go to the St. Vincent DePaul food pantry. Thank you.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of
Peggy Verbrigghe
who recently passed into eternal life.
Our deepest condolences are extended
to her family and friends.
Eternal rest grant to her, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon her.
May she rest in peace.

Join us for Adoration on Tuesdays from 5:00 to 6:00 PM and for the Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 5:30 PM during the Lenten season

SPIRIT LIFTERS

- Feb. 21st** - Real love begins where nothing is expected in return.
- Feb. 22nd** - While some books inform and others reform, only the Bible transforms.
- Feb. 23rd** - The world is full of beauty when your heart is filled with love.
- Feb. 24th** - Christianity is bread for daily use, not cake for special occasions.
- Feb. 25th** - The best and most beautiful things in this world cannot be seen or even touched, they must be felt with the heart.
- Feb. 26th** - Take time to live because the world has so much to give.
- Feb. 27th** - No atheist can hinder the bible's influence more than a Christian who disregards it in his life.

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

All Invited to Virtual Parish Mission March 7-8

All parishioners across the U.P. are invited to join the members of St. Michael Parish, Marquette for a free virtual parish mission. Dominick Albano, Catholic author, speaker and consultant, will present "Choosing Hope: A Lenten Parish Mission on Making Godly Choices" Sunday and Monday, March 7 and 8, at 6:30 pm ET/5:30 pm CT. The live-streaming link, "St. Michael Parish Mission," will be posted at: StMichaelMqt.com and [Facebook.com/StMikesMqt](https://www.facebook.com/StMikesMqt).

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Monday
1 Pt 5:1-4
Mt 16:13-19

Wednesday
Jon 3:1-10
Lk 11:29-32

Friday
Ez 18:21-28
Mt 5:20-26

Tuesday
Is 55:10-11
Mt 6:7-15

Thursday
Est C:12,14-16,23-25
Mt 7:7-12

Saturday
Dt 26:16-19
Mt 5:43-48

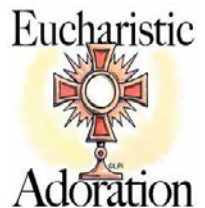
Sunday
Gn 22:1-2,9a,10-13,15-18
Rom 8:31b-34 Mk 9:2-10

SAINTS FOR THE WEEK

Feb. 22nd - CHAIR OF ST. PETER, apostle – Since the 4th Century this day has been the feast of St. Peter's election as Head of the Church and first Bishop of Rome. Today we recall how the Galilean Fisherman was named by Christ the Shepherd of the entire Flock of Christ. On this day we meditate on the special role of Peter among the Apostles and in the first generation Church. We also think of the role of Peter's Successor, the Pope and Bishop of Rome.

Feb. 23rd - ST. POLYCARP, bishop and martyr - - Today's saint is important for the meaning of tradition in the Church. Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna in Asia Minor, knew and was taught by the Apostle John. Polycarp was directly linked to the Apostle, and indirectly to Jesus. In a similar chain of tradition we all go back to Christ.

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.



Let me tell you something: If you feel the weight of your sins, do not be afraid! He is a loving Father; God's mercy greater than we can imagine. ~Mother Teresa

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT; Cycle – B; Feb. 21st 2021
Genesis 9:8-15; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:12-15

Dear Sisters & Brothers,

As we know, the first temptation occurred in the Garden of Eden in the form of greed and our first parents were the victim. Thereafter, the same continues in mankind in different forms. It is rather shocking to see that even Jesus was not spared of the temptations. The synoptic gospels give the temptations of Jesus with great emphasis. In a way, the temptations of Jesus are something comforting for us. The reason is that if Jesus who was also divine became the victim of temptations, how much more we, the weak human beings, are prompt to fall into temptations! Also it is consoling to us for the reason that Jesus who experienced the temptations and defeated them, will be able to understand our struggle with temptations and help us to overcome them.

Every year on the first Sunday of Lent our attention is drawn to the temptations of Jesus in the desert where he was tempted to use the easiest and popular methods to accomplish the salvific mission. As we know, people of Israel were tempted often in the desert and failed. And Jesus too was led by the Spirit to the same desert to be tempted by the devil; but he defeated the temptations. The Evangelists, Matthew and Luke give us a very detailed account of the three specific temptations of Jesus; whereas Mark gives us only a very brief description of it. Mark simply says, “**He remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him.**” Unlike in Matthew and Luke, Mark says that the tempter is **Satan, not devil** and also Jesus was among **wild beasts**. In Hebrew language *Satan* is supposed to be the leader of the devils and he is the adversary or the bitter enemy of God.

The three Evangelists had specific and immediate reason to bring the attention of the early Christians to the temptations of Jesus. Remember, when Mark, the first one who started writing his gospel around A.D. 70, Emperor Nero had already opened wide range of persecution against Christians in Rome. Peter was martyred by that time and the Christians were wildly hunted all over. Every day Christians were burnt alive and many were thrown before the wild beasts in the Amphitheatre for the entertainments of the Romans. Many have accepted martyrdom very courageously, but at the same time many left faith and many were tempted to leave. There were severe spiritual struggle and confusion among the Christians. So the Evangelists wished to boost the spirit and courage of the faithful by *showing that their Master Jesus also was tempted by Satan/devil who wanted to*

dissipate him from the mission and also in the desert Jesus too had the threat from the wild beasts. The early Christians could identify themselves with Jesus in every respect as he also suffered from the Romans and met with a tragic death.

It is certain that Jesus defeated the designs of Satan heroically and remained faithful to the will of his Father. But the temptations of Jesus were not over in the desert itself. As we go through the synoptic gospels, gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, we come to know that Jesus was tempted in different occasions by different people to deviate his mind from the plan of God for him. They accompanied with him up to the Mount of Calvary. Every time he was tempted to use the easiest way to accomplish his mission. In other words he was tempted to avoid the path of cross and suffering. But each time Jesus could defeat the temptation and remain faithful to the Will of his Father. Thus he gave good role model to his disciples.

Though we don't have the same situation of the early Christians, our lives too are surrounded by all sorts of temptations, perhaps worse than that of the early Christians. *The modern life which is over dominated by science and technology, secularism, materialism and consumerism, our Christian faith and values are hanging on a thin thread which can break any moment.* Thousands of people leave their faith daily. Sometimes the pressure is so much that people don't know what to do and where to go for help. Here comes the life and temptation of Jesus for our aid. He too had to undergo all sorts of temptations to dissipate from his mission, against the will of his Father and yet he has not sinned once. So he is the high priest who can sympathize with us and help us in our struggles. In the letter to the Hebrews the author reveals a very consoling truth, **“For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weakness, but one was tempted in every way that we are, yet never sinned” (Heb. 4:15).** Very often we rely on our power to beat the temptations. But no human help and our efforts alone will enable us to overcome the temptations. The solution is nobody, but Jesus Christ alone. In the letter to the Hebrews again we read, **“Because he himself was tested by what he suffered he is able to help those who are being tested” (Heb. 2:18).** Dear friends, let us not rely on our strength alone when we are tempted rather let us turn to Jesus and he will strengthen us and help us to overcome the temptations. In the Book of Sirach the author instructs us, *“Rely not on your wealth; say I have the power. Rely not on your strength in following the desires of your hearts” (Sir. 5:1-2).*