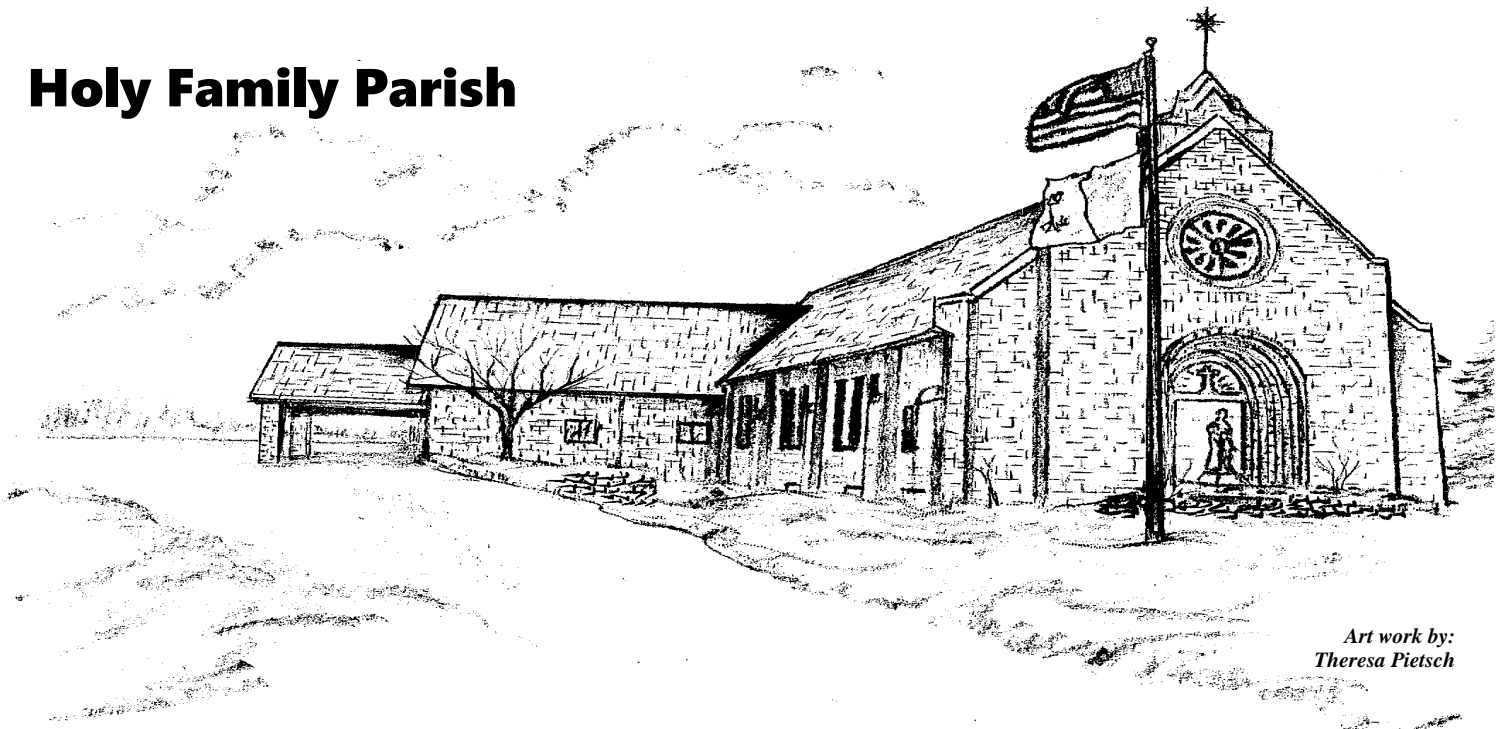


Holy Family Parish



Art work by:
Theresa Pietsch

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

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

Third Sunday of Easter – April 18, 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.

7:30 am – 7:50 am

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

Duane Marenger, Kambria, Barb

Diane, Angie Cafmeyer, Dale

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 Sacraments (Cont.)

The Eucharist: If there is one thing that distinguishes Catholics from other Christians, it is our devotion to the Sacrament of the Eucharist. Though all the Sacraments are important, the Eucharist is the spiritual center of Catholic life. Among the Seven Sacraments the Eucharist is known to be the crown of Sacraments. The reason is that in the worthy reception of every Sacrament we receive the invisible grace through visible signs. Whereas when we receive the Eucharist, we not only receive the grace but also the giver of grace, who is Jesus Christ himself. Through the Eucharist we remember what God has done for us through Jesus Christ, when we gather every Sunday. The other Christian denominations are a bit confused with the terms centered on the Eucharist. Very often we hear the terms, *Eucharist, Eucharistic celebration, Liturgy of the Eucharist, Holy Mass, and Holy Communion*. All these terms are focusing on one thing that is the Eucharist. If we go back to the very early Church we hear different terms used for the Eucharist, such as: *Breaking of the Bread, the Lord's Supper, and Sacrament of the Altar*.

Meaning and Definition of the Eucharist: The word Eucharist comes from the Greek word *Eucharistia* which means *thanksgiving*. The name is explained by the fact that at the Last Supper Jesus took the bread and gave thanks to the Father and broke and gave to his disciples; similarly, he took the cup of wine and did the same. If we define the Eucharist in simple language: *it is a Sacrament which really, truly and substantially contains the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ under the appearance of bread and wine*.

Institution of the Eucharist: As we have seen before, all the Sacraments have direct or indirect connection with the life and ministry of Jesus. Only in Baptism and Eucharist we find the direct involvement of Jesus. And also we have four accounts in the New Testament bearing testimony to the institution of this great Sacrament by Jesus himself. We get these accounts in: 1Corinthians 11:23-25; Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20. Unfortunately, the accounts we have, are very short; but at the same time very vivid in description. The words used in each account vary slightly; but the essence is the same. Let us go through the wordings of these accounts.

1Corinthians 11:23-25: We take this account of St. Paul first, for the very reason that before the gospel of Mark (the first gospel written) came out in written form the letter to the 1 Cor. came out, of which the date of writing goes back A.D. 55; whereas Mark wrote his gospel around A.D. 60-65. Paul testified the institution of the Eucharist from the oral tradition he received through the apostles and the early Christians of Jerusalem. He writes: **“For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you that the Lord Jesus, on the night he was handed over, took bread and, after he had given thanks, broke it and said, “This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”** It is very clear from Paul that the institution is done by Jesus Christ.

Matthew 26:26-28: In all the three Evangelists the institution of the Eucharist is given in the context of the Last Supper. Matthew writes: **“While they were eating, Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and giving it to his disciples said, “Take and eat; this is my body.” Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed on behalf of many for the forgiveness of sins.”**

Mark 14:22-24: *While they were eating, he took bread, said the blessing broke it, and gave it to them, and said, “Take it; this is my body.” Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them and they all drank from it. He said to them, “This is my blood of the covenant which will be shed for many.”*

Luke 22:19-20: **Then he took the bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, which will be given for you; do this in memory of me.” And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which will be shed for you.”** Kindly notice the similarities and differences in the wordings. But there isn't even slightest difference in the content of the message.

(We will continue).

Third Week of Easter

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY

Mon.	April 19 th	8:00 A.M. -	Mass – For all of our special Intentions
Tues.	April 20 th	8:00 A.M. -	Mass – The Nieman Family
Wed.	April 21 st	<i>Saint Anselm, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</i>	
		8:00 A.M. -	Mass – Jean Lancour
		6:30 P.M. -	Live Stream CCD classes
Thurs.	April 22 nd	8:00 A.M. -	Mass – Peggy Verbrigghe
Fri.	April 23 rd	<i>Saint George, Martyr; Saint Adalbert, Bishop and Martyr</i>	
		8:00 A.M. -	Mass – Elaine Gareau
		-----	Parish office closed
Sat.	April 24 th	<i>Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest and Martyr</i>	
		3:00 P.M. -	Confessions heard until 3:45 PM
		4:00 P.M. -	Mass – Darlene Smith
Sun.	April 25 th	<i>Fourth Sunday of Easter</i>	
		8:00 A.M. -	Mass –For the people of our parish
		10:00 AM -	Mass - Joy Berbohm

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

66 envelopes were returned for Sunday, April 11th

Adults.....	\$3,700.00
Loose.....	100.50
General Maintenance.....	45.00
The Word Among Us.....	20.00
Total.....	\$3,865.50

Budgeted weekly Income & Expense... \$3,786.83
Overage..... \$ 78.67

U.P. Catholic Services Appeal..... \$ 200.00

Thank you to another family who donated another \$200 over and above their first pledge. We are still short \$2,524.00 of reaching our U.P. Catholic Services Appeal Goal with quite a few outstanding cards.



Retired priests of the Diocese of Marquette receive health and automobile insurance and a monthly pension from the St. Joseph Association, the diocesan priest retirement fund. Diocesan priests live independently during their retirement, and they use their pension for basic needs, such as food, housing and transportation. Parish assessments, plus growth in the St. Joseph Assoc., have fallen short of what is needed to provide necessary benefits to our retired priests. All parishes and missions in the Diocese of Marquette will participate in a special collection on April 24/25 to help “bridge the gap.” It is essential that we ensure adequate retirement and health coverage in the years ahead for our priests, especially in these challenging times. Please return your collection envelope during next weekends’ Masses.

SPIRIT LIFTERS

Apr. 18th - It is a greater thing to obey the Word of the Lord than to preach it.

Apr. 19th - God sends trials not to impair us, but to improve us.

Apr. 20th - I believe in the sun even when it is not shining. I believe in love even when not feeling it. I believe in God even when He is silent.

Apr. 21st - We may find God's priorities difficult - but they are true wisdom.

Apr. 22nd - Blessed is he who has learned to admire but not to envy, to follow but not to imitate, to praise but not to flatter, and to lead but not manipulate.

Apr. 23rd - Truth doesn't hurt unless it ought to.

Apr. 24th - If Christ is the way, why waste time traveling some other way.

Holy Family Altar Society Fundraiser *Pureamiteas.com*

Order from pureamiteas.com and use discount code "AMEN" at check-out. YOUR Altar Society gets 10% of the total sale and YOU get 10% off!

Anti-cancers properties – Some studies have demonstrated a link between drinking the moyeam tea and a reduction of Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma and Breast Cancer. This is because of the high level of dominant antioxidants DMY can restrain the tumor Artery growing and enhance the immune system.

The poor give us much more than we give them. They're such strong people, living day to day with no food. We don't have to give them pity or sympathy. We have so much to learn from them. ~ Mother Teresa

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Monday

Acts 6:8-15
Jn 6:22-29

Wednesday

Acts 8:1b-8
Jn 6:35-40

Friday

Acts 9:1-20
Jn 6:52-59

Tuesday

Acts 7:51—8:1a
Jn 6:30-35

Thursday

Acts 8:26-40
Jn 6:44-51

Saturday

Acts 9:31-42
Jn 6:60-69

Sunday

Acts 4:8-12
1 Jn 3:1-2
Jn 10:11-18

SAINTS FOR THE WEEK

Apr. 23rd - ST. GEORGE, martyr – During the Easter Season the church delights in remembering her martyrs, victors with the risen Christ. In the Fourth Century, in Palestine, George was venerated as a soldier who courageously gave up his life for the faith. The cult of this saint spread through the Near East and into Europe. At the time of the Crusades St. George was chosen as patron saint of England.

Consider Donating your **Elmer's Rewards Card** points to Holy Family Church. When shopping at Elmer's County Market, present the Holy Family Church Donation Card to the cashier and let them know how many of your Elmer's Reward Card points you would like to transfer to the church. If you need a points card we have many available at the back of church. This on-going service is a great way to support the church! Thank you to those of you that continue to help in this way!

The Senior Companion Program is looking for individuals at least 55 years of age or older who have a passion and desire to be a volunteer to help other seniors. You will receive a non-taxable stipend and transportation reimbursement. If interested call Community Action Agency at (906) 786-7080 Ext. 144.

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER; Cycle - B; April 18th 2021
Acts 3: 13-15, 17-19; 1 Jn. 2: 1-5; LK 24: 35-48

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The major religions unanimously believe that the world order has been destroyed sometime with the sins of mankind. So they warn their followers against the wrath of God and the punishment for sins. Many religions see God as an impartial judge who will not show any sort of leniency towards a sinner. In the legal system, just because the criminal is sorry for his crime, the judge will not acquit him/her. Similarly, according to the view of these religions, just because one is sorry for the sins committed, God is not going to forgive and take away the punishment. It is the point where Christianity disagrees with the other religions. We believe that Jesus became man so that the sinners may be brought to repentance and be saved. Jesus does not stop with the consequence of sins, which is the loss of eternal life indeed; rather he offers the forgiveness of God by which we can be acquitted and enjoy eternal life.

During his public ministry, instead of speaking much about sins and sinners, Jesus preached more about **repentance and forgiveness of sins**. He started his ministry with the invitation to repentance. *In the very beginning, according to Mark 1:14 Jesus proclaims to the people, "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the gospel.* This was the sum and substance of the entire teachings of all the Prophets too. They pleaded with the people to repent and come back to the Lord. In today's gospel which has the setting of the post resurrection, Jesus re-emphasizes the same point such as **"Repentance, for forgiveness of sins, would be preached in his name to all nations beginning from Jerusalem."**

In the first reading, Peter points out to the Jews the grave mistake and sin they committed by crucifying Jesus. But at the same time he does not condemn them rather invite them to acknowledge their sins and seek God's forgiveness by repenting. Despite the great sacrifice Jesus made for the sinners, it is a fact that people fail over and again with the same sins. That is why in today's second reading John assures us, **"But if anyone does sin. We have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous one. He is the expiation of our sins."** This is what in today's gospel Jesus commands his apostles that they should go out and preach the good news of the repentance and forgiveness of sins to the whole world. Jesus gave his apostles the authority to forgive sins. In John's gospel Jesus says, **"Whose sins you forgive are forgiven and, whose sins you retain are retained" (John 20:23).**

Through the Sacrament of Reconciliation the forgiveness of sins is granted to all who repent. Together with the commandment of preaching the repentance and forgiveness Jesus also warns indirectly the Apostles against their possible tendency to condemn the Jewish authority who crucified Jesus and any others who would refuse to accept their teachings. In St. John's gospel 3: 17 Jesus declares that in God's court there is no room for condemnation; rather love. Jesus says, "*For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.*" The truth is repeated in the Letter to the Hebrews where the author says, "*For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has similarly been tested in every way, yet without sin. So let us confidently approach the throne of grace to receive mercy and to find grace for timely help*" (Heb. 4: 15-16). Please remember, Jesus is the most compassionate religious leader in the history and Christianity is the most tolerant religion of all the religions.

Today the great message of Jesus on repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached through you and me, his disciples. For we enjoy the same from him. Though we are the disciples of Jesus who always forgave sinners got them back, you and I have the tendency in us to condemn people who refuse to do the right things or who will not do things the way we want. **But as disciples of Jesus we too should bear witness to the forgiveness of Jesus by forgiving our fellowmen and tolerating their failures.** When we meet someone who may be away from God or not doing the right things in life, instead of condemning that person, we have to encourage him/her showing the forgiveness and love of Jesus. The assurance of God's forgiveness will lead that person to repentance. We should be grateful that we are the children of a compassionate God who seeks always the return of a stray away sheep. In Ezekiel God says, "**For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone who dies. Return and live**" (Ezekiel 18:32).