

Holy Family Parish



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

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

Fourth Sunday of Easter – April 25, 2021

Pastor

(906) 786-1209 Ext. 3

Deacon

Deacon: Robert Berbohm 786-9082

Parish Secretary

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Office hours: Monday thru Thursday 9 am to 3 pm

Bulletin articles should be submitted

by Noon on Wednesdays

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Faith Formation Coordinator

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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.

7:30 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

Sacraments

The Eucharist (Cont.): In our previous lesson we saw the account of the Institution of the Eucharist by Jesus at the Last Supper. The three Evangelists, Matthew, Mark and Luke describe the same event almost in the similar words. The same is repeated by St. Paul in 1Corinthians 11. Though Paul was not one of the twelve apostles, his words are important as he was the first one who put in writing the account of the Institution of the Eucharist, even before Mark wrote his gospel. So it is important for the Church.

It is to be noticed that here Jesus never uses any metaphor at all. He is using very direct and simple language and it should be taken literally. In other words, taking the loaf of bread and cup of wine Jesus does not say, “This is like or equal to my body and blood;” rather he says, “**This is my body and this is my blood.**” St. Paul himself accepted the literal interpretation. After relating his account of the Last Supper, he goes on: “For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes. Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord unworthily will have to answer to the body and blood of the Lord. A person should examine himself, and so eat the bread and drink the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body, eats and drinks judgment on himself” (1Cor. 11:26-29). This is vigorous language, and possible explanation of it is that St. Paul was convinced that in the Holy Eucharist Christ is really and truly present. For 1500 years, till the emergence of Protestant Reformation, the Christians never doubted the literal meaning of the words of Jesus.

Real Presence: The Catholic Church teaches the dogma of the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist in the appearance of bread and wine, against the theory of symbolic presence held by many other Christian denominations. And also Catholic Church holds the doctrine of Transubstantiation against the theory of Consubstantiation promoted by Martin Luther. The Church also clearly denies the teaching of some of the Protestant denominations that the Eucharistic presence of Jesus remains only until the worship service is over. **What is then the Real Presence?** Catholic Church teaches that at Mass when the priest pronounces the words of Consecration over the bread and wine they become or are converted to the Body and Blood of Christ still under the appearance of bread and wine and continues to be like that till the species of bread and wine is changed. The Council of Trent declared: “*In the most Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist there is truly, really, and substantially the Body and Blood together with the Soul and Divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ.*” Jesus Christ is truly present, not merely under a sign or symbol; He is really present not merely by virtue of our belief or imagination. He is substantially present, not present in the bread or with the bread and wine. Here the word, ‘*substantially*’ is very important for us as from which the doctrine of ‘*Transubstantiation*’ occurs against the theory of ‘*Consubstantiation*’ held by Martin Luther.

Transubstantiation: What Jesus took into his hands at the Last Supper was ordinary bread and wine which were used for the Passover celebration. But, once after giving thanks to the Father and blessing them what he gave to his disciples were his ‘**Body and Blood.**’ Giving them the bread he said, “*This is my Body*” and giving the cup of wine he said, “*This is my Blood.*” That means, the bread and wine were consequentially changed into the Body and Blood of Christ. But, as the Church teaches, the change took place only in regard to the **substance of the bread and wine** and the appearance (*also called species and accidents*) of bread and wine, we mean, what we perceive by senses, i.e. the color, smell, shape and taste remain the same. By substance we mean the thing in itself. The substance of a thing makes what it is and makes it different from other things. For instance, it is the particular substance that makes wheat different from corn or rice. It is the particular substance that makes grapes different from apple or orange. Once the substance of the wheat bread or the wine is changed, they are no more bread or wine. According to the doctrine of Transubstantiation at the Consecration the substance of bread and wine are converted to the Body and Blood of Christ. But at the same time the appearance and other qualities of the bread and wine remain the same for our senses. Thus the change or conversion of the entire substance of the bread into the substance of the Sacred Body of Christ and the entire substance of the wine into the Holy Blood of Christ is called by the Fourth Lateran Council (1215) as Transubstantiation. Literally speaking the meaning of the word *Transubstantiation is Conversion of one substance into another*. Although this fundamental doctrine of the Catholic Church was held by the faithful since the apostolic days, the term ‘Transubstantiation’ was adopted by the Lateran Council to explain the Eucharistic Mystery. This was re-enforced by the Council of Trent in 1545-65 against the Protestant reformation that attacked the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

(We will continue).

Fourth Week of Easter

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY

Mon.	April 26 th	8:00 A.M. - Mass – For all of our special Intentions
Tues.	April 27 th	8:00 A.M. - Mass – Pete & Willa DeMay
Wed.	April 28 th	<i>Saint Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr; and Saint Louis Grignon de Montfort, Priest</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Kay Germain
Thurs.	April 29 th	<i>Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Don Anderson
Fri.	April 30 th	<i>Saint Pius V, Pope</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Ken Beauchamp ----- Parish office closed
Sat.	May 1 st	<i>Saint Joseph the Worker</i> 3:00 P.M. - Confessions heard until 3:45 PM 4:00 P.M. - Mass – Marion Sodergren (1 st Anniv.)
Sun.	May 2 nd	<i>Fifth Sunday of Easter</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Amy Chenier Kositzke 10:00 AM - Mass - For the people of our Parish

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

66 envelopes were returned for Sunday, April 11th

Adults.....	\$3,720.00
Loose.....	84.00
Flowers.....	210.00
The Word Among Us.....	20.00
Total.....	\$4,034.00

Budgeted weekly Income & Expense... \$3,786.83
Overage..... \$ 247.17

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 \$2,324.00** of reaching our U.P. Catholic Services Appeal Goal with quite a few outstanding cards.

Knights of Columbus - Silver Rose Prayer Service

The Silver Rose, an icon, representing the miracle of the roses is an important part of the story of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Everyone is invited to join the Escanaba Knights of Columbus for a prayer service at St. Joseph's and St. Patrick's Church on **Wednesday, April 28th, 2021 from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.** and discover more about the Silver Rose.

Help us CELEBRATE!



Christian Flagstad is being ordained a Deacon in Marquette at St. Peter's Cathedral on Friday, May 14, 2021.

Please come and help us celebrate on Saturday, May 15, 2021 at the Flat Rock Pavilion starting at 5:30 PM. Food and refreshments will be served. If you plan to attend, please sign up in the gathering space.

SPIRIT LIFTERS

- Apr. 25th** - Don't feel bad about growing old. Some people never get the chance.
- Apr. 26th** - Believing Christ died, that's history. Believing Christ died for you, that's salvation.
- Apr. 27th** - It's bad to have an empty purse, but an empty head is a whole lot worse.
- Apr. 28th** - There are three answers to prayer: YES
NO WAIT A WHILE.
- Apr. 29th** - Character is like the foundation to a house....it is below the surface.
- Apr. 30th** - One of the troubles in the world today is the fact we have allowed the Golden Rule to become a bit tarnished.
- May 1st** - In His hand are the steep places of the earth; the strength of the hills is His also. Psalm 95:4

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.

I take the Lord at His word. Faith is a gift from God. Without it there would be no life. And our work to be fruitful and beautiful, has to be built on faith. Love and faith go together. They complete each other.~ Mother Teresa

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Monday

Acts 11:1-18
Jn 10:1-10

Wednesday

Acts 12:24—13:5a
Jn 12:44-50

Friday

Acts 13:26-33
Jn 14:1-6

Tuesday

Acts 11:19-26
Jn 10:22-30

Thursday

Acts 13:13-25
Jn 13:16-20

Saturday

Acts 13:44-52
Jn 14:7-14

Sunday

Acts 9:26-31
1 Jn 3:18-24
Jn 15:1-8

SAINTS FOR THE WEEK

Apr. 30th - ST. PIUS V, pope – The pontificate of Pius V lasted only six years (1566-1572) but was of great importance. Born in north Italy of a poor family (1504), he became a Dominican. Pope St. Pius reformed the Church following the Reformation, carried out the Decrees of the Council of Trent, promulgated a catechism, Breviary and Missal. This set the norms for the Catholic Church until the Second Vatican Council (1962-65). This Pope who promoted the Rosary, died on May 1, 1572, and was canonized a saint in 1712.

May 1st - ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER – The first day of May –“May Day”—has long been dedicated to labor and the working man. Pope Pius XII in 1955 instituted today's feast. The Pope expressed a hope that this feast would help in teaching the dignity of labor, and would also bring a spiritual dimension to labor unions and labor legislation.

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.

4th SUNDAY OF EASTER; Cycle – B; April 25th 2021
Acts 4:8-12; 1 John 3:1-2; John 10: 11-18

Dear Sisters & Brothers,

The 4th Sunday of Easter is known as the *Good Shepherd Sunday* and many Churches conduct the First Communion this weekend. Today is also the *World Day of Prayer for Vocation* and the faithful are invited to reflect on God's call and pray for vocation and promote it. The unique priesthood of our Lord Jesus Christ has always been acknowledged by Christians. The universal priesthood of all believers by sharing of the same priesthood of Christ has received special emphasis since Vat. II. But at the same time the importance of ministerial or ordained priesthood in the Church should not be overlooked. Without the ordained ministers the very Eucharistic existence of the Church is in grave danger. At the same time most of the dioceses in the country are struggling to have enough priests for service. In every diocese, the bishop is blamed for closing down parishes. But unless the families give him the candidates for priesthood, where does the bishop get priests? These days the Chinese companies produced anything you want. But they don't produce priests. At least Holy Family Community can claim that we have given a few priests to the Diocese to serve in the vineyard of Jesus.

This Sunday, in the light of the true qualities of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, all the pastors, parents, teachers and political leaders who are called to be the shepherds of the people are invited to make a self-evaluation of their service and see how faithful they are to their roles. The faithful also need to examine and see how they promote the vocations? In this beautiful parable of the Good Shepherd Jesus clearly calls him: **I am the Good Shepherd**. Though the shepherds in Palestine didn't enjoy any social status, their selfless dedication in the care of the sheep, the sacrifice they made to protect the sheep, made them the icons of pure self-giving love and sacrifice. The people of Israel found these qualities in God and that is why the Psalmist sang, "***The Lord is my Shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.***" The political and religious leaders of Israel were chosen by God to be the shepherds of the people. But most of them were bad shepherds.

When Jesus called himself the Good Shepherd, he claims to have all the qualities of the good shepherd and he criticized the religious leaders of his time for their bad shepherding. They were really a big scandal to the ordinary people. That is why Jesus said to the people, "**Therefore, do and observe all things whatsoever they tell you, but do not follow their example. For they preach but they do not practice**" (Mt. 23:3). Jesus never preached anything which he didn't

practice. Jesus says in today's gospel, **"I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I will lay down my life for the sheep."** No religious leaders or founders in history ever told their disciples that they would lay down their lives for the people, but only Jesus Christ. Indeed he kept his promise and laid his very life for the sheep.

Today Jesus expects the same qualities from all the shepherds of the Church, starting from the Pope down to the priests and deacons, parents, teachers and political leaders who are entrusted with the care of the young and old. A true pastor will never see his priesthood as a profession or career rather a **vocation** from God to serve the people. When a pastor feels like a hired servant, he will not have time for his flock and will never care for his people. Then all sorts of evils will creep into his life which will also reflect on the community and his people will become Godless. Pope Benedict XVI says, **"What we need are not more priests, but holy priests."** Of course, all the priests who serve the communities are called to be good example or role models; they are supposed to be holy. Their good life should bring more people back to Jesus. The parents and teachers should be role models to the children and the political leaders should stand for justice and morality.

Very often more than anyone else the priests are targeted and criticized. At the same time, please remember, the only one who descended from heaven is Jesus Christ, the Holy One of God. But the priests do not descend directly from heaven. Every priest is born in the world and is part of the society and culture in which he is brought up. He is the product of his community. Naturally, the face of that society will reflect on the life of the priest. The society has got a great role to play in the formation of the character of its members. A priest coming out of a morally sound society or community will be a person of values and character. The family is the first seminary of the priestly candidate and his parents are the first teachers. The good qualities or the bad qualities of a priest are mostly the ones he inherited from his early life. Again, the parish community should never expect its priest to be angels or supernatural. The community members *should know that he is a human being and not perfect; he too can make mistakes in his decision and acts. He will not be able to satisfy everyone. But he has to do the right things.* The timely correction, love, encouragement and prayers of the community are very essential for the spiritual and mental growth of the pastor. It is my request to all our parish family members, please pray for all the priests and support them in their good works and when they go wrong, please have the courage and love to point out their mistakes with charity. The lamenting of Jesus, *"The harvest is plenty, but the harvesters are few"* is absolutely true in the modern age. And also please pray daily for vocation and promote it the best way possible.

