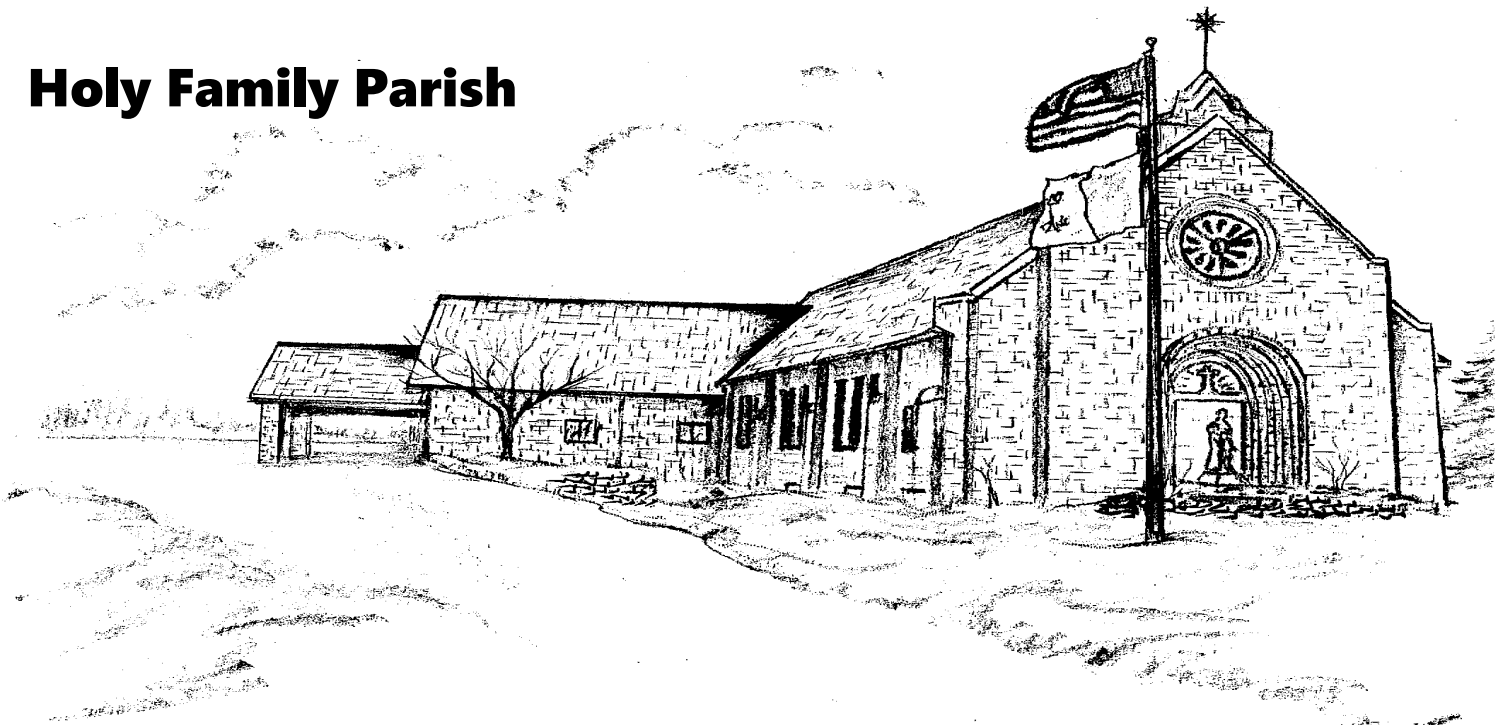


Holy Family Parish



Art work by:
Theresa Pietsch

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

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

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – September 19, 2021

Pastor

(906) 786-1209 Ext. 3

Sacrament of Marriage

Notice of six months is required

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

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.

Faith Formation Coordinator

Chris Olesak 428-9431

Email: colesak@allsaintsgladstone.org

Sacrament of Penance

Saturday 3:00 to 3:45 P.M.

7:30 am – 7:50 am

before daily Mass or by appointment

Maintenance

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 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.....

Lincoln Noel, Diane, Brevyn Willford, Barb

Betty Lou, Kambria, Shelly Polaczyk, Jan Carter, Pete

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 Sacramentals

Genuflection: This sign is also strictly Catholic. After taking Holy water from the bowl near the entrance of the Church, Catholics choose their place, but before entering the pew, they normally genuflect toward the Altar. In case of knee problem or other health concerns, better not to venture to genuflect, rather make a deep bow toward the Altar and get into the pew. It is a sign of profound reverence and adoration to the Holy Eucharist present in the Tabernacle, normally placed behind the Altar. During the personal prayer we can either kneel down or sit. But it is the liturgical rule that we may kneel down during the Eucharistic prayer. This practice goes back to the very earliest stage of Christianity. The early Church inherited this practice from Jesus himself. We read in the gospel of Luke 22: 41, “*After withdrawing about a stone’s throw from them and kneeling he prayed.*” Describing the martyrdom of Stephen, The Acts of the Apostles says, “*And falling on his knees, he cried with a loud voice, saying: Lord, lay not this sin to their charge.*” In the Acts of the Apostles we see the apostles kneeling down and praying. Genuflecting, like all the outward acts of religion, is a Sacramental with the power to help sanctify us and bring us nearer to God.

Statues and Images: One of the features of the Catholic churches is the presence of statues or images of Our Lord, Blessed Virgin and the Saints in the church and outside. Often Catholics are criticized by the Protestants for the presence of these statues in the churches and mistakenly they believe that Catholics are idol worshipers. Of course, Catholics are not foolish as to worship and pray to images or statues. Their real attitude is explained in the following quotation from the official decrees of the Council of Trent which says: “*The images of Christ and the Virgin Mother of God and of the Saints, are to be had and kept, especially in churches, and due honor and veneration are to be given them; not that any divinity or virtue is believed to be in them, on account of which they are to be worshiped, or that anything is to be asked of them, or that trust is to be reposed in images, as was done of old by Gentiles, who placed their hope in idols; but because the honor which is shown them is referred to those whom the images represent; in such wise that by the images which we kiss, and before which we uncover the head and prostrate ourselves, we adore, Christ and we venerate the Saints whose likeness they bear.*”

It is true that the First Commandment of God seems to forbid the Jews to make any image. In the Commandment we read, “Thou shall not have strange gods before me. Thou shall not make to thyself a graven thing, nor the likeness of anything..” But it is clear that the emphasis is in the first and last clauses – “no strange gods and thou shall not adore them.” If we take the religious history of the Jews, we know that this prohibition was not absolutely followed by the Jews either. For we see all sorts of images in their Temple like the golden cherubim, the carved garlands of fruit and flowers and trees etc. We see the bronze serpent in the desert and looking at it, the people of Israel saved their lives from the snake bites. Again the base of the king’s throne was supported by two carved lions.

The first Christians undoubtedly used images. In fact, the Catacombs are the cradle of all Christian art. When the persecutions eased, the art of the Catacombs found its way into the churches and thus arose the present day practice of honoring images. It is quite wrong to suggest that the early Church was in the slightest way prejudiced against the use of images or pictures. They were there and they were taken for granted as being helpful toward spiritual perfection.

(We will continue next week).

Twenty-Fifth Week in Ordinary Time

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY

Mon.	Sept. 20 th	<i>Saints Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Priest and Paul Chong Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – For all of our special intentions
Tues.	Sept. 21 st	<i>Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist</i> 8:00 A.M. - No Mass
Wed.	Sept. 22 nd	8:00 A.M. - No Mass
Thurs.	Sept. 23 rd	<i>Saint Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest</i> 8:00 A.M. - No Mass
Fri.	Sept. 24 th	8:00 A.M. - Mass – Henry & Rose Bussineau ----- Parish office closed
Sat.	Sept. 25 th	3:00 P.M. - Confessions heard until 3:45 PM 4:00 P.M. - Mass – Darlene Smith
Sun.	Sept. 26 th	<i>Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass –For the People of our Parish 10:00 AM - Mass - Nancy Marenger

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

78 envelopes were returned for Sunday, Sept. 12th

Adults.....	\$ 2,780.00
Loose.....	101.00
General Maintenance.....	65.00
Fuel.....	83.00
Total.....	\$3,029.00

Budgeted weekly Income & Expense...	\$3,658.66
Short Fall.....	\$ 629.66

Don't forget to buy or sell the raffle tickets for our Annual Harvest dinner on October 17th. Please turn in all monies and ticket stubs to the parish office.

*It is with much sadness to say that we have made the decision to **CANCEL** this year's **HARVEST DINNER**. We will still have the raffle and bucket raffles. Please keep posted!*

You are invited to an Ice Cream Social

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council #640
Sunday, September 26th, 12:00 PM
at St. Thomas Parish Hall.

Deacon Bob Berbohm will speak on Fathers and Family.
Knights of Columbus information will be presented.
There will be games and door prizes. Please join us!

Fr. Sebastian will be out of town from Monday afternoon September 20th thru Thursday September 23rd for the annual Priest Convocation.

Fr. Sebastian is planning to start the **First Saturday Mass** here at Holy Family. We would like to get some feed back to see how much interest there is for this. Please call the parish office or let Fr. Sebastian know your thoughts. This would start November 6, 2021.

SPIRIT LIFTERS

Sept. 19th - If you find it hard to say, "Thank you," make up your mind that there is something wrong with you.

Sept. 20th - Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God.
Matthew 5:9

Sept. 21st - Keep looking up; Remember there is only mud under your feet.

Sept. 22nd - Some folks carry their religion on their shoulder like a burden, instead of in their hearts like a song.

Sept. 23rd - Some husbands know all the answers. They've been listening for years.

Sept. 24th - When I get discouraged and want to give in, Remind me, Lord, That winners don't quit and quitters don't win.

Sept. 25th - While faith makes all things possible, It is love that makes all things easy.

St. Vincent DePaul Corner

In today's Gospel Jesus called the Twelve, and said to them, "If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all." Taking a child, he placed it in their midst, and putting his arms around it, he said to them, "Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me; and whoever receives me, receives not me but the One who sent me." Your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will help hungry children feel the arms of Jesus around them.

For more information contact Beverly Miller at 428-3610.

Escanaba St. Vincent de Paul Job Opportunities

Truck Driver wanted 29 hours/week
Stop by 815 1st Avenue North, Escanaba
or call Cindy at 789-1281

Just a reminder to please return your Religious Education enrollment form as soon as possible to All Saints.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Monday
Ezr 1:1-6
Lk 8:16-18

Wednesday
Ezr 9:5-9
Lk 9:1-6

Friday
Hg 2:1-9
Lk 9:18-22

Tuesday
Eph 4:1-7,11-13
Mt 9:9-13

Thursday
Hg 1:1-8
Lk 9:7-9

Saturday
Zec 2:5-9,14-15a
Lk 9:43b-45

Sunday
Nm 11:25-29 Jas 5:1-6
Mk 9:38-43,45,47-48

ATTENTION SMEAR TEAM CAPTAINS

There will be an organizational meeting on Thursday September 30, 2021 AT 7:00 PM to see what needs to be done to start this year's SMEAR LEAGUE. Any questions, please contact Bob Tourangeau at 786-6811.

DID YOU RECEIVE YOUR UPCSА LETTER IN THE MAIL FROM BISHOP JOHN DOERFLER? Please review them and prayerfully consider your response.

UPCSА WEEKEND IS COMING SEPT 25-26. UPCSА invites us to share in a common mission with our sister parishes across the U.P. to proclaim the Good News. UPCSА supports many evangelizing ministries that our parish could not fund on its own. Our parish UPCSА goal this year is \$37,968. Every family is asked to return a pledge card. All monies raised over our parish goal will be returned to our parish. Information is also available online at www.dioceseofmarquette.org/upcsa.

Take a Stand and Pray!
BE A PUBLIC WITNESS FOR THE UNBORN.
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3rd 1:30-3:00
WE WILL PRAY ALONG LINCOLN RD.
MEET NEAR BAY BANK AT 1:15
SIGNS WILL BE PROVIDED
VISIT **LIFECCHAIN.ORG**
FOR MORE INFORMATION

25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME; Cycle – B; Sept. 19th, 2021
Wisdom 2: 12, 17-20; James 3: 16-4: 3; Mk. 9: 30-37

Dear Sisters & Brothers,

As it is the natural tendency in us, we *seek position, honor, recognition and comforts in every situation, no matter, what happens to others*. During the time of Jesus the scribes and Pharisees looked for place of honor wherever they went and applause from people for their piety. Today's gospel passage shows that even the disciples of Jesus were not free from such tendencies.

According to Mark's gospel Jesus makes three predictions about his passion and death, in chapters 8, 9 and 10. Last Sunday we heard the first prediction of Jesus near Caesarea Philippi and also saw the futile attempt of Peter who was trying to persuade Jesus to change the fate. In today's gospel Jesus gives the second prediction of his Passion and death. It is a bit shocking to notice how insensitive the apostles were towards such a serious matter! Instead of giving attention to what Jesus was telling them, they were busy in arguing among themselves as who would be the greatest among them? In other words, their worry was about as who would be chosen by Jesus to be the Secretary of State or Defense in his new cabinet. So Jesus makes use of this occasion to teach them a great lesson on service and the secret of greatness. He invites a child among them and emphatically confirms that the one who can welcome and serve a little child like this will be great in the world and before God. What does Jesus mean by serving a little child? We know the nature of a child. A child is vulnerable and prone to any danger; cannot do anything without the help of somebody; unable to offer anything to someone rather can only receive. In a way the child is so helpless and dependent. **So Jesus affirms that true greatness consists in serving the helpless and less fortunate ones who are badly in need of help.** This is what Jesus did during his public ministry. He served the less fortunate even forgetting his personal comfort and rest. Jesus says in today's gospel, **"If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all."**

The world has seen thousands of emperors, politicians, executives and movie stars. But many of them were only famous while they were living and once dead they were simply buried in the pages of history. People don't bother about them any longer. But there are a few people in the world, though dead, still live in the hearts of millions of people all over the world. **They are the ones who attracted the people not by their glamour rather by their sacrifice and efforts to lift up the downtrodden and the abandoned.** Every generation has witnessed

a few such great people who will never die, so far mankind exists in the world. On March 3, 1976, while conferring to Mother Theresa the highest honor of the *Vishwa Bharati University in India*, the then Prime minister of India, Indira Gandhi, the iron lady of her time, commented, **“I feel myself dwarfed when I stand before this holy and mighty woman who heroically showed the world how to practice Christian love in sacrificial and humble service.”** If Mother Theresa had continued in the comforts of the Loreto Convent in Darjeeling as a school teacher, nobody would have heard of her except her students and fellow nuns. But today, she is great before men and God for she served the childlike, the helpless and the poor people in the slums of Calcutta and outside. Mother Theresa started her humble service in the slums in the early 50s, but nobody gave any attention to it; rather she met with a lot of oppositions from the local people. But only in the early 70s the world gave any attention to the great service she was doing to the suffering humanity. Though she was honored with Nobel Prize and with many awards, she remained the Mother Theresa of the 50s till she died.

If today, people like Mother Theresa, Abraham Lincoln, Martin Luther King, Rosa Parker and Mahatma Gandhi live in the hearts of millions of people all over the world, it is because of the greatness they have achieved *through serving the mankind*. It is very clear that those who try to make themselves great in the world may remain great in the eyes of a few till their death. Tony Campolo, the author writes, *“If you ever start to feel proud, thinking that you are somebody great, just remember that soon after your body has been lowered into the grave, your family and friends will be eating potato salad and telling jokes and you’ll be history.”* But, the one who becomes great before God by their humble service will be great in the world too. Jesus says in **Luke 14: 11, “For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”** Greatness, in the view of Jesus is found in our willingness to accept and welcome and serve those who are in need. If you and I can make a little difference in somebody’s life by our words and deeds we will be great before the Lord and the world too will recognize us.