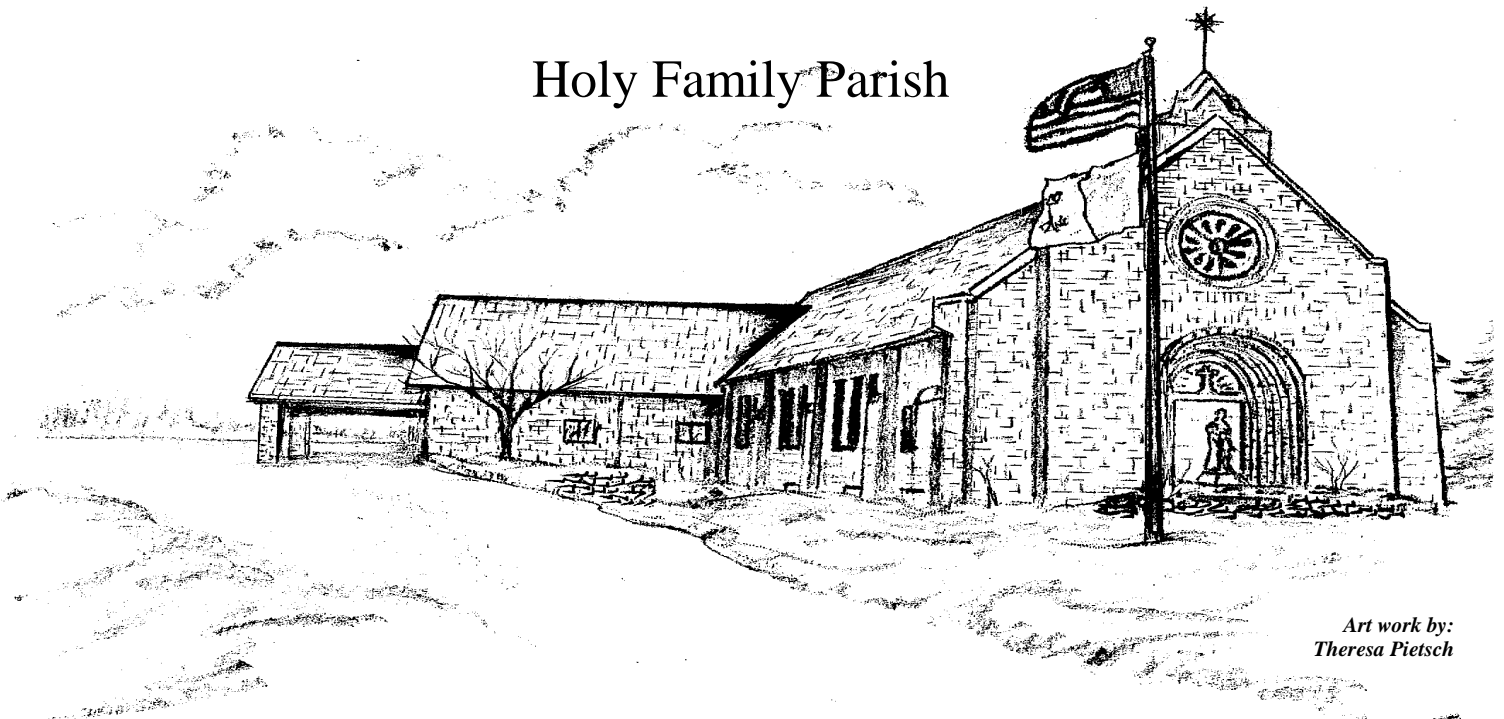


Holy Family Parish



Art work by:
Theresa Pietsch

Fr. John Longbucco, pastor@holyfamilyparish.net

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

Fourth Sunday of Advent – December 18, 2016

Parish Secretary

Pam Leisner (C) 786-1209 (H) 789-1710

Church Basement: 789-0307

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

Cathy Flagstadt (C) 786-1209 (H) 786-5034

faithformation@holyfamilyparish.net

Maintenance

Dennis Menard (H) 786-3689

Pastoral Council Members

Brian Smith – President Barb Tardiff

Joe Menard Steve Benoit

Karen Berbohm Mark Hallfrisch

Cathy Flagstadt – Education Committee

Sally Young – Liturgy Committee

Bob Berbohm – Evangelization Committee

Finance Council Members

Gerald Miron Piper Desy

Audrey Herioux Bob Spring

REQUIREMENT FOR SACRAMENTS

The basic requirement for the sacraments of Baptism, First Communion and Marriage is that you be a practicing Catholic.

Sacrament of Baptism

Please notify the pastor during the pregnancy in order to schedule sacramental instruction, if necessary.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 3:00 to 3:30 P.M.

30 minutes before Daily Mass or by appointment

Sacrament of Marriage

Notice of six months is required

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.

Mass Schedule for Dec. 20th thru Dec. 25th

Tuesday.....6:00 P.M.....No Mass

Wednesday....8:00 A.M.....No Mass

Thursday.....8:00 A.M.....No Mass

Friday.....8:00 A.M.....No Mass

Saturday.....5:00 P.M.....For the People of our Parish

Saturday.....8:00P.M.....Irene Longbucco

Sunday.....9:00 A.M.....Cameron Delveaux

The Rosary is recited 20 minutes before daily Mass.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We will strive to imitate the Holy Family: by being a loving, welcoming, and forgiving community – fully alive in the Spirit of God; by teaching our children the Gospel way of life and encouraging them always to share fully in the life of our parish; by celebrating the Liturgy as a joyful remembrance of our Lord's Sacrifice for us; by being a family of prayer; by respecting all life, and by having our arms open always to embrace the sick and needy.

READERS: Dec. 24th – 25th

Sat. at 5:00 PM – Scott Shepeck
Sat. at 8:00 PM – Mike LaFleur
Sun. at 9:00 AM – Rosemary Beauchamp

MASS SERVERS: Dec. 24th – 25th

Sat. at 5:00 PM - Gabe, Daniel, Ben Smith
Lucas Hughes, Eli Gardner
Sat. at 8:00 PM – Trent, Emily Alesha Marenger and
Laura Hallfrisch
Sun. at 9:00 AM – Tyler, Nick Mike, David and
John Paul Rivard

MINISTERS OF COMMUNION: Dec. 24th – 25th

Sat. at 5:00 PM – Cindi Shepeck
Sat. at 8:00 PM – Bob Tourangeau
Sun. at 9:00 AM – Dan Chouinard

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY: Dec. 24th – 25th

Sat. at 5:00 P.M. – Kevin Dubord, Richard Newhouse, Brian Smith, Art Caron
Sat. at 8:00 P.M. – John King, Bob Marcella, Ron Germain, Eugene Marenger
Sun. at 9:00 AM - Neil VanDrese, Harold Young, Don Anderson, Tom Pietsch

The Pastor's Mind's Eye

Bury the Dead - Part 3 – Cremation – See Insert



Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, is pleased to offer a preventive health event at Holy Family Parish on 1/24/2017. Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis. Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. **In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6441 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com/advantagemembers.**



SURROUNDING AREA ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

All Saints Church, Gladstone – Monday, Dec. 19th at 7:00 PM
St. Charles Borromeo, Rapid River - Wednesday, Dec. 21st at 7:00 PM
St. Annes, Escanaba – Friday, Dec. 23rd from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY

Tues.	Dec. 20 th	5:30 P.M. - 6:00 P.M. -	No Confessions No Mass
Wed.	Dec. 21 st	6:15 P.M. -	CCD Classes for 2 nd grade and 3 rd grade
Thurs.	Dec. 22 nd	7:30 P.M. -	Smear League
Sat.	Dec. 24 th	5:00 PM - 8:00 PM -	Christmas Eve Mass Christmas Eve Mass
Sun.	Dec. 25 th	9:00 AM -	Christmas Day Mass

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Jesus, you are God's gift of healing love. While on earth, you healed the sick who came for help. We believe that you continue to heal the sick today. Heal all those for whom we pray, and those on our prayer list:

Pat DeMenter, Larry Chouinard
Carol Katch, Pat Hughes, Betty Lou Tourangeau
Clarence Roberts, Tom Neuens
Andrea Plouff, Donald Pellegrini, Joyce VanDrese
Duane & Nancy Marenger, James Paquin
Laurie Gascon, Denise Seymour, A Special Intention
Paula Pare, Tina Kelloniemi, Raymond Beauchamp
Cecila Terrien, Jim Vandermission
Pat McGlynn, Ruth Chouinard, Amy Plouff
Amanda Chenier, Michael & Rita Dawson, Frank Novak
Kathy McGinn, Susan VanDrese, Pam Houle
Darlene McGeary, Christine Kleiman, Sue Mulzer
Jean Way, Lynn Johnson, Matt Smith, Justin Bjork
Tabitha Brunette, Shirley Frazer, Dustin Berube
Nick Nolde, Michael Dombe, Allie Grenier
Diane Helman, Joanne Popkowski, Rose Morrison
Sally Luft, Tom Forvilly, Janet Gazan, Sydney Berndt
Roger Arnold, Nancy Paquin, Coda Meadors
Kathryn Fudala, Janet Shelley, Shelly Polakcyk
Kathy LaCosse, Joanne Lohfink, Payten LaMarch
Brenda Chouinard, Kay Edington, Elvira Skrupski
Peggy Verbrigghe, Darlene Kelloniemi, Bill Whitney

Mark Your Calendars....Our annual parish retreat will take place Feb. 10th – 12th, 2017. This year we will be sharing with Negaunee, Newberry, Sault Ste. Marie, and St. Ignace. We will start to take reservations after the first of the year.

Parish Faith & Family News

It is time to think about signing up for Steubenville North Youth Conference. Yes, it's not until the summer but they need to know ahead of time with over 300 kids just from our area going.

The date is July 21-23, 2017 at Carthage College in Kenosha, Wisconsin. The cost is \$325.00 per person, however, due to a Legacy of Faith grant, each person will be getting a \$65 discount so the total price per person is \$260. For scholarship application forms, visit www.partnershipforyouth.org.

There are forms in the office to register, and a \$50 nonrefundable deposit is needed by January 8, 2017.

The words that were scrambled last week are: Joseph, stable, and cookies. Here are a few more:

myaifl nin rtsa

This Wednesday, there is class for the 2nd grade Reconciliation Class starting at 6:15 p.m. Thank you parents for getting them here and picking them up on time.

New this Wednesday, the 3rd grade 1st Eucharist Class will begin at 6:15 p.m.

The next Confirmation class will be on January 8, 2017, after the 10:00 am Mass.



Holy Family Parish Office Closed
Friday, December 23rd and
Monday, December 26th.

SPIRIT LIFTERS

Dec. 18th - Christmas is a time for children, No matter what their age. Spirit is the only ticket, And heart the only gauge.

Dec. 19th - There is no right way to do the wrong thing.

Dec. 20th - Before your gifts are all wrapped up and gayly ribbon tied, Please remember to tuck a lot of love inside.

Dec. 21st - Christmas is a time to remember timeless stories from days of your, A time to ponder what's ahead, A time to open another door.

Dec. 22nd - Blessed is the season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love.
H.W. Mabie

Dec. 23rd- Not what we give, But what we share, For the gift without the giver is bare. J. R. Cowell.

Dec. 24th - Christmas is the delight of loving and being loved in return, not for gifts tied with bows, but for gifts of the Spirit offered with an open heart every day of the year. Pearl Buck.

St. Vincent de Paul's Corner Notes

In today's Gospel, we hear that Jesus will be named Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." The mystery of the birth of Jesus is supremely a mystery of love. May each Christmas find us more and more like him: more humble, more holy, more happy and more full of God.

In the month of December, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to help the poor and suffering to face their hardships and fears.

If you know of anyone in need, please call either Rosemary at 786-9442 or Karen at 786-9082.

St. Vincent is seeking volunteers to help in the Escanaba warehouse. Please call 789-1281 if you can help.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Monday
Jgs 13:2-7,24-25a
Lk 1:5-15

Wednesday
Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a
Lk 1:39-45

Friday
Mal 3:1-4,23-24
Lk 1:57-66

Tuesday
Is 7:10-14
Lk 1:26-38

Thursday
1 Sm 1:24-28
Lk 1:46-56

Saturday
2 Sm 7:1-5,8b-12
14a,16
Lk 1:67-79

Saturday – Vigil

Is 62:1-5 Acts 12:16-17,22-25 Mt 1:1-25

Saturday – Night

Is 9:1-6 Ti 2:11-14 Lk 2:1-14

Sunday - Day

Is 52:7-10 Heb 1:1-6 Jn 1:1-18

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Adults.....	\$3,005.00
Loose.....	258.12
General Maintenance.....	16.00
Fuel.....	25.00
Retirement Fund.....	533.00
Immaculate Conception.....	846.45
Mass Stipends.....	330.00
Hall Rental.....	25.00
U.P. Catholic Services Appeal.....	1,575.00
Seminary fund.....	25.00
Christmas flowers.....	55.00
St. Vincent de Paul.....	30.00
Total.....	\$6,723.57

126 families contributed for Sunday, Dec. 11th



Mark Your Calendars..... We will start to decorate our parish for Christmas this Sunday, Dec. 18th starting after our 10:00 AM Mass with lunch then decorating.

Fr. Gerber Explains: CREMATION

Recently the Vatican issued a clarification about the Church's teaching on cremation, and so I thought I would write about it in my article. When we or our loved ones die is it preferred by the Church that our bodies are buried or entombed after a Funeral liturgy. One of the main reasons for this is because our Lord was laid in a tomb and so we follow his example. Also, as Christians we give respect to the body, because it is a temple of the Holy Spirit and one day we will have our body and soul reunited in the next life. For these reasons alone I am planning to be buried with my body in a cemetery.

Now having said that, the Church says it is perfectly fine to be cremated, as long as it is done for sanitary, economic, or social reasons. (*ad resurgendum cum Christo 4*) Several people are taking this route, especially because of financial reasons. The Church, however, does **not** allow cremation if it is done for reasons contrary to Christian doctrine (Code of Canon Law: Canon 1176). Examples of this would be if a person believes that their body is a piece of garbage and they wanted to get rid of it. Or, another example would be the cavalier way the cremated remains were treated, like putting the ashes in shotgun shells and firing them in the air; I know of a person who had this done!

If a person decides to be cremated or have their loved ones cremated for a good reason, the first thing to do is have a Funeral Mass at the Church or Service at the funeral home. We treat the cremated remains the same as we would a body. Although, if cremation is going to take place, it is preferred that the cremation take place after the Funeral liturgy; many people do it this way.

After the Funeral liturgy, the Church asks that the cremated remains be buried or entombed just like you would a body. Many people ask if the ashes can be spread on the ground or in the sea or a lake; the answer is no. Again, the Church wants our remains to be buried, so as to still remember that we follow the example of our Lord and give respect to our remains. Also, it is not permitted by the Church to store the cremated remains of our loved ones in our homes. I know of people who have done this and had their house broken into and the remains were stolen. I would feel horrible if that happened!

In recent years, there has been a growing trend of people dividing the cremated remains of a loved one, even to the point of incorporating part of the loved one's ashes in personal jewelry, dishes, and statues. A deceased loved one's remains should be accessible to everyone, in a place where they can be visited, remembered, and prayed for. Even though jewelry and statues are offered commercially, they are unacceptable receptacles for cremated remains in Catholic funeral practices. It's all about showing respect for the body that sheltered the soul in this world.

I know people have a difficult time letting go of their loved ones and want to keep them close by; it is hard to say goodbye! But it still is important to bury the dead. We can always go and visit them at the cemetery. In fact, the Church recommends that we visit cemeteries often and pray for the repose of the souls of our loved ones.

I hope this was helpful! If anyone is struggling with any of this or would like to discuss this in greater detail, don't hesitate!