

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

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

The Epiphany of the Lord – January 7, 2024

Pastor

(906) 786-1209 Ext. 3

Deacon

Deacon: Robert Berbohm 786-9082 Email Address: <u>deacon@holyfamilyparish.net</u>

Parish Secretary

Pam Leisner (906) 786-1209 Ext. 1 (H) 399-3058 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

Faith Formation Coordinator

Kathy Kohtala 428-9431

Email: kkohtala@allsaintsgladstone.org

Maintenance

906-786-1209

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 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 at point of death, or is having surgery and would like to celebrate this healing sacrament. Contact Fr. Sebastian at (906) 440-4193

Please remember our sick in your prayers.....

Roger Tourangeau, Diane, Barb, Eric, Pat, Joan Amanda, Jan Carter, Jean Way Mike Mosher Shelly Polaczyk, Doris Begalle, Penny Segerstrom

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 Mass (Cont.)

History (Cont.): Passover meal was a ritual ceremony which was celebrated annually by the Jewish community in remembrance of their first Passover in Egypt. (The Latin word rite means religious customs, usage or ceremony; ritual uses of symbols, gestures, sacred objects, words and music to involve the community in liturgy). It also involves certain food including bread and wine as well as certain prayers and explanations. We see all these Passover elements in the institution of the Eucharist. First of all the setting was Jewish Passover meal where Jesus, as a Jew, gathered to celebrate it with his disciples. He uses the same bread and wine kept there for the Passover meal and converted them into his Body and Blood. For the first four centuries the only celebration the Christians had was the Breaking of the Bread in the community which they celebrated on the Lord's Day (The Christian Sabbath) The Jews had their Sabbath on Saturday and the Christians gathered on Sunday for their Sabbath. As Jesus used very simple formulae in the First Eucharistic Celebration, the disciples too had only simple ceremony. Perhaps they had couple reading from the Old Testament, recited a few Psalms and some prayers. We should not conclude that the disciples had the lengthy liturgical celebration which we have today. The first gospel (the gospel of Mark) did not come out till AD 60 and thereafter the New Testament readings were included in the Eucharistic celebration. In the beginning the community gathered in the individual houses as small groups. As the Christians were aware that Jesus celebrated the Eucharist in the Passover meal setting, they too did the same in a meal setting on every Sunday. The community gathered for a 'Potluck dinner' and after that they had the Breaking of the Bread and partaking in the Holy Communion. At that time the fasting rule before Communion was not introduced. But this practice of having Eucharistic celebration in the context of a meal was eventually abolished. As St. Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 11: 17 ff abuses started in the Potluck dinner in the form of discrimination against the poor. In the other words, the rich people would bring rich food and they gathered together and shared the meal among themselves. The poor very often could not bring any food had to go empty stomach. St. Paul condemned this abuse in strong words and soon the meal setting was removed from the Eucharistic celebration. And also as the Christians increased in number we also see from the 2nd century on the Christians gathering in a common center, instead of individual houses. Evidence of the structure of the early Mass is seen in the writing of Justin, the martyr of AD150.

When Christianity gained religious freedom in the early 4th century, the Eucharistic celebration or the Mass gradually evolved into more complex form and more standardized ritual. And also we see the origin of churches for the convenience of people. The languages used for the celebration were Latin and Greek and eventually Latin took over Greek. In the 4th century the term 'Mass or Missa' was introduced in the Eucharistic celebration. **The Latin word Missa literally means dismissal. For instance, after the gospel proclamation the deacon would announce to the catechumens who were undergoing preparation for the baptism, 'Ite missa est'- go it is your dismissal. For, they were not allowed to stay in the Eucharistic prayer and Communion. The same formula the deacon used for the faithful at the end of the Mass- Ite missa est.' Eventually, the entire celebration is known among the common people as Mass or Missa, though it doesn't' give justice to this great celebration. I repeat here, Mass is nothing but the celebration of the Body and Blood of Jesus in memory of him.**

Is THE MASS REAL SACRIFICE?: In the popular language we hear the word sacrifice in our speech. It means giving or giving up something for a higher purpose which is a great virtue. This we can say, the man in the military sacrifices his life for the safety of his nation; parents sacrifice many things in their life for the good future of the children; students sacrifice their leisure to build up their life. But in the Biblical language sacrifice has a special meaning. It is the offering to God of some sanctified object, made by a legitimate priest, who destroys or otherwise changes the object in acknowledgement of God's supreme dominion over man. The word sacrifice comes from the Latin words – sacer means sacred and facere means to make. Hence it means something made sacred or something consecrated and offered to God.

(We will continue next week).

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY			
Mon.	Jan. 8 th	The Baptism of the Lord 8:00 A.M Mass – For all of our special intentions	
Tues.	Jan. 9 th	8:00 A.M Mass – Kevin Plourde 5:00 P.M St. Vincent DePaul Society meets	
Wed.	Jan. 10 th	8:00 A.M Mass – Dale Richer Novena to our Lady of Perpetual Help	
Thurs.	Jan. 11 th	6:30 P.M CCD Classes grades 1-7 and 10 th & 11 th 8:00 A.M Mass – Carol LaFave	
Fri.	Jan. 12 th	7:00 P.M Smear League 8:00 A.M Mass – Ken Fassbender	
Sat.	Jan. 13 th	Saint Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	
	d	3:00 P.M Confessions heard until 3:45 PM 4:00 P.M Mass – Tom & Florence Duffy	
Sun.	Jan. 14 th	Second Sunday in Ordinary time 8:00 A.M Mass – Mary Ann Marcella 10:00 AM - Mass – For the People of our Parish	

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

79 envelopes returned for Sunday, Dec. 31st

Adult Offering	\$3,065.00
Loose	106.00
Fuel	5.00
Total	\$ 3,176.00
Budgeted weekly Income & Expense	\$4,389.42
Shortage	\$1,213.42
St. Vincent DePaul Society	433.00

There will be a special diocesan collection next weekend, please use the envelope in your packet.

To date we have received \$33,945 in U.P. Catholic Services Appeal pledges. We are short of \$7,061.97 in reaching our goal of \$41,006.97. There are still 53 outstanding pledge cards.

Today, Sunday, Jan. 7th, we will have a light lunch after the 10:00 AM Mass and then undecorate the church. The more hands the easier the work. Thanking you in advance!

If you would like a contribution statement from 2023 please sign the sheet at the back of church. I will mail them out at the end of January.





MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The Men's Club will be holding their annual VENISON SUPPER on Sunday, January 28th. More information will follow next week.

We will be making pasties on February 17th.

SPIRIT LIFTERS

Jan. 7th - You can't keep trouble from coming, but you needn't give it a chair to set on.
-Old Proverb

Jan. 8th - When you're tired and worn at the close of the day And things don't seem to be going your way, When even your patience has come to an end, Try taking time out and confide in a friend.

Jan. 9th - You cannot lift your children to a higher level than that on which you live yourself.

Jan. 10th - The Church is a workshop, not a rest home.

Jan. 11th - Time flies, suns rise and shadows fall. Let time go by. Love is forever.

Jan. 12th - True wisdom lies in gathering precious moments out of each day.

Jan. 13th - Only in a world of love can we unfold and bloom.

St. Vincent DePaul Corner

Today we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, where the Magi find the newborn king and offer him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

In the spirit of the Magi, please put your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box so that comfort and peace can once again be given to a newborn child.

For more information contact Beverly Miller at 428-3610.

A Shrewd Girl's Question

One day, a little girl was sitting and watching her mother do the dishes at the kitchen sink. She suddenly noticed that her mother had several strands of white hair sticking out in contrast on her head. She looked at her mother and inquisitively asked, "Why are some of your hairs white, mom?" Her mother replied, "Well, every time that you do something wrong and make me unhappy, one of my hairs turns white." The little girl thought for a while, and said, "Momma, then how come grandma's head is full of white hair?"

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

MondayTuesdayIs 42:1-4,6-71 Sm 1:9-20Mk 1:7-11Mk 1:21-28

 Wednesday
 Thursday

 1 Sm 3:1-10,19-20
 1 Sm 4:1-11

 Mk 1:29-39
 Mk 1:40-45

Friday Saturday

1 Sm 8:4-7,10-22a 1 Sm 9:1-4,17-19;10:1a

Mk 2:1-12 Mk 2:13-17

Sunday

1 Sm 3:3b-10,10 1 Cor 6:13c-15a,17-20 Jn 1:35-42

SPRING STUDY DAY 2024 – SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendars for Spring Study Day, March 21, 2024. Our presenter this year is Fr. Luke Ferris, a National Eucharistic Preacher and currently pastor of the Kaukauna Catholic Parishes in Kaukauna, Wis. Fr. Ferris was named a National Eucharistic Preacher by the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops last year.

Fr. Ferris will speak about Encountering Jesus in the Eucharist, the Experience of Encountering Jesus in the Eucharist, Obstacles to Jesus' Eucharistic Presence, and Encountering Jesus in Mass and Adoration. Registration opens Jan. 2, 2024. Cost is \$15; morning refreshments, lunch and materials are included.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Applications are now being accepted for the 2024 Bibianne Bessette Scholarship Fund. The scholarships aid graduating high school seniors who are pursuing a college or vocational education at an accredited degree-granting institution. Consideration is based on academic achievement. Applicants **must complete** the online application found at https://dioceseofmarquette.org/awards-scholarships and either mail an **Official Transcript and ACT/SAT scores** (via postal mail) to Bessette Scholarship Fund, Diocese of Marquette, 1004 Harbor Hills Drive, Marquette, MI 49855 or email transcripts to Irene McCauley at imccauley@dioceseofmarquette.org. Applications must be received no later than March 15, 2024.