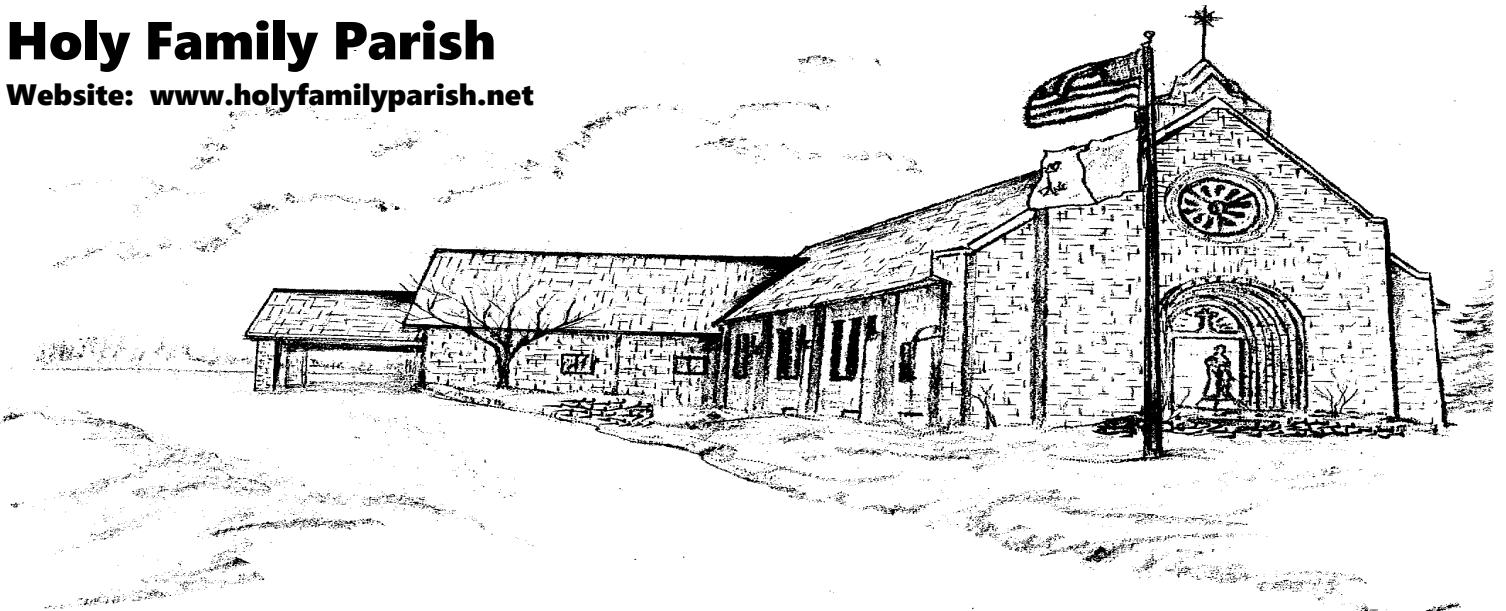


# Holy Family Parish

Website: [www.holyfamilyparish.net](http://www.holyfamilyparish.net)



Art Work by:  
Theresa Piestch

Fr. Sebastian K. Chacko, [skavumkal@yahoo.com](mailto:skavumkal@yahoo.com)

4011 Co. 416-20<sup>th</sup> Road, Gladstone, MI 49837

## Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – January 25, 2026

### Pastor

(906) 786-1209 Ext. 3 or (906) 440-4193

### Sacrament of Marriage

Notice of six months is required

### Deacon

Deacon: Robert Berbohm 786-9082

Email Address: [deacon@holyfamilyparish.net](mailto:deacon@holyfamilyparish.net)

### 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](mailto:secretary@holyfamilyparish.net)

### Faith Formation Coordinator

Kathy Kohtala 428-9431

Email: [kkohtala@allsaintsgladstone.org](mailto:kkohtala@allsaintsgladstone.org)

### Maintenance

906-786-1209

### Pastoral Council Members

Pam Marenger – President Diane Danhoff

Harold Flagstadt Tina Cryderman

Kevin Dubord

Pam Marenger – Liturgy Committee

Bob Berbohm – Evangelization Committee

### Finance Council Members

Gerald Miron Piper Desy

Mary Kay Nolde Frank Chenier

### 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.....

**Herb Iverson, Mike Gasperich, Jean Way, Shelly Polaczyk**

**Jan Carter, Sue Boudreau, Michael Theoret**

**Brenda Chouinard, Denise Seymour, Annette Russell**

**Kristin Cutcher, Eric VanDamme, Steve Belongie, Sr.,**

**Christina Theoret Zion, Patty Delveaux, Frank Chenier**

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.

# THE BIBLE STUDY

## The Gospel of Luke

### THE STORY OF THE LOVING FATHER OR THE PRODIGAL SON ([Luke 15:11-32](#))

Not without reason this has been called the greatest short story in the world. Under Jewish law a father was not free to leave his property as he liked. The elder son must get two-thirds and the younger one-third. ([Deuteronomy 21:17](#).) It was by no means unusual for a father to distribute his estate before he died, if he wished to retire from the actual management of affairs. But there is a certain heartless callousness in the request of the younger son. He said in effect, "Give me now the part of the estate I will get anyway when you are dead, and let me get out of this." The father did not argue. He knew that if the son was ever to learn he must learn the hard way; and he granted his request. Without delay the son realized his share of the property and left home.

He squandered the money and finally ended up in feeding the swine which was prohibited to a Jew. But he came back to his conscience and repented for his wrong decision. So the son decided to come home and plead to be taken back not as a son but in the lowest rank of slaves, the hired servants, the men who were only day laborers. The ordinary slave was in some sense a member of the family, but the hired servant could be dismissed at a day's notice. He was not one of the family at all. He came home; and, according to the best Greek text, his father never gave him the chance to ask to be a servant. He broke in before that. The robe stands for honor; the ring for authority, for if a man gave to another his signet ring it was the same as giving him the power of attorney; the shoes for a son as opposed to a slave, for children of the family wear shoes and the slaves of the family; for shoes were the sign of freedom. And a feast was made that all might rejoice at the wanderer's return.

Let us stop there and see the truth so far in this parable.

(i) It should never have been called the parable of the Prodigal Son, for the son is not the hero. It

should be called the parable of the **Loving Father**, for it tells us rather about a father's love than a son's sin.

(ii) It tells us much about the forgiveness of God. The father must have been waiting and watching for the son to come home, for he saw him a long way off. When he came, he forgave him with no recriminations.

Once Abraham Lincoln was asked how he was going to treat the rebellious southerners when they had finally been defeated and had returned to the Union of the United States. The questioner expected that Lincoln would take a dire vengeance, but he answered, "**I will treat them as if they had never been away.**"

It is the wonder of the love of God that he treats us like that.

That is not the end of the story. There enters the elder brother who was actually sorry that his brother had come home. He stands for the self-righteous Pharisees who would rather see a sinner destroyed than saved. Certain things stand out about him.

(i) His attitude shows that his years of obedience to his father had been years of grim duty and not of loving service.

(ii) His attitude is one of utter lack of sympathy. He refers to the prodigal, not as any brother, but as your son. He was the kind of self-righteous character who would cheerfully have kicked a man farther into the gutter when he was already down.

(iii) He had a peculiarly nasty mind. There is no mention of harlots until he mentions them. He, no doubt, suspected his brother of the sins he himself would have liked to commit.

Once again we have the amazing truth that it is easier to confess to God than it is to many a man; that God is more merciful in his judgments than many an orthodox man; that the love of God is far broader than the love of man; and that God can forgive when men refuse to forgive. In face of a love like that we cannot be other than lost in wonder, love and praise.

## THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY

Mon.	Jan. 26 <sup>th</sup>	<b><i>Saint Timothy and Saint Titus, Bishops</i></b> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – For all of our special intentions
Tues.	Jan. 27 <sup>th</sup>	<b><i>Saint Angela Merici, Virgin and religious founder</i></b> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – For the intentions of Ken May
Wed.	Jan. 28 <sup>th</sup>	<b><i>Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church</i></b> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Loretta Robitaille Novena to our Lady of Perpetual Help
Thurs.	Jan. 29 <sup>th</sup>	8:00 A.M. - Mass – Clifford Marcella (1 <sup>st</sup> Anniv.) 7:00 P.M. - Holy Family Men's smear league
Fri.	Jan. 30 <sup>th</sup>	8:00 A.M. - Mass – Vernon Ford ----- Parish Office closed
Sat.	Jan. 31 <sup>st</sup>	<b><i>Saint John Bosco, Priest</i></b> 3:00 P.M. - Confessions heard until 3:45 PM 4:00 P.M. - Mass – Betty Lou Tourangeau
Sun.	Feb. 1 <sup>st</sup>	<b><i>Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i></b> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – For the people of our parish 10:00 AM - Mass – Kathy Gunderman 4:00 P.M. - Venison supper served until 6:00 pm

### STEWARDSHIP CORNER

**75 envelopes returned for January 18, 2026**

Adults.....	\$4,221.00
Loose.....	247.00
General Maintenance.....	70.00
Fuel.....	45.00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$4,583.00</b>

<b>Budgeted weekly Income &amp; Expense</b>	<b>\$4,594.23</b>
<b>Short.....</b>	<b>\$ 11.23</b>

St. Vincent DePaul Society.....	5.00
U.P. Catholic Services Appeal.....	290.00
Pasty Money.....	50.00
Diocesan Collection.....	120.00

***Mark Your Calendars.....The next date for our PASTY MAKING in Friday, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>~ Sign up sheets are at the back of church for donations, pasty orders and workers.***

### We are getting closer to our UPSCA Goal

**Have you made your pledge yet???**

Holy Family Parish has a parish goal of \$44,521.15. We have received 108 pledge cards back out of 166. To date we have \$40,422.00 in pledges. That leaves us with a balance of \$4,099.15 to achieve. If you misplaced your pledge card, contact the parish office.



The **Venison Supper** will be held Sunday, Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. Asking for a donation of \$10 for adults; ages 6-12 \$5.00, and 5 & under free. Ladies: please don't forget the bars. The meal is not complete unless we have your delicious bars. ~ Thank You! TAKE OUTS WILL BE AVAILABLE by calling 906-630-9597 starting at noon with pickup starting at 4:00 PM. ***They are looking for VENISON. If you have some to donate please call Bob Tourangeau at 786-6811.***

## SPIRIT LIFTERS

- Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>** - The secret of life is to know who you are and where you are going.
- Jan. 26<sup>th</sup>** - Where there is great love there are always great miracles.
- Jan. 27<sup>th</sup>** - Others, Lord, yes others, Let this my motto be, Help me to live for others, That I may live like Thee!
- Jan. 28<sup>th</sup>** - Happiness is not a station you arrive at, but a manner of traveling.
- Jan. 29<sup>th</sup>** - Humility is a strange thing - when you think you've gained it, you've lost it.
- Jan. 30<sup>th</sup>** - Bibles that are falling apart usually belong to people who are not.
- Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>** - A smooth sea never made a skillful mariner.

### St. Vincent de Paul Corner

In this Sunday's Gospel, we find that Jesus "... went around all of Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and curing every disease and illness among the people."

This month, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to proclaim the good news of the kingdom to the poor, by assisting families by providing food, gifts, and money for utility and rent bills.

For more info contact Beverly Miller at 428-3610.

### **NOMINATE A CATHOLIC SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENT**

Developed in the spirit of Legacy of Faith to preserve and foster the Catholic faith in the Upper Peninsula, the Catholic Service Award annually recognizes lifetime dedication and service to the Church. Learn more about the prestigious award and nominate someone that you feel deserves this honor and recognition at [upcatholicfoundation.o](http://upcatholicfoundation.o). **Nominations due annually by May 1.**

## THIS WEEK'S READINGS

<b>Monday</b> 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5 Mk 3:22-30	<b>Tuesday</b> 2 Sm 6:12b-15,17-19 Mk 3:31-35
<b>Wednesday</b> 2 Sm 7:4-17 Mk 4:1-20	<b>Thursday</b> 2 Sm 7:18-19,24-29 Mk 4:21-25
<b>Friday</b> 2 Sm 11:1-4a,5-10a Mk 4:26-34	<b>Saturday</b> 2 Sm 12:1-7a,10-17 Mk 4:35-41
<b>Sunday</b> Zep 2:3; 3:12-13 1 Cor 1:26-31 Mt 5:1-12a	

### SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Looking for financial assistance with your college education? Applications are now being accepted for the 2026 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](mailto:imccauley@dioceseofmarquette.org). Applications must be received no later than March 15, 2026.

### Meal Train Ministry Update

Brittany (Menard) & Allen Botwright welcomed their baby girl, Josie, on January 13th. We have provided 2 meals for them since, and have 4 more meals scheduled by other parishioners. There are still two dates left that we hope to fill with a meal: 2/7 & 2/10. Please consider blessing them with a meal as they adjust during their first month as new parents. Schedule at <https://mealtrain.com/2wrmz5> or by contacting Heidi (399-5461). Thank you in advance for your generosity!