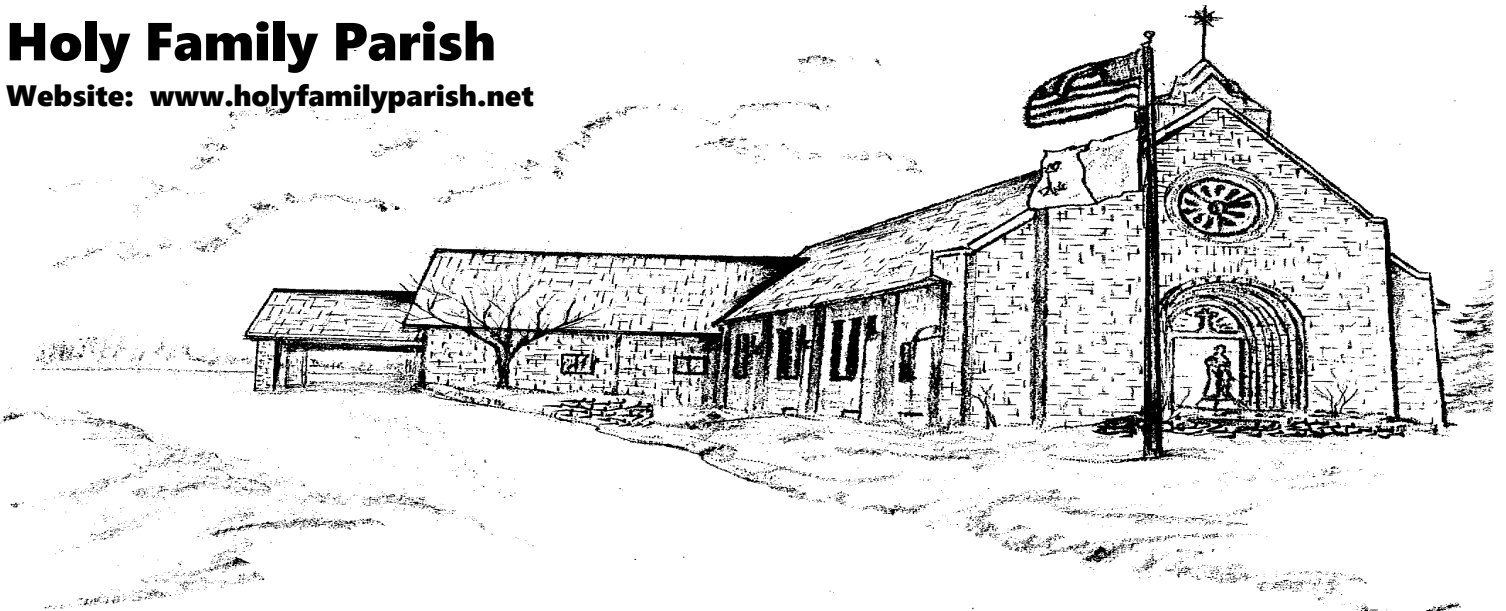


Holy Family Parish

Website: www.holyfamilyparish.net



Art Work by:
Theresa Piestch

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

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

First Sunday of Advent – December 1, 2024

Pastor

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

Deacon

Deacon: Robert Berbohm 786-9082

Email Address: 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

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.....

*Mike Gasperich, Joan, Jean Way, Shelly Polaczyk
Clifford Marcella, Brenda Chouinard, John King
Michael Theoret, Herb Iverson, Sue Boudreau*

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

3:21: While John was still baptizing in Jordan, **Jesus also came to John seeking baptism. Initially John was reluctant to baptize Jesus, but finally he yielded and baptized Jesus.** The other gospel accounts go into greater details about this event (cf. Matt 3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11; John 1:29-34). Nevertheless, the context here raises a key issue: Why did Jesus need to get baptized? The baptism of John was a baptism of repentance (cf. 3:3). It was a baptism for people who committed sin to turn from. Luke doesn't reveal it here, but later New Testament writers explain that Jesus never sinned (2 Cor 5:21; Heb 4:15).

The solution is twofold. First, the baptism was more than just a baptism of repentance. It was also a symbolic way of showing that the one being baptized was dying to corrupt Judaism, and was being raised to new life in covenant faithfulness to God. This was certainly what Jesus was about to. Much of His teaching and miracles were directed at the corruption within Judaism, and how He was introducing a new way of maintaining fellowship with God. His baptism revealed that He was not there to support First Century Temple Judaism, but following the example of John, was leading people out of Judaism and into a new way of living with God and with each other. Secondly, though Jesus never sinned, His baptism helped Him associate with a sinful nation. This foreshadows His ultimate identification with sinful humanity when He dies on the cross for the sins of the whole world.

While the other gospel accounts go into greater details about the baptism of Jesus, only Luke writes that Jesus **prayed. Luke writes more about Jesus praying than the other Gospel writers**, which reveals a key to His power and effectiveness in ministry. When Luke shows someone praying, it is nearly always right before something significant happens. In this case, when He prayed, **the heaven was opened.** It is uncertain how Luke intends this phrase to be understood. Did clouds roll back like a scroll? Most likely, the term is simply a figure of speech for "receiving an answer from God" (cf. Ezek 1:1).

3:22. God answered the prayer of Jesus by sending **the Holy Spirit** to anoint him (cf. 4:18). As with prayer, *the Holy Spirit* is a prominent theme in Luke's writings, and another key to the power and effectiveness of Jesus. Luke records that when the Spirit came upon Jesus, He **descended in bodily form like a dove.** This is most likely a figure of speech indicating that the Spirit descended in the same manner as a dove would, but not actually in the form of a dove. For Luke mentions here, 'like a dove.' Nevertheless, in whatever form the Spirit descended, was for all to see. The Spirit descends onto Jesus before He begins His ministry, showing that the Holy Spirit provides empowerment to Jesus for His ministry.

After the Spirit came upon Jesus, a **voice came from heaven which said, "You are My beloved Son; with You I am well pleased."** This is the voice of God the Father, and He indicates, in the presence of all, that Jesus is His Son, and God is proud to be His Father. This is a key verse for the doctrine of the Trinity, since all three members are present and interacting with each other. Also, the imagery of verse 22 points the reader back to the original creation, where God's Spirit hovers like a bird over the surface of the waters, and from heaven, God speaks to bring about creation (cf. Gen 1:1-3). With such imagery, Luke shows that Jesus brings a new creation.

But most important to Luke's theme is how this statement from God would be understood by Jesus and the multitudes. The words were a sign to them that God's Messiah had arrived. It also served to show Jesus what His task as the Messiah would be. The first part of the statement, "*You are my son*" comes from Psalm 2:7, in the context of God adopting a Son who will overthrow evil rulers and, as the new King over the earth, restore righteousness and justice to all the nations. The second part, "*With you I am well pleased,*" comes from Isaiah 42:1, which begins the *Suffering Servant portion of Isaiah*. So the affirmation of the Father to Jesus is also a call to vocation. It instructed Jesus to be the Messiah, both a Ruling King and a Suffering Servant. This baptism is the inauguration ceremony of Jesus.

(We will continue).

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY

Mon.	Dec. 2 nd	8:00 A.M. -	Mass – For all of our Special Intentions
Tues.	Dec. 3 rd		<i>Saint Francis Xavier, Priest</i>
		8:00 A.M. -	Mass – For the intentions of Brenda & Jillian
		5:30 P.M. -	Ladies of the Parish Christmas Party
		-----	Parish Office closed
Wed.	Dec. 4 th		<i>Saint John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church</i>
		8:00 A.M. -	Mass – All Souls in Purgatory
			Novena to our Lady of Perpetual Help
Thurs.	Dec. 5 th	8:00 A.M. -	Mass – For the intentions of Joseph Kudwa
		7:00 P.M. -	Holy Family Men’s meeting & Smear League
Fri.	Dec. 6 th		First Friday - <i>Saint Nicholas, Bishop</i>
		8:00 A.M. -	Mass – Pat Beauchamp
		6:30 P.M. -	Adoration until 7:30 P.M.
		-----	Parish Office closed
Sat.	Dec. 7 th		<i>Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</i>
		8:00 A.M. -	First Saturday Mass – For the intentions of Fr. Sebastian
		3:00 P.M. -	Confessions heard until 3:45 PM
		4:00 P.M. -	Mass – For the People of our Parish
Sun.	Dec. 8 th		<i>Second Sunday of Advent</i>
		8:00 A.M. -	Mass – Walter Marcella
		10:00 AM -	Mass – Ken Kelloniemi

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

67 envelopes returned for Sunday, Nov. 24th

Adult Offering.....	\$2,990.00
Loose.....	237.00
General Maintenance.....	50.00
Fuel.....	50.00
Total.....	\$3,327.00
Budgeted weekly Income & Expense...	\$4,509.61
Short.....	1,182.91
Pasties.....	1,010.00
St. Vincent DePaul Society.....	493.00
U.P. Catholic Services appeal.....	675.00

Our prayers and sympathies are extended to the families of Phil Dubord and Judith Gereau. May they rest in peace.

This year the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception falls on Sunday, Dec. 8th, thus the Solemnity is transferred to Monday December 9th which will be a Holy Day of Obligation. Our Mass schedule will be 8:00 AM & 6:00 PM.

The NEW subscription for **THE WORD AMONG US** will start January of 2025. If you would like to have a subscription through the church please contact the parish office by the end of November. The price is \$20 per subscription.

CALLING ALL LADIES...The Ladies of the Parish Christmas party will be this Tuesday, December 3rd starting at 5:30 PM. Also if you would like to participate there will be a gift exchange of \$15, 50/50, Raffle with proceeds going to St. Vincent dePaul, and bingo.

SPIRIT LIFTERS

- Dec. 1st** - Prayer is not an attitude attained, but an attitude maintained.
- Dec. 2nd** - What can I give Him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb. If I were a wise man, I would do my part, Yet what can I give Him; give my heart.
- Dec. 3rd** - You cannot possess a richer treasure than that of the loyalty of a friend.
- Dec. 4th** - Lord, protect me and keep me close to your heart.
- Dec. 5th** - When a happy person enters the room, it's as if another candle had been lighted.
- Dec. 6th** - God will not look you over for medals, degrees, or diplomas, but for scars.
- Dec. 7th** - Finish each day and be done with it. You have done what you could, some blunder and absurdities no doubt crept in; forget them as soon as you can. Tomorrow is a new day; you shall begin it well and serenely.

St. Vincent DePaul Corner

As we begin Advent we are called to “wait” in joyful anticipation for the grace of Christmas to once again bless our lives. Wherever you live in our parish, there are poor families within walking distance of your home. When in need, they ring the rectory bell. They are, in effect, ringing your doorbell.

Your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul envelope will help the poor celebrate the grace of God's love this Christmas.

For more info contact Beverly Miller at 428-3610.

Holy Name Elementary School is in need of a full time custodian. If you have a passion for cleaning and want to work in a mission aligned environment, please submit a resume to employment@holynamercrusaders.com. For more information please call the school at 906 786 7550.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Monday

Is 2:1-5
Mt 8:5-11

Wednesday

Is 25:6-10a
Mt 15:29-37

Friday

Is 29:17-24
Mt 9:27-31

Tuesday

Is 11:1-10
Lk 10:21-24

Thursday

Is 26:1-6
Mt 7:21,24-27

Saturday

Is 30:19-21,23-26
Mt 9:35—10:1,5a,6-8

Sunday

Bar 5:1-9 Phil 1:4-6,8-11
Lk 3:1-6

St. Anthony/St. Thomas Annual Dinner Bazaar 2024

It will be Sunday, December 8th, with doors opening at 11:00 AM. They will be serving Baked Ham, Pigs in a blanket, meatballs, mashed potatoes, gravy, hot veggies, coleslaw, serving from 11:00 am to 2:00 PM

St. Anthony's is also holding their **Annual Meat Pie Sale 10"** Pies must be preordered by calling or texting Debbie at 399-4259. Pick up is Dec. 12 & 13 between 1-4 at St. Thomas Church.

Pregnancy Services & Donut Connection Join Forces to Help Those Experiencing Unplanned Pregnancy!

For the month of December, receive either **2 FREE Donuts** or **1 FREE Muffin** from *Donut Connection* when you donate a pack of 50 or more fragrance-free wipes, or 20 or more diapers sizes 3, 4, 5, or 6.

U.P. Catholic Services Appeal
Our goal this year is 42,662.03. We need the participation of everyone to meet this goal. Thanking you in advance for helping our parish meet our goal.
To date we have received \$29,165 from 90 pledges. Still short \$13,497.03. Please return your cards as soon as possible.