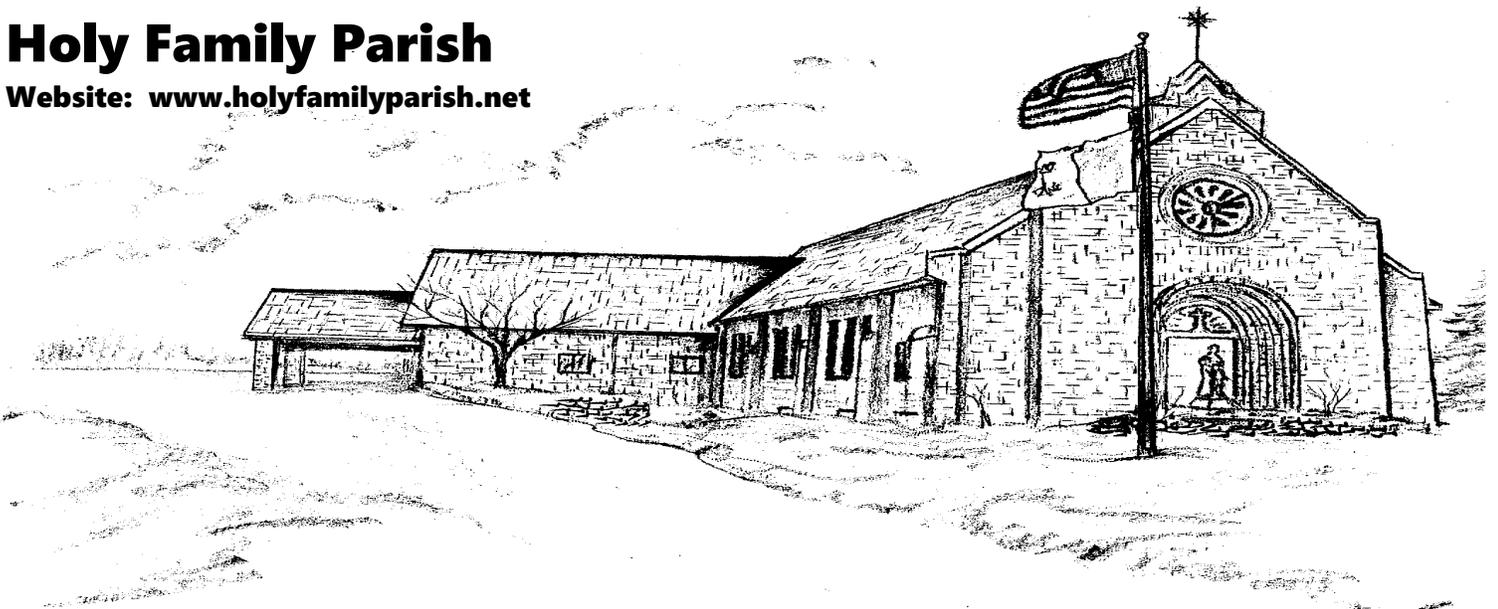


Holy Family Parish

Website: www.holyfamilyparish.net



Art Work by:
Theresa Piestch

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

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

Second Sunday of Advent – December 10, 2023

Pastor

(906) 786-1209 Ext. 3

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: kkohkala@allsaintsgladstone.org

Maintenance

906-786-1209

Pastoral Council Members

Pam Marenger – President Diane Danhoff
Wanda Chenier – Secretary Harold Flagstad
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.....

Diane, Barb, Eric, Pat, Joan

Roger Tourangeau, Jan Carter, Jean Way

Amanda, Mike Mosher, Shelly Polaczyk, Doris Begalle

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

Purgatory

Among all the Christian Denominations only Catholic Church believes and teaches about the existence of **Purgatory**. Purgatory is believed to be a place where souls undergo a purification for a temporary period for their venial sins before they attain eternal life. It is logical to believe that no one can enter Heaven with the stain of sin in the soul. The soul which loves God perfectly all through its life and at the moment of death goes to Heaven directly. The soul which does not love Him at all goes to straight to Hell. Both Heaven and Hell will endure all eternity. But it is obvious that between these two states, **perfect love and no love at all**, there can be many intermediate conditions. Love can exist with a certain admixture of self under one form or another. So Purgatory is a place or condition of temporal punishment for those who, departing this life in God's Grace, are not entirely free from venial sins, or have not fully paid the satisfaction due to their transgression.

Purgatory- a Catholic Teaching: Several Councils of the Church down the centuries defined the doctrine of Purgatory, e.g. Second Council of Lyons, 1274, and Florence, 1439, and their teaching is summarized in this clear statement of the Council of Trent, *“Whereas the Catholic Church, instructed by the Holy Ghost, has from the Sacred Scriptures and the ancient Tradition of the Fathers taught in Councils and very recently in this General Council that **there is a Purgatory**, and that the souls therein detained are helped by the suffrages (Intercessory prayers) of the faithful, but principally by the acceptable Sacrifice of the Altar (Holy Mass).”* We find two great truths in this statement: the first that Purgatory exists; the second that the souls detained there can be helped by our prayers, especially offering the Holy Mass and participating at the Holy Mass.

The definition of Purgatory given above refers to satisfaction and venial sin. The whole penitential system of Church is clear evidence of the traditional belief in the necessary of self-denial to atone for sins forgiven and also evidence for the conviction that, unless atonement is made during this life, it will have to be made after death. When the Tradition of the Church is examined, it is found that all the earliest writers in both East and West mention the custom of praying for the dead. Tertullian, at the beginning of the third century, alludes anniversary Masses in two different passages. **He says, “We make oblations for the dead, as for their birthdays.” He continues in another passage, “The faithful widow prays for her husband’s soul and begs for him in the interim repose, and she makes offerings for him on the anniversary of his death.”**

St. Cyprian, St. Clement of Alexandria and Origen are all perfectly clear in this matter and they believed that the departed Faithful were in a condition which they could be helped by their brethren still on earth. In fact, the practice of praying for the dead passed into the official liturgy of the Church, and it is as clear in the fourth century as it is today in our time.

In one famous passage in his book ‘**Confessions**’ **St. Augustine** writes this of his mother, St. Monica: “Lay this body anywhere, she says; let not the care of it in any way disturb you. Only this I ask of you that you remember me at the altar of the Lord wherever you are.”

Purgatory in Scripture: There are many instances in the Old Testament, of God forgiving sins, yet demanding that reparation be made by those who have offended Him. Thus, although God forgave our first Parents their sin of disobedience, God still punished them with a little bit of suffering by evicting from the Garden of Eden. God said to Adam and Eve, “By sweat of your face shall you get bread to eat, until you return to the ground, from which you were taken; for you are dirt and to dirt you shall return (Gen 3:19). Again when Moses and Aaron doubted God’s Promise, of course, God forgave their sins, but He kept them away from the Land of Promise as punishment for their infidelity (Num 20:12).

(We will continue next week).

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY

Mon.	Dec. 11 th	<i>Saint Damasus I, Pope</i> 8:00 A.M. – Mass – For all of our special intentions
Tues.	Dec. 12 th	<i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Pat Beauchamp 5:00 P.M. - St. Vincent DePaul Society meets
Wed.	Dec. 13 th	<i>Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Oliver Chenier Novena to our Lady of Perpetual Help 6:30 P.M. - CCD Classes for grades 1-7 & 10 th & 11 th
Thurs.	Dec. 14 th	<i>Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church</i> 8:00 A.M.- Mass – For all souls in purgatory 6:30 P.M. - Penance Service here 7:00 P.M. - Smear League
Fri.	Dec. 15 th	8:00 A.M. - Mass – Tamara Rowley ----- Parish Office closed
Sat.	Dec. 16 th	3:00 P.M. - Confessions heard until 3:45 PM 4:00 P.M. - Mass – Joyce Viau (2 nd Anniv.)
Sun.	Dec. 17 th	<i>Third Sunday of Advent</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Walter Marcella 10:00 AM - Mass – For the People of our parish. 11:00 AM - Light lunch and then decorating the Church for Christmas

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

92 envelopes returned for Sunday, Dec. 3rd

Adult Offering.....	\$3,945.00
Loose.....	96.00
General Maintenance.....	240.00
Fuel.....	380.00
Total.....	\$ 4,661.00

Budgeted weekly Income & Expense...	\$4,389.42
Overage.....	\$ 271.58

St. Vincent DePaul Society.....	33.00
Flowers.....	510.00



The 56th Annual U.P. Catholic Services Appeal is well underway. Our goal for this year is \$41,006.97. Thank you to all who have returned their pledge cards. ***To date we have received 120 pledges totaling \$32,160. There are still 62 outstanding cards.***

AREA PENANCE SERVICES

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton – Dec. 13th at 7:00 PM
Holy Family – December 14th at 6:30 PM
All Saints – Gladstone – December 18th at 7:00 PM
St. Joe/St. Patrick – Dec. 19th at 6:30 PM

Next Sunday after the 10:00 AM Mass, we will have a light lunch in the church basement and then decorate the church for Christmas.

SPIRIT LIFTERS

- Dec. 10th** - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Matthew 6:33
- Dec. 11th** - When God measures a man, He puts the tape around the heart instead of the head.
- Dec. 12th** - Every speaker has a mouth, An arrangement rather neat. Sometimes it's filled with wisdom, Sometimes it's filled with feet.
- Dec. 13th** - God grant me the Serenity to accept the things I cannot change, Courage to change the things I can, and Wisdom to know the difference.
- Dec. 14th** - Help me never to judge another until I have walked a day in his steps.
- Dec. 15th** - CHEER UP! Birds also have bills, but they keep on singing.
- Dec. 16th** - A fault-mender is better than a fault-finder.

St. Vincent DePaul Corner

In today's Gospel John the Baptist urges us to "Prepare the way of the Lord.". We are called to help prepare the way of the Lord by making the real meaning of Christmas come alive in our own hearts, in our family and to reach out to those in need.

Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can help the suffering and poor to celebrate Christmas.

For more information contact Beverly Miller at 428-3610.

The library feature of the month is Christmas!

On the table to the left of the library, you will find several books and cd's pertaining to Christmas. There are also books for small children. If you would like to borrow an item or two, please sign the card and place it in the box on the desk in the library. Also, please check around your home to see if you have any items which belong to the library. We are still missing many books and dvd's.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Monday
Is 35:1-10
Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday
Zec 2:14-17
Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday
Is 40:25-31
Mt 11:28-30

Thursday
Is 41:13-20
Mt 11:11-15

Friday
Is 48:17-19
Mt 11:16-19

Saturday
Sir 48:1-4,9-11
Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday
Is 61:1-2a,10-11
1 Thes 5:16-24
Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Knights of Columbus Women's Auxiliary is hosting a Christmas party for all Knights and their families. **NOTICE: Knights Christmas party date has changed.** The party has been moved to Sunday, December 17, 2023. Sorry for any inconvenience Hope we will see you there. Call Piper Desy at 906-399-3218 or Cathy Flagstadt at 906-786-5034 to reserve so we know how many to set up for. It will begin at 5:00p.m. with refreshments with a POT LUCK supper at 6:00 p.m. So please bring a dish to pass.

Director of Sacred Music for All Saints Parish

All Saints is a vibrant parish, firmly rooted in Catholic Tradition, located in Gladstone, MI. The Director of Sacred Music will be our main organist and choir director, responsible for all aspects of the parish sacred music program, including planning and providing music for weekend Masses, holy days, funerals, weddings, some weekday Masses, and other liturgical events. The ideal candidate should be proficient in choral conducting, organ and piano, Catholic liturgy, and available for a full-time position with benefits. Please contact All Saints Catholic Church at 906-428-3199, or visit us anytime at our website, allsaintsgladstone.org, for a full job description. Accepting resumes until January 2, 2024.