

# 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 of Advent – December 17, 2023

### Pastor

(906) 786-1209 Ext. 3

### 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: [kkohatala@allsaintsgladstone.org](mailto:kkohatala@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

## Life After Death

**Purgatory in Scripture:** In our previous episode we have seen how God punished Moses and Aaron for having doubted the power of God. Indeed God forgave them but as a punishment they were deprived of entering the Promised Land. It is said in 2 Maccabees 12:43-46 Judas Maccabeus, the commander of the Israelites' force made a collection among his soldiers for those who have fallen due to their infidelity by keeping the amulets which were used for idol worship. They prayed for the forgiveness for these men and then he sent the collection to Jerusalem Temple for an expiatory sacrifice for these dead. In verse 46 we read, **“Thus he made atonement for the dead that they might be freed from this sin.”**

It is obvious that Judas Maccabeus believed that the prayers and offering would help the sinful ones to be purified and saved. Of course, those who have gone for eternal punishment are beyond redemption; those who are fully blessed before God, do not need any prayer. When Judas sent money for atonement for the sins of those soldiers, he believed that they were in a place between hell and heaven. Paul in 1 Corinthians 3:10-15 speaks about building upon of our life on the foundation who is Jesus Christ. He says: **“If anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, or straw, the work of each will come to light, for the Day will disclose it. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire (itself) will test the quality of each one’s work. If the work stands that someone built upon the foundation, that person will receive a wage. But if someone’s work is burned up, that one will suffer loss; the person will be saved, but only through fire.”** The traditional interpretation of these words sees in them a reference to Purgatory, but it is not quite obvious as one might be led to believe. **The Apostle says that the failure in the work will not be rewarded with eternal punishment rather the failed ones will also be save through fire, means through purification. The fire does not mean that it is literally the material fire what we see in our earthly life.**

**Pain in Purgatory:** We are all eager to know what sort of pain we may have to undergo in Purgatory. We hear a lot about the fire of Hell and popularly believe that the same is found in Purgatory too. The Church does not teach officially that both these places have material fire. But it is the doctrine of the Church that the souls detained in Purgatory make atonement through suffering. But at the same time the souls know that their eternal happiness is secured. The Canon of the Mass, indeed, describes them as “resting in Christ and sleeping in peace.”

Nevertheless, because they are separated from God for a time, these Holy souls have to endure the pain of loss. In their case, which is the most severe, for they desire God with all their being. **The greater the good one desires and the more vehemently one desires it, the greater the pain when that desire is frustrated.** The souls in Purgatory are free from the temptations of life which are applicable only in our earthly life. They have only one desire that is to be with God in Heaven. The temporary frustration of that desire is for them the cause of most intense suffering. Moreover, they know that their separation from Infinite Love has been caused through their own fault, and they understand what increase of bliss they might have enjoyed had they avoided sin or made more satisfaction on earth for the sins they had committed.

On the other hand, the suffering souls in Purgatory have far less to bear than those damned in Hell, for they are conscious that their torment will end in due course. One should not forget the fact that the detained souls love God most ardently, and they will never cease to love him, and that knowledge alone brings them immense consolation. Above all, they are sure that soon or later they will be with God.

**(We will continue next week).**

**THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY**

Mon.	Dec. 18 <sup>th</sup>	8:00 A.M. –	Mass – For all of our special intentions
Tues.	Dec. 19 <sup>th</sup>	8:00 A.M. -	Mass – Bryan Fassbender
Wed.	Dec. 20 <sup>th</sup>	8:00 A.M. -	Mass – For all souls in purgatory Novena to our Lady of Perpetual Help
		6:30 P.M. -	NO CCD Classes
Thurs.	Dec. 21 <sup>st</sup>	<b><i>Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church</i></b>	
		8:00 A.M.-	Mass – John Bosbous
		7:00 P.M. -	Smear League
Fri.	Dec. 22 <sup>nd</sup>	8:00 A.M. -	Mass – For the Intentions of Jamie Ojala
		-----	Parish Office closed
Sat.	Dec. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	3:00 P.M. -	Confessions heard until 3:45 PM
		4:00 P.M. -	Mass – Jack Gascon ( <i>9<sup>th</sup> Anniv.</i> )
Sun.	Dec. 24 <sup>th</sup>	<b><i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i></b>	
		9:00 A.M. -	Mass – For the People of our parish
Sun.	<b>Dec. 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b><i>Christmas Eve</i></b>	
		5:00 P.M. -	Mass – Joe Nolde
		8:00 P.M. -	Mass - For the People of our Parish
Mon.	<b>Dec. 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b><i>Christmas Day</i></b>	
		9:00 A.M. -	Mass – For the Hughes & Neuens Families

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER**

90 envelopes returned for Sunday, Dec. 10

Adult Offering.....	\$3,834.00
Loose.....	125.00
General Maintenance.....	70.00
Fuel.....	<u>120.00</u>
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$ 4,149.00</b>

<b>Budgeted weekly Income &amp; Expense...</b>	<b>\$4,389.42</b>
<b>Shortage.....</b>	<b>\$ 240.42</b>

St. Vincent DePaul Society.....	15.00
Flowers.....	90.00

**Just a reminder that we will be decorating the church for Christmas this Sunday, Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>. WE will have a light lunch and then decorate.**

**DEC. 23<sup>rd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> WEEKEND**  
**MASS SCHEDULE**

**We will have a 4:00 PM Mass on Saturday, Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>, and only a 9:00 AM Mass on Sunday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> to fulfill our Sunday Obligation.**

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**

**Our Christmas Mass schedule will be the same as in past years: 5:00 PM and 8:00 PM on Christmas Eve and a 9:00 AM Mass on Christmas Day.**

**January 1, 2024 is NOT a Holy Day of Obligation but the Mass will be at 9:00 AM**

## SPIRIT LIFTERS

- Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>** - A partnership with God is motherhood.
- Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>** - Christmas is a time for children, No matter what their age. Spirit is the only ticket, And heart the only gauge.
- Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>** - There is no right way to do the wrong thing.
- Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>** - Before your gifts are all wrapped up and gayly ribbon tied, Please remember to tuck a lot of love inside.
- Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>** - 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. 22<sup>nd</sup>** - Blessed is the season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love. H.W. Mabie
- Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>** - Not what we give, But what we share, For the gift without the giver is bare. J. R. Cowell.

### St. Vincent DePaul Corner

In today's Gospel John the Baptist says, "I am the voice of one crying in the desert; make straight the way of the Lord." Let us ask for the grace to help others to know the love of the Lord.

Christmas is a time of love and gift giving...please give to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that those who do not have clothes and food can share in the blessings of Christmas.

For more information contact Beverly Miller at 428-3610.

### LADIES of the PARISH SUCCESS at the CHRISTMAS PARTY

Last week 45 women of the parish attended the Altar Society Christmas Party for record a number. Father Sebastian opened with prayer prior to the delicious meal. After the meal many successful games of bingo were played, gifts were exchanged and St. Vincent raffle was held. So much laughter and fun were had by all. If you didn't attend this year, please plan to attend next year. A huge thank you to Theoret's corner for organizing this event. Also thank you to all that donated items for the games. We couldn't have such success without your time and energy. God gives us many gifts both in people and skills!

## THIS WEEK'S READINGS

### **Monday**

Jer 23:5-8  
Mt 1:18-25

### **Wednesday**

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

### **Friday**

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

### **Tuesday**

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

### **Thursday**

Sg 2:8-14  
Lk 1:39-45

### **Saturday**

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

### **Sunday**

2 Sm 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16  
Rom 16:25-27 Lk 1:26-38

*Knights of Columbus Women's Auxiliary* is hosting a Christmas party for all Knights and their families. Sunday, Dec. 17, 2023. It will begin at 5:00 p.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**

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](http://allsaintsgladstone.org), for a full job description. Accepting resumes until January 2, 2024.

### **REMINDER - CATHOLIC YOUTH NIGHT**

**Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM**

Join us once again in the Religious Education Center at All Saints Parish, Gladstone, as we gather to focus on building discipleship and living the faith in today's world through a video series, small group discussion and prayer. There is no cost to participate and is open to all high school students in the area.

**To date we have received \$32,310 in U.P. Catholic Services Appeal pledges. This leaves us short of \$8,696.97 in reaching our goal of \$41,006.97. There are still 60 outstanding pledge cards.**