



# St. Mark Catholic Church

## Mission Statement

St. Mark is a Catholic parish committed to fostering discipleship through the Word of God and the Sacraments. We are dedicated to providing Catholic education to our youth, to bringing a deeper relationship with Christ to our adults, and to supporting those in need through the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy. We encourage all parishioners to participate in the shared responsibility of worship, prayer, study and service.



March 17, 2024

## 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit."  
- Jn 12:23-24

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### PASTORAL STAFF

**Rev. Adam Zajac**  
Pastor

**Deacon Dave Lundeen**  
Permanent Deacon

**Mrs. Karen Cocita**  
Principal

**Mrs. Meaghan McCarthy-Silver**  
Pastoral Minister

**Mrs. Julia Wallace**  
Director of Music Ministry

**Mr. Michael Kay**  
Youth Minister

**Mrs. Jeannette Puckett**  
Parish School of Religion Director (PSR)

### SACRAMENTS

**The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults:** The RCIA is open to all those interested in becoming Catholic. Contact the Parish Office 216-226-7577.

**Baptism:** Available at 12:30 p.m. the fourth Sunday of the month and at Masses by arrangement. Parents must attend a Pre-Baptism class and Godparents must have a sponsor certificate.

**Reconciliation:** Saturday, 3:00 - 3:45 p.m. or by appointment.

**Marriage:** Arrangements must be made at least six months in advance with a priest or deacon.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Please call the Parish Office.

**Communion Calls:** If you are unable to participate in the celebration of Mass and would like to receive Communion, please contact the office.

**New Parishioners:** All are welcome to join us by calling the office or visiting the website to schedule an appointment.

**Bulletin Deadline:** Bulletin Articles and Copied Items need to be in the Parish Office by 11:00 a.m. on Friday the week before the bulletin to print.

### Papal Intention

**March:** For the new martyrs. We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.

### Liturgy Schedule

Scripture readings can be found online at:  
[bible.usccb.org](http://bible.usccb.org)

#### Monday, March 18

8:30am Mass.....James & Mary Marron

#### Tuesday, March 19-St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

8:30 am Mass.....Giuseppe Coreno

#### Wednesday, March 20

#### Thursday, March 21

8:30am Mass.....Vale Brazil

#### Friday, March 22

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

#### Saturday, March 23

3:00pm Confessions

3:00pm Confessions @ St. Mel

4:00pm Mass.....Mindy Biggins

4:30pm Mass @ St. Mel

#### Sunday, March 24-Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

7:00am Mass @ St. Mel

8:30am Mass.....Maureen Gale

10:00am Mass @ St. Mel

11:30am Mass.....Sam Gentile

### *Luke McGraw Memorial Candles*

### Weekly Intention

**March 17**

**Ivano Matic**



### PRAYER FOR THE SICK

Heavenly Father, we lift up all those who are facing various illnesses. Give them the hope and courage they need today and every day. Comfort their pain, calm their fears, and surround them with Your peace. In Jesus' name, Amen!

### Please Pray for Our Sick

William Adams  
Gianna Andolina  
Carol Behnke  
Jack Behnke  
Katy Brent  
Henry Buehner  
James Coyne  
Margaret Fadrowski  
Nicole Foerstner  
Mary Frantz  
Theresa Fridrich

Lisa Groh  
Irene Gurchensky  
David Kurth  
Catherine Kutsick  
Loree Leasure-Poirier  
Jim McIlwee  
Mary Miller  
Maisie Nowlin  
Sr. Josette Obodzinski

Bill Retzer  
Mary Stark  
Nora Sudetic  
Lena Sunyak  
George Surovec  
Herb Tippie  
Georgieann Treible  
Joe Wantz  
Charlotte Whiting  
Lillian Zahara  
Joseph Zavatchen Jr.



### *Liturgical Ministers March 23 & 24*

#### Saturday, March 23 @ 4:00pm

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Michelle Eggers, Kathy O'Malley, Shirlee Toth

**Lector:** Al Abel, John Levis

**Altar Server:** Patrick Sowul, Joseph Sowul, Kathryn Sowul

#### Sunday, March 24 @ 8:30am

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Karen Cocita, Jessica Hanes, Tim Schmidt

**Lector:** Michael Grathwol, Laura Skonce

**Altar Server:** Theodore Gambon, Julia McNulty, Grace Schmidt

#### Sunday, March 24 @ 11:30am

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Deirdre Mueller, Annamaria Masterson, NOT FILLED

**Lector:** Lisa Braun, Carole Iseli

**Altar Server:** Danny Reichel, Reese Reichel, Joseph Sonby

### Weekly Collections

Sunday Envelopes:.....\$ 3,369.50

Faith Direct:.....\$ 5,381.00

**Thank you for your generosity!**



## Lenten Information



### LENTEN FISH FRIES March 22-5pm-7pm @ St. Mark

St. Mark, St. Chris, and OLA Present  
The Living Stations of the Cross

Join the youth of these parishes for this powerful prayer and performance as we journey through Holy Week this year.

Friday, March 22nd | 7:30pm | St. Mark Parish  
15800 Montrose Ave., Cleveland, OH 44111

Sunday, March 24th | 7pm | St. Christopher Parish  
20141 Detroit Rd, Rocky River, OH 44116

Friday, March 29th | 7pm | OLA Parish  
3600 Rocky River Dr, Cleveland, OH 44111



#### Palm Sunday Services Saturday, March 23rd

4:00pm @ St. Mark

4:30pm @ St. Mel

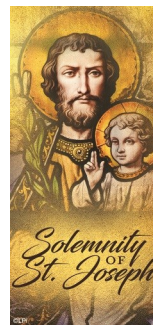
#### Sunday, March 24th

7:00am @ St. Mel

8:30am @ St. Mark

10:00am @ St. Mel

11:30am @ St. Mark



St. Joseph Altar

Celebrated the weekend of March 16 & 17

**Write petitions on papers found in a basket by the St. Joseph statue**

**Be sure to take a fava bean, medal and prayer card**

We will be collecting items for St. Edward High School Labre Ministry. The Labre ministry allows students, faculty & staff, alumni, and friends of St. Edward to directly serve the immediate needs of the poor every Thursday through the entire year. The ministry immersion, named after St. Benedict Joseph Labre, the patron saint of the homeless, allows students to see and experience the struggles of our homeless friends on the streets. This ministry is powerful as our students help prepare the meal, meet, and serve our poor brothers and sisters by coming to them.

Students hand-deliver food, clothing, hygiene kits, etc. to those we visit each week. This helps to instill in our students that every human being has dignity and that we should be preferential in charity to the poorest among us.

Any non-perishable items are appreciated especially canned soups.

#### LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Liturgical Ministers are asked to sign up in the Sacristy for Holy Week Liturgies.  
Thank you!

### First Friday Commitment Wanted

On every first Friday of the month we regularly have Eucharistic Adoration from 3:30pm to 7:00pm. While all parishioners are always welcome to come and pray during that time, we would like to have a roster of parishioners committed to coming at specific times. If you would like to sign up for an hour of adoration beginning on any half-hour of the time for adoration, please call the Parish Office.



Please come to pray WITH Mary, Our Blessed Mother, in this beautiful devotion, The Rosary. We are living in troubled times and so much in need of peace within our souls and for the world. We ask Mary, Our Mother, to intercede and lead us contemplating the mysteries of Jesus. "The Family that Prays together, Stays together"...Fr. Patrick Peyton  
Every Sunday following the 8:30am Mass



**St. Mark  
Holy Name Society**

**Welcome All  
Men and Women Parishioners  
18 and Older  
We Meet Second Tuesday of the Month  
at 6:00 in the Social Hall**

**Interested?**

**Email [jimcocita@gmail.com](mailto:jimcocita@gmail.com)**

**Please Remember  
Deacon Dave in your Prayers**

You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty, Say to the Lord,  
"My refuge and fortress, My God in whom I trust."  
Psalm 91:1-2

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers all our military men and women presently serving and those who have returned home.

Jason Bochert, James Boone, Jr., Elijah Brolly, Kurt Brown, Nathan Chomoa, Jeremy Cole, Matthew Craven, Josh Dunleavy, T.J. Finucan, Martin Hartsel, Joe Isabella, John Kester, Randy Kloos, Stephanie Lasch, Adam Lemmerman, Torrey Lynch, Ron McDough, Andrew J. McGinty, Owen McGrew, Jake North, Jon Novak, Danny O'Malley, Sean P. O'Reilly, Nick Ortiz, Steven Podhradsky, Nico Russo, Tom Sarko, Matthew Shirley, Brady Smith, Montana Stiegelmeyer, Edward Thomas, Joseph Toole, Jacob Trefney, Jonah Treible, Lukas Whitney.

God Bless them all!

Kathy O'Malley [womalfam@sbcglobal.net](mailto:womalfam@sbcglobal.net) for any updates.



[www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net)

**St. Mark Church # OH274**

If you are using Faith Direct for eGiving...please access the website, log in and verify that all of your information is correct. You may need to update bank account or credit card numbers.

If you forgot your user name or password follow the directions on the login screen.

If you have questions about Faith Direct go to the FAQ section of the website for answers.

*Thank you for supporting  
St. Mark Church!*

### REQUEST FOR 2023 CONTRIBUTION REPORT

Please send a request via email to [dbroughton@stmarkcleveland.com](mailto:dbroughton@stmarkcleveland.com) or fill out this form and return it to the Parish Office.

Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email report to: \_\_\_\_\_

Pick up at Parish Office \_\_\_\_\_ Mail to above address \_\_\_\_\_

# Weekly Prayer

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

All, from least to greatest, shall know me, says the LORD,  
for I will forgive their evildoing and remember their sin  
no more. (Jer 31:34)

### Psalm:

Create a clean heart in me, O God. (Ps 51)

### Second Reading:

Son though he was, he learned obedience from what  
he suffered;  
and when he was made perfect,  
he became the source of eternal salvation for all who  
obey him. (Heb 5:8-9)

### Gospel:

"Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies,  
it remains just a grain of wheat;  
but if it dies, it produces much fruit." (Jn 12:24)

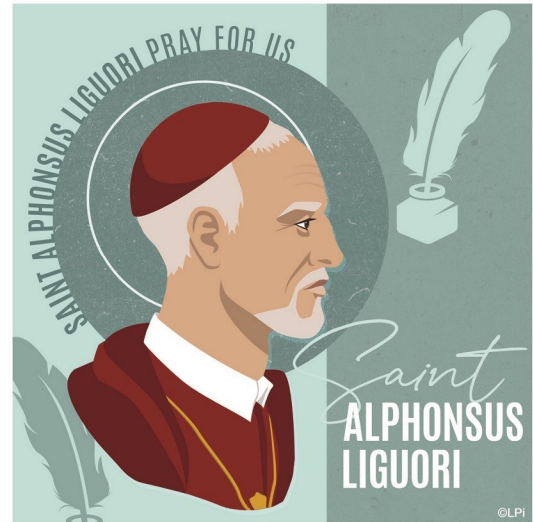
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## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Jesus reminds us that the grain of wheat can never realize its potential without sacrifice. God has a plan for each one of us. May He give you strength to become who you were born to be.

## Observances for the week of March 17, 2024

- Sunday:** 5th Sunday of Lent
- Monday:** St. Cyril of Jerusalem,  
Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- Tuesday:** St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Saturday:** St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop
- Next Sunday:** Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord,  
Holy Week begins



## Saint of the week

St. Alphonsus Liguori, (1696-1787) was a prolific theologian and founder of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (The Redemptorists). Renowned for his profound devotion to the Eucharist and insightful theological teachings, he is the patron saint of moral theologians.

## Prayer of Bold Ask

God in heaven,  
Hear me as I call to you! Pour  
new life into me! Renew my  
heart in Your word! Help me to  
know You! Help me to glorify  
You, worship You, and trust  
You. Amen.

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SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2024 | 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT



## Principal News

As busy as our Kindergarten class was last week, our 8<sup>th</sup> Grade has been even busier. Last Sunday, the class donned their red "Class of 2024" t-shirts to play a very competitive basketball game against our CYO coaches. The event is what we call *Mark's Madness*, and it has been around for about fifteen years. All proceeds support our Parish Outreach program which assists families in both our parish and school when help is needed. It is a great community building event because it's larger than a basketball game- it provides an opportunity for people to join together for a great cause regardless of whether they have children in St. Mark School because Parish Outreach is bigger than our school. It is always a challenge to incorporate 46 students into a one-hour basketball game, making sure they all have fair playing time. What was particularly neat was when one of our 8<sup>th</sup> graders, who is in a wheelchair due to an injury, was wheeled out onto the court and after several attempts, was able to make a free throw! The entire student body rallied around him to cheer him on. That was amazing! Special thanks go out to Dianne Gorsek, Jean Berger, and Jack Koch for all the planning that went into this event. Another note of thanks to the Tome family for the shirt donation. Events like this bring back great memories. I remember sitting at the Sterba house with Mr. Adams trying to figure out how to get about 50 kids into this event we were calling Mark's Madness in support of Parish Outreach for the very first time. Here we are about 15 years later with this same event that is still as strongly supported as it was back then. It stands as a testimony to our families. May the legacy continue for at least another 15 years!

As I write this, our 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students are on their way to Washington D.C. Normally I go with them; it's a trip I love making with them. Knowing how Deacon Dave was, I chose to stay back to be with the rest of the student body. I will update you on their trip next week, but the itinerary I planned with the Nowak Tour Company was fabulous!

Our 7<sup>th</sup> Grade is to be commended on the service project they did for the poor. Students were asked to bring in some simple items found at home such as: 2 gallon sized zip-lock bags, 2 water bottles, 2 granola bars, 2 snack size bags of Goldfish, graham crackers, or vanilla wafer, etc., 2 cans with easy open lids of soup (non-condensed) or fruit cups, 2 plastic spoons, 2 napkins or travel size wipes, and 2 pairs of new adult male socks. Mrs. DeGenaro had the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade put "Blessing Bags" together and then invited some young men from St. Edward High School involved in helping the homeless through their Labre Ministry, speak to our students about their experiences and the joy they feel by helping others. Our students got a great deal out of the message these young men delivered. It is our responsibility as members of the Catholic Church and members of a global society to reach out to help in any way we can. To quote Saint Mother Teresa, "Do ordinary things with extraordinary love." Great job, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade.

Finally, our annual History Fair occurred this past week. Students from Grades 5 and 7 participated along with any student from Gr. 1-4 who was interested in the topic of Immigration. I was very impressed with the quality of work our students produced as well as the variety of topics. Some of the topics and fun facts are below:

Jackie Chan- He holds the Guinness record for most credits in the movie industry.

Arnold Schwarzenegger- He was the 38<sup>th</sup> governor of California.

Giannis Antetokounmpo – The struggle of his parents to provide for his family rivals the challenge of being immigrants.

Chinua Achebe- He was a Nigerian immigrant, an educator, and the author of the book, *Things Fall Apart*, known as the greatest work of literature to come out of Africa.

Yanek Gruener- As a young boy, he was taken to the first of 10 different concentration camps after the Nazi invasion of Poland.

Elon Musk- He founded a private space program called SpaceX.

Mario Andretti- Favorite quote: "If you have everything under control, you're not moving fast enough."

Hedy LaMarr- She was an actress and inventor during Hollywood's Golden Age.

Madeleine Albright- She was presented the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Barack Obama. She was the 64<sup>th</sup> United States Secretary of State.

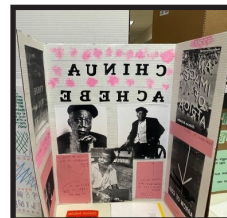
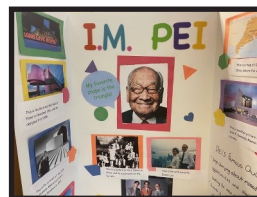
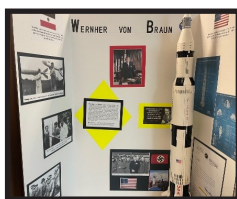
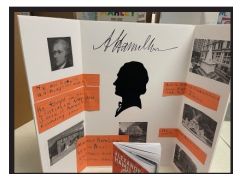
Classes throughout the school viewed the projects while they were on display, and some even did a scavenger hunt looking for very specific facts. Some of these facts included:

- What countries were the immigrants from?
- Why did some immigrants leave their home country?
- When and where did these immigrants arrive/ settle?
- How did this immigration change lives or change the world for the better?

The entire school benefitted from these projects. Special thanks to our History Fair committee: Mrs. Baillis, Mrs. DeCore, Mrs. Gonzalez, and Miss Albrigo.

It has been a very busy few weeks with much more to come as we approach the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter.

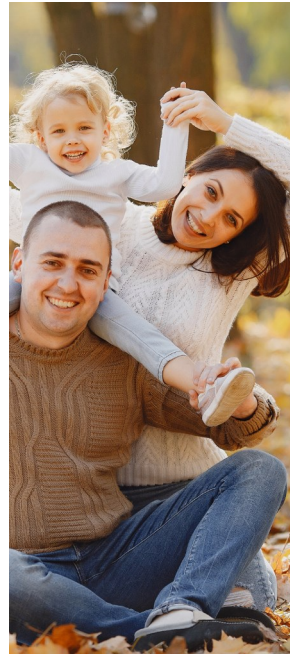
Mrs. Cocita



## THE WEEK AHEAD IN OUR PARISH

<b>Saturday,</b>	<b>March 16</b>	
3:00 pm	Confessions	
4:00 pm	Mass	
	<b>St. Joseph Altar</b>	
<b>Sunday,</b>	<b>March 17</b>	
8:30 am	Mass	
9:30 am	Rosary	
11:30 am	Mass LS	
11:30 am	Sunday Pre-School	CR
<b>Monday,</b>	<b>March 18</b>	
	<b>School Closed</b>	
8:30 am	Mass	
6:00 pm	Living Stations	CH
6:30 pm	PSR Class Gr. 1-8	CR
<b>Tuesday,</b>	<b>March 19</b>	
8:30 am	Mass w/All School	
5:30 pm	Children's Choir	CH
6:00 pm	Lenten Soup Supper	SH
7:00 pm	Parent Club Mtg.	CC
7:00 pm	Choir	CH
<b>Wednesday,</b>	<b>March 20</b>	
<b>Thursday,</b>	<b>March 21</b>	
8:30 am	Mass	
9:00 am	4th Gr. Retreat	SH
3:00 pm	Gym Set-up	G
6:30 pm	Friends of Impett	CC
7:00 pm	Troop #293	SH/PP
<b>Friday,</b>	<b>March 22</b>	
8:00 am	St. Baldrick's	G
2:00 pm	School Stations	CH
5:00 pm	Fish Fry	CH
7:30 pm	Living Stations	CH
<b>Saturday,</b>	<b>March 23</b>	
3:00 pm	Confessions	
4:00 pm	Mass	
<b>Sunday,</b>	<b>March 24</b>	
8:30 am	Mass	
9:30 am	Rosary	
9:30 am	Young Families	SH
11:30 am	Mass LS w/Youth Choir	
11:30 am	Sunday Pre-School	CR

**Note: (LS)=Livestreamed**



## Young Family Gatherings

Once a month after 8:30 a.m. Mass, young families are welcome to gather in the Social Hall for bagels, coffee, and community.

Dates vary each month. Questions? Please contact Briana David-  
brianadavid@howardhanna.com

## 2024 UPCOMING DATES

January 21	April 21
February 11	May 19
March 24	June 9



## St. Baldrick's

On Friday, March 22nd, we are honored to once again host our 10th St. Baldrick's Head Shaving Event "Shave your Mane" to raise funds for pediatric cancer research. Over the past 10 years, we have donated over \$522,000 to the St. Baldrick's Foundation supporting research dollars for our friends battling cancer now and for the future. This year our goal is to shave over 100 heads and raise a total of \$50,000.

All St. Mark students, friends and family are invited to join us through a variety of different efforts over the next two months.

## Dine to Donate:

•Join us to the Celebrity Bartending Event at PJ McIntyre's on Thursday, March 21st from 6-10pm.

Visit the link to register or to donate to our shaves:  
<https://www.stbaldricks.org/events/StMark2024>