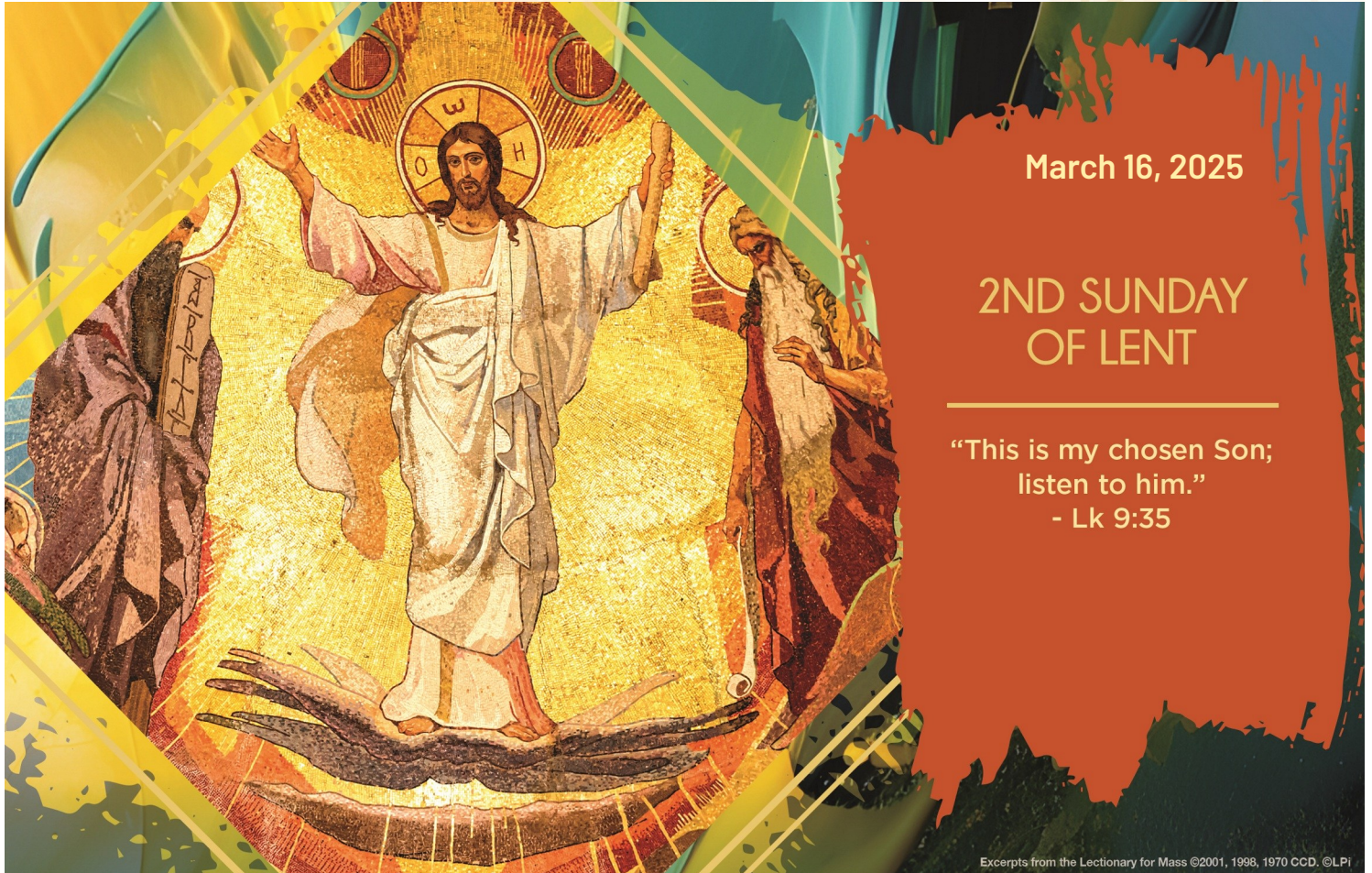




# St. Mark Parish

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 of our parishioners to participate in the shared responsibility of worship, prayer, study and service.



March 16, 2025

## 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

“This is my chosen Son;  
listen to him.”  
- Lk 9:35

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD, ©LPI

## PASTORAL STAFF

**Rev. Adam Zajac**  
Pastor

**Mrs. Karen Cocita**  
Principal

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

**Mrs. Julia Wallace**  
Music Ministry Director

**Mr. Michael Kay**  
Youth Ministry Director

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

## COMMUNITY & SACRAMENTS

**New Parishioners:** All are welcome to join the parish! Visit the website or call the parish office to arrange to meet a pastoral staff member.

**Become Catholic:** Interested in becoming Catholic? Call the parish office for an appointment with a pastoral staff member to learn more.

**Infant Baptism:** As you celebrate a new birth, make sure to arrange for the child's baptism. The third Sunday of the month is our regular schedule.

**Reconciliation:** Mercy and peace are here for you. Confession is available on Saturdays from 3:00pm to 3:45pm, or by appointment.

**Marriage:** Over six months we will prepare you to exchange vows before the altar. Whether engaged or civilly married, contact us to get started.

**Anointing of the Sick:** If you or a loved one is seriously sick, please call the parish office to arrange for a priest to visit and anoint.

**Homebound:** We are happy to bring Communion to you if you are unable to participate in the celebration of Mass.

# LITURGY AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

## Papal Intention

**March:** For families in crisis. Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

## Liturgy Schedule

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

### Monday, March 17

8:30am Mass..... Luke McGraw

### Tuesday, March 18

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

8:30am Mass.....**Presider's Intention**

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

5:00pm-8:00pm Evening of Confession

### Thursday, March 20

8:30am Mass.....**Presider's Intention**

### Friday, March 21

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

12:00pm Stations of the Cross @ St. Mel

### Saturday, March 22

3:00pm Confessions

3:00pm Confessions @ St. Mel

4:00pm Mass .....Carol Behnke

4:30pm Mass @ St. Mel

### Sunday, March 23-3rd Sunday of Lent

7:00am Mass @ St. Mel

8:30am Mass..... Joseph Spicuzza

10:00am Mass @ St. Mel

11:30am Mass ..... Porfirio Esparra Sr.

12:30pm Penitential Rite

## Pray for the Sick

We commend to your personal prayers parishioners who have asked to be prayed for:

William Adams	Irene Gurchensky	Judy Reitz
Gianna Andolina	Carol Hughes	Aimee Roscoe
Jack Behnke	David Kurth	Nora Sudetic
Katy Brent	Gerald McArthur	George Surovec
Henry Buehner	Jim McIlwee	Herb Tippie
James Coyne	Mary Miller	Georgiann Treible
Matthew Craven	Maisie Nowlin	Joe Wantz
Nicole Foerstner	Bill Retzer	Charlotte Whiting
Mary Frantz	Mary Stark	Lillian Zahara
Theresa Fridrich	Sr. Josette Obodzinski	Lew Zahara Jr.
		Joseph Zavatchen Sr.

## Pray for the Deceased

Therese Schroeck, Sister of Jack Schroeck

Michelle Smith, Niece of Mary Jane Miller

May perpetual light shine upon them

## Other Intentions

### Weekly Luke McGraw Memorial Candles Intention

Deacon Dave Lundeen

### Baptized This Week

Finnegan James Wypasek

Liturgical Ministers	emHCs	Lectors	Servers
<b>Saturday, March 22 @ 4:00pm</b>	Erin Fitzpatrick Gloria Morin Bridget Blayney	Gary Morin	Kerri Gompf Mary Kugler-Blayney Dominic Sutcliff
<b>Sunday, March 23 @ 8:30am</b>	Kathy O'Malley Karen Cocita Jessica Hanes	Michael Grathwol Mary Lewis	London Dinya Michael Doyle Julia McNulty
<b>Sunday, March 23 @ 11:30am</b>	Cari Foster Lisa Ditzel NOT FILLED	Lisa Braun NOT FILLED	Rowan Schleiter Bill Sonby Joseph Sonby



## NEWS AND EVENTS

### Offertory Collections

In-Pew Collection (past Sunday) .....\$ 2,994.11  
Faith Direct (past month total) .....\$ 5,325.00  
Thank you for your generosity!

### Parish News

#### No Greater Love Video Bible Series

Wednesdays, March 12, 19, 26 April 2, 9 @ 7:00pm

In No Greater Love: A Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion, we are going to walk step-by-step with Jesus on his journey from his agony in the garden to his crucifixion on Calvary. Along the way, we will unpack the biblical background to these events, the prophecies, and most especially, the ways Jesus is inviting us to walk more closely with him today.

We will meet every week for prayer, fellowship, discussion and an engaging video presentation presented by Dr. Edward Sri, which was filmed on location in the Holy Land, so we can see the actual locations where Christ's passion occurred!

Please reach out to Meaghan with any questions at ([msilver@stmarkcleveland.com](mailto:msilver@stmarkcleveland.com))

#### St. Mark Fish Fry

March 14, March 28 & April 11 - 5:00-7:00pm

Please join us for the St. Mark Fish Fry in the Social Hall. Fish, Shrimp, Pierogi or Mac & Cheese dinners or Pizza and Grilled Cheese for the kids... Pick your favorite and enjoy! All dinners come with two sides, roll, cookie and beverage. Please see the link on the St. Mark website at [stmarkcleveland.com](http://stmarkcleveland.com)

### Parish News

#### St. Joseph Altar

March 15 & 16

\*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 (i.e. under bridges, in vacant lots, woods, etc.).

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 perishable items are appreciated.

### Reminders and Regular Events

#### Holy Name Society Meetings

Fellowship, prayer, and service for all parishioners

All men and women of the parish ages 18 and older are welcome to join the St. Mark Holy Name Society. Meetings are the second Tuesday of the month at 6:00pm in either the Picnic Pavilion or Social Hall. At these gatherings, we dine together and discuss what event we will be doing next to help the community of St. Mark. If you would like to know more, contact Jim Cocita at: [jimcocita@gmail.com](mailto:jimcocita@gmail.com)

## Reminders and Regular Events

### Young Family Gatherings

Connect with other young parents

Once a month after the 8:30am mass, young families are welcome to gather in the Social Hall (or Pavilion) for bagels, coffee, and community. Dates vary each month. For questions contact Briana Dave at: bciancibello@gmail.com

Upcoming Dates: March 16 and April 13

### Donut & Coffee Social

Once a month after all masses in the Social Hall. Gather with fellow parishioners. For questions contact Michael Kay at mkay@stmarkcleveland.com

Upcoming Date: April 5 & 6

### Sunday Rosary

A devotion to enrich your prayer life

Please come to pray with Mary, Our Blessed Mother, in this beautiful devotion. Parishioners gather in the church to pray the rosary after the 8:30am mass every Sunday. Contemplating the mysteries of the life of Christ, we pray for peace and grace in the world.

### REQUEST FOR 2024 CONTRIBUTION REPORT

Please send a request via email to 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 \_\_\_\_\_

### General Parish Calendar

<b>Saturday,</b>	<b>March 15</b>	
9:00 am	K-2 Basketball	G
1:30 pm	Family Retreat	CH/SH
3:00 pm	Confession	
4:00 pm	Mass w/St. Baldrick	
<b>Sunday,</b>	<b>March 16</b>	
8:30 am	Mass	
8:30 am	Sunday PreSchool	CR
9:30 am	Rosary	
9:30 am	Young Families	SH
11:30 am	Mass LS w/Y&C Choir	
12:30 pm	Baptism	
1:00 pm	K-2 Basketball	G
4:00 pm	Living Stations Prac.	CH
<b>Monday,</b>	<b>March 17</b>	
	<b>School Closed</b>	
8:30 am	Mass	
6:00 pm	Living Stations	CH
<b>Tuesday,</b>	<b>March 18</b>	
8:30 am	Mass w/All School	
1:00 pm	First Communion Prac.	CH
2:30 pm	All Choir Prac.	CH
7:00 pm	Parent Club	SH
6:00 pm	Track Prac.	G
7:00 pm	Choir Prac.	CH
<b>Wednesday,</b>	<b>March 19</b>	
5:00pm-8:00 pm	Evening of Confession	CH
7:00 pm	Lenten Series	SH
<b>Thursday,</b>	<b>March 20</b>	
8:30 am	Mass	
1:00 pm	Spring Concert/Art Show	CC/G
3:00 pm	St. Baldricks Set-up	G/CC
6:00 pm	Scout Pack #268 Den Mtg.	SH
7:00 pm	Troop #293	SH
<b>Friday,</b>	<b>March 21</b>	
8:00 am	St. Baldrick's	G/CC
12:00 pm	Stations of the Cross @ St. Mel	
2:00 pm	School Stations of the Cross	CH
5:00 pm	Pinewood Derby Set-up	SH
5:00 pm	Fish Fry @ St. Mel	
<b>Saturday,</b>	<b>March 22</b>	
10:00 am	Pack #268 Pinewood Derby	SH
3:00 pm	Confession	
4:00 pm	Mass	
<b>Sunday,</b>	<b>March 23</b>	
8:30 am	Mass	
8:30 am	Sunday PreSchool	CR
9:30 am	Rosary	
11:30 am	Mass LS w/RCIA	
12:30 pm	Penitential Rite	CH
4:00 pm	Living Stations Prac.	CH
6:00 pm	Youth Group	CC

# Weekly Prayer

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## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

It was on that occasion that the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying: "To your descendants I give the land, from the Wadi of Egypt to the Great River, the Euphrates." (Gn 15:18)

### Psalm:

The Lord is my light and my salvation. (Ps 27)

### Second Reading:

He will change our lowly body  
to conform with his glorified body  
by the power that enables him also  
to bring all things into subjection to himself. (Phil 3:21)

### Gospel:

Jesus took Peter, John, and James  
and went up the mountain to pray.  
While he was praying his face changed in appearance  
and his clothing became dazzling white. (Lk 9:28b-29)

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## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

The Apostles do not realize what is happening during the transfiguration. They are confused and afraid, and then they hear a voice from the cloud: "This is my chosen Son; listen to him." Sometimes in life, all we have is the voice of God. Listen to it.

## Observances for the week of March 16, 2025

- Sunday:** 2nd Sunday of Lent  
**Monday:** St. Patrick, Bishop [OM]; St. Patrick's Day  
**Tuesday:** St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of the Church  
**Wednesday:** St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
**Next Sunday:** 3rd Sunday of Lent



## Devotions, *Explained!*

Taizé is an ecumenical Christian movement that is known for its distinctive style of music and prayer. Taizé devotees have carried its music and traditions to Catholic and Christian communities throughout the world.

## Prayer of Listening

Attune the ears of my heart,  
Lord, to the soft and still ways  
You are inviting me today. And  
then give me the strength and  
courage to respond to what  
You say.

Amen.

March 1, 2025, we held our 75 Anniversary Gala to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the school. To begin, Bishop Woost concelebrated Mass with Fr. Adam and Fr. Chlebo, pastor of St. Christopher Parish and alumni of St. Mark. Once Mass was over, tours were given by several of our 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students who volunteered for this event. Classrooms doors were all decorated from a specific period of time in St. Mark's history, and the hallways were filled with memorabilia from times past. Attendees at the gala included Fr. Doug Koesel, John Miceli, and Sr. Yvonne Spenoso, former teacher at St. Mark as well as many retired lay teachers from St. Mark. As guests entered the gym, there was excitement in the air. Our 260+ guests were happy to be back HOME! It was great visiting with them and sharing stories of old. Our 8<sup>th</sup> Grade transitioned from tour guides to servers, as the dinner hour neared. Just after dessert was served, I shared these words with those in attendance: "Seventy-five years ago, St. Mark School opened its doors with a simple but powerful mission: to provide a safe, supportive, and Christ-like environment where young minds could grow, learn, and discover their potential.

Over the decades, so much has changed, but the **heart and soul** of this school has remained the same. From the very first class of students who walked these halls to the generations that followed, St. Mark has been a place where children have been nurtured, encouraged, and empowered to succeed.

As we look back on the history of our school, we remember all the teachers, staff, and parents who have been a part of this journey. Their dedication, hard work, and **unwavering** belief in the power of education have shaped the foundation of what St. Mark is today.

We also remember our students – past and present – whose **curiosity, creativity, and joy for learning** have made this school a truly special place. Throughout the years, St. Mark School has been more than just a school. It has been a community. A place where friendships are formed, where lessons are learned not just in the classroom but through teamwork, kindness, and perseverance. It's a place where we celebrate achievements, big and small, and support one another in those challenging times.

Today, as we celebrate 75 years, we also look forward to the future. **We are committed to continuing to build on the legacy of excellence and growth** that has been passed down through the years. We will continue to innovate, adapt, and work together to ensure that **every student** who walks through these doors has the tools, the support, and the inspiration to reach their full potential...." ( I went on, but will not bore you!) Following my speech, a video presentation was shared which traveled in time from the very beginning of St. Mark's to today. It was put together so lovingly by Mrs. Virginia Greuloch, parent and school aide, who captured the essence of St. Mark.

Our 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students, with the help of our STREAM teacher Mrs. Henley, designed and etched the glassware for our guests to take home. Many of our other school children designed magnets for our guests, using the laser engraver in the STREAM lab.

Special thanks to the following people who assisted in making this event so successful:

- Fr. Adam (who designed the seating plan and reservation form while listening to me ramble on about where I wanted things to be),
- Christine Gunn, my assistant principal and her husband Joe along with Teresa and Thomas Winans, Kirsten Glazier, Patti Donahue, Virginia Greuloch, Rachel Henley, Rita Hanna, Michelle McLaughlin, Emma Albrigo, and Cheryl Birchfield for their help throughout this event
- Mary Lewis, Nancy Spicuzza, Pam Adams, and Greg Cannedy for flower arranging
- Sarah Beirne for the photography
- Cami Reardon and Ava Ballangee, graduates of St. Mark, for working the coat room
- Pam Adams, Vicky Diamond, Lisa Gambon, and Diane Dunleavy for their last-minute touches
- Mr. and Mrs. James Crawford, current parents of two of our children, for donating the photo area. (They are starting this up as a new business.)
- Our custodians, Mr. Dean, Mr. Al, Mr. Paul, Mr. Marty, and Mr. Jack
- Ross Keller and Italian Creations who have to be the easiest people to work with!
- Our clean-up angels: Diane Dunleavy, Mary Kay, Vicky Diamond, Christine, Joe, and Ryan Gunn, Jean and Ellie Berger
- And finally, my husband, who just puts up with me- ALL the time!! Thank you, Jim!

It was great fun to see so many return to St. Mark to celebrate with one another. As I turned off the gym lights on Saturday, I found myself thinking about how proud I am to be a part of such a great community of faith-filled, caring, and fun-loving people.

Mrs. Cocita



