



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.

June 22, 2025



THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

Then taking the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he said the blessing over them, broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. They all ate and were satisfied. And when the leftover fragments were picked up, they filled twelve wicker baskets. - Lk 9:16-17

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

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PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Adam Zajac
Pastor

Mrs. Christine Gunn
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

Liturgy Schedule

Scripture readings can be found online at:
bible.usccb.org

Monday, June 23

8:30am Mass Katie Burkhart

Tuesday, June 24-The Nativity of St. John the Baptist

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

Wednesday, June 25

Thursday, June 26

8:30am Mass Fr. James Downie

Friday, June 27-The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

10:00am Funeral

Saturday, June 28

3:00pm Confessions

3:00pm Confessions @ St. Mel

4:00pm Mass Living Intention Rich Sunyak

4:30pm Mass @ St. Mel

Sunday, June 29-Sts. Peter and Paul

7:00am Mass @ St. Mel

8:30am Mass For the Parishioners of St. Mark Parish
and the Parishioners of St. Mel Parish

10:00am Mass @ St. Mel

11:30am Mass Frank Gallagher

Pray for the Sick

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

William Adams
Gianna Andolina
Katy Brent
Henry Buehner
James Coyne
Matthew Craven
Nicole Foerstner
Mary Frantz
Theresa Fridrich
Amy Glazier
Irene Gurchensky
Carol Hughes

David Kurth
Tom Lembach
Gerald McArthur
Jim McIlwee
Judy McIntyre
Mary Miller
Jack Mohar
Maisie Nowlin
Bill Retzer
Mary Stark
Sr. Josette Obodzinski

Aimee Roscoe
Nora Sudetic
George Surovec
Barbara Thiel
Herb Tippie
Michele Vollmer
Joe Wantz
Charlotte Whiting
Lillian Zahara
Lew Zahara Jr.
Joseph Zavatchen Sr.
Joseph Zavatchen Jr.

Pray for the Deceased

Judy Reitz

John Pollock, Husband of Mary Lou Pollock

Bill Retzer, Husband of Jean Ann Retzer

May perpetual light shine upon them

Other Intentions

Weekly Luke McGraw Memorial Candles Intention

Leslie Douglas-Frye

Wedding Banns I

Benjamin Campbell & Collette Joyce

Liturgical Ministers	emHCs	Lectors	Servers
Saturday, June 28 @ 4:00pm	Erin Fitzpatrick Mary Price Bridget Blayney	R.V. Threadgill	Declan Fitzpatrick Mary Kugler-Blayney
Sunday, June 29 @ 8:30am	Karen Cocita Mary Stamper Rosanne Kelley	Tim Mohr Laura Skonce	Clare Stock Fiona Stock
Sunday, June 29 @ 11:30am	Lisa Ditzel Annamaria Masterson Jeff Joecken	Ben Campbell Collette Joyce	Gianna Andolina Joseph Andolina

NEWS AND EVENTS

Offertory Collections

In-Pew Collection (past week)\$ 2,749.50
Faith Direct (past month weekly total)\$ 5,394.00
Thank you for your generosity!

Parish News

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Schedule for May-August

We are very happy to be restarting Children's Liturgy of the Word during the 8:30am Mass at St. Mark. Children who are in PreK and above but have not yet received their First Communion will be invited to process into the sacristy during Mass to hear the Gospel proclaimed in an accessible way. Children's Liturgy of the Word is meant to shed light on the Gospel when a passage is particularly challenging for children to understand, so it will only take place on Sundays when it has been determined to be useful and appropriate. We will publish a schedule of the chosen dates a few months at a time.

The upcoming dates are:

May 18th
June 1st
June 8th
July 13th
August 3rd
August 17th

2025 Holy Name Society Essay Winners

Congratulations!

The 2025 HNS Eighth Grade essay contest winners are:

Charlotte Greuloch and Dominic Sutcliffe

Thank you to the 2025 Eighth Grade Class for all the excellent essays written. Good luck in High School!



Share God's Love

St. Mark/St. Mel Faith Build

Dean's Greenhouse 2025 Spring In-Store Fundraiser

to benefit the St. Mark/St. Mel Faith Build

May 1 through June 30

Spring has sprung, and it's time to spruce up your garden and yard! Shop Dean's Greenhouse for all your gardening needs starting May 1, 2025, through June 30, 2025, mention St. Mark/St. Mel when you check out, and Dean's will donate 20% of your purchase to the St. Mark/St. Mel Faith Build.

Dean's Greenhouse is located at 3984 Porter Road, Westlake, 44145.

www.deansgreenhouse.com; 440-871-2050

Questions? Email Amy Asseff at aasseff@aol.com.

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

SAVE THE DATE:

Sunday, June 29th 12:30-5:00pm

Holy Name Society Annual Parish Picnic. Join us for a day of gathering with others from St. Mark and St. Mel and former families of the parishes. This is a Free Will Donation! There will be hamburgers, hot dogs, brauts, ice cream and beverages. We will have games for kids of all ages. Bring a dish to share! More information to come at a later date. See you there!

Picnic Volunteers Needed

If you can, we could use some help setting up and taking down tents, tables and chairs on Friday, June 27th at 4:00pm and Sunday, June 29th at 5:00pm. This would be greatly appreciated.

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 David at: bciancibello@gmail.com

Upcoming Dates: June 29th - 12:30pm @ the Parish Picnic
July 13th
August 17th
September 14th

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.

VIRTUS Program Compliancy

Check that you are up-to-date!

All staff and all volunteers who work with children (such as coaches, catechists, scout leaders, parent volunteers, etc.) are required to stay compliant with the VIRTUS program. No exceptions are made. This program is required by the Diocese of Cleveland, and we are audited annually.

For existing volunteers:

- Stay current with the online bulletins
- Renew your BCI Fingerprint and Background check every five years through virtusonline.org (see the Toolbox tab for selection.com background check).

New and interested volunteers working with children:

- Attend a VIRTUS training. Registration is through virtusonline.org.
- Read and sign the 2016 Policy for Protecting Children.
- Read and sign the 2016 Standards of Conduct.
- Complete a background check through virtusonline.org (see the Toolbox tab for selection.com background check).
- Complete the St. Mark Volunteer Application

Full information can be found on our parish website. To verify that you are in compliance call the parish office.

General Parish Calendar

Saturday,	June 21	
10:00 am	NCCL	CC
12:15 pm	Class 1980 School Tour	Sch
3:00 pm	Confessions	
4:00 pm	Mass	
Sunday,	June 22	
	Food Sunday	
8:30 am	Mass	
9:30 am	Rosary	
11:30 am	Mass LS	
Monday,	June 23	
8:30 am	Mass	
Tuesday,	June 24	
7:00 pm	Bereavement	FR
Wednesday,	June 25	
Thursday,	June 26	
	Parish Office Closed	
8:30 am	Mass	
7:00 pm	Troop #293	SH/PP
Friday,	June 27	
Saturday,	June 28	
3:00 pm	Confessions	
4:00 pm	Mass	
Sunday,	June 29	
8:30 am	Mass	
9:30 am	Rosary	
11:30 am	Mass LS	
12:30 pm	Parish Picnic	CC/PL
12:30 pm	Young Families @ Parish Picnic	

Military

Please pray for our military presently serving.

Josh Dunleavy, Nick Hupka, John Kazanowski, Randy Kloos, Sean O'Reilly, Nico Russo, Matthew Shirley

NEWS AND EVENTS

Regional and Diocesan News and Events

Pilgrimage to Italy

May 11 - 21, 2026

Join Fr. Rob Ramser for an unforgettable pilgrimage to Italy. Italy is not just any country - it's a vibrant and enchanting destination that attracts millions of visitors each year, making it the most visited country in the world! Its breathtaking landscapes, exquisite cuisine, and warm hospitality are just a few of the reasons why Italy is a perfect destination for Catholic pilgrims. But what truly sets Italy apart is its rich history and deep roots in the Catholic faith. From the holy city of Rome to the picturesque towns of Assisi, Siena, Florence, Padua and Venice, every corner of Italy is infused with relics, miracles and the wonders of our faith. As you travel through each city, you will witness the beauty of the Italian countryside, experience the poetics of its architecture, and immerse yourself in a history that spans thousands of years. We guarantee that this pilgrimage will capture your heart and strengthen your faith in unforgettable ways. Travel dates are May 11th - 21st, 2026 with a cost of \$5,000 per person (includes airfare, 4 star hotels, ground transportation, Catholic Tour guide, admission fees and more). Find more information and sign up at <https://trinitytourtravels.wetravel.com/trips/fr-robert-ramser-classic-italy-trinity-tour-travels-57532832> or call Trinity Tours at 800-687-0306.

Our Lady of Angels Class of 1975

50th reunion Saturday, September 27, 2025

Please join us for our 50th reunion Saturday, September 27th at P.J. McIntyres from 5:00pm-9:00pm following the 4:00pm mass at Our Lady of Angels.

Please contact Josie (Daum) Kramer at 216-246-3277 or kkrames13@icloud.com or Cindy (Sinclair) Nagle at cnagle703@gmail.com to RSVP.

Catholic Renewal Ministries' 42nd Annual Conference

Saturday, July 26, 2025

All are invited to attend Catholic Renewal Ministries' 42nd Annual Conference to be held on Saturday, July 26, 2025, at St. Albert the Great Parish Life Center, 6667 Wallings Rd., North Royalton. This year's theme is "The Joy of the Lord is My Strength". Guest speakers will be Dr. Jaci Sabol, a neuropsychologist, who is a longtime worship leader and speaker on the faith and who serves on the board of Faith on Fire!, Dave Van Vickie, a popular speaker who presents on topics related to spiritual warfare, our call to holiness, and authentic Catholic spirituality, and Fr. Bob Franco, the Bishop's Liaison for Charismatic Renewal in the Cleveland Diocese. Auxiliary Bishop Michael G. Woost will be the celebrant for the Vigil Mass, and Matt Fafrak will lead us in contemporary praise music throughout the day and evening.

Visit the CRM website: www.crmweb.org or call 440-944-9445 for more information. Advance registration postmarked by Wednesday, July 16th, is \$40, and at the door \$50. Come, as we praise and exalt Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit and celebrate the Jubilee Year.



**WEDNESDAY
EVENINGS
LIVE**

**+ VESPERS + LIVE MUSIC
+ COMMUNITY + FOOD**

CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
Wednesdays in the courtyard | 5:30-8PM

saintjohncathedral.com

The poster features a red background with white text for the event title. To the right, white text on a dark background lists the activities. The bottom of the poster shows a silhouette of a crowd with their hands raised, and a circular logo of the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist is in the bottom right corner.

General Audience of Pope Leo XIV, on 11 June 2025

Cycle of Catechesis – Jubilee 2025. Jesus Christ our Hope. II. The life of Jesus. The parables 9. Bartimaeus. “Take courage; get up, he is calling you.”

Dear brothers and sisters,

With this catechesis I would like to bring our attention to another essential aspect of the life of Jesus, namely his *healings*. For this reason, I invite you to bring before the Heart of Christ your most painful and fragile parts, those places in your life where you feel stuck and blocked. Let us trustfully ask the Lord to listen to our cry, and to heal us!

The character who accompanies us in this reflection will help us to understand that we must never give up hope, even when we feel lost. He is Bartimaeus, a blind man and a beggar, whom Jesus meets in Jericho (cf. *Mk* 10:46-52). The place is significant: Jesus is going to Jerusalem, but he begins his journey, so to speak, in the “underworld” of Jericho, a city situated below sea level. Indeed, Jesus, with his death, went to take back that Adam who fell to the bottom and who represents each one of us.

Bartimaeus means “son of Timaeus”: the man is described through a relationship, and yet he is dramatically alone. This name, though, could also mean “son of honour” or “of admiration”, exactly the opposite of the situation in which he finds himself. [1] And since the name is so important in Jewish culture, it means that Bartimaeus fails to live up to what he is called to be.

Then, unlike the great movement of people who walk behind Jesus, Bartimaeus is still. The Evangelist says that he is sitting by the roadside, and so he needs someone to lift him up onto his feet and help him resume his journey.

What can we do when we find ourselves in a situation that seems to have no way out? Bartimaeus teaches us to appeal to the resources we have within us and which form a part of us. He is a beggar, he knows how to ask, indeed, he can shout! If you truly want something, you do everything in order to be able to reach it, even when others reproach you, humiliate you and tell you to let it be. If you really desire it, you keep on shouting!

The cry of Bartimaeus, in the Gospel of Mark – “Jesus, son of David, have pity on me!” (v. 47) – has become a very well-known prayer in the Eastern tradition, which we too can use: “Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have pity on me, a sinner”.

Bartimaeus is blind, but paradoxically he sees better than the others, and he recognizes who Jesus is! Before his cry, Jesus stops and has him called (cf. 49), because there is no cry that God does not hear, even when we are not aware we are addressing him (cf. *Ex* 2:23). It seems strange that, in front of a blind man, Jesus does not go immediately to him; but, if we think about it, it is the way to reactivate Bartimaeus’ life: He spurs him to get up again, He trusts in his ability to walk. That man can get up on his feet again, he can rise from the throes of death. But in order to do this, he must perform a very meaningful gesture: he must throw away his cloak (cf. v. 50)!

For a beggar, the cloak is everything: it is his safety, it is his house, it is the defence that protects him. Even the law protected the beggar’s cloak, and imposed that it be returned in the evening if taken as a pledge (cf. *Ex* 22:25). And yet, many times, it is precisely our apparent securities that stand in our way – what we have put on to defend ourselves and which instead prevent us from walking. To go to Jesus and let himself be healed, Bartimaeus must show himself to Him in all his vulnerability. This is the fundamental step in any journey of healing.

Even the question that Jesus asks him seems strange: “What do you want me to do for you?” (v.51). But, in reality, it is not given that we want to be healed from our ailments; at times we prefer to stay still so as not to take responsibility. Bartimaeus’ reply is profound: he uses the verb *anablepein*, which can mean “to see again”, but which we can also translate as “to look up”. Indeed, Bartimaeus does not want only to see again; he wants to regain his dignity! To look up, we must raise our heads. At times people are stuck because life has humiliated them, and they just want to find their worth again.

What saves Bartimaeus, and each one of us, is faith. Jesus heals us so that we can become free. He does not invite Bartimaeus to follow him, but tells him to go, to set out on his way (cf. v.52). However, Mark concludes the story by saying that Bartimaeus began to follow Jesus: he freely chose to follow him, He who is the Way!

Dear brothers and sisters, let us trustfully bring our ailments before Jesus, and also those of our loved ones; let us bring the pain of those who feel lost and without a way out. Let us cry out for them too, and we will be certain that the Lord will hear us and stop.

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

"Blessed be Abram by God Most High, the creator of heaven and earth; and blessed be God Most High, who delivered your foes into your hand." (Gn 14:19-20)

Psalm:

You are a priest for ever, in the line of Melchizedek. (Ps 110)

Second Reading:

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes. (1 Cor 11:26)

Gospel:

Jesus spoke to the crowds about the kingdom of God, and he healed those who needed to be cured. (Lk 9:11b)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Five loaves and two fish: a measly portion of food for such a large crowd of people. But we must remember that it doesn't matter what the size of our offering is. If we only lay it before Christ, he will take it and make it a mighty bounty.

Observances for the week of June 22, 2025

- Sunday:** The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ
- Tuesday:** The Nativity of St. John the Baptist
- Friday:** The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
- Saturday:** The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary; St. Irenaeus, Bishop, Martyr and Doctor of the Church
- Next Sunday:** Sts. Peter And Paul, Apostles



Devotions, Explained!

Marian consecration is the act of consecrating oneself to Jesus through the intercession of his Blessed Mother and is rooted in the words of Jesus himself when he beseeched the Apostle John to look upon Mary as his mother (John 19:27).

Prayer for the True Presence

Jesus,
What a gift we have in your True Presence: the assurance of your friendship, your company, your grace, your love. Increase our thirst for you as you, also, desire to draw closer to us.
Amen.