



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.

October 12, 2025

28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus said in reply, "Ten were cleansed, were they not? Where are the other nine? Has none but this foreigner returned to give thanks to God?" Then he said to him, "Stand up and go; your faith has saved you." - Lk 17:17-19

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

Papal Intention

October: For collaboration between different religious traditions. Let us pray that believers in different religious traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice and human fraternity.

Liturgy Schedule

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

Monday, October 13

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

Tuesday, October 14

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

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

Wednesday, October 15-St. Teresa of Jesus

Thursday, October 16

8:30am Mass Anne Marie Smith

Friday, October 17-St. Ignatius of Antioch

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

Saturday, October 18

3:00pm Confessions

3:00pm Confessions @ St. Mel

4:00pm Mass James Simon

4:30pm Mass @ St. Mel

Sunday, October 19-29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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 Richard Mazzella

Pray for the Sick

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

William Adams
Gianna Andolina
Alex Brugh
Henry Buehner
James Coyne
Matthew Craven
Nicole Foerstner
Mary Frantz
Theresa Fridrich
Amy Glazier

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

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

Other Intentions

Weekly Luke McGraw Memorial Candles Intention

Special Intention

Liturgical Ministers	emHCs	Lectors	Servers
Saturday, October 18 @ 4:00pm	Bridget Blayney Deirdre Mueller Mary Price	Lou Toth	Emmet Crawford Kerri Gompf Daniel Henry
Sunday, October 19 @ 8:30am	Karen Cocita NOT FILLED (2)	Joyce Campbell Monica Svetz	Luke Meisterics Adlee Rave Joe Svetz
Sunday, October 19 @ 11:30am	Lisa Ditzel Shawn Wroten Rosanne Kelley	Tim Mohr NOT FILLED	Lukas Horton Rowan Schleter Jackson Wroten

NEWS AND EVENTS

Offertory Collections

In-Pew Collection (past weekend)\$ 2,854.00
Faith Direct (past month's weekly total)\$ 4,626.00
Thank you for your generosity!

Parish News

Join the St. Mark Bereavement Team

Offer Support!

The St. Mark Bereavement Group meets weekly in October and November to offer support to our community members who have recently experienced a loss. We are looking for compassionate people to join our team. You don't need any formal training, just a desire to listen empathetically and give testimony to God's healing love in your own life. If you are interested or want to learn more, contact Meaghan at msilver@stmarkcleveland.com or 216-226-7577 Ext. 105.

St. Mark Bereavement

Tuesdays at 7pm

Six sessions of bereavement will be offered to those who are in need of support while experiencing grief and loss. Please consider joining us as we journey together through the Seasons of Hope program. Please call the parish office to register at 216-226-7577 Ext. 105.

October 21
October 28
November 4
November 11
November 18
November 25

Offertory Counting Teams

Volunteer Opportunity

We are in need of two volunteers to help with offertory counting on Monday mornings in the Parish Office. You would be on an every other Monday schedule. The counting begins at 9:00am and typically takes about 30-45 minutes. You must be able to handle cash & checks, use a calculator and keep information confidential. Please contact the Parish Office at 216-226-7577 if interested. Thank you.

Necrology Book

Booked of the Deceased

The Necrology Book (or the Book of the Deceased) will be placed in the Church. Please feel free to add the names of your loved ones who have died. The book will be left out for the entire month of October. We will pray for those who have died at the All Souls Prayer Service on Sunday, November 2nd at 7pm. The Necrology Book will remain in the Sanctuary during the month of November.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Schedule for September-December

Children who are in PreK and above but have not yet received their First Communion will be invited to process into the sacristy during 8:30am 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 Children's Liturgy dates are:

October 12
October 26
November 9
December 21
December 28

Reminders and Regular Events

Holy Name Society Meetings

Men's Sock and Underwear Drive October 4th, 5th, 11th & 12th

New men's sock and underwear in any size for the home-less and needy. Cash donations will be used to purchase socks and underwear. Collection box's will be located in all Church Vestibules. This year recipients will be Holy Name Parish on Broadway and La Sagrada Familia on Detroit Ave. Please be generous to this very needed drive. Call or email Jim Cocita at 216-470-3643 or jimcocita@gmail.com

Football Fun'd Crazz

It's that time of year again!

Football Crazz'r is a ticket with ten chances to win over ten weeks. Cost is \$10. Winners: "Highest" and "Lowest" points across all sweepstakes entries win a prize each week for that 10-week professional football season. \$1,000 in prizes will be awarded weekly for 10 weeks, for a total of \$10,000. For more information and tickets, email Jim Cocita at jimcocita@gmail.com

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: November 1 & 2

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.

General Parish Calendar

Saturday,	October 11	
3:00 pm	Confessions	
4:00 pm	Mass	
5:30 pm	SMAA Clambake/Reverse Raffle PP/CC	
	Holy Name Socks & Underwear Drive	
Sunday,	October 12	
8:30 am	Mass	
8:30 am	Sunday Preschool	CR
8:30 am	Children's Liturgy of the Word	SS
9:30 am	Rosary	
9:30 am	Young Families	SH
11:30 am	Mass LS	
Monday,	October 13	
8:30 am	Mass	
5:00 pm	Volleyball Prac.	G
5:15 pm	OCIA	CC
6:30 pm	PSR Class Gr. 1-8	CR
7:00 pm	Parish Council	
Tuesday,	October 14	
8:30 am	Mass w/All School	
3:00 pm	Faculty Mtg.	SH
4:15 pm	OCIA	CC
5:00 pm	Volleyball Prac.	G
6:00 pm	Cheerleading Prac.	G
6:00 pm	Holy Name Society Mtg.	SH/PP
Wednesday,	October 15	
2:40 pm	Rosary Club	CH
5:00 pm	Volleyball Prac.	G
7:00 pm	Bible Timeline	CC
Thursday,	October 16	
8:30 am	Mass	
5:00 pm	Volleyball Prac.	G
6:00 pm	Scout Pack #268	SH
7:00 pm	Troop #293	SH
Friday,	October 17	
6:00 pm	Volleyball Prac.	G
Saturday,	October 18	
3:00 pm	Confessions	
4:00 pm	Mass	
Sunday,	October 19	
8:30 am	Mass	
8:30 am	Sunday Preschool	CR
9:30 am	Rosary	
11:30 am	Mass LS	

NEWS AND EVENTS

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: October 12

Military

Please pray for our military presently serving.

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

VIRTUS Program Compliance

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.

Regional and Diocesan News and Events

Respect Life

Working to End the Death Penalty & Supporting Restorative Justice

This week our Respect Life focus turns to abolishing the death penalty and supporting restorative justice. As Catholics, we believe that every person-no matter their past actions-bears the image of God, and that "not even a murderer loses his personal dignity" (Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti 269).

Let us pray, learn, and act together to reject vengeance and build a culture of mercy that heals and restores.

Jubilee Audience of Pope Leo XIV, on 1 October 2025

Cycle of Catechesis - Jubilee 2025. Jesus Christ our Hope. III. The Passover of Jesus. 9. *The Resurrection. "Peace be with you!" (Jn 20:21)*

Greeting in the Audience Hall before the General Audience

In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Peace be with you!

Guten Morgen!

Dear pilgrims, good morning! I affectionately greet all of you who have come from Germany to Rome with the pilgrimage of the *Malteser Hilfsdienst*. *Ja, gut, ja, danke!*

Before going to the General Audience in the Square, I wanted to meet you personally here in the Paul VI Hall. Here you will be able to follow what is happening in Saint Peter's Square on the screens, and at the same time you will be more sheltered.

Now let us recite the Hail Mary together, entrusting all your intentions and the people at home for whom you wish to pray to the Blessed Virgin, and then I will impart the apostolic blessing.

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

The centre of our faith and the heart of our hope are firmly rooted in the resurrection of Christ. When we read the Gospels carefully, we realize that this mystery is surprising not only because a man – the Son of God – rose from the dead, but also because of the way he decided to do so. Indeed, Jesus' resurrection is not a bombastic triumph, nor is it revenge or retaliation against his enemies. It is a wonderful testimony to how love is capable of rising again after a great defeat in order to continue its unstoppable journey.

When we get up again after a trauma caused by others, often the first reaction is anger, the desire to make someone pay for what we have suffered. The Risen One does not react in this way. When he emerges from the underworld of death, Jesus does not take revenge. He does not return with gestures of power, but rather with meekness he manifests the joy of a love greater than any wound and stronger than any betrayal.

The Risen One does not feel any need to reiterate or affirm his own superiority. He appears to his friends – the disciples – and he does so with extreme discretion, without forcing the pace of their capacity for acceptance. His only desire is to return to communion with them, helping them to overcome the sense of guilt. We see this very well in the Upper Room, where the Lord appears to his friends who are enclosed in fear. It is a moment that expresses extraordinary power: Jesus, after descending into the abysses of death to liberate those who were imprisoned there, enters the closed room of those who are paralyzed by fear, bringing them a gift that no-one would have dared to hope for: peace.

His greeting is simple, almost ordinary: *"Peace be with you!" (Jn 20:19)*. But it is accompanied by a gesture so beautiful that it is almost disconcerting: Jesus shows the disciples his hands and his side, with the marks of the passion. Why show his wounds to those who, in those dramatic hours, had denied and abandoned him? Why not hide those signs of pain and avoid reopening the wound of shame?

Yet, the Gospel says that, seeing the Lord, the disciples rejoiced (cf. *Jn 20:20*). The reason is profound: Jesus is now fully reconciled with everything he has suffered. There is not a shadow of resentment. The wounds serve not to reproach, but to confirm a love stronger than any infidelity. They are the proof that, even in the moment of our failure, God did not retreat. He did not give up on us.

In this way, the Lord shows himself to be naked and defenceless. He does not demand, he does not hold us to ransom. His is a love that does not humiliate; it is the peace of one who has suffered for love and can now finally affirm that it was worthwhile.

Instead, we often mask our wounds out of pride, or for fear of appearing weak. We say, "it doesn't matter", "it is all in the past", but we are not truly at peace with the betrayals that have wounded us. At times we prefer to hide our effort to forgive so as not to appear vulnerable and to risk suffering again. Jesus does not. He offers his wounds as a guarantee of forgiveness. And he shows that the Resurrection is not the erasure of the past, but its transfiguration into a hope of mercy.

Then, the Lord repeats: *"Peace be with you!"*. And he adds, *"As the Father has sent me, even so I send you"* (v. 21). With these words, he entrusts the apostles with a task that is not so much a power as a responsibility: to be instruments of reconciliation in the world. As if he said: *"Who will be able to proclaim the merciful face of the Father, if not you, who have experienced failure and forgiveness?"*.

Jesus breathes on them and gives them the Holy Spirit (v. 22). It is the same Spirit who sustained him in obedience to the Father and in love even to the cross. From that moment, the apostles will no longer be able to remain silent about what they have seen and heard: that God forgives, lifts up, and restores trust.

This is the heart of the mission of the Church: not to administer power over others, but to communicate the joy of those who are loved precisely when they did not deserve it. It is the strength that gave rise to the Christian communities and made them grow: men and women who discovered the beauty of returning to life to be able to give it to others.

Dear brothers and sisters, we too are sent. The Lord shows us his wounds and says: *Peace be with you*. Do not be afraid to show your wounds healed by mercy. Do not be afraid to draw close to those who are trapped in fear or guilt. May the breath of the Spirit make us, too, witnesses of this peace and this love that is stronger than any defeat.

Over the past few weeks, our 8th grade students have continued to live out their faith through meaningful service-learning experiences. In partnership with the McKeon Education Group, each session has focused on a different group of people in need of compassion and understanding, encouraging students to see the world through the lens of empathy, dignity, and Catholic Social Teaching.

Students learned about homelessness, discovering that in Ohio, the rate of female homelessness has risen and now outpaces that of men. Many of these women are pregnant or caring for young children. Students discussed different types of women's shelters, reflected on some of the stereotypes and judgments society places on those experiencing homelessness, and talked about what our Catholic faith calls us to do in response. As a service project, they painted picture frames for women at Zelig's Home, a shelter located in Lakewood, for pregnant and parenting women, where the mothers can place ultrasound or newborn photos.

In another session, students explored the challenges faced by those who are sick or hospitalized, physically, mentally, and spiritually. In honor of Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, they assembled chemo supply bags for children undergoing treatment.

Most recently, students focused on individuals with special needs and intellectual disabilities. They discussed how society doesn't always treat these individuals with the respect and dignity they deserve and brainstormed ways to make everyone feel valued and included. Students also shared personal stories about family members, friends, or volunteer experiences working with people with disabilities. To accompany their discussion, they created and decorated sensory bags for children with special needs.

Through these projects, our students are not only learning about important social issues but are also making a real difference, reaching out with compassion and creativity to touch the lives of people across the greater Cleveland community. Throughout these sessions, the instructors have commented weekly how our St. Mark students have demonstrated genuine kindness, gratitude, and thoughtfulness. It is our hope that providing these types of experiences will inspire students to continue serving others beyond the classroom, allowing service and empathy to become a natural and lasting part of who they are. Their compassion and enthusiasm are a true reflection of the faith and values being lived out each day at St. Mark.

Have a great week!

Mrs. Gunn

