



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.



PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Adam Zajac
Pastor

Deacon Dave Lundeen
Business Manager, Pastoral Associate

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.

15800 MONTROSE AVENUE | CLEVELAND, OH 44111 | 216-226-7577 | STMARKCLEVELAND.COM

Papal Intention

September: For people living on the margins. We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.

Liturgy Schedule

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

Monday September 11

8:30am MassTimothy Geiger

Tuesday September 12

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

8:30am Mass.....Florence Schwind

Wednesday September 13-St. John Chrysostom

Thursday September 14-The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

8:30am MassJoseph Patten

Friday September 15-Our Lady of Sorrows

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

Saturday September 16-Sts. Cornelius and Cyprian

3:00pm Confessions

3:00pm Confessions @ St. Mel

4:00pm Mass...For The Parishioners of St. Mark Parish and
St. Mel Parish

4:30pm Mass @ St. Mel

Sunday September 17-Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00am Mass @ St. Mel

8:30am Mass ...Living Intention Craig & Kirsten Glazier Anniversary

10:00am Mass @ St. Mel

11:30am MassDolly Tinnirello

Liturgical Ministers September 16 & 17

Saturday, September 16 @ 4:00pm

Eucharistic Ministers: John Levis, Mary Price, NOT FILLED

Lector: Carle Iseli

Altar Servers: Patrick Sowul, Kathryn Sowul, Joseph Sowul

Sunday, September 17 @ 8:30am

Eucharistic Ministers: Laura Skonce, Kathy O'Malley, Jessica Hanes

Lector: Mary Lewis, NOT FILLED

Altar Servers: Jack McGervey, Anthony McGervey, Albert McGervey

Sunday, September 17 @ 11:30am

Eucharistic Ministers: Eileen Andrews, Lisa Ditzel, NOT FILLED

Lector: Cari Foster, NOT FILLED

Altar Servers: Ben Berger, Isabella Evans, Bill Sonby

Luke McGraw
Memorial Candles
Weekly Intention
September 10
Joseph Spicuzza

Join in praying the Rosary in Church every
 Sunday after the 8:30am Mass
 Livestreamed the 3rd Sunday of the month.



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	Diana Gassaway	Ryan Puzzitiello Jr.
Gianna Andolina	Irene Gurchensky	Bill Retzer
Carol Behnke	Gerri Joecken	Sr. Mary Ann Spangler
Jack Behnke	David Kurth	Mary Stark
Katy Brent	Catherine Kutsick	Nora Sudetic
Henry Buehner	Loree Leasure-Poirier	Lena Sunyak
James Coyne	Jim McIlwee	George Surovec
Margaret Fadrowski	Mary Miller	Herb Tippie
Nicole Foerstner	Betty Minotas	Joe Wantz
Helen Forlini	Maisie Nowlin	Charlotte Whiting
Mary Frantz	Sr. Josette Obodzinski	Lillian Zahara
Theresa Fridrich		Joseph Zavatchen Jr.

New Church Pews

It is very exciting to be getting closer to having our new church pews installed! This is an extensive project that will require time, physical labor and patience. The current pews will be removed - the floors repaired, cleaned and polished - new pews will be installed - and the entire church will receive a very good cleaning. The expected timeframe will be 3 weeks, hopefully there will be no issues that would extend the project.

The following schedule will be in place for the removal of the current pews and installation of the new ones:

Week of September 11 - Current pew removal & floor preparation
WEEKDAY masses in the Social Hall September 11 - September 29
WEEKEND September 16 / 17 mass in Social Hall
Week of September 18 - New pew installation
WEEKEND September 23 / 24 mass in social hall
Week of September 25 - Church cleaning

We will need volunteers to help remove the current pews from the church building and get them into the dumpster. If you are interested in helping the week of September 11, please call the parish office! If anyone would like to take one of the current pews, you are welcome to them. Please call the parish office and let us know how many you would like! We will set them aside for you; however, it will be your responsibility to transport them to your house. Free will donations would be greatly appreciated!

All masses will be held in the St. Mark Social Hall during the construction timeframe.

All funerals will be held at St. Mel church.

We are all looking forward to celebrating mass with our beautiful new pews!

Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors and Altar Servers

Please notify in writing or by email of any dates that you are not available to serve for the next schedule, which will be from October 2023 - January 2024. We need this information so that all Ministers are available to fulfill their schedule Mass times. We appreciate your continued service. The deadline to submit dates is Friday, September 15th by 4:30pm to cbirchfield@stmarkcleveland.com. Please be mindful of holidays and vacations. Thank you for your help.



Share God's Love

St. Mark Faith Build 2023

St. Mark Faith Build Update!

Two volunteer days remain for the 2023 St. Mark Faith Build:

- Saturday, September 9 (Neighborhood Spruce Up Day)
- Thursday, September 21 (Build Day)

Sign up at www.clevelandhabitat.volunteerhub.com. New to Habitat? Enter the Join Code MARK to set up an account. Must be at least 16 years old.

St. Mark will have a second collection for the Faith Build at all masses the weekend of September 9-10. Envelopes for donations will also be available at the church entrances starting September 2. Please continue to pray for the Faith Build!

Questions? Email Amy Asseff: aasseff@aol.com

Do you have questions
about the Catholic faith?

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING
CATHOLIC?

HAVE YOU BEEN BAPTIZED, BUT HAVE NOT
MADE YOUR FIRST COMMUNION OR BEEN
CONFIRMED?

DO YOU HAVE CHILDREN OVER SEVEN WHO
HAVE NOT BEEN BAPTIZED OR ARE BEHIND ON
THEIR SACRAMENTS?

If you are interested in learning about
becoming Catholic or receiving all the
sacraments of initiation, please call the
parish office or email Meghan McCarthy-
Silver (msilver@stmarkcleveland.com).

Please share this message with friends and family!

ST. MARK BEREAVEMENT

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 216-226-7577

WEDNESDAYS AT 7PM

Oct 4
Oct 11
Oct 25
Nov 1
Nov 8
Nov 15

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!*



Interested in the Great Outdoors? Do you want an opportunity to camp, canoe, hike, backpack, kayak, and learn basic outdoor and life skills? Every thought about doing something really challenging? We have a program for you --- Scouts BSA with Troop 293. Boys age 11-18, why not join us as we start a new scouting year in the great outdoors. With Troop 293, you have a great opportunity to earn the Rank of Eagle Scout and attend a High Adventure Base as our Troop sponsors a trip on a regular basis. For more information, contact Scoutmaster Tom Frank @ 440-892-9029.

A Unique Program to Strengthen and Heal Your Marriage September 22-24, 2023

The Retrouvaille program is designed to help married couples develop improved ways of communicating and relating to each other in order to overcome challenges which have left them feeling frustrated, hurt, distant, or even hopeless.

Retrouvaille, which means rediscovery, is supported by the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland, but is open to couples of all faiths. This program consists of a weekend experience and six follow up sessions. For more information concerning the program, or to register, visit www.helpourmarriage.org or call Shelly or Rob at 216.509.0301 or 440.836.4810.

A LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR

Our Lady of Angels Prayer Group will offer a "Life in the Spirit Seminar" this Fall on eight consecutive Tuesdays, September 5th through October 24th from 7:30-9:00pm. Our most recent Popes, Paul VI to Pope Francis, have given both their approval and their support for these seminars. If you desire more for your life, this seminar can be the beginning of a "renewal" of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Join us in the Primary school building (behind Linus Hall, there will be signs). For more information and to register please contact Verna at 216-251-3560 or Tom at 216-536-6495. There is no charge for this seminar.

Join Fr. Rob Ramser on a trip of a lifetime to the Holy Land from November 20th - 29th, 2024. We will visit Caesarea, Mount Carmel, Nazareth, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, the Jordan Valley and much more! Masses held daily in the places where Christ was born, taught, healed, was Crucified and rose triumphant for our Salvation. Price person is \$4,487 which includes round trip flights, double occupancy hotels, certified tour guide, tips, daily breakfasts and dinners and two lunches. Come find a new dimension in understanding Christian history and the life and continuing mission of Christ. Contact Jerusalem Tours (www.JerusalemTours.com), Fr. Rob Ramser (216-252-2332 or rramser@olangles.org) or go to <https://form.jotform.com/230694659784474> for more information.

THE WEEK AHEAD IN OUR PARISH

Saturday, September 9		
10:00 am	CYO Volleyball Games	G
3:00 pm	Confession	
4:00 pm	Mass	
5:00 pm	Marker's Picnic	PP
	<i>Habitat Second Collection</i>	
Sunday, September 10		
8:30 am	Mass	
9:30 am	Rosary	CH
9:30 am	Young Families	PP
11:30 am	Mass (LS)	
11:30 am	Sunday Pre-School	CR
1:30 pm	CYO Volleyball Games	G
Monday, September 11		
8:30 am	Mass	
9:00 am	School Prayer Service	SH
6:00 pm	Men's Retreat Mtg.	FR
6:30 pm	PSR First Day of Class	CR
7:00 pm	PSR Opening Mass	SH
7:00 pm	Women's Retreat Mtg.	CC
Tuesday, September 12		
8:30 am	Mass w/1st Floor	
4:00-6:00 pm	Volleyball Prac.	G
6:00 pm	Cheerleading Prac.	PL
6:00 pm	Holy Name Mtg. & Picnic	PP/CC
Wednesday, September 13		
4:00-7:00 pm	Volleyball Prac.	G
6:00pm	Scout Pack #268	PP/CC
Thursday, September 14		
8:30 am	Mass	
4:00-7:00 pm	Volleyball Prac.	G
6:00 pm	Scout Pack #268	PP/CC
7:00 pm	Troop #293	PP/CC
Friday, September 15		
Saturday, September 16		
11:00 am	CYO Volleyball Games	G
3:00 pm	Confession	
4:00 pm	Mass	
Sunday, September 17		
8:30 am	Mass	
9:30 am	Rosary	CH
11:30 am	Mass (LS)	
11:30 am	Sunday Pre-School	CR
2:30 pm	CYO Volleyball Games	G

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 for any updates.



VIRTUS COMPLIANCY — IMPORTANT

The USCCB (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops) will be doing on-site audits at parishes in the Diocese of Cleveland. It is imperative that prior to working with children - coaches, scout leaders and helpers, St. Mark Staff, catechists & teachers (PSR and DAY school), parent volunteers, etc. - are Virtus compliant. This means that one must be:

- Virtus trained (see below)
- **Current with reading all on-line bulletins**
- Read and sign **Policy for Protecting Children Revised 2016 (turn into Parish Office)**
- Read and sign **Standards of Conduct Revised 2016 (turn into Parish Office)**
- **New Volunteers must complete a Background Check through Virtus.org.** In the Virtus website click on the "Toolbox" tab, click on the Selection.com tab and begin the process. Must have a credit card to complete.
- **Current Volunteers with a current BCI Fingerprint/Background check must renew after 5 years through Virtus.org** click on the "Toolbox" tab, click on the Selection.com tab and begin the process. Must have a credit card to complete.
- Complete a **St. Mark Volunteer Application (turn into Parish Office)**

All of the above-mentioned requirements are mandatory. (You can check your compliancy by going to "Virtus.org", signing in, and clicking on the green 'Training' tab.) If you are not sure of your compliancy, call Cheryl Birchfield at the Parish Office (216-226-7577) and your compliancy will be verified. If one is not Virtus compliant, **YOU MAY NOT WORK/VOLUNTEER WITH CHILDREN.**

To see available Virtus training sessions please go to Virtusonline.org click on First Time Registrant, Begin Registration Process also available is List of Sessions, select the Cleveland Diocese. You **MUST** register to attend a session.

Sunday Contributions

Sunday Envelopes (see 9/17 bulletin)

Faith Direct Sunday.....\$ 5,615.00

Thank you for your continued generosity!

"Success in life is founded upon attention to the small things rather than the large things."

-Brooker T. Washington

This past week, following a long Labor Day weekend, we welcomed our sixteen PreK students into St. Mark as members of the Class of 2033! That seems really hard to believe! (You may wonder why there are only sixteen. The answer is quite simple- the state determines capacity based on room size. Our PreK is located in what was the chapel of the former convent. Sixteen students is our max capacity- with a waiting list.) Their smiles were so infectious as they entered their classroom for the very first time, but parents entered a little teary-eyed. Waiting for them was their teacher, Mrs. Amy Melvin-Marko and her aide, Mrs. Virginia Greuloch. I cannot wait to share with you all the fun activities that will go on in their classroom this year. For years now, every time I visit our PreK, I walk away amazed at the work and energy which fills this room. It's a happy place I visit especially when I need to clear my mind!

As mentioned in my previous article, our theme for this school year is "Make Every Day Count." I am going to get a little philosophical here, so bear with me! Thinking about life, it is a collection of single days, one right after the other. How are we choosing to spend each of those days? For some, days may just come and go, but each day can become a potential gift. Each of us has been given this one life, so we should be trying to make the most of each day. Here are ten suggestions I found on how to make the most of every day in an article written by Joshua Becker:

1. Wake up early.

Early mornings are quiet, peaceful, productive, and energizing.

2. Eat right.

The food we put into our bodies becomes the fuel on which it runs. We are wise to make sure it is the right kind of fuel at every meal. Your mind will be sharper and clearer.

3. Exercise.

According to **recent studies**, people who exercise regularly report to be happier, calmer, and better equipped to handle whatever the day decides to throw at them. Interestingly enough, the study seemed to indicate these benefits were experienced on a day-to-day basis, which means you can begin to experience them today by choosing to exercise just 20 minutes.

4. Accomplish one big task.

We all have projects, work, and requirements for our time – things that we need to accomplish. Likely, your to-do list is longer than you can accomplish in one day. But to make the most of this day, choose one big thing on your list and do it first. If you finish, move on to the next.

5. Do one thing that you love.

Apart from the day-to-day requirements of living life, you have dreams, goals, and hopes. You have hobbies that you love and activities that breathe life into who you are. Embrace these life-giving opportunities. And do one thing every day that you love.

6. Rest effectively.

Rest is as essential to our bodies as food and water and air. Our bodies need to be refreshed on a daily basis and a **weekly basis**. Don't neglect to schedule rest. And don't feel guilty about it when you do.

7. Be present with others.

Put away distractions. Engage in conversation. Ask questions. Give time for answers. And look people in the eye when you do. Their eyes reveal far more than their words.

8. Give to someone else.

Your fullest joy in life will not be found living it selfishly for yourself. Rather, the periods of greatest joy and fulfillment are found in the moments and motivations when we are **choosing to give to others**. Invest your life in someone else every day. Mentor a child. Help a co-worker. Fund a local charity. Or just make that phone call to a friend who needs to hear from you.

9. Nurture your soul.

Find time each day to feed your soul by embracing gratitude, laughter, hope, and faith.

10. Reset.

Tomorrow is another day with great potential and opportunity. You'll want to begin it with a clean slate and a fresh start. Take 10 minutes each evening to **clear the clutter and refresh your home** for the next day. Tomorrow's self will thank you for it.

Today is among the greatest gifts we have ever been given. I am really looking forward to how the theme, "Make Every Day Count," plays out throughout the school year. Personally, I am able to achieve #5 every day, because my love is to work with children, and I get to do it every single day!

Have a great week!

Mrs. Cocita

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

If I tell the wicked, "O wicked one, you shall surely die,"
and you do not speak out to dissuade the wicked
from his way,
the wicked shall die for his guilt,
but I will hold you responsible for his death.
(Ez 33:8)

Psalm:

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts. (Ps 95)

Second Reading:

Love does no evil to the neighbor;
hence, love is the fulfillment of the law. (Rom 13:10)

Gospel:

"If your brother sins against you,
go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If
he listens to you, you have won over your brother."
(Mt 18:15)

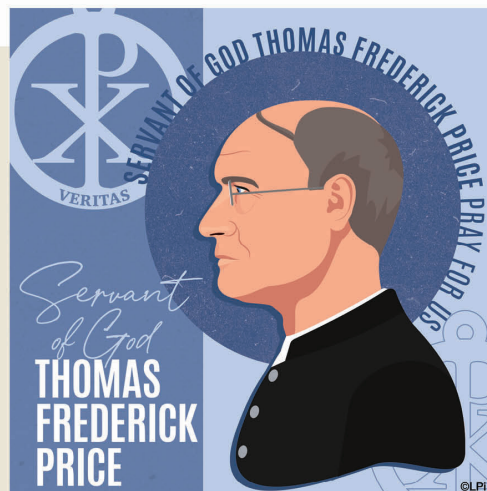
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Our personal relationship with Christ is important, yes — but thank God, that is not all there is to being a Christian. We depend upon the support, the encouragement, and even the correction of the rest of the Body of Christ.

Observances for the week of September 10, 2023

- Sunday:** 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time;
Grandparents' Day
- Monday:** Patriot Day
- Tuesday:** The Most Holy Name of Mary
- Wednesday:** St. John Chrysostom, Bishop and
Doctor of the Church
- Thursday:** The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
- Friday:** Our Lady of Sorrows
- Saturday:** Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop,
Martyrs
- Next Sunday:** 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time;
Catechetical Sunday



Saint of the week

Servant of God Thomas Frederick Price survived severe illness and a shipwreck as a young man before becoming a priest. He cofounded the Catholic Foreign Mission Society of America, better known as Maryknoll, and led the institution's first mission to China.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, You so inspired Father Thomas Frederick Price with love for You and zeal for the Gospel that he dedicated his life to serve You and Your Church, first in North Carolina, his home state, and then in the foreign missions. Grant that by his example we may grow in holiness and into a deeper union with Our Lord Jesus Christ. Help us to be authentic witnesses of the Gospel and proclaim the Holy Name of Jesus throughout the Diocese of Raleigh and to all the people and in all the places we are sent to love and serve. If it be according to Your will, glorify Your servant, Father Thomas Frederick Price, by granting the favor I (we) now request through his prayerful intercession (mention your request here) I (we) make this prayer confidently through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

