



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.



May 25, 2025

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



[Jesus said to his disciples:]
"The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you."
- Jn 14:26-27a

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

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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

Liturgy Schedule

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

Monday, May 26-St. Philip Neri

8:30am Mass Lew Zahara

Tuesday, May 27

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

Wednesday, May 28

Thursday, May 29

8:30am Mass Terry & Cynthia McManamon

Friday, May 30

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

8:30am Mass Alice Marron & Garrett Maurer

Saturday, May 31-The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin

3:00pm Confessions

3:00pm Confessions @ St. Mel

4:00pm Mass Connie Surovec

4:30pm Mass @ St. Mel

Sunday, June 1-The Ascension of the Lord

7:00am Mass @ St. Mel

8:30am Mass Living Intention for Marce Longer

10:00am Mass @ St. Mel

11:30am Mass For the Parishioners of St. Mark Parish
 And the Parishioners of St. Mel Parish

12:30pm Baptism

Pray for the Sick

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

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

Other Intentions

Weekly Luke McGraw Memorial Candles Intention

Connie Surovec

Wedding Banns II

Nathan Basile & Alayna Tomaro

Liturgical Ministers	emHCs	Lectors	Servers
Saturday, May 31 @ 4:00pm	Gloria Morin Shirlee Toth Bridget Blayney	Paul Gambon	Kathryn Sowul Patrick Sowul Joseph Sowul
Sunday, June 1 @ 8:30am	Michael Kay Kathy O'Malley NOT FILLED	Agnes Butler Tim Mohr	Albert McGerver Anthony McGerver Julia McNulty
Sunday, June 1 @ 11:30am	Shawn Wroten Cari Foster Annamaria Masterson	Eileen Andrews Eliza Kratt	Gianna Andolina Joseph Andolina Clare Hurley

NEWS AND EVENTS

Offertory Collections

In-Pew Collection (past Sunday)\$ 2,318.00
Faith Direct (past month weekly total)\$ 5,417.00
Thank you for your generosity!

Parish News

St. Mark Bereavement Group

Tuesday's 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 Meaghan at the Parish Office to register 216-226-7577.

May 20
May 27
June 3
June 10
June 17
June 24

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

Children's Choir at St. Mark & St. Mel

For parents of choristers & parishioner parents who are interested in getting their children involved in choir for church. Please complete this 4 question survey.



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.

Parish News

Need Art & Environment Volunteers

If you enjoy decorating in a group environment

The Art & Environment (A&E) group is looking for volunteers to plan and decorate the Church for religious seasons and holidays. Some of the tasks include planning and shopping for fabric, floral and ribbon, deciding on color schemes, arranging flowers and their placement, ironing fabrics, obtaining and watering plants, and brainstorming new decorating ideas in the spirit of enhancing worship at St. Mark. Fr. Adam provided his input as well as guidelines from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Built of Living Stones, a document intended for use by those engaged in the design of places of worship.

If you are interested in volunteering for the Art & Environment group, please email your interest to Mary Lewis at mmlewis873@gmail.com or phone 216-226-0242 (leave message). Thanks in advance for your consideration of volunteering for this rewarding endeavor.

St. Mark PSR Program 2025-2026

Registration

Our St. Mark PSR program is on Monday evenings from 6:30 – 7:30 in the school building. We serve students in Grades 1 – 8. Students in grades 2 and 8 are prepared to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist (grade 2) and Confirmation (Grade 8), as part of our curriculum. **For a student to receive these Sacraments they MUST be enrolled and attend PSR the previous year.**

You can register in a number of different ways for the 2025-2026 school year:

Registration is due with payment by June 10, 2025.

1. Current PSR families will receive a packet with the registration materials. The packet will be sent home with your child.
2. The materials can be downloaded from the St. Mark Church website www.stmarkcleveland.com, under heading FAMILIES (at the top of the page) and by clicking the PSR tab.
3. Registration materials can also be picked up at the Parish Office.

Registration forms and payment can be dropped off at the Parish Office or put in the Sunday collection, marked to the attention of PSR.

Classes will begin in September.

For any questions or additional information, you can contact Jeannette Puckett at the Parish Office at 216-226-7577 or through email at jpuckettpsr@stmarkcleveland.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

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME!

Join us on Friday, June 6th at Progressive Field

We have a block of seats in the mezzanine section in right field. It's a loaded night of specials! Free shirt Friday, Dollar Dog Night, Two dollar beer until 7:00pm, and Fireworks. All for the price of \$32.00 per seat. Come on down and join us for a great evening of baseball and fun!

There is a seat waiting for you! For information contact Tim Mohr or Jim Cocita. 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 shar! More information to come at a later date. See you there!

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.

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: June 29th

NEWS AND EVENTS

School News

Run for the Arts 5K

Run or walk for a great cause - Saturday, May 31st

Join us on Saturday, May 31st for one of West Park’s favorite community road races, supporting the incredible art, drama, and music programs at St. Mark School.

Whether you’re a seasoned runner or just in it for the fun, this 1 Mile Fun Run & 5K is a great way to show your support and enjoy a community filled morning full of energy and creativity.

Want to make an even bigger impact? We’re looking for corporate sponsors and family sponsorships to help make this event a success. Please email Sarah Beirne, hello@sarahbeirnephotography.com, for more information on how you can get involved! Forms at the Church doors.

Thank you for supporting the arts at St. Mark - we can’t wait to see you at the starting line! Use the QR code to sign up!



Regional and Diocesan News and Events

Jubilee Anniversary Mass

Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist

We are always excited to celebrate the jubilee anniversary Mass for couples married 50 years. This Mass is celebrated at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist in downtown Cleveland. On Sunday, June 29, 2025 at 2:00pm we will celebrate with all couples married in 1975. Everyone is invited and may bring family with them. Doors open at 1:30pm. This is not a tickets event. No registration required.

The Office of Marriage and Family Ministry is pleased to provide a letter from Bishop Malesic and a certificate for all couples married 50 years. Attendance at the 50th Wedding Anniversary Mass is not required.

Please go to the www.dioceseofcleveland.org website and search 50th Wedding Anniversary Jubilee Mass for more information and to request a certificate.

General Parish Calendar	
Saturday,	May 24
3:00 pm	Confessions
4:00 pm	Mass
Sunday,	Food Sunday
8:30 am	May 25
9:30 am	Mass
11:30 am	Rosary
Monday,	Mass LS
	May 26
	Parish Office Closed
	School Closed
8:30 am	Mass
Tuesday,	May 27
8:30 am	Mass
2:30 pm	Children’s Choir Practice CH
7:00 pm	Bereavement FR
Wednesday,	May 28
5:30 pm	Daisy Troop Mtg. SH
Thursday,	May 29
8:30 am	Mass
7:00 pm	Troop #293 CC
Friday,	May 30
8:30 am	Mass w/all School
11:15 am	School Dismissal
3:00 pm	Run for the Arts Set-up CC/PL
Saturday,	May 31
7:30 am	Run for the Arts
3:00 pm	Confessions
4:00 pm	Mass
Sunday,	June 1
8:30 am	Mass
8:30 am	Children’s Liturgy of the Word SS
9:30 am	Rosary
11:30 am	Mass LS w/Youth & Children’s Choir

Military

Please pray for our military presently serving.

Josh Dunleavy, John Kazanowski, Randy Kloos, Sean O'Reilly, Nico Russo, Matthew Shirley, Jonah Treible

**ADDRESS OF THE HOLY FATHER
TO REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER CHURCHES AND ECCLESIAL COMMUNITIES,
AND OTHER RELIGIONS 19 May 2025**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

With great joy I extend my cordial greetings to all of you, Representatives of other Churches and Ecclesial Communities, as well as of other religions, who participated in the inaugural celebration of my ministry as Bishop of Rome and Successor of Peter. I express fraternal affection to His All Holiness Bartholomew, His Beatitude Theophilos III and His Holiness Mar Awa III, and to each of you I am deeply grateful for your presence and prayers, which are a great comfort and encouragement.

One of the strong emphases of Pope Francis' pontificate was that of universal fraternity. In this regard the Holy Spirit really "urged" him to advance with great strides the initiatives already undertaken by previous Pontiffs, especially since Saint John XXIII. The Pope of Fratelli Tutti promoted both the ecumenical path and inter-religious dialogue. He did so above all by cultivating interpersonal relations, in such a way that, without taking anything away from ecclesial bonds, the human trait of the encounter was always valued. May God help us to treasure his witness!

My election has taken place during the year of the 1700th anniversary of the First Ecumenical Council of Nicaea. That Council represents a milestone in the formulation of the Creed shared by all Churches and Ecclesial Communities. While we are on the journey to re-establishing full communion among all Christians, we recognise that this unity can only be unity in faith. As Bishop of Rome, I consider one of my priorities to be that of seeking the re-establishment of full and visible communion among all those who profess the same faith in God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Indeed, unity has always been a constant concern of mine, as witnessed by the motto I chose for my episcopal ministry: *In Illo uno*, an expression of Saint Augustine of Hippo that reminds us how we too, although we are many, "in the One — that is Christ — we are one" (*Enarr. in Ps.*, 127, 3). What is more, our communion is realized to the extent that we meet in the Lord Jesus. The more faithful and obedient we are to him, the more united we are among ourselves. We Christians, then, are all called to pray and work together to reach this goal, step by step, which is and remains the work of the Holy Spirit.

Aware, moreover, that synodality and ecumenism are closely linked, I would like to assure you of my intention to continue Pope Francis' commitment to promoting the synodal nature of the Catholic Church and developing new and concrete forms for an ever stronger synodality in ecumenical relations.

Our common path can and must also be understood in the broad sense of involving everyone, in the spirit of human fraternity that I mentioned above. Now is the time for dialogue and building bridges. I am therefore pleased and grateful for the presence of representatives of other religious traditions, who share the search for God and his will, which is always and only the will of love and life for men and women and for all creatures.

You have witnessed the remarkable efforts made by Pope Francis in favour of interreligious dialogue. Through his words and actions, he opened new avenues of encounter, to promote "the culture of dialogue as the path; mutual collaboration as the code of conduct; reciprocal understanding as the method and standard" (*A Document on Human Fraternity for World Peace and Living Together*, Abu Dhabi, 4 February 2019). I thank the Dicastery for Interreligious Dialogue for the essential role it plays in this patient work of encouraging meetings and concrete exchanges aimed at building relationships based on human fraternity.

In a special way I greet our Jewish and Muslim brothers and sisters. Because of the Jewish roots of Christianity, all Christians have a special relationship with Judaism. The conciliar Declaration *Nostra Aetate* (no. 4) emphasises the greatness of the spiritual heritage shared by Christians and Jews, encouraging mutual knowledge and esteem. The theological dialogue between Christians and Jews remains ever important and close to my heart. Even in these difficult times, marked by conflicts and misunderstandings, it is necessary to continue the momentum of this precious dialogue of ours.

Relations between the Catholic Church and Muslims have been marked by a growing commitment to dialogue and fraternity, fostered by esteem for these our brothers and sisters who "worship God, who is one, living and subsistent, merciful and almighty, the Creator of heaven and earth, who has also spoken to humanity" (*ibid.*, 3). This approach, based on mutual respect and freedom of conscience, is a solid foundation for building bridges between our communities.

To all of you, representatives of other religious traditions, I express my gratitude for your participation in this meeting and for your contribution to peace. In a world wounded by violence and conflict, each of the communities represented here brings its own contribution of wisdom, compassion and commitment to the good of humanity and the preservation of our common home. I am convinced that if we are in agreement, and free from ideological and political conditioning, we can be effective in saying "no" to war and "yes" to peace, "no" to the arms race and "yes" to disarmament, "no" to an economy that impoverishes peoples and the Earth and "yes" to integral development.

The witness of our fraternity, which I hope we will be able to show with effective gestures, will certainly contribute to building a more peaceful world, something that all men and women of good will desire in their hearts.

Dear friends, thank you again for your closeness. Let us ask for God's blessing in our hearts: may his infinite goodness and wisdom help us to live as his children and as brothers and sisters to each other, so that hope may grow in the world. I offer you my heartfelt gratitude.

During this time of year, there are so many extracurricular activities, marking the end of a school year. To begin, we held a beautiful May Crowning of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Our 2nd Graders came to school dressed in their First Communion attire, and our 8th Grade students led the school in a prayer service and Rosary. As the 2nd Grade students processed down the aisle carrying flowers, followed by the 2nd Grade student carrying Mary's crown, followed by the 8th Grade girls who were a part of the actual crowning, it struck me that our children are provided with so many faith-filled activities as a school. We are blessed in so many ways.

Our Classroom of Champions team did it again! All year, as a team, our students competed against other schools in an *Academic Challenge* type competition. The theme of the questions changed monthly, and our students were very committed to practicing for this competition during recess periods several times a week. Here are two sample questions from the final round of competition.

1. Name this organelle, discovered by Albert von Kolliker in 1857, found in the cells of most eukaryotes, which has a double membrane structure and uses aerobic respiration to generate adenosine triphosphate; it is also known affectionately as the powerhouse of the cell.
2. Place the following 19th century American events in the correct chronological order, from earliest to latest:
 - The Louisiana Purchase
 - The publishing of *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*
 - The American Civil War
 - The War of 1812
 - The publishing of *Little Women*

Both speed and accuracy play a part in the competition. I am happy to report, that in the end, St. Mark School came out again in 1st Place overall, the second year in a row and 6th time overall! Special thanks to Miss McLaughlin, Mrs. Hanna, and Mrs. Gallagher, who work with our students over their lunch hours to prepare them as best as they can!

Our Walk for Water was very successful last week. We had to delay the walk due to the rainy weather, but by the afternoon, the sun came out and off we went after enjoying a hot dog lunch shared with Prayer Partners. (Special thanks to Mr. Cocita and Mr. Dean, our custodian, for cooking 450 hot dogs!) Horns honked for our children as cars passed them by along Edgecliff Avenue, cheering them on! Cleveland Police provided an escort to assure student safety when crossing streets. One huge lesson ALL of our children learned was that this was no easy task by any means. Carrying a gallon jug of water on a humid day is no easy feat! But they succeeded. I overheard several of the children remark that they were not going to waste water. We take for granted the fact that we have easily accessible clean running water. In previous bulletin articles, I have shared stories from Dr. David Clifford, a parishioner, who came in and spoke to our children about the work he does in Honduras with his team of students from John Carroll University. Our children secured sponsors for our Walk for Water project. As of this writing, our students have collected \$2,354, which will be donated to Dr. Clifford's initiative. The lessons our children learned on so many levels has been quite transforming!

Finally, congratulations to Kerri G. and Brigid C. whose art work will be on display at Cleveland Hopkins International Airport for the next year in the student art gallery. The theme for this year was, "The LAND- Preserving Landscapes, Inspiring Futures." We were the only Catholic Elementary School with award winners! Congratulations to these students as well as to their art teacher, Mrs. Hanna.

Have a great week!
Mrs. Cocita

