



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.

DECEMBER 11, 2022



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PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Adam Zajac

Pastor

Deacon Dave Lundeen

Business Manager, Pastoral Associate

Mrs. Karen Cocita

Principal

Mrs. Meaghan McCarthy-Silver

Pastoral Minister

Mr. Lawrence 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.

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Liturgy Readings for the Week

Saturday,	December 10	
4:00 p.m.	Sir 48: 1-4, 9-11 Tom Bodle	Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Sunday,	December 11-Third Sunday of Advent	
8:30 a.m.	Is 35:1-6a, 10 Ellen Moran	Mt 11:2-11
11:30 a.m.	John & Sharon Vertal	
Monday,	December 12-Our Lady of Guadalupe	
8:30 a.m.	Zec 2:14-17 Ed Toth	Lk 1:26-38
Tuesday,	December 13-St. Lucy	
8:30 a.m.	Zep 3:1-2, 9-13 Houck Family Living	Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday,	December 14-St. John of the Cross	
	Is 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25	Lk 7:18b-23
Thursday,	December 15	
8:30 a.m.	Is 54:1-10 Special Intention for Dorothy	Lk 7:24-30
Friday,	December 16	
8:30 a.m.	Is 56:1-3a, 6-8 Presider's Intention	Jn 5:33-36
Saturday,	December 17	
4:00 p.m.	Gn 49:2, 8-10 Living Spiritual Bouquet Laura DiGeronimo & Connor Sideri	Mt 1:1-17
Sunday,	December 18-Fourth Sunday of Advent	
8:30 a.m.	Is 7:10-14 Lew Zahara	Rom 1:1-7 Mt 1:18-24
11:30 a.m.	Lucy Hauck	

Pope's Intention December: For volunteer not-for-profit organizations. We pray that volunteer non-profit organizations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

Liturgical Ministers December 17 & 18

Saturday, December 17 @ 4:00pm

Eucharistic Ministers: Deacon Dave, Michelle Biggins, John Levis

Lector: Paul Gambon

Altar Servers: Kathryn Sowul, Dominic Sutcliffe, Cristian Trump

Sunday, December 18 @ 8:30am

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

Lector: Mary Lewis, Tim Mohr

Altar Servers: Julia McNulty, Maeve Smith, Austin Tousley

Sunday, December 18 @ 11:30am

Eucharistic Ministers: Cari White, Mary Ruminski, Lisa Ditzel

Lector: Eileen Andrews, Monica Svetz

Altar Servers: Joseph Andolina, Danny Reichel, Ethan Ruminski

Luke McGraw
Memorial Candles
Weekly Intention
December 11
Luke McGraw

Liturgical Ministers

Please stop in the sacristy beginning the weekend of December 10 & 11 to sign up for Christmas Liturgies.

Thank you for your continued service!

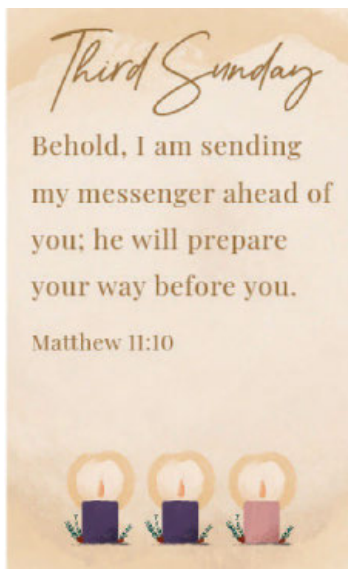
PRAYER FOR THE SICK

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





Thank you to everyone who took a Giving Tree tag! **All gifts are due back this weekend before Noon on Sunday, December 11th.** Please return your gift with the Giving Tree tag taped or tied to the outside of the package to the Social Hall during the following times

Saturday, December 10 between 3:30pm-5:00pm
Sunday, December 11 between 8:00am-12:00pm

Gifts cannot be accepted after 12pm as the gifts are loaded on their sleighs to be delivered to the organizations for distribution.

Thank you so very much for your support of the Giving Tree and overwhelming generosity.

Today's Advent Prayer

God of the meek and the simple, strip away the complexity we make for ourselves. Free us from the things we think we should do, and turn our minds and hearts to what you ask of us. Help us to let go of worry and anxiety, judgment and resentment, anger and self-righteousness. May we faithfully embrace trust, gratitude, simplicity and contentedness. Amen.

Liturgical Ministers

Please stop in the sacristy beginning the weekend of December 10 & 11 to sign up for Christmas Liturgies.

Thank you for your continued service!

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve Saturday, December 24th

4:00pm St. Mark
4:30pm St. Mel
7:00pm St. Mel
10:00pm St. Mark

Christmas Day

8:30am St. Mark
10:00am St. Mel
11:30am St. Mark



Communal Penance

Join us on Thursday, December 22nd for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

There will be multiple priests available starting at 7:00pm to celebrate this healing Sacrament. Come and let us prepare our hearts for the Birth of the Savior.

The service will take place in the main church of Our Lady of Angels.



St. Mark Youth Group
Fall-Winter 2022

Sunday, December 18 Christmas Party
6:30pm-8:30pm-Social Hall

*****A joint Advent event with St. Christopher Youth Group is being planned for a date TBD in December. Please stay tuned for updates via text and email for details on this event.*****

**THEOLOGY ON THE ROCKS WEST
For Adults 40 & Over**

The next Theology on the Rocks West will be on Monday, December 12th at 7:00 p.m. at LaCentre (25777 Detroit Rd., Westlake, just off I90 near Columbia and Detroit).

Fr. Joe Koopman, Professor of Moral Theology at St. Mary's Seminary will discuss the Social, Ethical & Moral issues of Bioethics.

Cost is \$15.00 per person which includes light appetizers & refreshments. Cash Bar is also available. Pay online or at the door. Be sure to RSVP either way. Register in advance at:

www.theologyontherocks.wixsite.com/west
Doors open at 6:30pm

**Cleveland Retrouvaille Weekend is scheduled
for January 13 - 15, 2023**

The Retrouvaille program is a Lifeline for Troubled Marriages

Has your marriage become unloving or uncaring – your relationship cold, distant – thinking about a separation or divorce? Are you already separated/divorced but both of you want to try again? Then the Retrouvaille program may help you rediscover each other again.

RETROUVAILLE, which means rediscovery, is supported by the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland, but it is open to couples of all faiths. This program consists of a weekend experience for couples and six follow up sessions. A registration fee of \$450.00 is required to confirm your reservation. For more information concerning the program, or to register, please call Shelly or Rob at 216.509.0301 or 440.836.4810, go online to www.helpourmarriage.org.

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For More Information, Please Contact Fr. Elbert:

Tel: (216) 521-0184

Email: frkevin@stlukelakewood.org



SPACE IS LIMITED! SIGN UP TODAY!!!

THE WEEK AHEAD IN OUR PARISH

Saturday, December 10		
8:00 am	Breakfast w/ Santa	SH
9:00 - 2:00pm	CYO Basketball Games	G/FR
3:00 pm	Giving Tree Wrapping	CR
3:00 pm	Confessions	
4:00 pm	Mass	
5:00 pm	Marker's 50+ Christmas Party	SH
5:00 - 9:00pm	Basketball Tournament	G/FR
Sunday, December 11		
8:00 am	Giving Tree Wrapping	CR
8:30 am	Mass	
9:30 am	Rosary	CH
9:30 am	Young Families	SH
11:30 am	Mass (LS)	
11:30 am	Sunday Preschool	CR
1:00 pm	Basketball Tournament	G/FR
Monday, December 12		
8:30 am	Mass	
9:30 am	School Confessions Gr. 3-8	CH
2:45 pm	Children's Choir Rehearsals	CH
6:30 pm	PSR Class Gr. 1-8	CR
6:30 pm	Bible Study	SH
Tuesday, December 13		
8:30 am	Mass w/2nd Floor	
3:00 pm	RCIC	SH
7:00 pm	Holy Name Society Mtg.	SH
Wednesday, December 14		
5:30 pm	RCIC	CC
6:30 pm	Scout Pack #268 Den Mtg.	SH
7:00 pm	Parent Club Mtg.	CC
Thursday, December 15		
8:30 am	Mass	
7:00 pm	Troop #293	SH
Friday, December 16		
8:30 am	Mass	
1:00 pm	Pre-K Gr. 2/Band/Choir Christmas Prog.	G/CC
6:30 pm	Pre-K-Gr. 2/Band Choir Christmas Prog.	G/CC
Saturday, December 17		
3:00 pm	Confessions	
4:00 pm	Mass	
Sunday, December 18		
8:30 am	Mass	
9:30 am	Rosary	CH
11:30 am	Mass (LS)	
11:30 am	Sunday Preschool	CR
6:30 pm	YG Christmas Party	SH

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.



www.faithdirect.net

St. Mark Church # OH274

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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!*

JOY

Last Week's Collection

Sunday Envelopes	\$ 5,114.00
Faith Direct	\$ 5,405.00
Total Sunday Contributions	\$10,519.00

Faith Direct ~ Number of Donors = 260

Thank you for your generosity!

PRINCIPAL NEWS

We have continued to host some really great events here at school. Cleveland is such a culturally rich city, so it is fitting that we try to provide opportunities for our children to experience some of that culture first-hand.

The Cleveland Orchestra, under the musical direction of Franz Welser-Most performed The Sounds of Water for the students in Gr. 3 & 4 last month. Did you know that more than 70% of the earth's surface is covered by water? It's no wonder then that oceans, seas, and rivers have inspired composers past and present. All of the pieces in this year's concert were connected to bodies of water throughout the world! As our students learned about the critical role water plays as part of their classroom curricula, they also gained an additional perspective of the role water plays in music and the arts. Oceans, seas, and rivers have inspired composers past and present throughout the world, and our children were provided with the opportunity to sit in Severance Hall and enjoy these sounds. The children loved the experience and so many of them told me how beautiful the building was inside. One of the girls told me she wished her house was that large and beautiful- and then the rest of the girls agreed!

Our school Prayer Partners have been working together on a service project for our Veterans. They saved cardboard rolls and filled them with candy, wrapped and tied the ends, and attached a small personal note. These will all be delivered to Veterans in nursing facilities and other places in the area by our Special Friend, Gary Schuld. The children had a great time working on this project while visiting with their Prayer Partners.

Another service opportunity we were involved in was the Coats for Kids program. Howard Hanna Realtor, Christie Dennis, contacted me and asked us to consider partnering with Howard Hanna in supporting this initiative. Howard Hanna has been a part of this program for 25 years. Our 7th Grade teacher, Ms. DeGennaro, jumped right in with her class to support this initiative. The 7th Grade was responsible for collecting the donated coats and packaging them for drop-off. Twenty-six of them attended the 11:30 Mass together last weekend and gathered any weekend coat donations and assisted with clean-up following Donut Sunday. These students worked so well together. It was a pleasure working with them! And the best part was that they were having fun doing service. Thank you, 7th Grade!

Finally, have you heard about the Cleveland Reads Citywide Reading Challenge? The belief that a city that reads together grows together is the purpose behind this initiative, which is sponsored by the office of Mayor Bibb, Cleveland Public Library, Cleveland Teachers Union, CMSD and nearly 30 other community organizations. The goal is for the entire city to collectively read one million books and/or one million minutes in 2023. They are encouraging all city residents to sign up online at clevelandreads.com and use the website throughout 2023 to log your books and the minutes you spend reading. Readers can win prizes and a lifetime of positive results. In addition, a Cleveland Reads Kickoff Celebration is scheduled for Saturday, December 17th from 12:00-3:00 PM at Public Auditorium, 500 Lakeside Ave. East in downtown Cleveland. Everyone is invited for free books, reading resources, entertainment, family activities and more! Help spread the word about the Cleveland Reads Citywide Reading Challenge and grab a good book!

Have a great week!

Mrs. Cocita



SUNDAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING:

Be strong, fear not!
Here is your God,
he comes with vindication;
with divine recompense
he comes to save you. (Is 35:4)

PSALM:

Lord, come and save us. (Ps 146)
Or Alleluia.

SECOND READING:

Make your hearts firm,
because the coming of the Lord is at hand. (Jas 5:7)

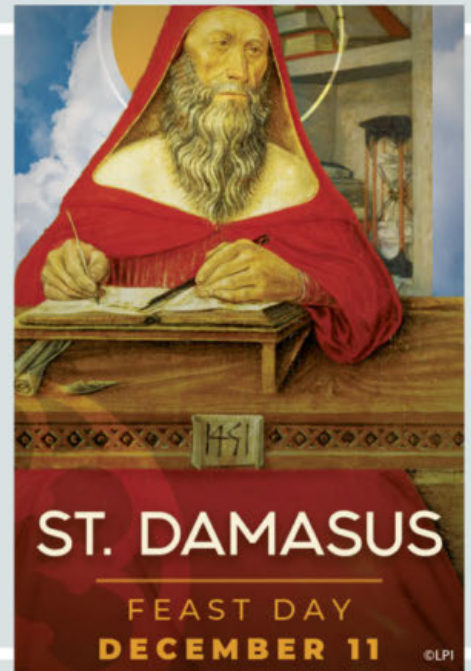
GOSPEL:

When John the Baptist heard in prison of the works of the Christ,
he sent his disciples to Jesus with this question,
"Are you the one who is to come,
or should we look for another?" (Mt 11:2-3)

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OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 11, 2022

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Advent; St. Damasus I, Pope
Monday: Our Lady of Guadalupe
Tuesday: St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr
Wednesday: St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Next Sunday: 4th Sunday of Advent



Saint of the Week

Saint Damasus served as bishop of Rome for 18 years as Pope Damasus I (366-384). He had to endure significant controversy early in his pontifical reign when a factional group of bishops insisted that their chosen claimant, Ursinus, was the true pope. Both sides resorted to violence before the issue was decided in favor of Damasus. He went on to make the unification of the Church a central focus of his papacy and fervently fought to counter any division caused by the many heretical teachings of his time. While he was pope, Christianity was declared the official religion of the Roman Empire and Rome's authority in the Church was decided by a synod that Damasus called in 382. This synod established Rome as the direct descendant of the Church founded by the apostle Saint Peter, the apostolic see, and put an end to confusion stemming from Constantinople, which some were already calling 'The New Rome'. To further unify the Church, Damasus introduced Latin as the principle liturgical language and commissioned his secretary, Saint Jerome, to compile and revise the various translations of the Bible into one official translation to be used by the entire Church: The Latin Vulgate. This successfully preserved the original Scriptures by making them more accessible to the average Christian. A writer and poet himself, Saint Damasus lives on in history through his many epigrams and verse inscriptions that can be found on the Roman catacombs that he restored during his papacy. Saint Jerome described his friend, Pope Damasus, as being "an incomparable person, learned in the Scriptures, a virgin doctor of the virgin Church, who loved chastity and heard its praises with pleasure."

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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