



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.

November 9, 2025

THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA

To those who sold doves he said, "Take these out of here, and stop making my Father's house a marketplace." His disciples recalled the words of Scripture, Zeal for your house will consume me.

- Jn 2:16-17

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

Papal Intention

November: For the prevention of suicide. Let us pray that those who are tempted to die by suicide might find the support, care and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.

Liturgy Schedule

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

Monday, November 10-St. Leo the Great

8:30am Mass Germaine Markuzic-Fiske

Tuesday, November 11-St. Martin of Tours

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

8:30am Mass Antonino Sudano

Wednesday, November 12-St. Josaphat

Thursday, November 13-St. Frances Xavier Cabrini

8:30am Mass Nancy Padgett

Friday, November 14

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

Saturday, November 15

3:00pm Confessions

3:00pm Confessions @ St. Mel

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

4:30pm Mass @ St. Mel

Sunday, November 16-33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00am Mass @ St. Mel

8:30am Mass..... Living Intention for the Cocita Family

10:00am Mass @ St. Mel

11:30am Mass Mindy Biggins

12:30pm Baptism

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
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

Dolly Tinnirello

Liturgical Ministers	emHCs	Lectors	Servers
Saturday, November 15 @ 4:00pm	Josh Stecz Marian Lundeen Erin Fitzpatrick	R.V. Threadgill	Finnegan Fitzpatrick Declan Fitzpatrick Mary Kugler-Blayney
Sunday, November 16 @ 8:30am	Karen Cocita Kathy O'Malley NOT FILLED	Laura Skonce Josh Stecz	Joseph Pieh Adlee Rave Colin Weaver
Sunday, November 16 @ 11:30am	Shawn Wroten Deirdre Mueller Lisa Ditzel	Ben Campbell Eliza Kratt	McKenna Patton Jackson Wroten Daniel Zambataro

NEWS AND EVENTS

Offertory Collections

In-Pew Collection (past weekend) \$ 3,522.75
ParishSoft Giving \$ 3,046.00
Thank you for your generosity!

Parish News

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:

November 9
December 21
December 28

Building Strong Foundations Survey

Give feedback on our new parenting speaker series

After learning more about the needs of families in our parish throughout the past year, we are excited to offer a speaker series to help parents with the wonderful but challenging task of raising up faithful children. To make sure we best meet the needs and interests of our families, we are asking parents of children 0-18 to fill out a 5 minute survey. Your input will help us tailor this new project to the families of St. Mark and St. Mel parishes. Please use this link to complete the survey by November 17.

<https://forms.gle/531fUcGpnHgA6ABeA>



WeGiveCatholic ~ December 2, 2025

Northeast Ohio's Online Day of Catholic Giving

Save the date ~ Support St. Mark Parish through We-GiveCatholic! We will be raising funds to equal 10% of the total cost of the sanctuary renovation to give to the poor. We have chosen the West Side Catholic Center and their vital ministry to those in need to receive the funds we raise. More information will be in next weekends bulletin.

"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me." - Matthew 25:35

St. Mark Pastoral Council

Meeting October 13, 2025

Please see Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes on the Church website at stmarkcleveland.com

Reminders and Regular Events

Holy Name Society News

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

Donut & Coffee Social

Once a month after all masses in the Social Hall. Gather with fellow parishioners. For questions contact Michael Kay at mokay@stmarkcleveland.com

Upcoming Date: December 6 & 7

Reminders and Regular Events

3rd Annual St. Mark Cub Scouts Pack 268 Veterans Spaghetti Dinner

November 10, 2025 - 6:00pm-7:00pm

You are cordially invited to attend the 3rd annual St. Mark Cub Scouts Pack 268 Veterans Day Spaghetti Dinner. Join us as we honor those that served our country and help support our St. Mark Cub Scouts. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Disabled American Veterans Foundation. Hope to see you there!

- Veterans & Children 3 & under = Free
- Veterans Spouses = \$7.00
- Adults & Children = \$10.00

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: November 23

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.

Military

Please pray for our military presently serving.

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

General Parish Calendar

Saturday,	3:00 pm	Confessions	
	4:00 pm	Mass	
Sunday,	8:30 am	Mass	
	8:30 am	Sunday Preschool	CR
	8:30 am	Children's Liturgy of the Word	SS
	9:30 am	Rosary	
	11:30 am	Mass LS	
Monday,	8:30 am	Mass	
	4:00-9:00 pm	Basketball Prac.	G
	5:15 pm	OCIA	CC
	6:00 pm	Pack #268 Spaghetti Dinner	SH
	6:30 pm	PSR Class Gr. 1-8	CR
Tuesday,	8:30 am	Mass/1st Floor	
	4:00-9:00 pm	Basketball Prac.	G
	4:15 pm	OCIA	FR
	6:00 pm	Holy Name Society Mtg.	SH
	6:00 pm	Confirmation Group	CC
	7:00 pm	Bereavement Mtg.	FR
Wednesday,	4:00-9:00 pm	Basketball Prac.	G
	5:30 pm	Brownie Troop #70996	SH
Thursday,	8:30 am	Mass	
	9:30 am	Gr. 1-4 Speaker	CH
	4:00-9:00 pm	Basketball Prac.	G
	6:00 pm	Scout Pack #268	SH
	7:00 pm	Troop #293	SH
Friday,	4:00-7:00pm	Basketball Prac.	G
Saturday,	9:00-3:00 pm	Basketball Prac.	G
	3:00 pm	Confessions	
	4:00 pm	Mass	
Sunday,	8:30 am	Mass	
	8:30 am	Sunday Preschool	CR
	9:30 am	Rosary	
	11:30 am	Mass LS	
	1:00-5:00 pm	Basketball Prac.	G
	6:00 pm	Youth Group	SH

Financial Weekend

November 16

NEWS AND EVENTS

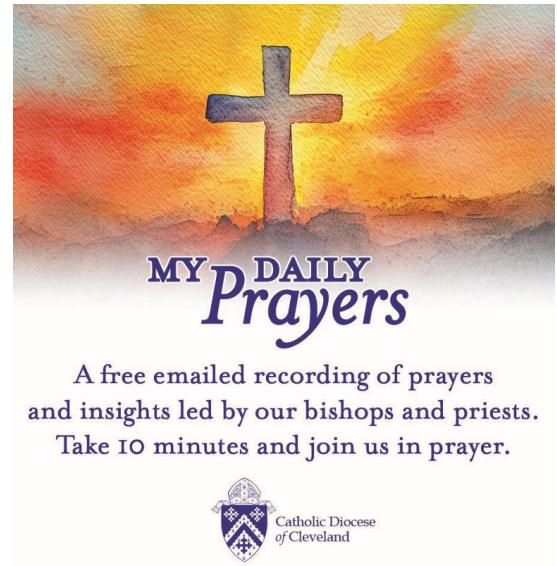
Regional and Diocesan News and Events

Join Fr. Doug Koesel, pastor of Blessed Trinity Parish, for 13 glorious days in Croatia, Montenegro, Slovenia, Hungary and Slovakia, June 8th - 20th, 2026. Cost is \$5,599 and includes airfare from anywhere in the US. For more information contact Fr. Doug at dkoesel@blessedtrinitycleveland.org. The trip includes airport taxes, security fees, transfers, hotels, transportation with luxury bus, all breakfasts and dinners, all guided tours, and tips. Here is a link for the trip: https://www.proximotravel.com/trip-store/?action=view_trip&triptemplateid=482

Ministry to the Incarcerated

"I was in prison and you visited me..." Truly I tell you, just as you did it to the one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." - Matthew 25

Do you have a heart for serving others? The Jail Ministry team serving at the Lorain County Jail is looking for compassionate, committed volunteers to share God's love with incarcerated individuals through prayer, conversation, and spiritual support. Whether you're gifted in listening, teaching, praying, or simply showing up—even working from home—there's a place for you. No experience necessary, just a willing spirit and a heart for restoration. To learn more, contact Michelle Tibbetts at 216-906-2886 or tibbettslaw@gmail.com



MY DAILY Prayers

A free emailed recording of prayers and insights led by our bishops and priests. Take 10 minutes and join us in prayer.



Sign up!
dioceseofcleveland.org/mydailyprayers
– and encourage others to join us!

Share the Prayers!



Jubilee Audience of Pope Leo XIV, on 29 October 2025

Cycle of Catechesis – Catechesis on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the conciliar Declaration *Nostra aetate*

Dear brothers and sisters, pilgrims in faith and representatives of the various religious traditions! Good morning, welcome!

At the centre of today's reflection, in this General Audience dedicated to interreligious dialogue, I would like to place the Lord Jesus' words to the Samaritan woman: "God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth" (*Jn* 4:24). In the Gospel, this encounter reveals the essence of authentic religious dialogue: an exchange that is established when people open up to one another with sincerity, attentive listening and mutual enrichment. It is a dialogue that arose from thirst: God's thirst for the human heart, and the human thirst for God. At the well of Sychar, Jesus overcomes the barriers of culture, gender and religion. He invites the Samaritan woman to a new understanding of worship, which is not limited to a particular place – "neither on the mountain nor in Jerusalem" – but is realized in *Spirit and truth*. This moment captures the very core of interreligious dialogue itself: the discovery of God's presence beyond all boundaries and the invitation to seek him together with reverence and humility.

Sixty years ago, on 28 October 1965, Vatican Council II, with the promulgation of the Declaration *Nostra Aetate*, opened up a new horizon of encounter, respect and spiritual hospitality. This luminous Document teaches us to meet the followers of other religions not as outsiders, but as travelling companions on the path of truth; to honour differences affirming our common humanity; and to discern, in every sincere religious search, a reflection of the one divine Mystery that embraces all creation.

In particular, it should not be forgotten that the first focus of *Nostra Aetate* was towards the Jewish world, with which Saint John XXIII intended to re-establish the original relationship. For the first time in the history of the Church, a doctrinal treatise on the Jewish roots of Christianity was to take shape, which on a biblical and theological level would represent a point of no return. A "bond ... spiritually ties the people of the New Covenant to Abraham's stock. Thus the Church of Christ acknowledges that, according to God's saving design, the beginnings of her faith and her election are found already among the Patriarchs, Moses and the prophets" (*Nostra Aetate*, 4). In this way, the Church, "mindful of the patrimony she shares with the Jews and moved not by political reasons but by the Gospel's spiritual love, decries hatred, persecutions, displays of anti-Semitism, directed against Jews at any time and by anyone" (*ibid.*). Since then, all my predecessors have condemned anti-Semitism with clear words. And so I too confirm that the Church does not tolerate anti-Semitism and fights against it, on the basis of the Gospel itself.

Today we can look with gratitude at everything that has been achieved in Jewish-Catholic dialogue during these six decades. This is due not only to human effort, but to the assistance of our God who, according to Christian conviction, is dialogue itself. We cannot deny that there have been misunderstandings, difficulties and conflicts in this period, but these have never prevented the dialogue from continuing. Even today, we must not allow political circumstances and the injustices of some to divert us from friendship, especially since we have achieved so much so far.

The spirit of *Nostra Aetate* continues to illuminate the path of the Church. She recognizes that all religions can reflect "a ray of that Truth which enlightens all men" (*NA*, 2) and seek answers to the great mysteries of human existence, so that dialogue must never be solely intellectual, but profoundly spiritual. The Declaration invites all Catholics – bishops, clergy, consecrated persons and lay faithful – to involve themselves sincerely in dialogue and in collaboration with the followers of other religions, recognizing and promoting all that is good, true and holy in their traditions (cf. *ibid.*). This is necessary today in practically every city where, due to human mobility, our spiritual and cultural differences are called to encounter one another and to live together fraternally. *Nostra Aetate* reminds us that true dialogue is rooted in love, the only foundation of peace, justice and reconciliation, whereas it firmly rejects every form of discrimination or persecution, affirming the equal dignity of every human being (cf. *NA*, 5).

Therefore, dear brothers and sisters, sixty years after *Nostra Aetate*, we can ask ourselves: what can we do together? The answer is simple: we can act together. More than ever, our world needs our unity, our friendship and our collaboration. Each one of our religions can contribute to alleviating human suffering and taking care of our common home, our planet Earth. Our respective traditions teach truth, compassion, reconciliation, justice and peace. We must reaffirm service to humanity, at all times. Together, we must be vigilant against the abuse of the name of God, of religion, and of dialogue itself, as well as against the dangers posed by religious fundamentalism and extremism. We must also face the responsible development of artificial intelligence because, if conceived as an alternative to humans, it can gravely violate their infinite dignity and neutralize their fundamental responsibilities. Our traditions have an immense contribution to make to the humanization of technology and therefore to inspire its regulation, to protect fundamental human rights.

As we all know, our religions teach that peace begins in the human heart. In this regard, religion can play a fundamental role. We must restore hope to our personal lives, our families, our neighbourhoods, our schools, our villages, our countries and our world. This hope is based on our religious convictions, on the conviction that a new world is possible.

Sixty years ago, *Nostra Aetate* brought hope to the world after the Second World War. Today we are called upon to rekindle that hope in our world, devastated by war and our degraded natural environment. Let us collaborate, because if we are united, everything is possible. Let us ensure that nothing divides us. And in this spirit, I would like to express once more my gratitude for your presence and your friendship. Let us transmit this spirit of friendship and collaboration to the future generation too, because it is the true pillar on which dialogue rests.

And now, let us pause a moment in silent prayer: prayer has the power to transform our attitudes, our thoughts, our words and our actions.

APPEAL

In recent days Jamaica has been struck by Hurricane Melissa, a storm of catastrophic power, causing violent flooding. It is currently sweeping across Cuba with devastating force. Thousands of people have been displaced, while homes, infrastructure and several hospitals have been damaged. I assure everyone of my closeness, praying for those who have lost their lives, for those who are fleeing and for those populations who, awaiting the storm's developments, are experiencing hours of anxiety and concern. I encourage the civil authorities to do everything possible and I thank the Christian communities, together with voluntary organizations, for the relief they are providing.

Our Kindergarten through 2nd grade students had an unforgettable experience when several officers from the Cleveland Police Mounted Unit stopped by for a special visit, bringing along their four-legged partners, Leonard, Jimmy, and Zen!

The children were immediately captivated by the sight of the majestic horses as they arrived on campus. The officers shared fascinating information about their roles and the unique bond they form with their horses. Students had the opportunity to pet the horses, observe how calm and well-trained they are, and even watch how the officers communicate with them through gentle cues and commands.

Our curious young learners asked some thoughtful questions: *What do the horses eat? What do they like to do when they're not working? Why do police officers ride horses? And why are they called the "Mounted Police"?* The officers were delighted by the students' curiosity and enthusiasm, explaining that mounted units are a long-standing tradition in many cities, helping officers connect with the community, manage large crowds, and patrol areas that police cars can't easily reach.

Miss Colegrove's class enjoyed an extra-special treat when her dad, a retired mounted police officer, stopped by to share his own experiences. He read the children the story *Robert the Rose Horse* and talked about what it was like to patrol the city on horseback. The students listened intently as he described the strong partnership between officer and horse, and the care, training, and trust that go into keeping both rider and horse safe.

This special visit was not only exciting but also deeply educational, giving our students a firsthand look at service, responsibility, and compassion in action. As a school community, we offer our heartfelt prayers for the safety of all first responders who dedicate their lives to protecting and serving our community. We are profoundly grateful for the ongoing partnership and support of those who keep our neighborhood safe and for the meaningful ways they inspire our students to learn, care, and serve with courage and faith.

