



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 4, 2025

3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Jesus said to them, "Come, have breakfast." And none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they realized it was the Lord. Jesus came over and took the bread and gave it to them, and in like manner the fish. - Jn 21:12-13



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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

Papal Intention

May: For working conditions. Let us pray that through work, each person might find fulfillment, families might be sustained in dignity, and that society might be humanized.

Liturgy Schedule

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

Monday, May 5

Tuesday, May 6

Wednesday, May 7

Thursday, May 8

Friday, May 9

Saturday, May 10

10:00am First Eucharist
 3:00pm Confessions
 3:00pm Confessions @ St. Mel
 4:00pm Mass Carol Behnke
 4:30pm Mass @ St. Mel

Sunday, May 11-4th Sunday of Easter

7:00am Mass @ St. Mel
 8:30am Mass Rita Szy
 10:00am Mass @ St. Mel
 11:30am Mass Dolly Tinnirello

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	Gerald McArthur	George Surovec
Katy Brent	Jim McIlwee	Barbara Thiel
Henry Buehner	Mary Miller	Herb Tippie
James Coyne	Maisie Nowlin	Georgieann Treible
Nicole Foerstner	Bill Retzer	Joe Wantz
Mary Frantz	Mary Stark	Charlotte Whiting
Theresa Fridrich	Sr. Josette Obodzinski	Lillian Zahara
Irene Gurchensky	Judy Reitz	Lew Zahara Jr.
Carol Hughes	Aimee Roscoe	Joseph Zavatchen Sr.
		Joseph Zavatchen Jr.

Pray for the Deceased

Katie Burkhart, Niece of Theresa Fridrich

May perpetual light shine upon them

Other Intentions

Weekly Luke McGraw Memorial Candles Intention

Deacon Dave Lundeen

Liturgical Ministers	emHCs	Lectors	Servers
Saturday, May 10 @ 4:00pm	Gloria Morin John Levis Mary Price	Gary Morin	Houston Engle Mary Kugler-Blayney Joseph Sowul
Sunday, May 11 @ 8:30am	Karen Cocita Mary Stamper Michael Kay	Agnes Butler Mary Lewis	Luke Meisterics Rose Murray Kathleen Murray
Sunday, May 11 @ 11:30am	Rosanne Kelley Deirdre Mueller Lisa Ditzel	Eliza Kratt NOT FILLED	Andrew Koch Emily Koch Jack Koch

NEWS AND EVENTS

Offertory Collections

In-Pew Collection (past Sunday)\$ 1,775.00
Easter Collection\$ 9,311.00
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

St. Mark Fish Fry

Thank You

Once again the St. Mark Fish Fry was a resounding success! We hope that all who came to dine in with family and friends, or took home a meal enjoyed both the meal and the company! A HUGE Thank You goes out to the St. Mark Youth Group, the Jim Cocita kitchen crew, the check in table super stars Michelle McLaughlin & Kathy Gallagher and all those who helped to make the Fish Fry a success. The 50/50 Raffle winnings were \$125, \$140, and \$120...a nice Fish Fry bonus for the winners! We look forward to seeing you again next year!

Catholic Charities

Thank you once again for your generous support of the 2025 Catholic Charities Appeal! During this joyous Easter season, we are reminded of the hope and new life that the Resurrection brings. Your gift is a reflection of Christ's love in action, fulfilling His words: *"Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me."* Because of your compassion, nearly 400,000 people across Northeast Ohio will experience the care and support they need. Please continue to pray for the success of the Appeal as it sustains vital programs and services throughout all eight counties of the Diocese of Cleveland. To see how your gift is making an impact, visit www.catholiccommunity.org/impact. You are truly a channel of Christ's peace and mercy this Easter season!



Share God's Love

St. Mark/St. Mel Faith Build

Save the Dates!

Habitat for Humanity

The St. Mark/St. Mel 2025 Greater Cleveland Habitat for Humanity Faith build "build dates" are set, and registration will open soon.

2025 Build Dates:

- Thursday, July 24
- Saturday, August 2
- Saturday, September 13

If you are new to the Faith Build, are seeking more information, or need assistance registering, contact: Amy Asseff @ 216-346-0722 or aasseff@aol.com

Parish News

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.

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 June 7 & 8 through September September 28. We need this information so that all Ministers are available to fulfill their scheduled Mass times. We appreciate your continued service. The deadline to submit dates is Friday, May 16 by 4:30pm to cbirchfield@stmarkcleveland.com. Please be mindful of holidays and vacations. Thank you for your help.

Reminders and Regular Events

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: May 17 & 18

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

Military Service

If you know of any parishioners and family members that are in active military service, please contact the parish office with their name. At cbirchfield@stmarkcleveland.com or call 216-226-7577

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.

NEWS AND EVENTS

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 A 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

VIRTUS Program Compliancy

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.

General Parish Calendar

Saturday,	May 3	
10:00 am	NCCL Mtg.	CC
3:00 pm	Confessions	
4:00 pm	Mass	
5:00 pm	Marker's 50+	SH
Sunday,	May 4	
8:30 am	Mass	
8:30 am	Sunday PreSchool	CR
9:30 am	Rosary	
11:30 am	Mass LS w/Y&C Choir	
6:00 pm	Youth Group	CC
Monday,	May 5	
	School Closed	
6:30 pm	PSR Class Gr. 1-8	CR
Tuesday,	May 6	
2:30 pm	All Choir Practice	CH
Wednesday,	May 7	
4:00 pm	OCIA	CC
Thursday,	May 8	
6:00 pm	Scout Pack #268 Den Mtg.	SH
7:00 pm	Troop #293	SH
7:00 pm	First Communion Prac.	CH
Friday,	May 9	
Saturday,	May 10	
10:00 am	First Communion	CH
3:00 pm	Confessions	
4:00 pm	Mass	
Sunday,	May 11	
8:30 am	Mass	
8:30 am	Sunday PreSchool	CR
9:30 am	Rosary	
11:30 am	Mass LS	

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

God exalted him at his right hand as leader and savior
to grant Israel repentance and forgiveness of sins. (Acts 5:31)

Psalm:

I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me. (Ps 30)
Or: Alleluia.

Second Reading:

"To the one who sits on the throne and to the Lamb
be blessing and honor, glory and might,
forever and ever." (Rv 5:13)

Gospel:

Jesus said to them, "Children, have you caught
anything to eat?"
They answered him, "No."
So he said to them, "Cast the net over the right side
of the boat
and you will find something."
So they cast it, and were not able to pull it in
because of the number of fish. (Jn 21:5-6)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Jesus bids the disciples to bring their bounty
of fish to the fire, to gather around it, to be
warmed and fed. God's invitation is for all of
us: come to the fire of His love. Be warmed.
Be fed. Then, go forth, and feed the sheep.

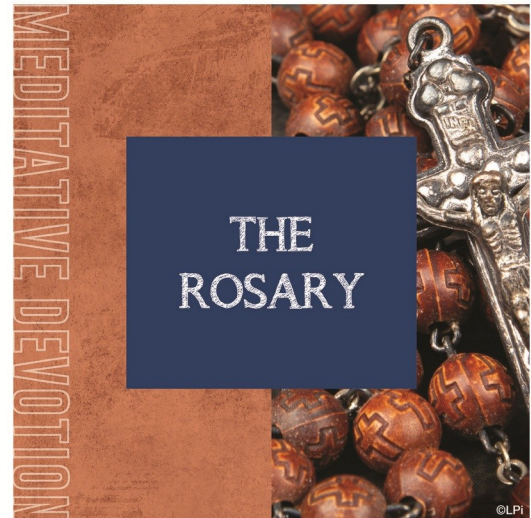
Observances for the week of May 4, 2025

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Easter

Monday: Cinco de Mayo

Saturday: St. John of Avila, Priest and Doctor of the
Church; St. Damien de Veuster, Priest

Next Sunday: 4th Sunday of Easter; World Day of Prayer for
Vocations; Mother's Day



Devotions, *Explained!*

Christians have used beads
to mark the recitation of
prayers since ancient times,
but in the 12th century,
the Rosary emerged as a
meditative devotion centering
on significant moments in the
lives of Jesus and Mary.

Prayer of Belief

Lord,
Help me to see You and to
recognize what I see.
Help me to hear Your invitation
and to respond.
Help me to join You where and
when You call.
Amen.

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SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2025 | THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

PARISH GRADE SCHOOL

This is always a good time of year to reflect back on the many different service projects we have done since the beginning of this school year. Service projects are beneficial for children because they teach empathy, responsibility, and the value of helping others. By participating in activities like volunteering at shelters to feed the hungry, cleaning up parks, or collecting donations for those in need, children learn to appreciate different perspectives and understand the importance of community. These projects also build confidence and leadership skills, as children often take on meaningful roles and see the positive impact of their efforts. Most importantly, service projects help instill lifelong values such as kindness, teamwork, and civic engagement. Service is a very important component in our Catholic Identity goal, and in last week's bulletin, I wrote about an upcoming water project all our children will be involved in doing. Service is something we can all be a part of, and here are a few things we have accomplished this year:

1. Halle Lawless, an instructor with the McKeon Group, has worked all year with our 8th Graders providing insight into the worlds of various groups of people who are struggling physically, mentally, and emotionally. She discussed how we can support them. Some of her topics included the struggles of the elderly, individuals with special needs, foster children, those who are homeless, and the sick and hospitalized. Our children made blankets, chemo bags filled with chapstick, journals, socks, lotion, and a blanket. They made special cards and created games and puzzles.
2. Gr 8 made no sew blankets for the Lake Erie Labrador Rescue.
3. All grades K-8 made cards and wrote letters for active service men and women as well as Veterans. Special cards were made for the organization *Veterans' Last Patrol*, which helps veterans in hospice.
4. Thanksgiving canned food collection- students had to earn their donations by doing an act of service at home. Food was donated to St. Edward Labre Ministry for the poor.
5. Every class read books to earn "points" to purchase items needed in a new Habitat for Humanity build. Each grade was assigned a specific room to outfit with the money "earned" and together decided the needed items. Parent Club paid for the items.
6. During Catholic Schools' Week, students and faculty brought in specific snack items to put into bags which were given to various groups including Cleveland Police and Fire, our councilmen and mayor, shelters, and the Office of Catholic Education. All bags had personalized notes to specific individual people.
7. The Kindergarten created bags of special snacks and toiletries during Lent and donated these to the St. Ignatius program to help the hungry. Their families donated the items which the students had to earn at home.
8. The 7th Grade made Blessing Bags filled with toiletries for the homeless with special messages. St. Edward's Labre ministry came out to explain this program to the students.
9. St. Joseph feast day canned food collection- students had to earn their donations by doing an act of service at home. Food was donated to St. Edward Labre Ministry for the poor.
10. As part of their retreat, the 7th Grade will be weeding and doing a spring clean-up of Impett Park.
11. The 7th Grade sponsored a used children's books collection for the "Thankful to Read" program.
12. Students made cards for the cloistered nuns in the Cleveland area.
13. The 2nd Grade collected cleaning items for Habitat for Humanity for their Jesus Day retreat. Habitat for Humanity came out to discuss with all of St. Mark School the work that they do for the homeless in Cleveland.
14. The 8th Grade assisted in setting up the parish Lenten Taize service and participated in various roles during the service. There were 16 of our students who returned on a Friday evening and gave of their time for this spiritual experience for the parishioners of St. Mark and St. Mel.
15. *Hoops for Hope* provided an opportunity for our children to display their basketball skills in front of the entire school while raising money to donate toward the St. Baldrick Shave Your Mane event. It was great fun all for an even greater cause.
16. St. Mark School participated once again in the St. Baldrick's *Shave Your Mane* event. For the past 11 years, they have raised over \$600,000 for childhood cancer research.
17. The 8th Grade participated in a Mark's Madness basketball game attended by many school families and parishioners. The CYO parent coaches competed against the 8th Grade to raise funds for our St. Mark Parish Outreach program. The 7th Grade cleaned the bleachers and decorated for this event.
18. Our upcoming *Walk for Water* project is aimed at helping our children understand the difficulty developing countries have after reading *A Long to Water* and *Beatrice's Goat*. Each student will secure pledges for the water walk. All money will be donated to Dr. Dave Clifford's project in bringing clean water to the people of the Honduras.

I am so proud of our children and the empathy they have shown for others. They have certainly allowed their light to SHINE BRIGHT this year!

Mrs. Cocita

