



EASTER SUNDAY

They found the stone rolled away from the tomb.
- Lk 24:2

LITURGY AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

Papal Intention

April: For the use of the new technologies. Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.

Liturgy Schedule

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

Monday, April 21-Monday within the Octave of Easter

Tuesday, April 22-Tuesday within the Octave of Easter

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

Wednesday, April 23-Wednesday within the Octave of Easter

Thursday, April 24-Thursday within the Octave of Easter

8:30am MassDeacon Dave Lundeen

Friday, April 25-Friday within the Octave of Easter

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

Saturday, April 26-Saturday within the Octave of Easter

3:00pm Confessions
 3:00pm Confessions @ St. Mel
 4:00pm Mass Living Intention for Charlie Sunyak
 4:30pm Mass @ St. Mel

Sunday, April 27-2nd Sunday of Easter

7:00am Mass @ St. Mel
 8:30am MassMichael & Angela Chakan
 10:00am Mass @ St. Mel
 11:30am Mass Marty Gorman

Pray for the Sick

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

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

Pray for the Deceased

Linda Lawrence, Wife of Don Lawrence, Mother of Nicole O'Sullivan

Jude Tibbetts, Mother of Michelle Tibbetts

May perpetual light shine upon them

Other Intentions

Weekly Luke McGraw Memorial Candles Intention

Dan Sunyak

Liturgical Ministers	emHCs	Lectors	Servers
Saturday, April 26 @ 4:00pm	Shirlee Toth Erin Fitzpatrick Mary Price	Al Abel	Kathryn Sowul Patrick Sowul Joseph Sowul
Sunday, April 27 @ 8:30am	Mary Stamper Michael Kay Karen Cocita	Agnes Butler Mary Lewis	Lillian Stock Clare Stock Fiona Stock
Sunday, April 27 @ 11:30am	Annamaria Masterson Michelle Biggins Deirdre Mueller	Eileen Andrews Eliza Kratt	Lukas Horton Patrick Mueller Eoin Mueller

NEWS AND EVENTS

Offertory Collections

In-Pew Collection (see the 4/27 bulletin) \$
Faith Direct (past month total) \$ 5,460.00
Thank you for your generosity!

Parish News



**Please offer your prayers and support
for these St. Mark members who have
received the
Sacraments of Initiation this weekend!**

**Dominic T.
Hunter C.
Grace C.**



Virtus-Empowering God's children

Monday, April 28th

We are offering a one-time **Empowering God's Children** class for **adults** on Monday, April 28th from 6:30pm-7:30pm in the Social Hall. *Empowering God's Children* compliments the adult *Protecting God's Children* program. This parent/volunteer session is essential to the effective protection of children and young people. Please contact Cheryl in the Parish Office at cbirchfield@stmarkcleveland.com to register for this presentation by April 27th if you are planning on attending.

Food Sunday

April 25th

The Lakewood Community Service Center will be receiving your donations next weekend. They have requested kids' cereals, spaghetti, ravioli, canned tuna & chicken. Their clients could also use shampoo, deodorant, and toilet paper. They appreciate all of your donations.

May God bless all!



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

Reminders and Regular Events

Markers/Mels50+

It's time for the Derby!!

Celebrate this Southern tradition with us on Saturday, May 3rd, after the 4:00pm Mass, in the Social Hall.

Enjoy pulled pork sliders and beverages! Sides and desserts to share are very much appreciated. We will have a 50/50 raffle, games (and prizes!), enjoy watching the race and have great fun and fellowship!

Ladies don't forget your hats and gents grab your bow ties!

To RSVP, please call or text Mary Kay at 216-402-8570.

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

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

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 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

St. Mark Class of 1975

Friday, May 30th

The class of 1975 is having a reunion on Friday, May 30 at Gormley's Pub Rocky River at 6pm. Please contact Ed Figlar (9908-328-3209), Maureen Fallon Adler (440-503-4300) or Caroline O'Donnell (440-915-6123) to RSVP. Spread the word!

General Parish Calendar		
Saturday,	April 19-Holy Saturday	
8:30 am	Morning Prayer	CH
9:00 am	Rehearsal for Vigil	CH
10:00 am	HNS Easter Egg Hunt	CC/G
9:00 pm	Easter Vigil Service	CH
Sunday,	April 20-Easter Sunday	
8:30 am	Mass	
11:30 am	Mass LS w/Y&C Choir	
Monday,	April 21	
	School Closed	
Tuesday,	April 22	
	School Closed	
Wednesday,	April 23	
	School Closed	
5:30 pm	Daisy Troop Mtg.	SH
Thursday,	April 24	
	School Closed	
8:30 am	Mass	
7:00 pm	Troop #293	SH
Friday,	April 25	
	School Closed	
Saturday,	April 26	
3:00 pm	Confessions	
4:00 pm	Mass	
	Food Sunday	
Sunday,	April 27	
8:30 am	Mass	
8:30 am	Sunday PreSchool	CR
9:30 am	Rosary	
11:30 am	Mass LS	
6:00 pm	Youth Group	CC

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

He went about doing good
and healing all those oppressed by the devil,
for God was with him. (Acts 10:38)

Psalm:

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.
Or: Alleluia. (Ps 118)

Second Reading:

If then you were raised with Christ, seek what is above,
where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. (Col 3:1)

Gospel:

So she ran and went to Simon Peter
and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved,
and told them,
"They have taken the Lord from the tomb,
and we don't know where they put him." (Jn 20:2)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

There is an invitation in the empty tomb and the abandoned burial cloths. What great things could we accomplish, if we only believe that Christ has conquered death? Go forth this Easter season, boldly embracing the hope of the resurrection.

Observances for the week of April 20, 2025

- Sunday:** Easter Sunday
Monday: Monday within the Octave of Easter
Tuesday: Tuesday within the Octave of Easter; Earth Day
Wednesday: Wednesday within the Octave of Easter; Administrative Professionals' Day
Thursday: Thursday within the Octave of Easter
Friday: Friday within the Octave of Easter; Arbor Day
Saturday: Saturday within the Octave of Easter
Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy)



Devotions, *Explained!*

The Seven Sorrows of Mary helps us to unite our own sufferings with those of Jesus, following Mary's perfect example, as we meditate upon the great sufferings endured by Our Lord and his Blessed Mother.

Prayer for Easter

Blessed be God who has triumphed over the grave!
Our Lord is victorious!
Alleluia, alleluia!
May the joy of Easter fill every part of our lives!
Amen.

General Audience of Pope Francis, on 9 April 2025

Cycle of Catechesis – Jubilee 2025. Jesus Christ our Hope. II. The life of Jesus. The encounters 4. The rich man. Jesus looked at him (Mk 10:21)

Dear brothers and sisters,

Today we will look at another of Jesus' encounters, narrated by the Gospels. This time, however, the person encountered does not have a name. The evangelist Mark presents him simply as "*a man*" (10:17). He is a man who has observed the commandments ever since his youth but who, despite this, has not yet found the meaning of his life. He is searching for it. Perhaps he is one who has not yet truly made up his mind, despite his appearance as a committed person. Indeed, beyond the things we do, our sacrifices and successes, what truly counts in order to be happy is what we carry in our heart. If a ship has to set sail and leave the port to navigate in the open sea, it can be a wonderful ship, with an exceptional crew, but if it does not pull up the ballast and the anchors that hold it down, it will never manage to depart. This man has made himself a luxurious ship, but he has stayed in the port!

As Jesus makes His way through the street, this fellow runs up to Him, kneels before Him and asks: "Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" (v. 17). Notice the verbs: "what *must I do to have* eternal life". Since observance of the Law did not give him the happiness and security of being saved, he turns to the Master Jesus. What is striking is that this man does not know the vocabulary of gratuitousness! Everything seems to be owed. Everything is a duty. Eternal life is for him an inheritance, something that is obtained by right, through meticulous observance of commitments. But in a life lived in this way, although certainly for good purpose, what space can love have?

As always, Jesus goes beyond appearances. While on the one hand this man sets out before Jesus his fine resume, Jesus goes beyond and looks within. The verb that Mark uses is very significant: "*looking at him*" (v. 21). Precisely because Jesus looks within each one of us, He loves us as we truly are. Indeed, what will He have seen inside this person? What does Jesus see when He looks within every one of us and loves us, despite our distractions and our sins? He sees our fragility, but also our desire to be loved as we are.

Looking at him, says the Gospel, He "*loved him*" (v. 21). Jesus loves this man before He even extended the invitation to follow Him. He loves him just as he is. Jesus' love is gratuitous: exactly the opposite of the logic of merit that has beset this person. We are truly happy when we realize we are loved in this way, freely, by grace. And this also applies to the relationships between us: as long as we try to buy love or beg for affection, those relationships will never make us feel happy.

The proposal Jesus makes to this man is to change his way of living and relating with God. Indeed, Jesus recognizes that inside him, as in all of us, something is lacking. It is the desire we carry in our heart to be loved. There is a wound that belongs to us as human beings, the wound through which love passes. To overcome this lack we do not need to "buy" recognition, affection, consideration: instead, we need to "sell off" everything that weighs us down, to make our hearts freer. There is no need to continue to take for ourselves, but rather to give to the poor, to provide, to share.

Finally, Jesus invites this man not to stay alone. He invites him to follow Him, to be within a bond, to live a relationship. Indeed, only in this way will it be possible to emerge from his anonymity. We can hear our name only within a relationship, in which someone calls us. If we remain alone, we will never hear our name spoken, and will continue to be that "*man*", anonymous. Perhaps today, precisely because we live in a culture of self-sufficiency and individualism, we find ourselves more unhappy because we no longer hear our name spoken by someone who loves us freely.

This man does not accept Jesus' invitation and stays alone, because the ballast of his life keeps him in the port. His sadness is the sign that he has not managed to leave. At times, what we think are riches are instead only burdens that are holding us back. The hope is that this person, like each one of us, will sooner or later change and decide to set sail.

Sisters and brothers, let us entrust to the Heart of Jesus all people who are sad and undecided, so that they may feel the loving gaze of the Lord, who is moved by looking tenderly within us.

During Lent, sixteen of our 8th Grade students assisted with the Taize Prayer Service held at St. Mark. The Taize Prayer Service offered the parish with an opportunity to "Encounter Christ in Prayer". Our students returned to school early Friday evening and assisted Art and Environment in setting out and lighting the many candles which would illuminate the sanctuary during the service. As the Taize service began, our students took very active roles in executing this beautiful event, which left the cross illuminated with taper candles. Many thanks to them for giving so generously of their time. The photos below will show you what a prayerfully beautiful evening this was.

We celebrated Literature Week the last week in March, hosting various activities throughout the week. During morning announcements, our WSMS crew would introduce the "Word of the Day," which included terms like: simile, hyperbole, personification, metaphor, and idiom. Can you guess which literary element is present in this sentence: My homework took a million years to complete last night! (If you guessed "hyperbole", which is an extreme exaggeration, you are correct!) Other activities during Literature Week included a visit from author Brian Cleary, whom the children across all grades adored. We held Pajama Day, providing time for our students to snuggle up with a good book, and DEAR TIME, where students would "Drop Everything and Read." On Friday, students got together with their Prayer Partners and shared a favorite picture book. It was a fun week which placed a huge focus on the importance of reading every single day!

We had the good fortune of hosting Mr. Dominic Winans, an alumnus of St. Mark, who currently works at the Great Lakes Science Center as a Robotics Lab Assistant. Dominic spent an afternoon with our 8th Grade students sharing his experiences with robotics and how it is used in the world today. He shared how the worlds of engineering and manufacturing are closely related in today's market. Following his presentation, I had the students reflect on some of the take-aways they learned from his presentation. Here are a few:

Maddie: "Being involved in robotics can give you more job opportunities."

Julia: "Robotics is quickly advancing into various different fields."

Grace: "You can 3D print prosthetic arms and legs."

Annie: "I learned that many of our area high schools have robotic classes, and some high schools work together."

Julia: "Robotics and STEM can open doors to solutions of world problems."

Gigi: "FIRST Robotics is a program that holds competitions for high school students."

Evelyn: "It was very neat for me to learn about Mr. Winans' work and how prosthetics are made for people in other countries."

Liam: "I learned how they build prosthetic arms for amputations as well as other limbs."

Liz: "I learned that you can make prosthetics with a 3D printer. Robots are used more frequently for surgery."

Tadhg: "There are so many opportunities to help people who have major disabilities right here in Cleveland as well as around the world."

Emily: "Robotics is about teamwork and timing."

Ava: "I learned that the Great Lakes Science Center hosts FIRST teams. This program helps to connect people interested in robotics. I also learned that the group called *Hands Out* makes prosthetic limbs for less fortunate people."

Olivia: "The FIRST program seems very interesting. I will look into it in high school."

Braylen: "Kids can get scholarships from being on a robotics team."

Thank you, Dominic, for giving us some of your time and increasing awareness to the world of robotics. Our 8th Grade is very lucky to have had Dominic speak to them firsthand.

Our PreK students made Baseball Buddies to celebrate the Home Opener a few weeks ago. I think their baseball buddies delivered the team some good luck as they brought us a winning Opening Day!

Finally, congratulations to Albert and Jack McGervey. Both were accepted into the Cleveland Fire Department training program. They have served us well as custodians here at St. Mark. They will be missed, but we wish them the very best. We are so proud of them.

We are very blessed to have such a vibrant school community and even more blessed to offer our children a variety of experiences which may have lasting effects on them. Please know that you are in our prayers. The support we receive from you, our St. Mark parishioners, means the world to us!

Have a Happy Easter!

Mrs. Cocita



Congratulations Albert & Jack

