



# 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.

April 28, 2024

## 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and everyone that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit." - Jn 15:1-2

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### PASTORAL STAFF

**Rev. Adam Zajac**

Pastor

**Mrs. Karen Cocita**

Principal

**Mrs. Meaghan McCarthy-Silver**

Pastoral Minister

**Mrs. Julia 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.

**Papal Intention**

**April:** For the role of women. We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.

**May:** For the formation of religious and seminarians. We pray that religious women and men, and seminarians, grow in their own vocations through their human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, leading them to be credible witnesses to the Gospel.

**Liturgy Schedule**

Scripture readings can be found online at:  
[bible.usccb.org](http://bible.usccb.org)

**Monday, April 29**

8:30am Mass.....**Presider's Intention**

**Tuesday, April 30**

8:30am Mass.....**Presider's Intention**

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

**Wednesday, May 1**

**Thursday, May 2**

8:30am Mass.....**Presider's Intention**

**Friday, May 3**

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

**Saturday, May 4**

3:00pm Confessions

3:00pm Confessions @ St. Mel

4:00pm Mass.....Gerri Joecken

4:30pm Mass @ St. Mel

**Sunday, May 5-Sixth Sunday of Easter**

7:00am Mass @ St. Mel

8:30am Mass...For the Parishioner of St. Mark Parish and St. Mel Parish

10:00am Mass @ St. Mel

11:30am Mass.....Anto & Mironya Jandric

**Liturgical Ministers May 4 & 5**

**Saturday, May 4 @ 4:00pm**

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Shirlee Toth, John Levis, NOT FILLED

**Lector:** Eliza Kratt

**Altar Server:** Morgan Adkins, Declan Fitzpatrick, William Lentz

**Sunday, May 5 @ 8:30am**

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Jessica Hanes, Kathy OMalley, NOT FILLED

**Lector:** Michael Grathwol, Laura Skonce

**Altar Server:** Theodore Garbon, Albert McGervey, Kathleen Murray

**Sunday, May 5 @ 11:30am**

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Rosanne Kelley, Lisa Ditzel, Mchelle Eiggins

**Lector:** Carole Iseli, NOT FILLED

**Altar Server:** Patrick Bryant, Luke Hudak, Clare Hurley

*Luke McGraw Memorial Candles*

**Weekly Intention**

**April 28**

**Special Intention**

**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 2024 - September 2024. 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 Monday, May 6th by 4:30pm to [cbirchfield@stmarkcleveland.com](mailto:cbirchfield@stmarkcleveland.com). Please be mindful of holidays and vacations. Thank you for your help.

If you are interested in becoming a Minister please contact the Parish Office at 216-226-7577.

**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      | Lisa Groh              | Bill Retzer          |
| Gianna Andolina    | Irene Gurchensky       | Mary Stark           |
| Carol Behnke       | David Kurth            | Nora Sudetic         |
| Jack Behnke        | Catherine Kutsick      | Lena Sunyak          |
| Katy Brent         | Loree Leasure-Poirier  | George Surovec       |
| Henry Buehner      | Jim McIlwee            | Rita Szy             |
| James Coyne        | Mary Miller            | Herb Tippie          |
| Margaret Fadrowski | Maisie Nowlin          | Georgieann Treible   |
| Nicole Foerstner   | Sr. Josette Obodzinski | Joe Wantz            |
| Mary Frantz        |                        | Charlotte Whiting    |
| Theresa Fridrich   |                        | Lillian Zahara       |
|                    |                        | Joseph Zavatchen Jr. |

**Weekly Collections**

**Sunday Envelopes:.....\$ 4,085.00**

**Faith Direct:.....\$ 5,381.00**

**Thank you for your generosity!**



Friends,

I am very pleased to announce to the parish that Deacon Michael Garvin has been formally called to orders, and will be ordained a priest this May. Michael is known to many of you from the time he spent here with us a few years ago as an intern. I personally encourage you to keep him in your prayers at the upcoming joyous moments of life for him and for the Diocese of Cleveland:

- Priestly Ordination: Saturday May 18, 10:00am at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist
- First Mass: Sunday May 19, 2:00pm, at St. Hilary Parish in Fairlawn
- Mass of Thanksgiving: Sunday June 2, 8:30am, at St. Mark

Especially because of the part our parishes played in the later stages of his formation and preparation for priesthood, consider directly showing him your support in a few ways:

- Go to his ordination mass, especially if you have never seen a priest's ordination or made a personal connection with him. Michael is the only ordination this year, and it would be moving to see the Cathedral filled with as many people as we can gather.
- Write him a letter or a card. If you leave it at the parish office before Monday, May 13 I am happy to deliver everything to him.
- Come to his mass at St. Mark and stay afterwards to congratulate him in person. He can't stay very long because he has a friend in the Diocese of Youngstown who will be newly ordained and saying his first mass later that day, but he will have some time to be with us.

And most of all, there is nothing you could do to honor Michael more than to a young man that you know, "have you considered the priesthood?" Priests, nuns, monks...these vocations only spring forth where the people of God call young people to them.

In Christ,

Fr. Adam



The parishioner-led Prayer Group will meet on Thursday, May 2nd at 7pm in the Servers Sacristy. This is a great opportunity to relax, pray, grow in faith, and make a difference in our world. There is a book available near the Sacred Heart Statue in the Church for prayer requests. These will receive prayer by this group. Feel free to share answered prayers here also. Please join us! There is no need to sign up.

*Fr. Adam, Mrs. Cocita, Parish Staff, School & Faculty and Parishioners of St. Mark Parish. Thank you for all the ways you supported Deacon Dave during his illness and passing. We are eternally grateful for your outpouring of love, prayers and kindness extended to our family during this difficult time. Please know that you hold a special place in our hearts.*

*In love and gratitude, Marian Lundeen and Family*

### St. Mark PSR Program 2024 - 2025

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 2024 – 2025 school year:

#### Registration is due with payment by June 10, 2024.

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](http://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](mailto:jpuckettpsr@stmarkcleveland.com).

**Congratulations...**  
*We've hit our goal!*



**Thanks**  
 to the generosity of our parishioners,  
 we have exceeded our parish goal  
 for the 2024 Catholic Charities Appeal!

We are thrilled to reach this important milestone but the need continues. Every day, Catholic Charities is a resource for nearly 400,000 people, who rely on their services and programs. *The work of Catholic Charities transforms lives, and so have you with your support.*



**St. Mark  
 Holy Name Society**

**Welcome All  
 Men and Women Parishioners  
 18 and Older  
 We Meet Second Tuesday of the Month  
 at 6:00 in the Social Hall**

**Interested?**

**Email [jimcocita@gmail.com](mailto:jimcocita@gmail.com)**

## HOLY NAME SOCIETY NEWS

### HNS NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK

Progressive Field  
 June 19, 2024  
 vs Seattle Mariners  
 Game Time 6:40 p.m.  
 Open to everyone!!  
 \$24.00/ticket  
 Tote Bag Give Away  
**Ticket information:**

**Please email Tim Mohr at [tseliot2@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tseliot2@sbcglobal.net)**

## Marker's/St. Mel 50+



## KENTUCKY DERBY

Join us for a Kentucky Derby Watch party on Saturday, May 4th after the 4:00p.m. Mass in the Social Hall. Please bring a prepared dish to be shared for our "potluck" dinner. Kindly, RSVP to the parish office by Monday, April 29th at 216-226-7577. any questions, please call Mary Kay at 216-402-8570. Ladies and gents be sure to wear your best hat for this occasion!

**RESCHEDULED**



**WAKE UP**  
 based on Ephesians 5  
 music video recording 5/5

scan QR code for a sample!

**SMS Youth Choir & Friends  
 Grades 4-8**

**Join us on Sunday May 5th, 11:30-5PM**  
 Beginning with mass @ 11:30. Includes lunch. We'll learn **WAKE UP**, make an audio recording, then bop about the church & Impett Park to make a music video.

RSVP WITH MRS. WALLACE  
 [JWALLACE@STMARKCLEVELAND.COM]

**Save The Date**

**Holy Name Society**

**ANNUAL  
 PARISH PICNIC**



**Sunday, June 30th** | **St. Mark Parish**  
**12:30PM - 5:00PM** | **15800 Montrose Ave.**  
 | **Cleveland, OH 44111**

*More details to Follow*



# Share God's Love

## St. Mark/St. Mel Faith Build

Dean's Greenhouse In-Store Fundraiser – May 1 through June 15

Don't start your spring gardening without stopping by Dean's Greenhouse in Westlake to shop for the St. Mark/ St. Mel Faith Build! Starting May 1 and running through June 15, mention St. Mark/ St. Mel when you shop, and Dean's will donate 30% of your total purchase to the St. Mark/St. Mel Faith Build.

Dean's Greenhouse is located at 3984 Porter Road, Westlake, 44145.

[www.deansgreenhouse.com](http://www.deansgreenhouse.com); 440-871-2050

Questions? Email Amy Asseff at [aasseff@aol.com](mailto:aasseff@aol.com).

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 Stiegelmeier, Edward Thomas, Joseph Toole, Jacob Trefney, Jonah Treible, Roan Viancourt, Lukas Whitney.

God Bless them all!

Kathy O'Malley [womalfam@sbcglobal.net](mailto:womalfam@sbcglobal.net) for any updates.



### THE WEEK AHEAD IN OUR PARISH

<b>Saturday,</b>	<b>April 27</b>	
9:00 am	First Eucharist Practice & Jesus Day	CH/SH
3:00 pm	Confessions	
4:00 pm	Mass	
	<b>Food Sunday</b>	
<b>Sunday,</b>	<b>April 28</b>	
8:30 am	Mass	
9:30 am	Rosary	
11:30 am	Mass LS w/Youth Choir	
11:30 am	Sunday Pre-School	CR
<b>Monday,</b>	<b>April 29</b>	
	<b>School Closed</b>	
8:00 am	Teacher In-Service	SH
8:30 am	Mass	
6:30 pm	PSR Class Gr. 1-8	CR
<b>Tuesday,</b>	<b>April 30</b>	
8:30 am	Mass w/1st Floor	
4:30 pm	RCIC	CC
<b>Wednesday,</b>	<b>May 1</b>	
6:00 pm	Scout Pack #268	SH
<b>Thursday,</b>	<b>May 2</b>	
8:30 am	Mass	
6:30 pm	First Communion Prac.	CH
7:00 pm	Prayer Group	SS
7:00 pm	Troop #293	SH/PP
<b>Friday,</b>	<b>May 3</b>	
9:00 am	School Adoration	CH
3:30 pm	Eucharistic Adoration	CH
5:00 pm	Family Holy Hour Social	SH
<b>Saturday,</b>	<b>May 4</b>	
10:00 am	First Eucharist	CH
3:00 pm	Confessions	
4:00 pm	Mass	
5:00 pm	Marker's 50+	SH/TV
<b>Sunday,</b>	<b>May 5</b>	
8:30 am	Mass	
9:30 am	Rosary	
11:30 am	Mass LS w/Youth Choir	
12:30 pm	Music Video	CH

**Note: (LS)=Livestreamed**



[www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net)

**St. Mark Church # OH274**

If you are using Faith Direct for eGiving....please access the website, log in and verify that all of your information is correct. You may need to update bank account or credit card numbers.

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!*



Please come to pray WITH Mary, Our Blessed Mother, in this beautiful devotion, The Rosary. We are living in troubled times and so much in need of peace within our souls and for the world. We ask Mary, Our Mother, to intercede and lead us contemplating the mysteries of Jesus. "The Family that Prays together, Stays together"...Fr. Patrick Peyton  
Every Sunday following the 8:30am Mass



## Principal News

On Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, we had quite a day! To begin, we hosted our 10<sup>th</sup> annual St. Baldrick Shave Your Mane event at school. The committee, led by Mrs. Julie Andolina, included Jean Burger, Kirsten Glazier, Jessica Koch, and Maureen Soeder. Once again, they outdid themselves! What a great committee they were, paying such close attention to all those tiny details that cannot be overlooked for an event of this magnitude to occur successfully. This year, there were over 80 shaves, including two of our teachers, a host of volunteers throughout the community including Dante Lucci Salon, West Park Barbershop, Salon Love, Travis Men's Grooming, P.J. McIntyres, Sarah Beirne Photography, Dina's Pizza and Pub, West Park Station, GV Art and Design, 5 Points Coffee, Camelot Bakery, West Side Irish American Club Pipe Band, Ellie Burger's grandma who created a beautiful handsewn quilt as one of the raffle items, Larry Bachtel who piped the shaves into the gym, and Jason and Matt, who served as emcees. Mrs. Adams led us in prayer as we remembered Mr. Adams, our former P.E. teacher, who always took part in this event by getting his mane shaved. A special moment of silence was held later in the program in memory of Deacon Dave who always led the event off with prayer in previous years. Following this moment of silence, the West Side Irish American Club Pipe Band played Amazing Grace in his memory while the crowd sat in silence, paying tribute once again to this very humble man. Several short testimonials were given by Dr. Rabi Hanna, MD, the Chairman of Pediatric Hematology-Oncology and Director of the Pediatric Bone Marrow Transplant at Cleveland Clinic Children's Hospital. Interesting to note that Dr. Hanna's own daughters came with him to shave their manes! As the event went on, University Hospitals Pet Pals were introduced because pet therapy can reduce stress, promote healing and lift spirits while providing a comforting source of healing touch for children in the hospital. Students from St. Joseph Academy's Cancer Club were on hand to clean up after each round of shaving, and Prayers for Maria, Shanerock, and Headbands of Hope were present with merchandise available for purchase, along with some of our own Shave Your Mane swag. Mr. Brendan Walton knighted several of our student shaves who celebrated milestone years having their heads shaved. Mr. Walton himself is a Baron of the Brave, with 23 years of service to St. Baldrick's. Between shaves, some of our students from the Brady Campbell School of Dance performed for the crowd. Playhouse Square tickets, Cavs and Browns memorabilia, and Guardians tickets were donated for a raffle to generate even more funds. This truly was a community event that raised over \$56,000 dollars for childhood cancer research! Over the past 10 years, our St. Mark School community has raised over \$600,000! If you look at the logo for St. Baldrick, the "S" and "B" represent St. Baldrick's, in the form of a four-leaf clover. The four leaves represent our volunteers, donors, researchers, and families who came together under the St. Baldrick name to lead the charge against childhood cancer. I am humbled, thankful, and inspired by the community support. We are truly Lion Strong!

Later that same evening, we held our Mother (Important Person)/ Son Denim and Diamonds dance at school. The mother/son relationship has always been a special one, especially when they are little boys. Moms make an indelible imprint on the lives of their sons in so many ways. Every interaction a mother has with her son has the potential to shape his perspective and impact his future. (I'm discovering that now as my oldest son so often tells me he has my cleaning gene!) So as our "couples" arrived, each mom was given a tiara to wear along with a neon bracelet while each boy could choose a colorful top hat with matching beads. The boys and their dates checked any coats, and then had their "official photo" before they were set free to travel to the dance floor or refreshment room, soon to return to their dates with untucked shirts and disheveled hair. For me personally, it was truly a wonderful evening just watching the interactions between our couples. I found myself thinking of the lyrics from the song, "The Prayer," written by Carol Boyer Sager and David Foster. "Lead us to the place, guide us with your grace, to a place where we'll be safe." Moms are always doing that. It is my hope that our special couples left with great memories of their special night. A special thanks goes out to Mrs. Gunn, Mrs. Diamond, Alex McNamara, Sean McNamara, Mr Burick our D.J., and Mr. Cocita, for all their help in making this such a special memory.





# Weekly Prayer

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

Then Barnabas took charge of him and brought him to the apostles, and he reported to them how he had seen the Lord, and that he had spoken to him. (Acts 9:27)

### Psalm:

I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people. (Ps 22)  
Or: Alleluia.

### Second Reading:

And his commandment is this: we should believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another just as he commanded us. (1 Jn 3:23)

### Gospel:

"I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing." (Jn 15:5)

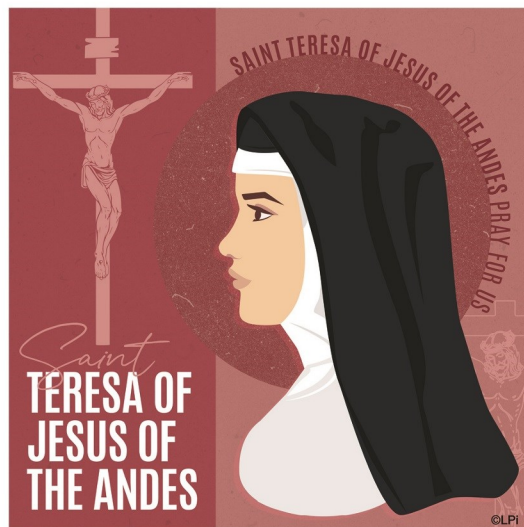
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## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Every Christian is a vine awaiting the loving attention of our gardener to prune and perfect us, to remove the parts of ourselves that are dead so that the fruitful parts burst forth with life. Trust the wisdom of the gardener. He alone can make us bloom.

## Observances for the week of April 28, 2024

- Sunday:** 5th Sunday of Easter  
**Monday:** St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church  
**Tuesday:** St. Pius V, Pope  
**Wednesday:** St. Joseph the Worker  
**Thursday:** St. Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church; National Day of Prayer  
**Friday:** Sts. Philip and James, Apostles  
**Next Sunday:** 6th Sunday of Easter



## Saint of the week

St. Teresa of Jesus of the Andes was a teenage Chilean Carmelite novitiate. Although she died of typhoid when she was 19, she proved that one's life doesn't have to be particularly long and filled with lofty accomplishments to be an amazing example of the love of Christ.

## Prayer of Fruitfulness

God in Heaven,  
Your grace surrounds us every day as we seek to live and move and grow in You. Prune the spaces in our lives that distract us from You! Plant Your word more deeply within us!  
Amen.