



MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

And Mary kept all these things,
reflecting on them in her heart. - Lk 2:19

Liturgy Readings for the Week

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Saturday, | December 31-The Seventh Day Within The Octave of the Nativity of the Lord |
| 4:00 p.m. | Jn 2:18-21 Jn 1:1-18 |
| Sunday, | January 1-Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God |
| 8:30 a.m. | Nm 6:22-27 Gal 4:4-7 Lk 2:16-21 |
| 11:30 a.m. | For the Parishioners of St. Mark Parish & St. Mel Parish |
| | Dolly Tinnirello |
| Monday, | January 2-Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen |
| | Jn 2:22-28 Jn 1:19-28 |
| 8:30 a.m. | Presider's Intention |
| Tuesday, | January 3 |
| | Jn 2:29-3:6 Jn 1:29-34 |
| 8:30 a.m. | Kenneth & Leona Lundeen |
| Wednesday | January 4-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton |
| | Jn 3:7-10 Jn 1:35-42 |
| Thursday, | January 5-St. John Neumann |
| | Jn 3:11-21 Jn 1:43-51 |
| 8:30 a.m. | Bishop Rolando Alvarez Living |
| Friday, | January 6 |
| | Jn 5:5-13 Mk 1:7-11 |
| 8:30 a.m. | Tom & Sheila McGuire |
| Saturday, | January 7 |
| | Jn 2:18-21 Jn 1:1-18 |
| 4:00 p.m. | Lew Zahara |
| Sunday, | January 8-The Epiphany of the Lord |
| | Is 60: 1-6 Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 Mt 2:1-12 |
| 8:30 a.m. | Presider's Intention |
| 11:30 a.m. | Maggie Willmitch |

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.

Pope's Intention January: For educators. We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fellowship rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

Liturgical Ministers January 7 & 8

Saturday, January 7 @ 4:00pm

Eucharistic Ministers: Mary Price, John Levis, Tim Schmidt

Lector: Lisa Mullins

Altar Servers: Fia Drvenkar, Aidan Gompf, Grace Schmidt

Sunday, January 8 @ 8:30am

Eucharistic Ministers: Deacon Dave, Jessica Hanes, Michael Kay

Lector: Barb Paynter, NOT FILLED

Altar Servers: Fiona Stock, Lillian Stock, Austin Tousley

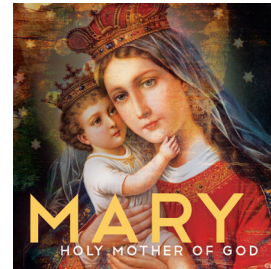
Sunday, January 8 @ 11:30am

Eucharistic Ministers: Mary Ruminski, Annamaria Masterson, Lisa Ditzel

Lector: Cari White, Carole Iseli

Altar Servers: Owen Glazier, Andrew Koch, Jack Koch

Luke McGraw
Memorial Candles
Weekly Intention
January 1
The Tinnirello Family



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



May the peace of our Lord be with
William Waters, Father of John Waters & Barbara Sonby
Giuseppe Coreno, Husband of Maria
Colum Gallagher, Brother of Sheila Gallagher

and may God grant comfort to their family and friends.

REFLECTION

Listen. Think. Act.

That is a mantra or slogan for many different groups. Some seek to battle prejudice and bias. Other groups hope to eliminate poverty or reduce crime. I have even found some companies use it as a way of increasing engagement among their employees. In a nutshell, it is about taking in what you have heard and then reflecting on it before you act. The most fruitful actions are those that take place after careful reflection.

This is an important thing to remember for those trying to live a stewardship way of life. If we are honest with ourselves, too often most of us jump to conclusions too quickly or act in ways that cause friction because we didn't really think about the consequences of our actions. We are moving too fast in a world that seems to be moving ever faster. When the shepherds came to visit Jesus, the newborn King, they told Mary everything that the angels had told them. Luke tells us that after hearing all this, she "kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart." No response. No panic. No action. Her reflection was the appropriate response.

In this New Year, you and I would do well to remember this Gospel account of Mary, the Mother of God. Let us resolve to listen more, reflect often, and then act accordingly. We are called to use our gifts wisely, sowing them in good soil. If we just throw them out, allowing them to simply fall wherever they may, have we really used them for God's glory? We need to listen. Think. Then act.



Join us for Eucharistic Adoration on Friday, January 6th from 3:30pm-7:00pm. Please come to spend some time in prayer and thanksgiving before the Lord. If you would like to sign up for a specific 1/2 hour of prayer, please contact the Parish Office at 216-226-7577.

Sunday & Christmas Collections

Thank you for your support and generosity of St. Mark Parish during this past year. Please see the January 8th bulletin for the Sunday & Christmas collections.

Birthright Baby Bottle Donations

We are sponsoring a fundraiser for Birthright, a pregnancy crisis and counseling center. Baby Bottles will be available to pick up at all Church entrances January 7 & 8. If you are able, please pick up a baby bottle, fill it with spare change to 'help make a change in a young woman's life'. Please return the filled bottles the weekend of January 21 & 22. Bottles may also be returned to the Parish Office.

Thank you for your continued generosity.



The parishioner-led Prayer Group will meet on Thursday, January 5th 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. The group will pray for these requests. Feel free to share answered prayers here also. Please join us! There is no need to sign up.

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 February 2023 - May 2023. 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, January 13th by 4:30pm to 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.



Young Family Gatherings

Once a month after 8:30 a.m. Mass, young families are welcome to gather in the Social Hall for bagels, coffee, and community.

Young families are generally families with a child/children who are not school aged.

Dates vary each month.
Questions? Please contact
Briana David (440) 463-8656

WINTER DATES

January 15
February 19
March 19



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!*



ANGEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

*Turning taxes into tuition with the
Catholic Community Foundation*

The Catholic Community Foundation has established The Angel Scholarship Fund as a brand new opportunity to support our Catholic Schools and students in the Diocese of Cleveland. It is possible to "turn tax dollars into tuition" by making a charitable contribution to the Angel Scholarship Fund in 2022 that is eligible for a 100% tax credit on the donor's 2022 State of Ohio income tax return. The maximum credit amount is currently \$750 (\$1500 if married filing jointly, where each spouse donates \$750). Donors can make undesignated contributions to the Angel Scholarship Fund, and the Angel Scholarship Fund can then award to any eligible student from any Catholic school, or donors can make a contribution designated to benefit students at a particular school. The Angel Scholarship Fund, like any SGO, is required to prioritize "low income" (under 300% of the poverty threshold) recipients, but otherwise the law does not place limits on which K-12 students can be served or the number of scholarships that can be awarded. This program holds tremendous potential for bolstering our efforts to ensure the viability of our Catholic schools and has the potential to benefit every Catholic school in the diocese.

All students that apply are eligible to receive an Angel Scholarship. While applicants that are under 300% of the poverty threshold (in 2021-2022 this is \$79,500 for a family of four) will be prioritized, applicants that are over this threshold are also eligible for an Angel Scholarship, based on availability of funds.

Please visit www.catholiccommunity.org/angel for more information about this exciting initiative!

THE WEEK AHEAD IN OUR PARISH

| | | | |
|--------------|--------------------------------|----|--|
| Saturday, | December 31 | | |
| 3:00 pm | Confessions | | |
| 4:00 pm | Mass | | |
| Sunday, | January 1 | | |
| 8:30 am | Mass | | |
| 9:30 am | Rosary | CH | |
| 11:30 am | Mass (LS) | | |
| Monday, | January 2 | | |
| | <i>School Closed</i> | | |
| | <i>Parish Office Closed</i> | | |
| 8:30 am | Mass | | |
| 5:00 pm | Basketball Tournament | G | |
| Tuesday, | January 3 | | |
| | <i>School Closed</i> | | |
| 8:30 am | Mass | | |
| 5:00 pm | Basketball Tournament | G | |
| Wednesday, | January 4 | | |
| 2:30 pm | RCIC | SH | |
| 5:30 pm | RCIC | CC | |
| 5:00-9:00pm | Basketball Tournament | G | |
| 6:30 pm | Scout Pack #268 Den Mtg. | SH | |
| Thursday, | January 5 | | |
| 8:30 am | Mass | | |
| 5:00-9:00 pm | Basketball Tournament | G | |
| 6:00 pm | Pack #268 Den Mtg. | SH | |
| 7:00 pm | Prayer Group | SS | |
| 7:00 pm | Troop #269 | SH | |
| Friday, | January 6 | | |
| 8:30 am | Mass | | |
| 9:00 am | School Eucharistic Adoration | CH | |
| 3:30 pm | Eucharistic Adoration | CH | |
| 5:00-9:00 pm | Basketball Tournament | G | |
| Saturday, | January 7 | | |
| 9:00-2:00 pm | Basketball Tournament | G | |
| 9:30 am | Arts & Environment | CH | |
| 3:00 pm | Confessions | | |
| 4:00 pm | Mass | | |
| 5:00-9:00 pm | Basketball Tournament | G | |
| | <i>Baby Bottle Pickup</i> | | |
| Sunday, | January 8 | | |
| 8:30 am | Mass w/HNS Corporate Communion | | |
| 9:30 am | Rosary | CH | |
| 11:30 am | Mass (LS) | | |
| 11:30 am | Sunday Preschool | CR | |
| 1:00-9:00pm | Basketball Tournament | G | |



Parish Office Schedule

Friday, December 31st - Closed
Monday, January 2nd - Closed

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 Stieglmeyer, Edward Thomas, Joseph Toole, Jacob Trefney, Jonah Treible, Lukas Whitney.

God Bless them all!

Kathy O'Malley

womalfam@sbcglobal.net for any updates.



PLEASE BE SURE TO PICK UP
YOUR 2023 PARISH CALENDAR,
AVAILABLE AT THE CHURCH
ENTRANCES

REQUEST FOR 2022 CONTRIBUTION REPORT

Please send a request via email to twinans@stmarkcleveland.com or fill out this form and return it to the Parish Office.

Name (print) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email report to: _____

Pick up at Parish Office _____ Mail to above address _____

PRINCIPAL NEWS

As we celebrate the New Year, here are some thoughts from Rita Watson from her article titled, "Ten Thoughts for Embracing a New Year of Serenity" of how to give it special meaning:

- Make a wish list that gives you purpose. Fill it with wishes for right now for yourself and people you love.
- Read children's books to enliven your imagination. "The Polar Express" will restore your belief in holiday magic.
- Let go of an angry heart. Forgive someone to refresh your soul.
- Take a nature walk to find little miracles in the song of a bird, beauty of a tree, clouds making shapes ranging from dragons to angels floating by.
- Write a love letter, a serious handwritten love letter, even if it takes a full week to complete.
- Listen to those in your life who may need you to step back, slow down, and be there for them. Then create uninterrupted alone times to share with them.
- Take a first step towards making a big dream come true.
- Start a gratitude book even if you can only think of one happy moment per day. Dr. Robert Emmons, UC Davis, explained in an interview that "Attitude change often follows behavior change. By living the gratitude that we do not necessarily feel, we can begin to feel the gratitude that we live."
- Open your heart to find love. The man who wrote a book titled Love, Dr. Leo Buscaglia, believed that we should all take a chance on love and express our feelings by saying the words to children, parents, friends, and spouses, "I love you."
- Practice acts of kindness.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation and gratitude to all of you for your kind expressions of sympathy over the loss of Dave Adams. Your prayers, your offers to stand his watch for our morning drop off, your coffee, your hugs, your baking for the wake, your presence during the wake and funeral, and your thoughts certainly helped all of us get through the days just prior to Christmas break. Your sympathy came through in so many ways and it was a true tribute to what St. Mark is- a community that truly cares about one another, a community that I am so proud to be a part of. The day following his death, one child after the other exited their cars in tears, and I could do nothing but hug them and love them and listen to them. But then I realized that these amazing children started doing the same for one another! The older students walked younger ones into the building and to their classrooms with arms wrapped around one another. Mr. Adams made a difference in their lives and ours, whether it was through his peanut butter yoga moves, his bad jokes, his belief in following rules, his kickball calls, his love for sports and how it affects children, the relationships created through his many years of coaching (my own sons included), the friendships formed through his involvement in many of our parish organizations, his love for travel, and the deep faith he had in our God. During Covid last year, he loved bringing the Eucharist to the classrooms; it was a privilege for him as a Eucharistic Minister of Holy Communion. He is missed but will not be forgotten. Mr. Adams was a good and faithful servant; one I am honored to call both friend and colleague.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you a Happy New Year from all of us at St. Mark School. I thank you for the gift of your children, for your support, and for your prayers. You are in our prayers every day. May each of you have a blessed and heartwarming 2023!

Mrs. Cocita

SUNDAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING:

"So shall they invoke my name upon the Israelites,
and I will bless them." (Nm 6:27)

PSALM:

May God bless us in his mercy. (Ps 67)

SECOND READING:

When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son,
born of a woman. (Gal 4:4)

GOSPEL:

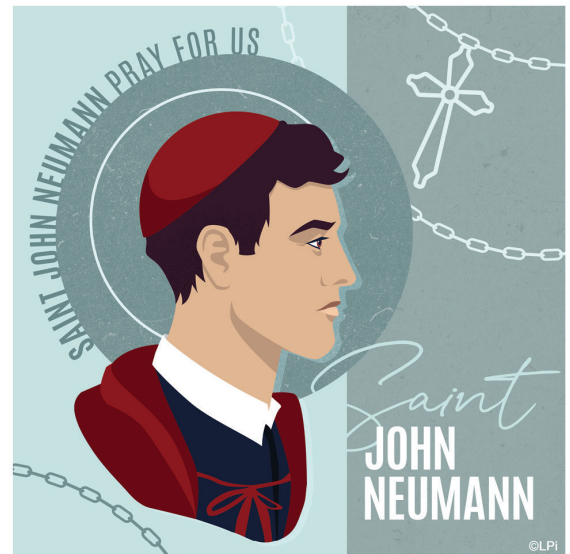
The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem
and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in
the manger. (Lk 2:16)

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OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 1, 2023

- Sunday: Mary, The Holy Mother of God, National Migration Week,
New Year's Day
- Monday: Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops
and Doctors of the Church
- Tuesday: The Most Holy Name of Jesus
- Wednesday: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
- Thursday: St. John Neumann, Bishop
- Friday: St. André Bessette, Religious
- Saturday: St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest
- Next Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord



Saint of the Week

St. John Neumann, patron saint of educators, immigrants, and sick children, was the first male saint to be canonized from the USA. An immigrant himself, he expanded Catholic education in his region from 2 schools to 100 & ministered in 6 different languages!

Prayer

Prayer for St. John Neumann's intercession

O St. John Neumann, your ardent desire of bringing all souls to Christ impelled you to leave home and country; teach us to live worthily in the spirit of our baptism which makes us all children of the one Heavenly Father and brothers of Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the family of God.

Obtain for us that complete dedication in the service of the needy, the weak, the afflicted, and the abandoned which so characterized your life. Help us to walk perseveringly in the difficult and at times painful paths of duty, strengthened by the Body and Blood of our Redeemer and under the watchful protection of Mary our Mother. May death still find us on the sure road to our Father's house, with the light of living faith in our hearts.

(Prayer Source: <https://stjohnneumann.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Prayers-to-St.-John-Neumann.pdf>)

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