



# 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.



## 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Summon the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and ending with the first.”  
- Mt 20:1, 8

SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

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## PASTORAL STAFF

**Rev. Adam Zajac**  
Pastor

**Deacon Dave Lundeen**  
Business Manager, Pastoral Associate

**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.

15800 MONTROSE AVENUE | CLEVELAND, OH 44111 | 216-226-7577 | STMARKCLEVELAND.COM

## Papal Intention

**September:** For people living on the margins. We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.

## Liturgy Schedule

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

### Monday September 25

8:30am Mass .....Frank Gallagher

### Tuesday September 26

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

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

### Wednesday September 27-St. Vincent de Paul

### Thursday September 28

8:30am Mass .....James Howard

### Friday September 29-Sts. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

### Saturday September 30-St. Jerome

3:00pm Confessions

3:00pm Confessions @ St. Mel

4:00pm Mass.....Dick & Diane Kiefer

4:30pm Mass @ St. Mel

### Sunday October-Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00am Mass @ St. Mel

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

10:00am Mass @ St. Mel

11:30am Mass .....Carol Lorenzo

## Liturgical Ministers September 30 & October 1

### Saturday, September 30 @ 4:00pm

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Mary Price, Michelle Biggins, John Levis

**Lector:** Paul Gambon

**Altar Servers:** Gregory Estergall, Aidan Gompf, Madeline Gompf

### Sunday, October 1 @ 8:30am

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Mary Stamper, Kathy O'Malley, Laura Skonce

**Lector:** Al Abel, Michael Grathwol

**Altar Servers:** Julia McNulty, Maeve Smith, Austin Tousley

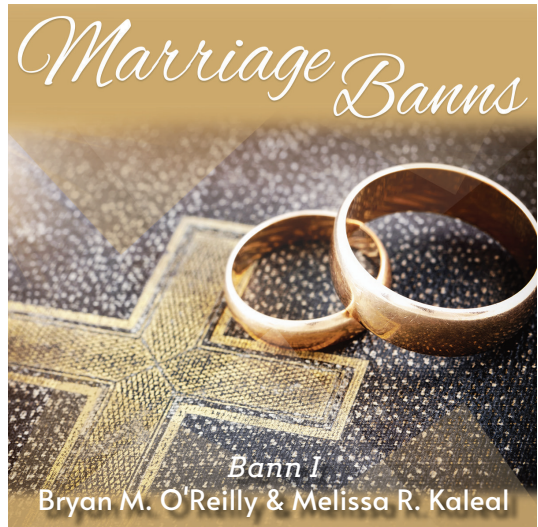
### Sunday, October @ 11:30am

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Eileen Andrews, Cari Foster, Rosanne Kelley

**Lector:** Carole Iseli, Barbara Paynter

**Altar Servers:** Gianna Andolina, Joseph Andolina, Owen Goggin

Luke McGraw  
 Memorial Candles  
 Weekly Intention  
 September 24  
 Mac Sunyak



## 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	Irene Gurchensky	Sr. Mary Ann Spangler
Gianna Andolina	Gerri Joecken	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	Herb Tippie
James Coyne	Mary Miller	Joe Wantz
Margaret Fadrowski	Betty Minotas	Charlotte Whiting
Nicole Foerstner	Maisie Nowlin	Lillian Zahara
Helen Forlini	Sr. Josette Obodzinski	Joseph Zavatchen Jr.
Mary Frantz	Ryan Puzzitiello Jr.	
Theresa Fridrich	Bill Retzer	

**St. Mel Parish and St. Mark Parish Present  
Marriage Enrichment Speaker Series**

**Join us on Saturday, October 14 for mass at 4:30pm  
(optional), dinner at 5:30pm (optional), speaker at 6:30pm at  
St. Mel Hall. RSVP is required.**

**Nellie and Neil Krawczynski will speak on the relationship  
within your relationship: embracing holy intimacy and living  
marriage within the heart of the Trinity.  
Flyers at the entrances.**



**SAINT MARK SINGERS: YOUTH CHOIR**

Open to students from grades 6-8  
Rehearsals on Monday after school from 2:30-3pm  
in the choir loft.  
Students are expected to sing during the 11:30am  
weekend mass.

**SAINT MARK SINGERS: ADULT CHOIR**

Upcoming rehearsals: 9/26 @ 7pm in the choir loft

NEW: Find School-Mass schedule & playlists on our  
website [visit: [stmarkcleveland.com](http://stmarkcleveland.com)>parish  
groups>music ministry]  
YouTube: @WallaceMusicMinistry

***Necrology Book***

The Necrology Book (or the Book of the Deceased) will be placed in the Church. Please feel free to add the names of your loved ones who have died. The Book will be left out for the entire month of October. During the month of November the Necrology Book will be presented during the Offertory procession at all Masses. Please remember to honor all our deceased loved ones by adding their names to the Necrology Book.

**40 Days for Life  
Fall 2023 Campaign  
September 27th - November 5th**

From September 27 - November 5, you are invited to join with other Christians for 40 Days for Life - 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. You are also invited to stand and peacefully pray anytime between 7am to 7pm during the 40-day vigil in the public right-of-way outside:

- Preterm - 12000 Shaker Blvd., Cleveland, 44120
- Planned Parenthood - 25350 Rockside Rd., Bedford Hts. 44146

For more information contact John Noall at [clevelandpraysforlife@gmail.com](mailto:clevelandpraysforlife@gmail.com) or 216-245-9744



As we anticipate this Advent Season, we are blest to be able to offer opportunities for the women and men of our parish to renew hope, belief and faith in God's promise of infinite good for us and for our loved ones.

We will be offering an opportunity to take some time for reflection and preparation for the season of Christmas. A weekend for women will be held on December 1st to the 3rd and for the men December 8th to the 10th. These weekends will be held at the Bethany Retreat Center in Chardon.

More details will be available in future bulletins. If you have any questions please contact the Parish Office at 216-226-7577.



## ST. MARK BEREAVEMENT

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 the parish office to register 216-226-7577

### WEDNESDAYS AT 7PM

Oct 4  
Oct 11  
Oct 25  
Nov 1  
Nov 8  
Nov 15

[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!*



Interested in the Great Outdoors? Do you want an opportunity to camp, canoe, hike, backpack, kayak, and learn basic outdoor and life skills? Every thought about doing something really challenging? We have a program for you --- Scouts BSA with Troop 293. Boys age 11-18, why not join us as we start a new scouting year in the great outdoors. With Troop 293, you have a great opportunity to earn the Rank of Eagle Scout and attend a High Adventure Base as our Troop sponsors a trip on a regular basis. For more information, contact Scoutmaster Tom Frank @ 440-892-9029.

### Minister Schedules

The new minister schedules for October through January are available on the parish website, and also in the sacristy for those that receive a hard copy. Rosters are available in the sacristy as well, if you need an updated substitute list.

Thank you for your continued service!

### A LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR

Our Lady of Angels Prayer Group will offer a "Life in the Spirit Seminar" this Fall on eight consecutive Tuesdays, September 5th through October 24th from 7:30-9:00pm. Our most recent Popes, Paul VI to Pope Francis, have given both their approval and their support for these seminars. If you desire more for your life, this seminar can be the beginning of a "renewal" of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Join us in the Primary school building (behind Linus Hall, there will be signs). For more information and to register please contact Verna at 216-251-3560 or Tom at 216-536-6495. There is no charge for this seminar.

Join Fr. Rob Ramser on a trip of a lifetime to the Holy Land from November 20th - 29th, 2024. We will visit Caesarea, Mount Carmel, Nazareth, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, the Jordan Valley and much more! Masses held daily in the places where Christ was born, taught, healed, was Crucified and rose triumphant for our Salvation. Price person is \$4,487 which includes round trip flights, double occupancy hotels, certified tour guide, tips, daily breakfasts and dinners and two lunches. Come find a new dimension in understanding Christian history and the life and continuing mission of Christ. Contact Jerusalem Tours ([www.JerusalemTours.com](http://www.JerusalemTours.com)), Fr. Rob Ramser (216-252-2332 or [rramser@olangles.org](mailto:rramser@olangles.org)) or go to <https://form.jotform.com/230694659784474> for more information.

## THE WEEK AHEAD IN OUR PARISH

Saturday, September 23		
10:00 am	CYO Volleyball Games	G
3:00 pm	Confession	
4:00 pm	Mass	
<i>Food Sunday</i>		
Sunday, September 24		
8:30 am	Mass	
9:30 am	Rosary	CH
11:30 am	Mass (LS)	
11:30 am	Sunday Pre-School	CR
2:30 pm	CYO Volleyball Games	G
Monday, September 25		
8:30 am	Mass	
4:00-7:00 pm	Volleyball Prac.	G
6:00 pm	Men's Retreat	SS
6:30 pm	PSR Class Gr. 1-8	CR
Tuesday, September 26		
8:30 am	Mass w/1st Floor	
4:00-6:00 pm	Volleyball Prac.	G
Wednesday, September 27		
Thursday, September 28		
8:30 am	Mass	
4:00-7:00 pm	Volleyball Prac.	G
7:00 pm	Reconciliation Parent/Child Mtg.	SH
7:00 pm	Troop #293	PP/CC
Friday, September 29		
8:00 am	School Photos	G
Saturday, September 30		
3:00 pm	Confession	
4:00 pm	Mass	
<i>Saturday Social and Donut Sunday</i>		
Sunday, October 1		
8:30 am	Mass	
9:30 am	Rosary	CH
11:30 am	Mass (LS) w/Youth Group	
11:30 am	Sunday Pre-School	CR
2:30 pm	CYO Volleyball Games	G

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

God Bless them all!

Kathy O'Malley

womalfam@sbcglobal.net for any updates.



## VIRTUS COMPLIANCY — IMPORTANT

The USCCB (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops) will be doing on-site audits at parishes in the Diocese of Cleveland. It is imperative that prior to working with children - coaches, scout leaders and helpers, St. Mark Staff, catechists & teachers (PSR and DAY school), parent volunteers, etc. - are Virtus compliant. This means that one must be:

- Virtus trained (see below)
- **Current with reading all on-line bulletins**
- Read and sign **Policy for Protecting Children Revised 2016 (turn into Parish Office)**
- Read and sign **Standards of Conduct Revised 2016 (turn into Parish Office)**
- **New Volunteers must complete a Background Check through Virtus.org.** In the Virtus website click on the "Toolbox" tab, click on the Selection.com tab and begin the process. Must have a credit card to complete.
- **Current Volunteers with a current BCI Fingerprint/Background check must renew after 5 years through Virtus.org** click on the "Toolbox" tab, click on the Selection.com tab and begin the process. Must have a credit card to complete.
- Complete a **St. Mark Volunteer Application (turn into Parish Office)**

All of the above-mentioned requirements are mandatory. (You can check your compliancy by going to "Virtus.org", signing in, and clicking on the green 'Training' tab.) If you are not sure of your compliancy, call Cheryl Birchfield at the Parish Office (216-226-7577) and your compliancy will be verified. If one is not Virtus compliant, **YOU MAY NOT WORK/VOLUNTEER WITH CHILDREN.**

To see available Virtus training sessions please go to [Virtusonline.org](http://Virtusonline.org) click on First Time Registrant, Begin Registration Process also available is List of Sessions, select the Cleveland Diocese. You **MUST** register to attend a session.

## Sunday Contributions

Sunday Envelopes (see 10/1 bulletin)

Faith Direct Sunday.....\$ 5,615.00

Thank you for your continued generosity!

# Worship & Meditation

## Readings for the week of September 24, 2023

### Sunday:

Is 55:6-9/Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18 (18a)/Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a

### Monday:

Ezr 1:1-6/Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6/Lk 8:16-18

### Tuesday:

Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Lk 8:19-21

### Wednesday:

Ezr 9:5-9/Tb 13:2, 3-4a, 4befghn, 7-8/Lk 9:1-6

### Thursday:

Hg 1:1-8/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Lk 9:7-9

### Friday:

Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 4-5/Jn 1:47-51

### Saturday:

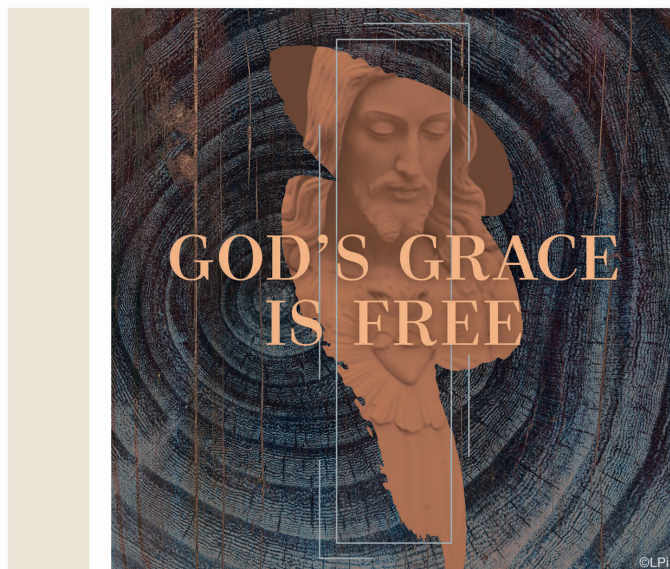
Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13/Lk 9:43b-45

### Next Sunday:

Ez 18:25-28/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9, (6a)/Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5/Mt 21:28-32



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## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Once I gave my three-year-old niece a certain toy for Christmas. When she opened it, she was happy. Shortly thereafter her five-year old sister opened another present from me: the same toy, along with some play jewelry. The three-year-old cried out: "That's not fair! Why'd she get the jewelry, too?!"

Let's face it: there's something about God's grace in our religion which bugs us. We love to look at others' blessings and cry out: "That's not fair!" Catholicism is not fair in the sense that it is a religion founded on God's grace which is *unmerited* favor. God pours his mercy, love, and divine life upon us not because we're good but because He is infinitely good.

If you think the "not fair" quality of grace is easy to accept, consider how typically angry we get when we hear the parable of the workers who get paid way more than they deserve. The hyper-generous landowner says to the indignant hard workers, "Are you envious because I am generous?" Well, yes, they are, and so are we! Therefore, we *have* to reckon with this painful truth in order to move into the divine sphere of gifts, which is the world of Christ and his Church. Then we are able to move beyond a tit-for-tat world and into one where gifts are poured forth on those who don't deserve it — namely, upon us.

— *Father John Muir*

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2023 | 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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# Weekly Prayer

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. (Is 55:8)

### Psalm:

The Lord is near to all who call upon him. (Ps 145)

### Second Reading:

Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or  
by death.

For to me life is Christ, and death is gain. (Phil 1:20-21)

### Gospel:

“What if I wish to give this last one the same as you?  
Or am I not free to do as I wish with my own money?  
Are you envious because I am generous?” (Mt 20:14-15)

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## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Let us never make the grave mistake of assuming we earn our salvation in the same way we earn a wage. It is a gift lavished upon us by a God who does not count the hours of our labor or measure the amount of our output.

## Observances for the week of September 24, 2023

- Sunday:** 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time;  
Priesthood Sunday
- Tuesday:** Sts. Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs
- Wednesday:** St. Vincent de Paul, Priest
- Thursday:** St. Wenceslaus, Martyr; St. Lawrence Ruiz  
and Companions, Martyrs
- Friday:** Sts. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael,  
Archangels
- Saturday:** St. Jerome, Priest and Doctor of  
the Church
- Next Sunday:** 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time;  
Respect Life Sunday



## Saint of the week

In Tlaxcala, Mexico, in the early 1500s, three indigenous boys embraced Catholicism after encountering Spanish Franciscan friars. Their names were Cristóbal, Antonio, and Juan. Each was martyred for their faith, making them the first Catholic martyrs on the continent.

## Prayer

Holy Trinity, I deeply venerate your generosity and infinite majesty, for the firmness that you granted to the children Cristóbal, Antonio, and Juan, who, at the beginning of the evangelization of Mexico, and despite their young ages, were filled with immense love for carrying the word of your kingdom without stopping to think about the fear of suffering.

With their verve and their martyrdom, we inherited an example of an unbreakable and sincere faith. For the preference you had for these children, confer the special grace that, through their intercession, I ask of you (make your request).  
Amen.

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**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2023 | 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

