



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.

October 19, 2025



29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Will not God then secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night? Will he be slow to answer them? I tell you, he will see to it that justice is done for them speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?” - Lk 18:7-8

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Adam Zajac
Pastor

Mrs. Christine Gunn
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

October: For collaboration between different religious traditions. Let us pray that believers in different religious traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice and human fraternity.

Liturgy Schedule

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

Monday, October 20
8:30am Mass Lucy Hauck

Tuesday, October 21
6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

Wednesday, October 22

Thursday, October 23

Friday, October 24
6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

Saturday, October 25
3:00pm Confessions
3:00pm Confessions @ St. Mel
4:00pm Mass Lew Zahara
4:30pm Mass @ St. Mel

Sunday, October 26-30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:00am Mass @ St. Mel
8:30am Mass..... John Pollack
10:00am Mass @ St. Mel
11:30am Mass Madden Family

Pray for the Sick

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

William Adams	David Kurth	Aimee Roscoe
Gianna Andolina	Tom Lembach	Nora Sudetic
Alex Brugh	Gerald McArthur	George Surovec
Henry Buehner	Judy McIntyre	Barbara Thiel
James Coyne	Mary Miller	Herb Tippie
Matthew Craven	Jack Mohar	Michele Vollmer
Nicole Foerstner	Maisie Nowlin	Joe Wantz
Mary Frantz	Sr. Josette Obodzinski	Lillian Zahara
Theresa Fridrich	Mary Stark	Lew Zahara Jr.
Amy Glazier		Joseph Zavatchen Sr.
		Joseph Zavatchen Jr.

Other Intentions

Weekly Luke McGraw Memorial Candles Intention

Special Intention

Liturgical Ministers	emHCs	Lectors	Servers
Saturday, October 25 @ 4:00pm	Erin Fitzpatrick John Levis R.V. Threadgill	Lisa Braun	Finnegan Fitzpatrick Declan Fitzpatrick Mary Kugler-Blayney
Sunday, October 26 @ 8:30am	Kathy O'Malley Mary Stamper	Michael Grathwol NOT FILLED	Joseph Pieh Fiona Stock Colin Weaver
Sunday, October 26 @ 11:30am	Jeff Joecken NOT FILLED (2)	Eliza Kratt NOT FILLED	Madelyn Kreilach McKenna Patton Daniel Zambataro

NEWS AND EVENTS

Offertory Collections

In-Pew Collection (past weekend) \$ 2,727.00
ParishSoft Giving \$ 7,170.00
Thank you for your generosity!

Parish News

Join the St. Mark Bereavement Team

Offer Support!

The St. Mark Bereavement Group meets weekly in October and November to offer support to our community members who have recently experienced a loss. We are looking for compassionate people to join our team. You don't need any formal training, just a desire to listen empathetically and give testimony to God's healing love in your own life. If you are interested or want to learn more, contact Meaghan at msilver@stmarkcleveland.com or 216-226-7577 Ext. 105.

St. Mark Bereavement

Tuesdays 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 the parish office to register at 216-226-7577 Ext. 105.

October 21
October 28
November 4
November 11
November 18
November 25

Necrology Book

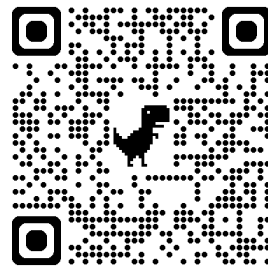
Booked of the Deceased

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. We will pray for those who have died at the All Souls Prayer Service on Sunday, November 2nd at 7pm. The Necrology Book will remain in the Sanctuary during the month of November.

"Give Josh Feedback"

Preaching October 18 & 19

"Hello everyone! Please scan this QR code to give me feedback on my preaching. Your review will go to the seminary faculty and will help them evaluate me this year. I will also be able to see your feedback so that I can learn and grow from it. Here are some questions to help you write your feedback: Did Josh seem prepared? Did the homily have one clear message? Did Josh connect the scripture to our daily lives? Did the homily have a good flow? Did the homily have a clear action step for you? Thank you for taking the time to leave me a review."



Children's Liturgy of the Word

Schedule for September-December

Children who are in PreK and above but have not yet received their First Communion will be invited to process into the sacristy during 8:30am 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 Children's Liturgy dates are:

October 26
November 9
December 21
December 28

Parish News

Food Sunday

October 25 & 26

The May Dugan Center has requested these items for their Clients next week. Self-contained meals, stews, soups, oatmeal, cereal, pancake mix & syrup, dry milk, vegetable oil, rice, and PBJ. Their clients could use cleaning supplies, disinfectant wipes, paper towels, and hygienic, items, toothpaste & toothbrushes, bar soap, laundry detergent, and toilet paper. They appreciate everything that you donate. May God bless all.

Offertory Counting Teams

Volunteer Opportunity

We are in need of two volunteers to help with offertory counting on Monday mornings in the Parish Office. You would be on an every other Monday schedule. The counting begins at 9:00am and typically takes about 30-45 minutes. You must be able to handle cash & checks, use a calculator and keep information confidential. Please contact the Parish Office at 216-226-7577 if interested. Thank you.

Reminders and Regular Events

Holy Name Society Sock and Underwear Drive

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the HNS Sock and Underwear Drive with product and monetary donations. All of you are truly amazing! Myself and all the members of HNS are always grateful for the generosity of the St. Mark and St. Mel parishioners.

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.

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: November 1 & 2

General Parish Calendar

Saturday,	October 18	
10:00 am	Faith Formation	CC
3:00 pm	Confessions	
4:00 pm	Mass	
Sunday,	October 19	
8:30 am	Mass	
8:30 am	Sunday Preschool	CR
9:30 am	Rosary	
11:30 am	Mass LS	
Monday,	October 20	
8:30 am	Mass	
6:00 pm	Footprints Mtg.	CC
6:30 pm	PSR Class Gr. 1-8	CR
Tuesday,	October 21	
3:00 pm	Parent Teacher Conferences	SCH
4:00 pm	OCIA	FR
7:00 pm	Bereavement Mtg.	FR
7:00 pm	Choir Prac.	CH
7:30 pm	Parent Club Board Mtg.	CC
Wednesday,	October 22	
3:00 pm	Parent Teacher Conferences	SCH
5:30 pm	Brownie Troop #70996	SH
Thursday,	October 23	
	School Closed	
8:00 am	Parent Teacher Conferences	SCH
6:00 pm	Scout Pack #268	SH
7:00 pm	Troop #293	SH
Friday,	October 24	
	School Closed	
Saturday,	October 25	
3:00 pm	Confessions	
4:00 pm	Mass	
	Food Sunday	
Sunday,	October 26	
8:30 am	Mass	
8:30 am	Sunday Preschool	CR
8:30 am	Children's Liturgy of the Word	SS
9:30 am	Rosary	
11:30 am	Mass LS	
6:00 pm	Youth Group	CC

NEWS AND EVENTS

Reminders and Regular Events

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 David at: bciancibello@gmail.com

Upcoming Dates: November 23

Military

Please pray for our military presently serving.

Josh Dunleavy, Nick Hupka, John Kazanowski, Randy Kloos, Sean O'Reilly, Nico Russo, Matthew Shirley

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.

Regional and Diocesan News and Events

Respect Life

Pray the Novena October 22-30

Join thousands of Catholics across the country in prayer for the protection of human life from conception to natural death.

Each day of the novena features a different prayer intention, as well as a short reflection, ideas for building a culture of life, and more.

Download the novena or sign up to get the daily prayers delivered straight to your inbox!

<https://www.usccb.org/respect-life-novena>

Caring for Our Elders-End-of-Life Issues & Accompanying the Elderly, Sick and Dying

This week of Respect Life Month, we turn our attention to caring for the elderly, sick and dying. The Church reminds us that every life is sacred until its natural end, and that true compassion means accompanying others in their suffering with love, dignity and hope (cf. *Evangelium Vitae* 66).

May we resist the "throwaway culture" and witness to Christ's mercy by walking with our elders and the vulnerable.

Jubilee Audience of Pope Leo XIV, on 8 October 2025

Cycle of Catechesis – Jubilee 2025. Jesus Christ our Hope. 10. *Rekindling. “Were not our hearts burning within us?” (Lk 24:32)*

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

Today I would like to invite you to reflect on a surprising aspect of Christ's Resurrection: his humility. If we think back to the Gospel accounts, we realize that the risen Lord does nothing spectacular to impose himself on the faith of his disciples. He does not appear surrounded by hosts of angels, he does not perform spectacular feats, he does not deliver solemn speeches to reveal the secrets of the universe. On the contrary, he approaches discreetly, like any other wayfarer, like a hungry man asking to share some bread (cf. Lk 24:15, 41).

Mary Magdalene mistakes him for a gardener (cf. Jn 20:15). The disciples of Emmaus believe him to be a stranger (cf. Lk 24:18). Peter and the other fishermen think he is just a passer-by (cf. Jn 21:4). We would have expected special effects, signs of power, overwhelming evidence. But the Lord does not seek this: he prefers the language of proximity, of normality, of sharing a meal.

Brothers and sisters, there is a valuable message in this: the Resurrection is not a theatrical coup; it is a silent transformation that fills every human gesture with meaning. The risen Jesus eats a piece of fish in front of his disciples: this is not a marginal detail, it is confirmation that our body, our history, our relationships are not a shell to be thrown away. They are destined for the fullness of life. Resurrection does not mean becoming evanescent spirits, but entering into a deeper communion with God and with our brothers and sisters, in a humanity transfigured by love.

In the Pasch of Christ, everything can become grace. Even the most ordinary things: eating, working, waiting, taking care of the house, supporting a friend. The Resurrection does not remove life from time and effort, but changes its meaning and “flavour”. Every gesture performed in gratitude and communion anticipates the Kingdom of God.

However, there is an obstacle that often prevents us from recognizing Christ's presence in our daily lives: the assumption that joy must be free from suffering. The disciples of Emmaus walk sadly because they hoped for a different ending, for a Messiah who did not know the cross. Although they have heard that the tomb is empty, they cannot smile. But Jesus walks alongside them and patiently helps them understand that pain is not the denial of the promise, but the way through which God has manifested the measure of his love (cf. Lk 24:13-27).

When they are finally seated at the table with him and break bread, their eyes are opened. They realize that their hearts were already burning, even though they did not know it (cf. Lk 24:28-32). This is the greatest surprise: to discover that beneath the ashes of disenchantment and weariness there is always a living ember, waiting only to be rekindled.

Brothers and sisters, Christ's resurrection teaches us that no history is so marked by disappointment or sin that it cannot be visited by hope. No fall is definitive, no night is eternal, no wound is destined to remain open forever. However distant, lost or unworthy we may feel, there is no distance that can extinguish the unfailing power of God's love.

Sometimes we think that the Lord comes to visit us only in moments of contemplation or spiritual fervour, when we feel worthy, when our lives appear orderly and bright. Instead, the Risen One is close to us precisely in the darkest places: in our failures, in our frayed relationships, in the daily struggles that weigh on our shoulders, in the doubts that discourage us. Nothing that we are, no fragment of our existence, is foreign to him.

Today, the risen Lord walks alongside each of us, as we travel our paths – those of work and commitment, but also those of suffering and loneliness – and with infinite delicacy asks us to let him warm our hearts. He does not impose himself loudly; he does not demand to be recognized immediately. He waits patiently for the moment when our eyes will open to see his friendly face, capable of transforming disappointment into hopeful expectation, sadness into gratitude, resignation into hope.

The Risen One desires only to manifest his presence, to become our companion on the road and to kindle in us the certainty that his life is stronger than any death. Let us then ask for the grace to recognize his humble and discreet presence, not to expect a life without trials, to discover that every pain, if inhabited by love, can become a place of communion.

And so, like the disciples of Emmaus, we too return to our homes with hearts burning with joy. A simple joy that does not erase wounds, but illuminates them. A joy that comes from the certainty that the Lord is alive, walks with us, and gives us the possibility to start again at every moment.

Recently, students from our school joined more than 380 young women representing 38 schools in the greater Cleveland area at the 2025 *STEM Goes Red* event, sponsored by the American Heart Association. This annual program is part of the American Heart Association's broader mission to inspire the next generation of female leaders in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math while also promoting heart health and wellness. *STEM Goes Red* highlights how careers in STEM can play a vital role in improving lives and advancing medical science, technology, and innovation.

Our participating students were selected by our STREAM teacher, Mrs. Henley, based on their enthusiasm, curiosity, and active engagement during STREAM classes. These students have shown a special interest in problem-solving, creativity, and innovation, all key skills that align perfectly with the goals of *STEM Goes Red*.

Throughout the day, they participated in hands-on experiments, demonstrations, and activities designed to bring classroom concepts to life. They attended question and answer sessions with women working in various STEM professions, including engineers, doctors, data analysts, and researchers. They also met representatives from over 20 local companies and colleges who shared real-world applications of STEM careers. The event not only provided valuable insight into the many career pathways available but also encouraged participants to see themselves as future problem-solvers and innovators.

The theme of encouragement and empowerment was woven through every part of the day, reminding young women that their creativity, intelligence, and unique perspectives are essential to the future of science and technology.

We are grateful to be able to provide our students with opportunities like this, where they can explore their gifts, broaden their horizons, and experience how learning connects to real-world impact. Programs such as *STEM Goes Red* help our students grow in confidence and curiosity, preparing them to be leaders who will use their talents to make a difference in our community and beyond.

