



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.



AUGUST 20, 2023

20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And the woman's daughter was healed from that hour.
- Mt 15:28

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

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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

August: For World Youth Day. We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives.

Liturgy Schedule

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

Monday August 21-St. Pius X

8:30am MassJames B. Helbig

Tuesday August 22

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

Wednesday August 23

Thursday August 24

8:30am MassMarie McGuire Living

Friday August 25

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

Saturday August 26

3:00pm Confessions

3:00pm Confessions @ St. Mel

4:00pm Mass.....Ellen Moran

4:30pm Mass @ St. Mel

Sunday August 27-Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00am Mass @ St. Mel

8:30am MassJoe Spicuzza

10:00am Mass @ St. Mel

11:30am MassTimothy J. Geiger

Liturgical Ministers August 26 & 27

Saturday, August 26 @ 4:00pm

Eucharistic Ministers: John Levis, Shirlee Toth, NOT FILLED

Lector: Carole Iseli

Altar Servers: Fia Drvenkar, Aidan Gompf, Madeline Gompf

Sunday, August 27 @ 8:30am

Eucharistic Ministers: Karen Cocita, Michael Kay, NOT FILLED

Lector: Al Abel, Michael Grathwol

Altar Servers: Julia McNulty, Maeve Smith, Austin Tousley

Sunday, August 27 @ 11:30am

Eucharistic Ministers: Cari Foster, Lisa Ditzel, Annamaria Masterson

Lector: Eileen Andrews, Lisa Braun

Altar Servers: Owen Goggin, Clare Hurley, Danny Reichel



Join in praying the Rosary in Church every Sunday after the 8:30am Mass Livestreamed the 3rd Sunday of the month.



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

Many of you know that for the last year I have been struggling with a diagnosis of liver cancer. I want to thank you for the many prayers you have said for me during this time of treatment. An operation has been scheduled for me to remove the cancer on August 28th and I ask for your continued prayers as I undergo the next treatment phase which includes 60-90 days of recovery. I, in turn, will continue to offer my prayers for all of you.

God's Blessing,
Deacon Dave

FOOD SUNDAY

The Bountiful Basement at Blessed Trinity parish provided food to 1,011 people last month! For next weekend, they have requested complete canned meals (heat only-no water needed), like chili, stew, lasagna, chunky soups, etc. They could also use PBj and snacks, like crackers, cookies and candies. Toilet paper is a common necessity.

All of your donations are appreciated.
Thank you. And may God bless all!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Register now to save your child's space in Sunday School for the 2023-2024 year! Sunday School is open to children ages 3-5 and takes place during the 11:30am Mass. In-person registration will take place in the School Hallway on Saturday/Sunday September 2-3. Forms are available at all entrances to the Church You can also drop off registration forms to the Parish Office. Classes begin September 10th. Please contact Moly Stottner @ mollystottner@hotmail.com with any questions.

VOLUNTEER!

*We are currently seeking volunteers to assist in teaching Sunday Preschool for the 2023-24 school year!
Classes begin September 10th
Classes meet each week during the 11:30 am Sunday Mass
Please contact Molly Stottner (see above) to find out how you can help!*



ST MARK SCHOOL
Music Ministry
Recording Workshop

3 DAY CHOIR REHEARSAL & RECORDING SESSION
MON8/21-WED8/23
10AM-11:30AM
OPEN TO STUDENTS K-8

Students will learn 8 songs that will be used during school mass. They will record on Wednesday. Recordings will be shared with the entire student body to help students familiarize themselves with our worship music.

Students 6-8 may audition to be soloists for the verses.
Students auditioning for solos will stay till 12PM to audition, rehearse & record.

[REGISTER ONLINE](#)



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.

A Unique Program to Strengthen and Heal Your Marriage September 22-24, 2023

The Retrouvaille program is designed to help married couples develop improved ways of communicating and relating to each other in order to overcome challenges which have left them feeling frustrated, hurt, distant, or even hopeless.

Retrouvaille, which means rediscovery, is supported by the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland, but is open to couples of all faiths. This program consists of a weekend experience and six follow up sessions. For more information concerning the program, or to register, visit www.helpourmarriage.org or call Shelly or Rob at 216.509.0301 or 440.836.4810.

August 2023 - Jesuit Retreat Center Programs & Retreats

**Jesuit Retreat Center
5629 State Rd.
Parma, Ohio 44134**

**Please see the website for information
<https://www.jesuitretreatcenter.org>**

Seven Sisters Apostolate of Prayer: Individuals privately offer one full Holy Hour on one specific day of the week solely for the intentions of our Pastor.

**SevenSistersApostolate.org
Contact Kim at 216-401-1185**



**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!*

The Diocese of Cleveland CYO are seeking high school, college students and adults interested in officiating:

Soccer, Volleyball, Flag Football, Rookie Tackle Training will be provided. Officials are paid a fee to officiate. There will be mandatory training sessions.

Equipment is provided at no cost. Whistles, shirts, penalty flag, markers and stopwatches. If you are interested please contact the following:

**Flag Football & Rookie Tackle □ Todd Shapiro:
ohiodude441@aol.com**

Soccer □ Dan Frey □ dgfrey2003@yahoo.com

Volleyball □ Dale Gaydos gaydosdale@gmail.com

THE WEEK AHEAD IN OUR PARISH

Saturday, August 19		
10:00 am	Ahtletic Assoc.	PP
3:00 pm	Confession	
4:00 pm	Mass	
Sunday, August 20		
8:30 am	Mass	
9:30 am	Rosary	CH
11:30 am	Mass (LS)	
Monday, August 21		
8:30 am	Mass	
10:00 am	Music Ministry	CH
4:00-7:00 pm	Volleyball Prac.	G
7:00 pm	Men's Retreat	CC
Tuesday, August 22		
10:00 am	Music Ministry	CH
4:00-6:00 pm	Volleyball Prac.	G
4:30 pm	RCIC	CC
6:00 pm	Cheerleading Prac.	PP
Wednesday, August 23		
10:00 am	Music Ministry	CH
4:00-7:00 pm	Volleyball Prac.	G
Thursday, August 24		
8:30 am	Mass	
6:30 pm	PreK Parent Mtg.	CH
7:00 pm	Troop #293	PP/SH
6:30 pm	Friends of Impett	CC
7:00 pm	Troop #293	SH/PP
Friday, August 25		
4:00-7:00 pm	Volleyball Prac.	
Saturday, August 26		
9:45 am	Baird Group	PP
3:00 pm	Confession	
4:00 pm	Mass	
	<i>Food Sunday</i>	
Sunday, August 27		
8:30 am	Mass	
9:30 am	Rosary	CH
11:30 am	Mass (LS)	

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.



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 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.....\$ 4,258.00
Faith Direct Sunday.....\$ 5,222.00

Thank you for your continued generosity!

Readings for the week of August 20, 2023

Sunday:

Is 56:1, 6-7/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (4)/Rom 11:13-15, 29-32/Mt 15:21-28

Monday:

Jgs 2:11-19/Ps 106:34-35, 36-37, 39-40, 43ab and 44/Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday:

Jgs 6:11-24a/Ps 85:9, 11-12, 13-14/Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday:

Jgs 9:6-15/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mt 20:1-16

Thursday:

Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/Jn 1:45-51

Friday:

Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22/Ps 146:5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9a, 9bc-10/Mt 22:34-40

Saturday:

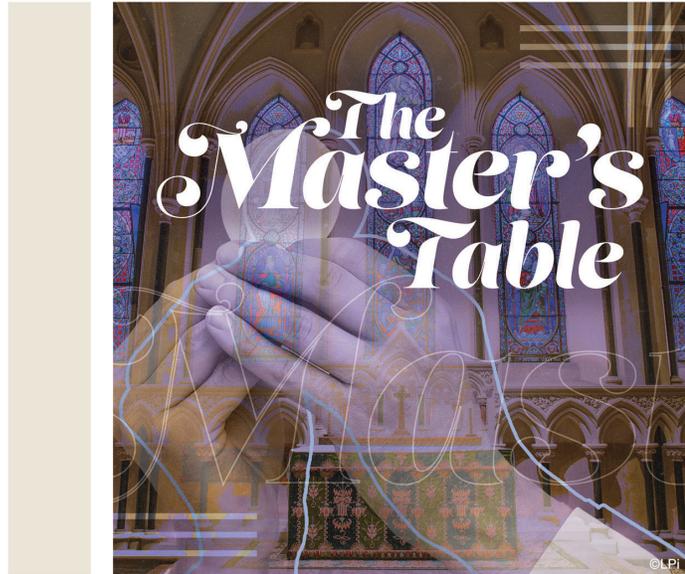
Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17/Ps 128:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Mt 23:1-12

Next Sunday:

Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8 (8bc)/Rom 11:33-36/Mt 16:13-20



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

The suffering of a child symbolizes uniquely terrible evil as well as despair about the future. This week's Gospel gives a "limit" case in which Jesus encounters this evil in the form of a mother with a suffering daughter. What he does is stunning and massively helpful for us if we bravely ponder the details.

The Canaanite woman comes to Jesus and begs his mercy. "My daughter is tormented by a demon," she declares to him. Shockingly, he responds first with silence, then with a dismissive comment, and only then finally accedes to her third request. Is this simply a lesson in perseverance in our petitions to God, who is like a genie in a bottle? Does that justify the humiliation and pain this woman suffers? Is the Lord cruel?

I don't think so. Notice how the encounter ends. She compares herself to a dog at the table of a master. Jesus responds by praising her great faith and fulfills her deep desire. Somehow this non-Israelite woman intuits that this harrowing situation is not dumb suffering. She senses that the door of God's family is, in Jesus, being opened to her and her loved ones. She trusts she is at the Lord's table, and her desires will be fulfilled and that all her sufferings — and her daughter's, too — will lead a great banquet. In our sufferings this week, the Lord wants us to treat him less like a genie in a bottle and more like the Master who has taken us — lost little dogs that we are — into his home forever. Trust that and keep praying in the face of evil.

— *Father John Muir*

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

All who keep the sabbath free from profanation
and hold to my covenant,
them I will bring to my holy mountain
and make joyful in my house of prayer (Is 56:6-7)

Psalm:

O God, let all the nations praise you! (Ps 67)

Second Reading:

For God delivered all to disobedience,
that he might have mercy upon all. (Rom 11:32)

Gospel:

Then Jesus said to her in reply,
"O woman, great is your faith!
Let it be done for you as you wish." (Mt 15:28)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

"O woman, great is your faith!" The Canaanite woman stood firm in her belief that God would answer her — even when those closest to him tried to send her away, and even when Christ himself challenged her. She never wavered.

Observances for the week of August 20, 2023

- Sunday:** 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday:** St. Pius X, Pope
- Tuesday:** The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Wednesday:** St. Rose of Lima, Virgin
- Thursday:** St. Bartholomew, Apostle
- Friday:** St. Louis; St. Joseph Calasanz, Priest
- Next Sunday:** 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time



Saint of the week

Venerable Mother Celestina Bottego was born in Ohio. She went on to be the foundress of the Xavier Missionaries Sisters of Mary in Italy. The Sisters rejected the traditional habit commonly worn by religious women in favor of wearing the same clothing styles as those they served.

Prayer

Almighty and merciful Father, You placed in the heart of Mother Celestina Bottego the ardent desire that Your Kingdom spread throughout the world and made her capable of giving all of herself for the creation of a missionary Family. We humbly ask You to allow us to imitate her holiness of life and, through her intercession, to grant us the grace that we confidently ask of You.

(Prayer Source: <https://www.fondazioneantiac.org/venerabile/celestina-bottego/bottego-celestina/>)

