



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.

October 29, 2023

30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"You shall love the Lord,
your God, with all your
heart, with all your soul,
and with all your mind."
- Mt 22:37

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.

Papal Intention

October: For the Synod. We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the Peripheries of the world.

Liturgy Schedule

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

Monday, October 30

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

Tuesday, October 31

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

Wednesday, November 1-All Saints

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

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

12:00pm Mass @ St. Mel

7:00pm Mass.....Presider's Intention

Thursday, November 2-All Souls' Day

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

Friday, November 3

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

Saturday, November 4-St. Charles Borromeo

3:00pm Confessions

3:00pm Confessions @ St. Mel

4:00pm Mass.....Nancy Webster

4:30pm Mass @ St. Mel

Sunday, November 5-Thirty-First 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.....Timothy Geiger

Liturgical Ministers November 4 & 5

Saturday, November 4 @ 4:00pm

Eucharistic Ministers: Shirlee Toth, Michelle Eiggins, NOT FILLED

Lector: Carole Iseli

Altar Server: Huston Engle, Charlie Greulich, William Lentz

Sunday, November 5 @ 8:30am

Eucharistic Ministers: Karen Cocita, Tim Schmidt, Kathy O'Malley

Lector: Mary Lewis, Monica Svetz

Altar Server: Bob LoPresti, Grace Schmidt, Austin Tousley

Sunday, November 5 @ 11:30am

Eucharistic Ministers: Eileen Andrews, Lisa Ditzel, NOT FILLED

Lector: Deborah Roscoe, NOT FILLED

Altar Server: Ian McCoy, Danny Reichel, Reese Reichel

Luke McGraw Memorial Candles

Weekly Intention

October 29

Brian McGraw

ALL
SAINTS
DAY

Wednesday, November 1st is a
Holy Day of Obligation
Masses will be celebrated as follows:

6:45am @ St. Mel

8:30am @ St. Mark w/School

12:00pm @ St. Mel

7:00pm @ St. Mark

**Minister sign-up sheet for the 7pm Mass
is in the Sacristy.**

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
Gianna Andolina
Carol Behnke
Jack Behnke
Katy Brent
Henry Buehner
James Coyne
Margaret Fadrowski
Nicole Foerstner
Helen Forlini
Mary Frantz
Theresa Fridrich

Irene Gurchensky
Gerri Joecken
David Kurth
Catherine Kutsick
Loree Leasure-Poirier
Jim McIlwee
Mary Miller
Maisie Nowlin
Sr. Josette Obodzinski
Ryan Puzzitiello Jr.
Bill Retzer

Sr. Mary Ann Spangler
Mary Stark
Nora Sudetic
Lena Sunyak
George Surovec
Herb Tippie
Georgieann Treible
Joe Wantz
Charlotte Whiting
Lillian Zahara
Joseph Zaatchen Jr.



Last Week's Collection

Sunday Envelopes:.....\$ 2,704.00

Faith Direct:.....\$ 5,185.00

Thank you for your generosity!

ALL SOULS DAY PRAYER SERVICE

Thursday,
November 2nd at
7pm in the church



Please call the Parish Office if
you would like to bring up a
candle for your loved one

Join us for Eucharistic Adoration on Friday, November 3rd 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 216-226-7577.

Family Holy Hour

Children of all ages are invited with their families to come adore Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament! The Sacrament of Reconciliation will also be available.

There will be singing, reading, and age appropriate contemplation. Consider bringing crayons, books, or a children's Bible.



Friday, Nov 3
4-5
St. Mark Church

SAVE THE DATE!
Liturgical Minister Evening

Thursday, November 16th 7pm at St. Mel
Details to follow!

Veterans Observance

Veterans and their families are invited to join the students of St. Mark School as we come together in church to celebrate the men and women who have served in the armed forces of our country on Friday, November 10, 2023 at 9:30 A.M.

Coffee and donuts will be served in the Social Hall immediately following the ceremony.

Please RSVP through the school office at 216-521-4115 or email office@stmarkwestpark.com. by Monday, October 30th.

Consider joining us so we can pray together as we pay our respects to you. Students may sit with their Veteran guests in reserved pews.



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH
+ SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH

DONUT AND COFFEE SOCIAL

JOIN US IN THE SOCIAL HALL FOR DONUTS
AND COFFEE AFTER ALL WEEKEND MASSES!

Please join us in honoring our St. Mark teachers that retired during the Covid years. Saturday, November 18th following the 4pm mass in the Social Hall. Light refreshments will be served.

Thank you for your many years of teaching our children. Mary Ann Barry, Sue Burtch, Mary Krisko and Jan Welty.





Support Local Veterans!

You are cordially invited to a spaghetti dinner sponsored by the St. Mark Cub Scout Pack #268

November 8th from 6:00pm-7:00pm
St. Mark Social Hall

Veterans and children 3 & under = Free
Adults & Children = \$7.00
Veteran Partners = \$5.00

Meals include spaghetti, marinara or bolognese salad, bread and water

A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Disabled American Veterans Foundation.
This event will also support St. Mark Cub Scouts.

Please RSVP by November 3rd to
bschleter3@gmail.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, Lukas Whitney.

God Bless them all!

Kathy O'Malley womalfam@sbcglobal.net for any updates.



Retreat

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 on 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. Patrick and St. Vincent de Paul

Presents

Eucharist

A CHALLENGING TRUTH TO SWALLOW
Every sign that God gives us says ... BELIEVE!

Speaker: Trapper Jack

After 30 years away from the Church, it was Blessed Mother Mary who brought blind radio host, Trapper Jack, back.

A series of miraculous encounters re-ignited his faith and now fuel his inspirational talks.

Since departing secular radio, Trapper has used his microphone to share his faith through uplifting presentations, the *Touched by Heaven* podcast, and *Men's Morning Light* on YouTube.



Monday, November 6, 6:30 PM

St. Patrick Church
4427 Rocky River Dr., Westpark, OH 44135

THE WEEK AHEAD IN OUR PARISH

Saturday,	October 28	
3:00 pm	Confessions	
4:00 pm	Mass	
Sunday,	October 29	
8:30 am	Mass	
9:30 am	Rosary	CH
9:45 am	Confirmation Parent Group Mtg.	SH
11:30 am	Mass (LS)	
11:30 am	Sunday Preschool	CR
Monday,	October 30	
8:30 am	Mass	
4:00-9:00 pm	Basketball Practice	G
6:30 pm	PSR Class Gr. 1-8	CR
Tuesday,	October 31	
Wednesday,	November 1	
8:30 am	Mass w/School	
6:30 pm	Friends of Impett Park	CC
7:00 pm	Mass w/Pack #268	
7:00 pm	Bereavement	FR
Thursday,	November 2	
8:30 am	Mass	
4:00-9:00 pm	Basketball Practice	G
7:00 pm	All Soul's Prayer Service	CH
7:00 pm	Troop #293	SH/PP
Friday,	November 3	
9:00 am	School Adoration	
3:30 pm	Eucharistic Adoration	
4:00-6:00 pm	Basketball Practice	G
Saturday,	November 4	
10:00 am	Basketball Practice	G
3:00 pm	Confessions	
4:00 pm	Mass	
	<i>Saturday Social and Donut Sunday</i>	
Sunday,	November 5	
8:30 am	Mass	
9:30 am	Rosary	CH
11:30 am	Mass (LS)	
11:30 am	Sunday Preschool	CR
2:00 pm	Basketball Practice	G

Note: (LS)=Livestreamed

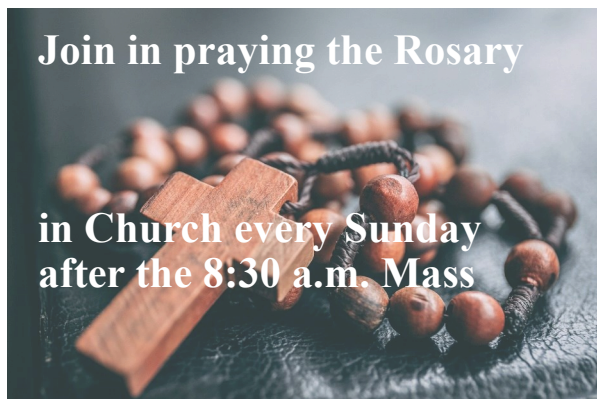
VIRTUS COMPLIANCY — IMPORTANT

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 on-line bulletins**
- Read and signed off on Policy for **Protecting Children Revised 2016 (turn into Parish Office)**
- Read and signed off on **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 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.**
- Filled out 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.



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!*

Principal News

We have had so much going on- the hours in the day are just not long enough!

Our 4th Grade students have been quite busy in science doing a project on deposition and erosion in the STREAM lab. They have also been digging for fossils. Their smiles and enthusiasm say it all! Our STREAM lab is used every day, all day, and the students love going over to our Innovation and Early Learning Center. Our Chess Club with the older students is in full swing in the STREAM lab during their lunch/ recess periods as well. They are using chess pieces made by the 3D printers in the lab. The support we received from you, our parishioners, several years ago, has certainly made this dream an educational reality. I cannot tell you how much your support has meant, but the photos will give you a small glimpse.

The Cleveland Hopkins International Airport System sponsors a CLE Youth Art Exhibit at the airport in their Student Art Gallery located near the baggage claim area. Hundreds of submissions were made from students across Northeast Ohio, and I am proud to tell you that three of our students have their pieces hanging in the gallery for the next year. The theme was "The Next 100 Years of Flight." Congratulations to Cloey B., Aine S., and Connor H. who had their submissions selected. We are very proud of these students and the work that Mrs. Hanna, our art teacher, does with our children. Remember to look for St. Mark School as you are on your way to baggage claim.

All schools have seen an increase in stress, anxiety, and depression in children especially since Covid. Providing information for children themselves, as well as teachers, to understand that they are not alone has the potential to be life changing. This past week, students in Gr. 6-8 had a two-day program sponsored by Life Act on Suicide Prevention. The program is a developmentally appropriate program on suicide prevention and violence prevention. House Bill 123 now requires suicide prevention training in schools beginning with Grade 6. On the third day of the program, Life Act addressed our students in Gr. 5-8 on Stress Management. A few take-aways the 5th Grade shared with me included:

- There is a difference between normal stress or worry and not normal stress or worry.
- Everyone gets stressed or worries at times.
- It is ok to talk about it.
- Many people deal with stress or worry in the same ways: listening to music, talking with friends, taking a break, or doing a hobby or sport.
- We learned how to deal with stress. Do something like read a book, listen to music, or play a game.
- Everybody copes differently.

I reminded the students that it is important to me that they know they are never alone. Their parents love them and will always be there for them. Their teachers and both Mrs. Gunn and I, are ALWAYS available to listen, not judge, and love them. Life is too precious. I am very thankful for the program LifeAct presented to our children. God bless them for the great work that they do.

Mrs. Cocita



Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

"You shall not wrong any widow or orphan.
If ever you wrong them and they cry out to me,
I will surely hear their cry.
My wrath will flare up, and I will kill you with the sword;
then your own wives will be widows, and your
children orphans." (Ex 22:21-23)

Psalm:

I love you, Lord, my strength. (Ps 18)

Second Reading:

For they themselves openly declare about us
what sort of reception we had among you,
and how you turned to God from idols
to serve the living and true God
and to await his Son from heaven. (1 Thes 1:9-10)

Gospel:

"You shall love the Lord, your God,
with all your heart,
with all your soul,
and with all your mind." (Mt 22:37)

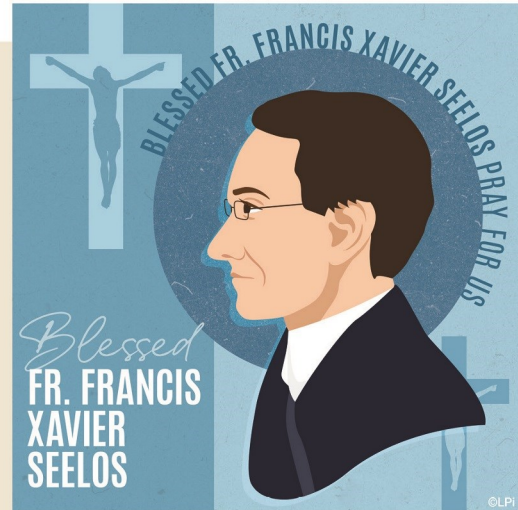
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

God became human to show us that only love
can change the world. Let's not just believe in
that love — let's be that love, each and every day.

Observances for the week of October 29, 2023

- Sunday:** 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Tuesday: All Hallows' Eve
Wednesday: All Saints
Thursday: All Souls' Day
Friday: St. Martin de Porres, Religious
Saturday: St. Charles Borromeo, Bishop
Next Sunday: 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time; Daylight
Saving Time Ends; National Vocation
Awareness Week



Saint of the week

Blessed Father Francis Xavier Seelos was a German immigrant and Redemptorist priest deeply committed to serving those marginalized in the USA during the 1800s. He was known for his gentle and compassionate nature and his tireless dedication to the poor and the sick.

Prayer

O Lord, my strength, and my Redeemer, let
the words of my mouth and the meditation
of my heart be pleasing in Your sight. I
offer to You the grace You have bestowed
on Your humble missionary, Blessed
Francis Xavier Seelos.

May I have the same joyful vigor that
Blessed Seelos possessed during his
earthly life to love you deeply and live
faithfully your gospel. Amen.

(Prayer Source: <https://seelos.org/prayers-to-bl-seelos/>)

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2023 | 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME