



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.



30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“But the tax collector stood off at a distance...and prayed, ‘O God, be merciful to me a sinner.’ I tell you, the latter went home justified, not the former; for whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted.” - Lk 18:13a, 13c-14

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

©LPI

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.

November: For the prevention of suicide. Let us pray that those who are tempted to die by suicide might find the support, care and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.

Liturgy Schedule

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

Monday, October 27

8:30am Mass Kevin Burns

Tuesday, October 28-Sts. Simon & Jude

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

8:30am Mass Thomas McGuire

Wednesday, October 29

Thursday, October 30

8:30am Mass McGuire/Healy Families

Friday, October 31

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

Saturday, November 1-All Saints

3:00pm Confessions

3:00pm Confessions @ St. Mel

4:00pm Mass Kathleen Fallon English

4:30pm Mass @ St. Mel

Sunday, November 2-All Soul's Day

7:00am Mass @ St. Mel

8:30am Mass..... Dave Adams

10:00am Mass @ St. Mel

11:30am Mass For the Parishioners of St. Mark Parish
and the Parishioners of St. Mel Parish

7:00pm Prayer Service for the Deceased

Pray for the Sick

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

William Adams
Gianna Andolina
Alex Brugh
Henry Buehner
James Coyne
Matthew Craven
Nicole Foerstner
Mary Frantz
Theresa Fridrich
Amy Glazier

David Kurth
Tom Lembach
Gerald McArthur
Mary Miller
Jack Mohar
Maisie Nowlin
Sr. Josette Obodzinski
Mary Stark

Aimee Roscoe
Nora Sudetic
George Surovec
Barbara Thiel
Herb Tippie
Michele Vollmer
Joe Wantz
Lillian Zahara
Lew Zahara Jr.
Joseph Zavatchen Sr.
Joseph Zavatchen Jr.

Pray for the Deceased

Timothy Kelley Sr., Father of Timothy Kelley

Mary Rita Fallon, Mother of Laura Fibbi

Judy McIntyre, Wife of Tom McIntyre

May perpetual light shine upon them

Other Intentions

Weekly Luke McGraw Memorial Candles Intention

Mary Rita Fallon

Liturgical Ministers	emHCs	Lectors	Servers
Saturday, November 1 @ 4:00pm	Lou Toth Bridget Blayney Marian Lundeen	Al Abel	Kerri Gompf Daniel Henry NOT FILLED
Sunday, November 2 @ 8:30am	Karen Cocita Michael Kay NOT FILLED	Ben Campbell Joyce Campbell	Adlee Rave Gabriela Santos NOT FILLED
Sunday, November 2 @ 11:30am	Deirde Mueller Lisa Ditzel Annamaria Masterson	Monica Svez NOT FILLED	Michael Doyle Reese Reichel Joseph Sonby

NEWS AND EVENTS

Offertory Collections

In-Pew Collection (past weekend) \$ 5,396.00
ParishSoft Giving \$ 5,665.00
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.

Priesthood Sunday

O God, Father of all Mercies,
Provider of a bountiful Harvest,

send Your Graces upon those
You have called to gather the fruits of Your labor;
preserve and strengthen them in their lifelong service of
you.

Open the hearts of Your children
that they may discern Your Holy Will;
inspire in them a love and desire to surrender themselves
to serving others in the name of Your son, Jesus Christ.

Teach all Your faithful to follow their respective paths in life
guided by Your Divine Word and Truth.
Through the intercession of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary,
all the Angels, and Saints, humbly hear our prayers
and grant Your Church's needs, through Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

**Saturday, November 1st is not a
Holy Day of Obligation this year!**

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

Reminders and Regular Events

3rd Annual St. Mark Cub Scouts Pack 268 Veterans Spaghetti Dinner

November 10, 2025 - 6:00pm-7:00pm

You are cordially invited to attend the 3rd annual St. Mark Cub Scouts Pack 268 Veterans Day Spaghetti Dinner. Join us as we honor those that served our country and help support our St. Mark Cub Scouts. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Disabled American Veterans Foundation. Hope to see you there!

- Veterans & Children 3 & under = Free
- Veterans Spouses = \$7.00
- Adults & Children = \$10.00

Holy Name Society News

All men and women of the parish ages 18 and older are welcome to join the St. Mark Holy Name Society. Meetings are the second Tuesday of the month at 6:00pm in either the Picnic Pavilion or Social Hall. At these gatherings, we dine together and discuss what event we will be doing next to help the community of St. Mark. If you would like to know more, contact Jim Cocita at: jimcocita@gmail.com

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

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.

General Parish Calendar

Saturday,	October 25	
3:00 pm	Confessions	
4:00 pm	Mass	
Sunday,	Food Sunday	
8:30 am	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
Monday,	October 27	
	School Closed	
8:30 am	Mass	
4:00 pm	Basketball Prac.	G
5:15 pm	OCIA	
6:30 pm	PSR Class Gr. 1-8	CR
Tuesday,	October 28	
8:30 am	Mass/All School	
4:00 pm	Basketball Prac.	G
4:15 pm	OCIA	FR
7:00 pm	Bereavement Mtg.	FR
Wednesday,	October 29	
4:00 pm	Basketball Prac.	G
Thursday,	October 30	
8:30 am	Mass	
3:00 pm	Halloween Party Set-up	SH/G
7:00 pm	Troop #293	CC
Friday,	October 31	
8:00 am	Halloween Party	SH
12:00 pm	Halloween Dance	G
Saturday,	November 1	
3:00 pm	Confessions	
4:00 pm	Mass	
Sunday,	Donut Social	
	November 2	
8:30 am	Mass	
8:30 am	Sunday Preschool	CR
9:30 am	Rosary	
11:30 am	Mass LS	
5:00 pm	Confirmation Group Mtg.	SH
7:00 pm	All Souls Prayer Service	CH

Military

Please pray for our military presently serving.

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

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 Month

Embracing Peace: At Home and Abroad

This final week of Respect Life Month invites us to reflect on rejecting all forms of violence-war, gun violence, and domestic abuse-and building a culture of peace. The Church reminds us that *"violence is a lie...it destroys what it claims to defend: the dignity, the life, the freedom of human beings"* (Compendium, 496). As missionary disciples, may we follow Christ the Peacemaker, working humbly for justice and reconciliation in our homes, communities, and world.

Jubilee Audience of Pope Leo XIV, on 15 October 2025

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

In the Jubilee Year catecheses, until now, we have retraced the life of Jesus, following the Gospels, from his birth to his death and resurrection. In so doing, our pilgrimage of hope has found its solid foundation, its sure way. Now, in the last part of the journey, we will allow the mystery of Christ, which culminates in the Resurrection, to radiate its light of salvation in contact with the current human and historical reality, with its questions and challenges.

Our lives are marked by countless events, full of different nuances and experiences. At times we feel joyful, other times sad, other times fulfilled or stressed, gratified or demotivated. We live busy lives, we concentrate on achieving results, and we even attain lofty, prestigious goals. Conversely, we remain suspended, precarious, awaiting success and recognition that are delayed or do not arrive at all. In short, we find ourselves experiencing a paradoxical situation: we would like to be happy, and yet it is very difficult to be happy in a continuous way, without any shadows. We come to terms with our limitations and, at the same time, with the irrepressible urge to try to overcome them. We feel deep down that we are always missing something.

In truth, we were not created for *lack*, but for *fullness*, to rejoice in life, and life in abundance, according to Jesus' expression in the Gospel of John (cf. 10:10).

This deep desire in our hearts can find its ultimate answer not in roles, not in power, not in having, but in the certainty that there is someone who guarantees this constitutive impulse of our humanity; in the awareness that this expectation will not be disappointed or thwarted. This certainty coincides with hope. This does not mean thinking in an optimistic way: often optimism lets us down, causing our expectations to implode, whereas hope promises and fulfils.

Sisters and brothers, the Risen Jesus is the guarantee of this deliverance! He is the wellspring that satisfies our thirst, the infinite thirst for fullness that the Holy Spirit imbues into our hearts. Indeed, the Resurrection of Christ is not a simple event of human history, but the event that transformed it from within.

Let us think about a source of water. What are its characteristics? It quenches thirst and refreshes creatures, irrigates the land, renders fertile and living what would otherwise remain barren. It gives refreshment to the weary traveller, offering him the joy of an oasis of freshness. A wellspring appears as a freely-given gift for nature, for creatures, for human beings. Without water it is not possible to live.

The Risen One is the living wellspring that does not dry up and does not change. It always stays pure and ready for anyone who is thirsty. And the more we taste the mystery of God, the more we are attracted to it, without ever becoming completely satiated. Saint Augustine, in the tenth Book of the *Confessions*, captures exactly this inexhaustible longing of our hearts and expresses it in his famous *Hymn to Beauty*: "You exhaled odours, and I drew in my breath and do pant after you. I tasted, and do hunger and thirst. You touched me, and I burned for your peace" (X, 27, 38).

Jesus, with his Resurrection, has guaranteed for us a permanent source of life: he is the living one (cf. Rev 1:18), the lover of life, the victor over all death. Therefore, he is able to offer us refreshment in our earthly journey and assure us of perfect peace in eternity. Only Jesus, who died and rose again, responds to the deepest questions of our heart: is there really a destination for us? Does our existence have any meaning? And the suffering of so many innocents, how can it be redeemed?

The Risen Jesus does not bestow upon us an answer "from above", but becomes our companion on this often arduous, painful and mysterious journey. Only He can fill our empty flask when our thirst becomes unbearable.

And he is also the destination of our journey. Without his love, the voyage of life would become wandering without a goal, a tragic mistake with a missed destination. We are fragile creatures. Mistakes are part of our humanity; it is the wound of sin that makes us fall, give up, despair. To rise again instead means to get up and stand on our feet. The Risen One guarantees our arrival, leading us home, where we are awaited, loved, saved. To journey with him means to experience being sustained despite everything, to have our thirst quenched and to be refreshed in the hardships and struggles that, like heavy stones, threaten to block or divert our history.

Dear friends, from Christ's Resurrection springs the hope that gives us a foretaste, despite the fatigue of living, of a deep and joyful calm: that peace the only he can give us in the end, without end.

PARISH GRADE SCHOOL

We were excited to welcome over 400 grandparents and special guests for our Grandparents Day / Special Person Day celebration. It's always one of our favorite days of the year. What a joyful reminder of the love, faith, and family connections that make our school community so special! Together, we celebrated those cherished people who support, guide, and love our students unconditionally.

Grandparents and special people play such an important role in the lives of children. They pass on family traditions, share stories of faith and provide wisdom that helps shape the character and values of our young people. Their presence reminds our students that they are part of something much larger than themselves; a family rooted in love and strengthened by faith. The joy and pride shared between our students and their guests throughout the day was truly touching to witness.

Throughout the day, guests joined students in the classrooms to participate in activities planned by our teachers. In the classrooms they shared stories, made crafts and played games. I even believe one of the 4th grade classrooms had a Spelling Bee between the students and our guests! As I moved from classroom to classroom, it was impossible not to feel the joy and love — a true testament to the blessings of family, faith, and friendship. Each session concluded with a video prayer service created by our WSMS crew offering blessings and intercessions for their grandparents and special guests, asking God to watch over them, keep them healthy, and fill their days with peace and joy.

An event of this size requires thoughtful planning and coordination, and we are deeply thankful to all who contributed their time and talents to make it so special: Mrs. Litten and Mrs. True for all their careful planning and organizing. Mrs. Grueloch and our WSMS crew for putting together the prayer service. Our maintenance staff for all their help with set up, clean up and directing traffic in the parking lot. Parent Club volunteers for their help with refreshments.

It was truly a day filled with faith, gratitude, and joy! We continue to keep all our grandparents and special people in our prayers, thanking God for their love, guidance, and example, and asking Him to watch over them each day.

