



# 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.



September 1, 2024

## 22<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He summoned the crowd again and said to them, "Hear me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile." - Mk 7:14-15

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

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### PASTORAL STAFF

**Rev. Adam Zajac**

Pastor

**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**

**September:** For the cry of the earth. We pray that each one of us will hear and take to heart the cry of the Earth and of victims of natural disasters and climactic change, and that all will undertake to personally care for the world in which we live.

**Liturgy Schedule**

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

**Monday, September 2**

8:30am Mass.....Anthony Koenig

**Tuesday, September 3-St. Gregory the Great**

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

**Wednesday, September 4**

**Thursday, September 5**

8:30am Mass.....Dorothy Frank

**Friday, September 6**

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

**Saturday, September 7**

3:00pm Confessions

3:00pm Confessions @ St. Mel

4:00pm Mass.....William Rogers

4:30pm Mass @ St. Mel

**Sunday, September 8-Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

7:00am Mass @ St. Mel

8:30am Mass.....Dorothy Weckel

10:00am Mass @ St. Mel

11:30am Mass.....Joseph Tira

*Luke McGraw Memorial Candles*

**Weekly Intention**

**September 1**

**Larry & Pat Isabella**

**IN MEMORIAM**

*May the peace of our Lord be with  
Robert Hauck  
And may God grant comfort to his family and friends.*

**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       | Nora Sudetic         |
| Gianna Andolina    | David Kurth            | Lena Sunyak          |
| Carol Behnke       | Catherine Kutsick      | George Surovec       |
| Jack Behnke        | Pat McAndrew           | Herb Tippie          |
| Katy Brent         | Jim McIlwee            | Georgieann Treible   |
| Henry Buehner      | Mary Miller            | Joe Wantz            |
| James Coyne        | Maisie Nowlin          | Charlotte Whiting    |
| Margaret Fadrowski | Bill Retzer            | Lillian Zahara       |
| Nicole Foerstner   | Mary Stark             | Lew Zahara Jr.       |
| Mary Frantz        | Sr. Josette Obodzinski | Joseph Zavatchen Jr. |
| Theresa Fridrich   |                        |                      |

***Liturgical Ministers September 7 & 8***

**Saturday, September 7 @ 4:00pm**

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Bridget Blayney, Mary Price, Shirtee Toth

**Lector:** Paul Garbon

**Altar Server:** Declan Fitzpatrick, Charlotte Greulich, Cristian Trump

**Sunday, September 8 @ 8:30am**

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Michael Kay, Laura Skonce, Mary Stamper

**Lector:** Michael Grathwol, Monica Svetz

**Altar Server:** Joe Svetz, NOT FILLED (2)

**Sunday, September 8 @ 11:30am**

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Lisa Ditzel, Cari Foster, NOT FILLED

**Lector:** Eliza Kratt, NOT FILLED

**Altar Server:** Andrew Koch, Jack Koch, Terry Waters

***Weekly Collections***

Sunday Envelopes.....\$ 3,327.00

Faith Direct:.....\$ 5,387.00

**Thank you for your generosity!**

Friends,

The papal intention this past month was “for political leaders, that they be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and for the common good, especially caring for the poor and those who have lost their jobs.”

Certainly, nothing can possibly go wrong for me by commenting on this intention, right?

Like most of you, I of course have strong opinions on politics from trying to keep informed about the world. I only openly talk about them, however, with close personal friends. It's actually very hard some weekends to preach and to connect the gospel to our current lives without crossing that line. But beyond the fact that I can't talk about politicians or political parties and instead can only talk about political issues... which are hard to separate from politicians and political parties... there's also the fact that preaching homilies to you or writing in the bulletin is not a dialog. There is no chance for me to listen to your perspective or even just how you hear and understand what I am trying to say. I would much rather talk to you about the things of faith, and trust you to apply them to the politics of the day on your own.

I will say something, though, about this intention. I don't care whether we are talking about past, present, or future, what politician or political party we are talking about, what matter is being discussed, or what country and system of government we live in... absolutely in every situation, yes... politicians should be at the service of their people and work for the common good. It has been good to pray for that to be true in every country and for every Catholic.

This month of September the papal intention will be “for the cry of the Earth, that each one of us will hear and take to heart the cry of the Earth and of victims of natural disasters and climactic change, and that all will undertake to personally care for the world in which we live.”

In Christ,



Fr. Adam

## St. Mark PSR Program 2024 – 2025

**A reminder that the St. Mark PSR Program's first class will be Monday September 9th.** You must be registered before the first class.

Our St. Mark PSR program is on Monday evenings from 6:30 – 7:30 in the school building. We serve students in Grades 1 – 8. Students in grades 2 and 8 are prepared to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist (grade 2) and Confirmation (Grade 8), as part of our curriculum. **For a student to receive these Sacraments they MUST be enrolled and attend PSR the previous year.**

### To register for the 2024 – 2025 school year:

1. The materials can be downloaded from the St. Mark Church website [www.stmarkcleveland.com](http://www.stmarkcleveland.com), under heading FAMILIES (at the top of the page) and by clicking the PSR tab.
2. Registration materials can also be picked up at the Parish Office.

Registration forms and payment can be mailed to or dropped off at the Parish Office or put in the Sunday collection, marked to the attention of PSR.

For any questions or additional information, you can contact Jeannette Puckett at the Parish Office at 216-226-7577 or through email at [jpuckettpsr@stmarkcleveland.com](mailto:jpuckettpsr@stmarkcleveland.com).

## St. Mark Sunday School Note: Time Change

Register now to save your child's space in Sunday School for the 2024-2025 year! Sunday School is open to children ages 3-5 and takes place during the **8:30am** Mass. In-person registration will take place in the school hallway on Saturday, August 31 & September 1. Forms are available at all entrances to the church. You can also drop off registration forms to the parish office. Classes begin September 8th.

### Volunteer!

We are currently seeking volunteers to assist in teaching Sunday School for the 2024-25 school year! Adults over 18 years of age must be Virtus Compliant to volunteer. Classes begin September 8th and meet during the 8:30am Sunday mass.

Please contact:  
Molly Stottner  
[mollystottner@hotmail.com](mailto:mollystottner@hotmail.com)

For information regarding registration or volunteering

The Parish Office will be  
closed for Labor Day,  
Monday, September 2nd

Mass will be at 8:30am



The parishioner-led Prayer Group will meet on Thursday, September 5th at 7pm in the Servers Sacristy. This is a great opportunity to relax, pray, grow in faith, and make a difference in our world. There is a book available near the Sacred Heart Statue in the Church for prayer requests. These will receive prayer by this group. Feel free to share answered prayers here also. Please join us! There is no need to sign up.

Join us for Eucharistic Adoration on **Friday, September 6th 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 be available.

There will be coloring, reading, and age appropriate contemplation.

Friday, Sept 6  
4-5  
St. Mark Church

## Marker's/St. Mel 50+

It's time for a cookout!  
Join us on Saturday, September 14th, following the 4:00pm Mass.  
St. Mark Pavilion.  
Burgers, brats and beverages will be provided.  
Please bring a side dish or dessert to share, which will be most appreciated!

Please RSVP by Tuesday, September 10th to Mary Kay  
Text or call 216-402-8570

Looking forward to seeing you there!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH+  
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH

...

**DONUT AND COFFEE SOCIAL**

...

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

SPONSORED BY:  
THE HOLY NAME SOCIETY

### Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors and Altar Servers

Please notify in writing or by email of any dates that you are not available to serve for the next schedule, which will be from October 2024-January 2025. We need this information so that all Ministers are available to fulfill their scheduled Mass times. We appreciate your continued service. The deadline to submit dates is Friday, September 13th by 4:30pm to [cbirchfield@stmarkcleveland.com](mailto:cbirchfield@stmarkcleveland.com). Please be mindful of holidays and vacations. Thank you for your help.  
If you are interested in becoming a Minister 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

**TUESDAYS AT 7PM**

- Oct 15
- Oct 22
- Oct 29
- Nov 5
- Nov 12
- Nov 19

Men's Sock & Underwear Drive  
Sponsored by the Cleveland Diocesan  
Holy Name Society

This year's recipient of the proceeds of the drive will be the Cleveland Police Foundation and will be distributed to various charities

When: October 5th-13th

What: New men's socks, underwear in any size for the homeless and the needy. Or if you prefer, cash donations to be used to purchase socks and underwear.

Collection boxes can be found at all Church entrances.

See flyers on the bulletins boards!

## "My Daily Prayers"

is a FREE daily recording of prayers led by the bishops and priests of the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland, delivered each day through email.

Lasting about 7 minutes, "My Daily Prayers" invites you into prayer, sharing information about each specific day, encouraging you to enter into a deeper relationship with God.

Sign up here:  
[DioceseOfCleveland.org/MyDailyPrayers](http://DioceseOfCleveland.org/MyDailyPrayers)



*Let's all  
come together  
in prayer!*



Catholic Diocese  
of Cleveland



*St. Mark  
Holy Name Society*

**Welcome All  
Men and Women Parishioners  
18 and Older  
We Meet Second Tuesday of the Month  
at 6:00 in the Social Hall**

**Interested?**

**Email [jimcocita@gmail.com](mailto:jimcocita@gmail.com)**



[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!*

### LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR

There IS something more in our life of faith and as we grow in our relationship with Jesus. Come to commit or re-commit your faith in Jesus and know what a full life can offer you! Our Lady of Angels Prayer group will once again offer a Life in the Spirit Seminar beginning September 10, 2024 for seven consecutive Tuesday evenings through October 29th from 7:30-9:00pm. We meet in the Primary building of Our Lady of Angels School, (behind Linus Hall)

3644 Rocky River Dr., Cleveland, 44111. Please phone Verna, 216-251-3560 or Tom, 216-536-6495 for information or to register. There is NO charge for this seminar.

### Retrouvaille

**A Lifeline for Married Couples**

**A Unique Program to Strengthen and Heal Your Marriage - Beginning September 20-22, 2024**

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 open to couples of all faiths and is supported by the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland. This program consists of a weekend experience and six follow up sessions.

For more information or to register, visit:  
[www.helpourmarriage.org](http://www.helpourmarriage.org) or call Shelly or Rob at 216-509-0301 or 440-836-4810.

## THE WEEK AHEAD IN OUR PARISH

<b>Saturday,</b>	<b>August 31</b>		
	3:00 pm	Confessions	
	4:00 pm	Mass	
		<b><i>Sunday School Registration</i></b>	
<b>Sunday,</b>	<b>September 1</b>		
	8:30 am	Mass	
	9:30 am	Rosary	
	11:30 am	Mass LS	
<b>Monday,</b>	<b>September 2</b>		
		<b><i>Parish Office Closed</i></b>	
	8:30 am	Mass	
<b>Tuesday,</b>	<b>September 3</b>		
		<b><i>First Day of School</i></b>	
<b>Wednesday,</b>	<b>September 4</b>		
<b>Thursday,</b>	<b>September 5</b>		
	8:00 am	PreK First Day	
	8:30 am	Mass	
	6:00 pm	School Open House	CR
	6:30 pm	School Parent Mtg. Gr. 1-8	CH
	7:00 pm	Troop #293	SH
	7:00 pm	Prayer Group	SS
<b>Friday,</b>	<b>September 6</b>		
	3:30 pm	Eucharistic Adoration	CH
	4:00-5:00 pm	Family Holy Hour	
<b>Saturday,</b>	<b>September 7</b>		
	10:00am-2:00 pm	CYO Volleyball Games	G/FR
	3:00 pm	Confessions	
	4:00 pm	Mass	
		<b><i>Donut Social after all Masses</i></b>	
<b>Sunday,</b>	<b>September 8</b>		
	8:30 am	Mass	
	8:30 am	Sunday PreSchool	CR
	9:30 am	Rosary	
	11:30 am	Mass LS	
	1:30pm-6:30 pm	CYO Volleyball Game	G/FR

**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. **This information can also be found on the church website at [stmarkcleveland.com](http://stmarkcleveland.com). Click the Families tab and click the Virtus tab.** (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 **ONLINE** to attend a session.

**If you would like to Volunteer/Coach for the upcoming school year St. Mark will be hosting a Virtus Training session on Monday, September 16th beginning at 6:00pm. YOU MUST REGISTER AND SIGN UP FOR THE SESSION AT VIRTUS.ORG.**

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, Roan Viancourt, Lukas Whitney.

God Bless them all!

Kathy O'Malley [womalfam@sbcglobal.net](mailto:womalfam@sbcglobal.net) for any updates.



Please come to pray WITH Mary, Our Blessed Mother, in this beautiful devotion, The Rosary. We are living in troubled times and so much in need of peace within our souls and for the world. We ask Mary, Our Mother, to intercede and lead us contemplating the mysteries of Jesus. "The Family that Prays together, Stays together"...Fr. Patrick Peyton  
 Every Sunday following the 8:30am Mass

# Weekly Prayer

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

"You shall not add to what I command you nor subtract from it." (Dt 4:2)

### Psalm:

The one who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord. (Ps 15)

### Second Reading:

Be doers of the word and not hearers only, deluding yourselves. (Jas 1:22)

### Gospel:

"You disregard God's commandment but cling to human tradition." (Mk 7:8)

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## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

The Pharisees did not understand that the law is more than an action to be carried out. We are called to be doers of the word and not hearers only. Let the law take root in your heart, and it will bear fruit in your works.

## Observances for the week of September 1, 2024

**Sunday:** 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Monday:** Labor Day

**Tuesday:** St. Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

**Next Sunday:** 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Grandparent's Day



## Saint of the week

St. Basil the Great (329–379) shares his feast day with his friend St. Gregory of Nazianzen. These accomplished men fought against heresies that threatened the foundations of the early Church, shaping doctrines around Christ's divinity and the nature of the Holy Trinity.

## Prayer for Labor Day

Dear Lord,  
Bless and protect the men and women whose hard work provides food and shelter to them and their families, services to our communities, and care to our world. Be with them as they work, but also as they rest and recreate in Your care. Amen.

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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2024 | 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME