

St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Community

Address: 7296 Gale Rd. – Grand Blanc, MI 48439

Parish Office:

Phone (810) 636-2216 – Fax (810) 636-3221

Website: <http://www.stmarkgoodrich.org>

 Facebook: Goodrich Saint Mark

PARISH PASTORAL MINISTERS:

Pastor, Rev. Michael W. Kuchar
stmarkpastor@hotmail.com

Director of Faith Formation, Deacon Ronald Kenney
stmarkdff@hotmail.com

Director of RCIA, Pamela Bachner
stmarkrcia@hotmail.com

Director of Music Ministry, Michael Goetz
stmarkmm@hotmail.com

PARISH SUPPORT STAFF:

Administrative Assistant, Bonnie Wade
stmarkparish1@hotmail.com

Business Manager, Sue Griffith
stmarkparish2@hotmail.com

Time & Talent Coordinator, Sharon Roberts
stmarktt@hotmail.com

PARISH COUNCILS:

Pastoral Council: stmarkpc@hotmail.com

Finance Council: stmarkfc@hotmail.com

PARISH – VICARIATE MINISTRIES:

AA Meetings (Wed., 10:00 a.m.)
Ken (810) 636-7677

Catholic Charities (810) 232-9950

Council of Catholic Women
Sue Griffith (248) 627-3100

Powers Catholic High School (810) 591-4741

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Monday – Thursday 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

NEW PARISHIONERS:

Welcome! Individuals who actively participate with us are asked to register by contacting the Parish Office.



Facebook: Goodrich Saint Mark

MISSION STATEMENT

*St. Mark the Evangelist Parish is
a growing community of faith which strives
to help its members follow Christ's commandment:
"Love one another, as I have loved you."
John 15:12*

SACRAMENTAL LIFE:

Weekend Liturgies:

Saturday 5:30 p.m.
Sunday 9:30 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.

Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day:

Saturday 5:30 p.m.
Sunday 8:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.

Weekday Liturgies:

Tuesday 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday 8:30 a.m.
First Friday of the month 8:30 a.m.
Eucharistic adoration 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Christmas, Easter, and Holy Days: see bulletin

Penance Saturday, 4:30-5:15 p.m.

Infant Baptism Contact Parish Office

Matrimony Contact Parish Office
(9 months in advance)

Anointing of the Sick Contact Parish Office
(After Masses, at home, or in hospital)

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Monday Noon

CONTACT INFORMATION:

If you move, have a seasonal address, or change of address, phone or e-mail, please contact the Parish Office.

☞THE STORY OF A WOOD CUTTER☞

Once upon a time, a very strong woodcutter asked for a job in a timber merchant and he got it.

The pay was really good and so was the work condition. For those reasons, the woodcutter was determined to do his best. His boss gave him an axe and showed him the area where he was supposed to work. The first day, the woodcutter brought 18 trees. "Congratulations," the boss said. "Go on that way!"

Very motivated by the boss' words, the woodcutter tried harder the next day, but he could only bring 15 trees. The third day he tried even harder, but he could only bring 10 trees. Day after day he was bringing less and less trees. "I must be losing my strength", the woodcutter thought. He went to the boss and apologized, saying that he could not understand what was going on.

"When was the last time you sharpened your axe?" the boss asked.

"Sharpen? I had no time to sharpen my axe. I have been very busy trying to cut trees..."

☺Reflection:

Our lives are like that. We sometimes get so busy that we don't take time to sharpen the "axe."

In today's world, it seems that everyone is busier than ever, but less happy than ever.

Why is that?

Could it be that we have forgotten how to stay "sharp"? There's nothing wrong with activity and hard work, but we should not get so busy that we neglect the truly important things in life, like:

- our personal lives,
- our time to get closer to our God, the Creator,
- our giving more time for our family, friends
- our time to read the Bible, spiritual material, etc.

We all need time to:

- + to relax, re-create
- + to read and reflect on God's word.
- + to learn and grow spiritually.
- + to do what?

If we don't take the time to sharpen the "axe," we will become dull and lose our effectiveness. If you love your family and friends, then SHARE to MOTIVATE them.

I heard this week that for the first time in years, the life expectancy in the USA is going down. The reasons given were accidents, drugs, heart problems, obesity, suicide and stress not cancer. All the more while reading the above story, I thought: what kind of a lifestyle is being promoted in our culture?

New Year's Day is a time annually to make "resolutions" for improving one's lifestyle. As a church we always pray for peace; however, during this holiday season, let's also work to improve our lifestyle so that we gain greater inner peace.

God's blessing and peace be with you as we usher in the year 2017. Let this year hold great growth & hope for an "improved" lifestyle!

Happy New Year!

MONDAY, January 2

Parish Office Closed

TUESDAY, January 3

10:00 a.m. – Shawl Ministry – Contact Parish Office

6:30 p.m. – Mass: Evangelization / Parish

7:00 p.m. – Pastoral Council – Parish Center

WEDNESDAY, January 4

8:30 a.m. – Mass: People of the Parish / Parish

9:00 a.m. – St. Joseph Guild – Parish Center

10:00 a.m. – AA – Room 1 & 2

6:00 p.m. – RCIA – Room 6

7:00 p.m. – Youth Group – Parish Center

THURSDAY, January 5

7:00 p.m. – Choir Practice – Church

FRIDAY, January 6

First Friday & Hospital / Home Visits

High School Subiaco Retreat (through Jan 8)

8:30 a.m. – Mass: +Alice Ward / Parish

9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. – First Friday Adoration

SATURDAY, January 7

7:00 a.m. – Men's Fellowship – Parish Center

4:30 – 5:15 p.m. – Confessions – Church

5:30 p.m. – Mass: +Chloe Smith / Noah & Erin Smith

6:30 p.m. – Epiphany Potluck Dinner – Parish Center

SUNDAY, January 8

9:30 a.m. – Mass: +Shawn Fatheree / Alford Family

9:30 a.m. – Children's Liturgy of the Word

10:30 a.m. – Hospitality Hour – Parish Center

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – REF Grades K-5

12:00 p.m. – REF Epiphany Luncheon

5:30 p.m. – Mass: People of the Parish / Parish

6:30 p.m. – A & E – Season Change

6:30–8:00 p.m. – REF Grades 6-8

LET US PRAY:

For Peace; for Women/Men in the Military Service:

SSG J Gillett; Maj. S Halleaux; Maj. C Kaighen; SPC T Kenney; S/Sgt. D Kendall; CPL M Zagone

For Our Sick: Those who are homebound, in the hospital or another healthcare facility.

For Prayer Ministry Requests: Contact Joan Turner, joanturner38@sbcglobal.net or 248-410-2286.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon, 1/2: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28

Tues, 1/3: 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34

Wed, 1/4: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42

Thurs, 1/5: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Lk 4:14-22a

Fri, 1/6: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Mk 1:7-11

Sat, 1/7: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Sal 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 2:1-11

Sun, 1/8: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13;

Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

May you shine the light of Christ
in the New Year!

Mary, the Holy Mother of God THE BLESSING WE RECEIVE

The blessing we experience in Christ Jesus is proclaimed in Numbers as the special blessing for the people of Israel. They and we are to be blessed by the invocation of God's loving kindness, the shining glory of God's face turned toward us in love, not away from us in anger. We are blessed by God's own peace!

Our wish and our hope are fulfilled in this blessing, which is made visible in the coming of Jesus. In Jesus, the image of the invisible God, God's face is shown to us and God's presence is made known to us in faithful and loving kindness.

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PARISH STEWARDSHIP of TREASURE

December 24 and 25

Sunday & Christmas Collection.....	\$ 9,100.73
Online Giving	\$ 1,168.00
Children	\$ 21.00
Youth.....	\$ 1.00



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First Friday Adoration – Jan. 6

Start 2017 right by spending an hour with Our Lord during the First Friday Eucharistic Adoration on Friday, Jan. 6 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sign up for an hour of prayer. We need one or more individuals an hour.

Epiphany Potluck Dinner – Jan. 7

Don't forget to come to the Epiphany Potluck Dinner on Saturday, Jan. 7. after mass. We will be celebrating the Epiphany by sharing our favorite ethnic food and recipes with each other. Join us in the Parish Center. Warmers to keep hot dishes at the right temperature during Mass are available. Sign up in the gathering space or parish office.

CCW Blanket Making – Jan. 10

During the CCW meeting in January CCW will be making No Sew Blankets to donate to Catholic Charities and Heartbeat. All are welcome to participate in helping make these blankets. Come join them on Jan. 10 at 7:00 p.m.

Parish Breakfast – Jan. 15

Mark your calendars for our Parish Breakfast on Sunday Jan. 15 after 9:30 a.m. Mass. Come enjoy hot fresh pancakes with your parish family.

Marriage Enrichment – Feb. 4

St. Mark is hosting a Marriage Enrichment event on Saturday, February 4, 2017 from 1:00 pm - 5:15 pm, followed by Mass at 5:30 pm. Be sure to block off this time NOW to focus on your relationship with your spouse and God. More details to follow, so keep an eye out for bulletin announcements about this wonderful opportunity.

Mass intentions

Remember your deceased loved ones with a Mass intention. Please contact the Parish Office for more information. Those who set up a Mass intention are also invited to take up the offertory gifts at the relevant liturgy. Just sign in on the sheet in the Gathering Space behind the last row of chairs on the small table.

FAITH FORMATION

Deacon Ron Kenney, Director of Faith Formation

Tel: 810-636-2216 E-mail: stmarkdff@hotmail.com

With the beginning of 2017, the tradition of making New Year's Resolutions surrounds our thoughts and minds as we head into another year. As I head into 2017 here are a few resolutions that I am challenging myself with: Serve God and God's people with all my heart and soul. Be more forgiving. Look for ways to serve those that are marginalized in society, through action and effort. Be more patient. Live a life of tolerance and acceptance of others by seeing similarities not differences. Be kind and loving. Try to see the good in others first, rather than their faults and failings. Be generous. Seek justice and live what is good and right each day. Be humble. Live a life that is others-centered not self-centered. Be Joyful. And, start each day saying... Today I'm Going To Put God First!

Walk the Talk! Be Peace! Happy New Year!
– Deacon Ron

REF Children and Youth

- **1/1** – NO REF (K-5)(Middle School YG)
- **1/4** – High School Youth Group (7-9pm)
- **1/8** – REF K-5-11-12:30pm & Middle School 6:30-8pm
- **1/13-15** – Confirmation Subiaco Retreat Away

REF Epiphany Lunch

- To celebrate the Epiphany of our Lord, the Feast that celebrates the visit of the Magi to the child Jesus, we will enjoy lunch on January 8th for the children in REF.

Adult Faith Formation

- **Men's Fellowship:** 1st Sat. of each month 7-8am – Next Fellowship Jan. 7th.

St. Mark High School Youth Group Retreat

- **January 6-8, 2017**, Subiaco Retreat Center Oxford. All High School Youth 10th-12th grade are invited to spend a fun and faith-filled weekend together reflecting on Life and Faith. Permission Forms available at Youth Group or through the Faith Formation Office.

Year-end Statements

If you would like a year-end tax statement of your 2016 Stewardship contributions, please call or e-mail the Parish Office to have yours e-mailed or mailed to you.

Catholic Charities

The needed item for January is Toilet Paper. Place it in the Hope in a Box containers. And Catholic Charities Work Ready Room wants your new or gently used career clothes to help individuals in need! They need: Work Boots, Dress Pants, Collared Shirts, Khakis, Scrubs and Shoes. Donations can be dropped off in the Ushers room in Church or at Catholic Charities and they are temporarily located in the lower level of St. Michael's Church 609 E. Fifth Ave. Flint, 810-265-7025 - givehope@ccsgc.org.