

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

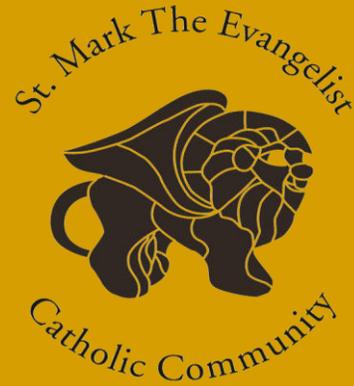
PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

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.

Epiphany of the Lord

In the early centuries, the birth of Christ didn't have its own feast. It was originally part of a great feast on January 6 called "Epiphany" that celebrated several "manifestations" of Christ – his birth, his recognition by the Magi, his baptism in the Jordan, and his miracle at Cana.

In about the fourth century, Christians in the western world pulled Christmas out of the Epiphany celebration and gave it a feast of its own on December 25. The time between this new feast on December 25 and the feast of the Epiphany on January 6 became the Christmas season – the "12 days of Christmas."

But the Christmas season no longer ends on January 6. That's because eventually an "octave" was added to the feast of the Epiphany – an extension of the celebration for a week after the feast.

When this happened, the Christmas season no longer ended on Epiphany but continues through the octave. The feast of the Baptism of the Lord was eventually placed at the end of the octave...and now it is the feast that brings the Christmas season to a close.

The Little Blue Book

Advent and Christmas Seasons 2016-2017

What is God really like?

No one has ever seen God. The only begotten Son, God, who is at the Father's side, has revealed him. (John 1:18)

A storm came in the middle of the night. As the lightning flashed and the thunder roared, the little boy got up and ran into his parents' bedroom. As he crawled into bed with them, his mother said gently, "Nicky, you don't have to be afraid of the storm. God is always with you." "I know," said the boy. "But I need someone with skin on."

Jesus is God with skin on. As Saint John says, Jesus has revealed God to us. Through his life and teachings, Jesus answers our brining question, "What is God really like?" Through Jesus we learn that God loves us more than we can imagine. God speaks with us, consoles us, calls us to forgiveness and challenges us to care for one another – especially those in need. On this last day of 2016, take a few moments to look back over this past year. What consolations did you receive from God? What challenges? How did you respond to both?

Jesus, Incarnate One, I thank you for both the consolations and challenges of 2016. Be with me as I experience the consolations and challenges of 2017.
Sr. Melannie Svoboda, S.N.D.

The Christmas Season ends with all of us resuming our routines of Ordinary Time. I am grateful each year for the Music Ministry provided by Michael Goetz. His passion is evident in his selection and direction of songs by the choir and this year the bell choir! Thank you to the Art & Environment committee for the beauty provided in the church, breezeway and parish center. Each detail presents a symbol of Christmas. Thank you for your cards, baked goods, and prayers for me and our parish. Let us live the simplicity of the Christ child's message in the year ahead.

Peace,

MONDAY, January 9

Baptism of the Lord

TUESDAY, January 10

6:30 p.m. – Mass: Deceased CCW Members / Parish

7:00 p.m. – CCW Mtg & Blanket Making – Parish Center

WEDNESDAY, January 11

8:30 a.m. – Mass: 10 Year Pastoral Plan / 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

THURSDAY, January 12

7:00 p.m. – Choir Practice – Church

FRIDAY, January 13

9th grade Confirmation Retreat (through Jan 15)

SATURDAY, January 14

Baptism Weekend

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

5:30 p.m. – Mass: +Wilma Mckenzie (Chalifoux) / Bill LaVelle

SUNDAY, January 15

Baptism Weekend

9:30 a.m. – Mass: +Sr. Joan May / Parish

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

10:30 a.m. – Parish Breakfast – Parish Center

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

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, 1/9: Is 42:1-4, 6-7Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10; Mt 3:13-17

Tues, 1/10: Heb 2:5-12; Ps 8:2ab, 5, 6-9; Mk 1:21-28

Wed, 1/11: Heb 2:14-18; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Mk 1:29-39

Thurs, 1/12: Heb 3:7-14; Ps 95:6-11; Mk 1:40-45

Fri, 1/13: Heb 4:1-5, 11; Ps 78:3, 4bc, 6c-8; Mk 2:1-12

Sat, 1/14: Heb 4:12-16; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 2:13-17

Sun, 1/15: Is 49:3, 5-6; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34

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.

Welcome to our new parishioners!

Please welcome new parishioners the Mike & Holly Francis and their children Joey, Luke & Maggie.

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.

The Epiphany of the Lord THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM

The unfolding of the story of the Incarnation continues today as the Church celebrates the Epiphany. The tale of the magi from the East is one of the most fascinating in all of scripture. It has much to teach us about what we can come to expect, even in circumstances and places that may seem insignificant or small. Bethlehem was a tiny town, what we might refer to today as a town without even one stop light. Yet it is over this seemingly insignificant place that the guiding star stops in its own search for the place where the Savior would be born. Too often we fail to recognize the fact that the star of Bethlehem comes to rest in our everyday lives, where we can experience God's presence, manifested in ever new ways. Epiphany calls us to shake off our stupor and recognize the One who comes to save us.

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PARISH STEWARDSHIP of TREASURE

December 31 & January 01

Sunday & Christmas Collection.....	\$ 3,793.00
Online Giving	\$ 2,003.00
Children	\$ 1.50
Youth.....	\$ 0.00
Solemnity of Mary.....	\$ 321.00



CCW Blanket Making – Jan. 10

During the CCW meeting in January, We 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 us on Jan. 10 at 7:00 p.m.

St. Francis Retreat Center – Jan. 20

Come to a marriage retreat at St. Francis Retreat Center on Jan. 20 at 5:15-9:15pm "**Learning to Love Each Other in the Little Things.**" Daily life can strengthen or weaken your marriage depending on your shared focus. Learn ways to deepen your love and commitment you promised each other. Enjoy an evening together. \$60 per couple and includes dinner and handouts. Register at <http://www.stfrancis.ws/> or 517-669-8321.

Euchre & Luncheon – Jan. 27

Come join us on Friday, January 27 at 10:00 a.m. for Euchre with a light lunch to follow. Cost is \$5.00. Contact Ruth and Mike Petroski at teacuplady47@hotmail.com or 810-344-7293 by Jan. 24 to sign up so we can plan accordingly. Bring your friends – all are welcome!

Marriage Enrichment – Feb. 4

St. Mark is hosting a Marriage Enrichment afternoon Saturday, February 4 from 1:00 pm - 5:15 pm, followed by Mass at 5:30 pm. John & Julie Nielsen will be presenting.

Men's Retreat at St. Francis – Feb. 24 – 26

The men of St. Mark the Evangelist are invited to their annual retreat at the St. Francis Retreat Center from Friday, Feb. 24 through Sunday, Feb. 26. The theme is "**Mass Matters: We are Called to Glory.**" Suggested offering is \$175.00. Register at the Retreat Center at (517) 669-8321 or visiting their website at www.stfrancis.ws.

FAITH FORMATION

Deacon Ron Kenney, Director of Faith Formation
Tel: 810-636-2216 E-mail: stmarkdff@hotmail.com

I love the Feast of Epiphany. It's a day that brings about much discussion about the identity of the Wisemen, the whereabouts of the gifts, and were they kings or astronomers? Whatever the story tells, whether it is folklore or truth, one thing is for sure, tradition tells us someone of great knowledge and prestige visited the new born child. As much as I like to speculate what tradition and history tells us, what matters most to me in my reflection on that visit, is the fact that they paid homage!

They worshipped him and showed respect and so should we. They did not visit him because they were obligated. They did not visit him to go through the motions. They did not visit him out of fear. They visited him because THEY KNEW there was something different about this child. They got down on their knees and saw that this was truly God.

Today, ask yourself, am I just going through the motions? Am I just here out of obligation and fear? Or am I ready to look at Jesus and see that God is real?

Thank you, Thank you to the Young People that participated in the Children's Christmas Eve story during the 4:30pm Liturgy. You helped to share the beautiful story of Jesus' birth with all those in attendance. And a heartfelt thank you to all those that shared cards and goodies with me and my family during this Christmas time. What a special parish to be a part of thank you!

Walk the Talk! Be Peace!
– Deacon Ron

REF Children and Youth

- **1/15** – NO REF MLK Weekend (K-5)(Middle School YG)
- **1/13-15** – Confirmation Subiaco Retreat Away
- **1/18** – High School Youth Group (7-9pm)
- **1/22** – REF All (11-12:30pm K-5, 6:30-8pm 6-7-8)

Adult Faith Formation

- **Men's Fellowship:** 1st Sat. of each month 7-8am – Next Fellowship February 4th.
- **Book Club:** Our next book club discussion will be January 24, 2017. Our book will be *The Shack*, by William Young. We will have 2 discussions on the book, 1/24 and 2/28. Contact Dcn. Ron for more info.

Register For Human Trafficking Conference – Feb. 11

Human trafficking is often hidden in our communities. Want to learn more and what you can do to get involved in anti-trafficking efforts? Attend ***From Darkness to Light: Human Trafficking and Our Response*** on Sat., Feb. 11 at Lansing Catholic High School. This all-day event sheds light on the issue of human trafficking and its impact on Michigan. Participants will interact with organizations that combat the crime and learn what they can do to raise awareness. Breakfast and lunch are included in a \$25 registration cost, and pre-registration is required at www.micatholic.org/fromdarknesstolight/. Contact Annie Bennett at abennett@micatholic.org or 517-316-3588.