

# 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.

Today is the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent. Once again we have a theme and symbol for our prayerful reading.

**THEME: SEEING**

The human eye is small in size, but it can see as far as the moon, the stars, and distant planets. Through our eyes, we distinguish colors and shapes and we measure distances. The beauty or ugliness of an environment, perceived through sight, affects our disposition and response to life. The ability to see is taken for granted, yet often we do not see what is directly in front of us.

Our vision silently guides us as we move from place to place. It opens up possibilities for us to travel in new directions. This characteristic of sight leads us to call new perceptions "insight." Through reflection, through accident, through education, we gain insight.

Faith is a kind of insight. It is, like sight itself, a gift, but it is also the acceptance of the gift.

**SYMBOL: LIGHT**

Without light, we cannot see. In the darkness, we flip a switch or fumble for a match or find a candle or turn on a flashlight. The light of the moon or the stars may guide us at night, but without light we are blind, we cannot see at all.

Jesus identifies himself as the light. He gives sight to the blind, to those who live in darkness. He illuminates makes visible, God's love. His brightness blinds some and enables others to see. "I came into the world to divide it," he says, "to make the sightless see and the seeing blind." He calls those who recognize him as the light to be a people of light.

During the Lenten season, the church uses light and darkness as symbols to represent good and evil, life and death. Below is a story from "LIVE LENT":

"I was living in Eligido, a poor town in the Dominican Republic. We had electricity a few hours each morning and a few hours each night. I entered into the daily ritual of waiting, with the family I was staying with, for the light to come on.

Power was restored at a different hour each evening. As the light came to a particular block, the people would break out in cheers. You could hear the light coming before you could see it. I waited with anticipation as the light gradually came to our block, and then I joined in the cheering. Restoring power to the town of Eligido was a process, and it took time before the entire town was basking in the light.

The powerful story of the man born blind gradually moving from blindness to sight, and then sight to insight, reminds me that conversion, too, is a process. Jesus heals him, the Pharisees ask what the man has to say about Jesus. He begins simply by calling Jesus a "man" – a wonderful person who did a great deed for him. Later, when asked again, he calls Jesus a "prophet." Then finally he professes him as the "Son of God."

Lent is a good opportunity to take the time to reflect on your relationship with God. Are you growing in your intimacy with God? Are you living the Gospel more deeply? If you are not moving forward spiritually, maybe you are stuck and need to find a way to grow."

Peace,

**MONDAY, March 27**

7:00 p.m. – LIVE Lent – Rm 1 & 2

**TUESDAY, March 28**

6:30 p.m. – Word & Eucharist

**WEDNESDAY, March 29**

8:30 a.m. – Mass: Victims of Violence / Parish

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

10:00 a.m. – AA – Room 1 & 2

6:00 p.m. – RCIA – Room 1 & 2

6:30 p.m. – Soup, Stations & Substance – Parish Center

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

**THURSDAY, March 30**

7:00 p.m. – Choir Practice – Church

**FRIDAY, March 31**

**Hospital Visits**

8:30 a.m. – North End Soup Kitchen

**SATURDAY, April 1**

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

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

5:30 p.m. – Mass: / Parish

**SUNDAY, April 2**

9:30 a.m. – Mass: / Parish

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

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

5:30 p.m. – Mass: / Parish

RCIA 3rd Scrutiny

**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](mailto:joanturner38@sbcglobal.net) or 248-410-2286.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Mon, 3/27: Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn 4:43-54

Tues, 3/28: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16

Wed, 3/29: Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30

Thur, 3/30: Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47

Fri, 3/31: Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Sat, 4/1: Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53

Sun, 4/2: Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]

**Caring for Creation – Ways to Help the Planet**

**Don't Pre-Heat Your Oven** – Unless it's absolutely essential, for example if you're making bread, you don't need to pre-heat the oven. You can just set it away when you are ready to start cooking. Bonus tip: When checking the food, look through the door rather than opening it until the final check.

**New Parishioners**

We would like to welcome Gwen Szyarto, Marti Murray, John and Lisa McHugh, and Stephan and Victoria Brochu and their daughter Jolie to our parish.

**Fourth Sunday of Lent  
CHILDREN OF THE LIGHT**

The future king, David, in today's first reading, is an example of a type of character present throughout the Hebrew scriptures. He is the child born out of place (not the eldest or most favored) who ends up receiving the promise of the covenant. The spirit of God's anointing rushes upon him. In this way, he is similar to the man born blind from today's Gospel. David's family and the blind man's community did not expect the miraculous grace of God's love to work through them. Perhaps they, too, were "blinded" by the expectations and assumptions of those around them. Yet, after being touched by God, they both came to "see" the presence of God's will for them. Both became messengers of God's will. That same Spirit of God's anointing rushed upon us at our baptism; we were given a candle as a sign of our membership in the Body of Christ, the Light from Light. Our vocation, then, is to fulfill that enlightenment, that anointing, as Ephesians tells us, by living as "children of the light."

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PARISH STEWARDSHIP of TREASURE	
March 18 and 19	
Weekly Collection .....	\$ 3,527.00
Online Giving.....	\$ 1,760.00
Children .....	\$ 31.00
Youth.....	\$ 2.55



**Catholic Relief Services National Collection - Mar. 25- 26**

This weekend, we will take up the Catholic Relief Services Collection. This supports six Catholic agencies that touch more than 100 million lives around the world. Help comfort, feed, and aid those in need. Please give generously and help Jesus in Disguise.

**Soup, Stations and Substance – Mar. 29**

Our next Soup, Stations and Substance will be on Wednesday, March 29. Join us at 6:30 p.m. for a soup dinner, Stations of the Cross at 7:00 p.m. and faith discussions afterwards.

**St. Mark @ North End Soup Kitchen – Mar. 31**

Every fifth Friday of the month is our parish's day to serve lunch at the North End Soup Kitchen. Our next scheduled day is Friday, March 31. To volunteer, call the Parish Office; we gather at 8:30 a.m. by the Parish Office entrance in the parking lot for carpooling.

**Annual Easter Candy Sale – Apr. 1 & 2**

The Music Ministry will be selling Easter Candy after all Masses on April 1 and 2. Proceeds help fund the purchase of new music for our choir and church. Contact Deb Foerster at 810-694-5983 with any questions.

**Jewelry and Religious Items for Sale**

Looking for a rosary, saint pendant or crucifix as a gift for an upcoming sacrament (Baptism, First Communion or Confirmation) or Mother's Day or graduation? See our religious item inventory near the Parish Office and in the gathering space the next two weekends.

**FAITH FORMATION**

**Deacon Ron Kenney, Director of Faith Formation**

**Tel: 810-636-2216 E-mail: [stmarkdff@hotmail.com](mailto:stmarkdff@hotmail.com)**



**4<sup>th</sup> Week of Lent: Encounter Community**

We encounter Maria in Mexico, where a community of hardworking women share joys, sorrows and fellowship while growing economic opportunity at a greenhouse. How have your communities helped you encounter Christ anew this Lent? Visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org). How's your Rice Bowl this week?

Walk the Talk! Be Peace!

Deacon Ron

**REF Children and Youth**

- **NO REF (4/2, 4/9, 4/16)**
- **3/29 – HS Youth Group (9th-12th, 7-9pm)**

**St. Mark Youth Group**

- **St. Mark Youth Group Mission Trip 2017.** High School youth are invited to sign up for our annual Mission Trip. We will be going to Charleston, West Virginia June 25-July 1, 2017. For more info contact Dcn. Ron.
- **High School Youth Group.** Meets every other Wednesday, 7-9pm throughout the school year. All 9th-12th graders are invited for FAITH, FUN and FRIENDS. Contact Dcn. Ron for more information.

**Adult Faith Formation**

- **LIVE LENT!** Mondays 7-8:30pm Parish Center
- **Lenten Men's Fellowship:** All Men of St. Mark are invited to join us for Reflection, Prayer and Challenge every Saturday morning during the Lenten Season. Be the kind of man, husband, father, son, brother and friend you want to be and God intends you to be! Join Dcn Ron in the Parish Center for one hour, the topics and discussions are more worthwhile than giving up meat on Friday!

**RCIA –** The "Scrutinies" of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is celebrated on the third (March 18), fourth (March 26), and fifth (April 2) Sundays of Lent. These are ancient rites that are profoundly rooted in our human experience. We need to examine (scrutinize) how we are, the areas of our lives where we are tempted--in what we do and what we fail to do. After the homily, each scrutiny begins with silent prayer, for both the Elect, and the assembly. The assembly prays for them, asking God to protect them and heal them in the weeks ahead. Next, intersessions for the Elect are prayed together, and then a special prayer of exorcism, led by the presider, is offered to free them of evil. Next, the priest or deacon lays his hands on the head of each Elect, a solemn act of calling the Spirit of Jesus to be with them and protect them. Finally, the Elect are dismissed to continue to reflect upon the Word (from Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy, the National Conference of Catholic Bishops).