

# St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Community

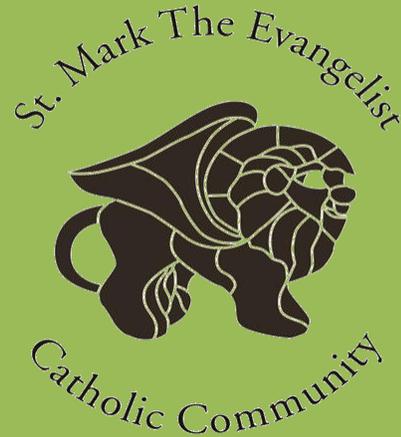
Address: 7296 Gale Rd. – Grand Blanc, MI 48439

**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, Caitie Essenmacher  
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.)  
AA Hotline (810) 234-0815

Catholic Charities (810) 232-9950

Council of Catholic Women (810) 344-9859  
Mary McFarlane

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.

**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 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.  
followed by Eucharistic adoration from  
9:00 a.m. to 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.

**A PRAYER FOR THE ROAD**

Summer is vacation time, the season when many of us take to the open road with a different attitude. We usually use our automobiles as machines to transport us to work and to help us meet other obligations. But in these months of summer, our cars become escape vehicles from the routines of our work-a-day lives.

Those seeking an integrated holiness do not restrict prayer to Sundays, to church or even to daily times of formal prayer. Instead, every activity of their lives is engaged as prayer. As Americans, we all spend a significant amount of time inside an automobile, and we should not exclude that travel time from our life of prayer.

St. Paul told us, "Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God" (1 Cor. 10: 31). As twentieth century Christians, it is easy to exclude our use of machines from our prayer lives and so lose frequent opportunities to give glory to God. We usually think that God is given glory by stunning stained-glass windows or deeds of heroic charity. Indeed, how many of us believe that our use of our washing machine or car can be an act of worship? Yet St. Paul was clear in saying, "Whatever you do, do it for the glory of God." Good prayer is like an alarm clock. Its purpose is to wake us up to the reality that all life is intended to be prayer, is meant to give glory to God. So, as you begin to drive with a fresh summertime attitude, why not begin to see your time in your car as prayer time. An excellent way to do this is to make a brief formal prayer before you step on the gas. The options for such a prayer are numerous. You could say a prayer we all know by heart, "Bless us, O Lord, and these thy gifts which we are about to receive from thy bounty." While we usually restrict that prayer to meal times, it would be a wonderful eye opener to all the gifts of sight, travel and adventure that are available in a car – even in a short drive to the store.

Such a prayer could also be an expression of our need for God to bless us with protection as we take responsibility for operating a machine that is potentially very dangerous to our health and safety and that of others. With the passage of safety belt laws, we have a daily ritual that is hungry to be made holy. As you wrap yourself in your safety belt, you could make it a sacred ritual by praying, "Wrap me in your love, O God, and bless my journey." A small sign of the cross could also be traced upon your safety belt where it crosses your heart.

And as humorous as it might sound, praying our traditional meal blessing would be a double blessing for about 25% of us. According to a recent survey, at least 25% of American commuters eat breakfast in their cars!"

*A Pilgrim's Almanac by Edward Hays*

While this book was published before the millennial and the statistics have changed, the reality of our lifestyle in cars is a daily activity. More and more people are commuting longer distances. It can provide a time for prayer and reflection. As I mentioned at all the liturgies last weekend, I hope you are finding some quiet rest and relaxation during these beautiful summer days.

Peace,

**MONDAY, July 17**

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

**TUESDAY, July 18**

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

7:00 p.m. – Parish Commission Meetings / Parish Center

**WEDNESDAY, July 19**

8:30 a.m. – Mass: Dignity of Workers / Parish

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

10:00 a.m. – AA – Room 1 & 2

7:00 p.m. – Youth Group

**THURSDAY, July 20**

**FRIDAY, July 21**

**Hospital Visits**

8:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m. – Youth Group North End Soup Kitchen

**SATURDAY, July 22**

4:30–5:15 p.m. – Confessions – Church

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

**SUNDAY, July 23**

8:00 a.m. – Mass: +Jack Marks / Mike & Ruth Petroski

9:30 a.m. – Mass: +Austin Sherwood / Steve & Carol O'Donnell

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

**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, 7/17: Ex 1:8-14, 22; Ps 124:1b-8; Mt 10:34 — 11:1

Tue, 7/18: Ex 2:1-15a; Ps 69:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34; Mt 11:20-24

Wed, 7/19: Ex 3:1-6, 9-12; Ps 103:1b-4, 6-7; Mt 11:25-27

Thu, 7/20: Ex 3:13-20; Ps 105:1, 5, 8-9, 24-27; Mt 11:28-30

Fri, 7/21: Ex 11:10 — 12:14; Ps 116:12-13, 15, 16bc, 17-18; Mt 12:1-8

Sat, 7/22: Ex 12:37-42; Ps 136:1, 23-24, 10-15; Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

Sun, 7/23: Wis 12:13, 16-19; Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16; Rom 8:26-27; Mt 13:24-43 [24-30]

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

**Plant Your Own Tree** – There are multiple benefits to planting a tree in your garden. It is good for the environment, it can shade your home and cut back your air conditioning usage and it can even increase the value of your property. You could make it an annual event where each family member plants a new tree.

**Correction to Mass Schedule for August Calendar**

On Tuesday August 15 there will be an 8:30 a.m. Mass as well as a 6:30 p.m. Mass for Assumption. Mass on Wednesday the 16 and 23 will be at 8:30 a.m. as usual.

## Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time FRUIT OF THE WORD

The seed is the word of God. The agricultural metaphors in all of today's readings give richness to the message that the word of God, cultivated in our hearts, bears much fruit in our lives. Creation itself awaits the redemption of all, even as our bodies await the resurrection. Just as we will rejoice in the fulfillment of God's word, so will all of creation sing for joy in the Reign of God. The word of God is effective and holy; it brings about exactly what it says. It is not futile or empty, but rich in meaning for those who hear and are healed. Those who hear the word of God and keep it will, with all creation, bear much fruit and sing for joy.

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### PARISH STEWARDSHIP of TREASURE

July 8 and 9

Weekly Collection .....	\$3,982.00
Online Giving .....	\$4,005.00
Children .....	\$ 26.00
Youth.....	\$ 0.00



### Capital Campaign Payments

**Accelerated Payments** – You can pay online per instructions given the first time: [www.witnessstohope.net](http://www.witnessstohope.net) and click on Donations at the bottom or via check made payable to: Witness to Hope, with St. Mark the Evangelist in the memo line. Put in collection or the Parish Office. To date, the total of accelerated payments is \$23,295.

**New Pledges or One time Payments** – Please use envelopes and cards that were provided by Witness to Hope. These are in the Gathering Space or Parish Office. To date, \$13,433 in new pledges has been received.

**Installment Payments** – Reminder letters will go out if you made a pledge with installments. These letters will include payment envelopes and instructions.

**Questions** – Any questions about tax forms, notifications or etc. Call Colleen Andrews at 517-342-2461 (diocese).

### **Parish Commission Meeting July 18**

The Parish Commissions will be meeting Tuesday, July 18 at 7:00 p.m. Come see what ministries occur throughout the year!

### **Gardening Group – July 26**

Calling all gardeners and other volunteers! Gardening Group Meets every other Wednesday for gardening and landscaping projects. Contact Sharon Roberts at the Parish Office to help out.

### **40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Pilgrimage 2018 – April 8-18**

St. Mark Parish is planning a pilgrimage as part of the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year. Countries to be visited are Portugal and Spain. Cities include *Lisbon, Fatima, Santiago de Compostela, Madrid and Barcelona*. If you are interested please contact the parish office. There will be an initial meeting on Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m.

### **Marriage Banns**

2<sup>nd</sup> publication: Rebecca Thiell and Edmund Bosas

## FAITH FORMATION

### Deacon Ron Kenney, Director of Faith Formation

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

God gives us seeds every day. The seeds are his Word and daily messages for us to live by. Let the Word of God take root and grow. It simply is not enough to just hear the Word of God; we have to let it grow within us so that every decision we make exudes the presence of God. It is simply not enough to go to Church. We have to be Church. It is not enough to read the Bible. We have to be People of the Word. So we hear the words: Love one another. That's nice. And useless. Useless unless we are able to look at that person in our family whose life has become the bane of our existence and make up our minds that we are going to end the sarcasm, the silence, the nastiness, and maybe even the hatred. Let the Word of God take root and grow. When we struggle with our parents we need to understand the pressures that all live with and reach out with compassion and understanding. Let the Word of God take root and grow. Our children may not live up to our expectations but we need to be there for them. Give children the opportunity to succeed and support whatever success they might have, even if, like you and I, that success is imperfect. It is not enough for the Word of God to be scattered into a home; it must take root. When it is nurtured by our prayers, and cared for with our charity, it will grow. Let the Word of God take root and grow. Walk the Talk! Be Peace! – Deacon Ron

### St. Mark Youth Group

- **Summer Youth Group:** Every Wednesday, 7-9pm meet at the Pavilion. Fun, Prayer & Pizza, 6th-12th graders invited to participate, bring \$3 for pizza.
- **Youth Group at the Northend Soup Kitchen:** Friday, July 21st, meet at 8:15am at St. Mark, return by 1:30pm. Sign up at Youth Group.
- **Youth Group at Goodtimes in Goodrich!** Saturday, August 5th the youth of St. Mark will be helping with the community celebration. Kid Zone and Movie Night. Come to Summer Youth Group and sign up to help. Great Service Hours.
- **Youth Group Movie Nite!** Under the Pavilion, bring your own chair and a snack to share, August 18th, 7-9pm, all 6th -12th graders welcome, bring a friend.
- **Youth Group at the Crim Finish Line Water Station!** St. Mark YG will be working the finish line water station at the Crim Festival of Races on Saturday, August 26th, 6am-1pm. All youth and families are welcome to join us. Sign up at Summer YG or email [stmarkdff@hotmail.com](mailto:stmarkdff@hotmail.com).

### Vacation Bible School

- **St. Mark VBS** – Save the Date: August 1-4, 6-8pm-Maker Fun Factory: Created By God! All K-5th graders invited to sign up, registrations available at our website or through the parish office. 6th- 12th graders and adults who would like to volunteer email Dcn. Ron.

### Adult Faith Formation

- **St. Mark Men's Fellowship** – 1st Saturday of the Month, 7-8am. Next date: August 5th.