

St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Community

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

Parish Office:

Phone (810) 636-2216

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.

Epiphany Sunday each year brings special readings, signifying the arrival of the Three Kings to the Baby Jesus. For centuries, Christians have had the opportunity to reflect upon the significance of Jesus' birth for our salvation. This Sunday also comes after New Year's when we have made our resolutions. Below are 8 resolutions, or resolution themes, that I came across through the National Catholic Reporter. Coming off a week of being sick at home, I had lots of quiet reflection that made the below article come to life.

1. Slow down. Self-care is challenging amid the busyness of modern life. Trappist monk Thomas Merton recognized the detrimental effects of our chronic busyness, writing that "to allow oneself to be carried away by a multitude of conflicting concerns, to surrender to too many demands, to commit oneself to too many projects, to want to help everyone in everything is to succumb to violence."

2. Turn off the screen — or at least be intentional about technology use. How many hours do you spend scrolling through Facebook, lamenting TV headlines, or simply Internet surfing? While technology has innumerable benefits, every hour in front of a screen also dumps a flood of external input into your life. Setting guidelines for the amount of time we use media is a valuable first step.

3. Get back in your body. A felt sense of connectedness to one's physical self is vital to our health and well-being. Whether it's yoga, swimming, walking the dog, or anything else, choose a body-centered activity that you love. Do you enjoy this activity on your own? Or is it helpful to have a class, a regular group or a scheduled event to get you out the door? Explore what works best for you and integrate this commitment into your week.

4. Reconnect with the natural world. Author Charles Cook writes, "Your deepest roots are in nature. No matter who you are, where you live, or what kind of life you lead, you remain irrevocably linked with the rest of creation." Practice savoring your connection with creation. Especially with the ecological crises facing our planet, our nature reconnection is more vital than ever.

5. Seek out an adventure. It doesn't matter if you travel abroad or plan a staycation; try something new — anything! A spontaneous road trip, quirky restaurant, local theater venue or new hobby: Infuse a sense of adventure into your life. Trek off the beaten path of your daily routine to try out new, enriching experiences in your community.

6. "Spark joy." International best-selling author and organizing consultant Marie Kondo offers this mantra in her now-famous book, *The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up*. Kondo's creative, even transformative approach to the traditional "spring cleaning" process encourages us to reflect on our relationship with our possessions and whether they truly "spark joy" within us. Sensing joy with that item? Keep it. No joy? Let it go.

7. Cultivate relationships. Ultimately, isn't this what life is all about? Reflect on your relationships with family, friends, colleagues, neighbors, parishioners and your local community. What relationships could use some extra TLC?

8. Nurture your relationship with God. Just as we dedicate time to building our relationships with other people, our inner spiritual life also deserves a similar commitment. Whether it's reading Scripture, or any other kind of contemplative practice, choose a specific time to tune into God each day. The rest of your life, and the start of 2018, will be richer for it.

Peace,

MONDAY, January 8

TUESDAY, January 9

6:30 p.m. – Mass: Refugees / Parish

7:00 p.m. – CCW Blanket Making

7:00 p.m. – Pastoral Council Meeting

WEDNESDAY, January 10

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

THURSDAY, January 11

7:00 p.m. – Choir practice

FRIDAY, January 12

Hospital Visits

SATURDAY, January 13 – Baptism Weekend

Youth Group Bottle Drive

4:30–5:15 p.m. – Confessions – Church

5:30 p.m. – Mass: +Robert Whipple / Family

SUNDAY, January 14 – Baptism Weekend

Youth Group Bottle Drive

8:00 a.m. – Mass: World Peace / Parish

9:30 a.m. – Mass: Special Intention / Parishioner

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

10:30 a.m. – Hospitality Hour

10:30 a.m. – Bell Choir practice

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, 1/8: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 55:1-11 or Acts 10:34-38 or 1 Jn 5:1-9; Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10 or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd-6; Mk 1:7-11

Tue, 1/9: 1 Sm 1:9-20 or 1 Sm 1:1-8 and 1 Sm 1:9-20; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Mk 1:21-28 or Mk 1:14-20 and Mk 1:21-28

Wed, 1/10: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Ps 40:2, 5, 7-10; Mk 1:29-39

Thu, 1/11: 1 Sm 4:1-11; Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25; Mk 1:40-45

Fri, 1/12: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a; Ps 89:16-19; Mk 2:1-12

Sat, 1/13: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a; Ps 21:2-7; Mk 2:13-17

Sun, 1/14: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10; 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42

Caring for Creation – Ways to Help the Planet

Recycle Unwanted Wire Hangers – Although wire hangers are generally made of steel, therefore not recyclable in the typical sense, many dry cleaners will gladly take these off your hands to reuse.

National Collection: World Wide Evangelization Appeal

World Wide Evangelization Appeal is the weekend of January 28. This is an opportunity to fulfill dreams around the world. At home and abroad evangelization is paramount in fulfilling our mission as Roman Catholics.

**The Epiphany of the Lord
GOD'S PROMISE TO ALL PEOPLE**

Today Isaiah reminds the people of God that the land shall be restored to their possession, they shall rejoice to see their people return from the bondage of exile, and that they shall be a light to the nations. In other words, through the people of Israel, the Savior shall come to all people who seek God with a sincere heart. This brings joy and the radiance of God's glory to all the world and to all people everywhere. Through the fidelity of the people of God, and through God's fidelity to them, all people shall become God's children and rejoice in the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel.

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PARISH STEWARDSHIP of TREASURE	
December 30 & 31	
Weekly Collection.....	\$5,045.00
Online Giving.....	\$3,305.00
Children.....	\$ 4.00
Youth.....	\$ 0.00



CCW Blanket Making – Jan. 9

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 blankets. Come join them on Jan. 9 at 7:00 p.m.

Parish Breakfast – Jan. 21

Come to the next Parish Breakfast, to be held on Sunday, Jan. 21, after the 9:30 a.m. Mass. Please join your Parish family for a special meal of homemade breakfast casserole, fruit & yogurt!

Euchre & Luncheon – Jan. 26

It's time for Euchre at 10:00 a.m. on Jan. 26 with a light lunch to follow. Cost is \$5.00. Please contact Ruth and Mike Petroski at 810-344-7293 or teacuplady47@hotmail.com to sign up so we can plan accordingly.

Calling all snowbirds!

If you plan to spend the winter away, please let the Parish Office know your alternate address so we can keep in touch through mailings.

Mass intentions and presentation of gifts

Mass intentions are a great way to remember the special people in your life, both living and deceased, or an event. Those who have a Mass intention are also invited to take up the offertory gifts at the Liturgy. Contact the Parish Office.

Online Giving Now Made Easier!

St. Mark offers online giving for parishioners who prefer to donate through automatic draft, a secure and personalized way to give to the parish. Visit the St. Mark website to sign up or call the Parish Office for information and help.

Upcoming Baptism Weekend Dates

The upcoming weekends for Baptisms during Mass will be January 13th and 14th, April 7th and 8th, and May 26th & 27th. Any Mass times are available during these weekends for your child's baptism. Please note that baptisms taking place outside of the above weekends will be ceremonies before or after Mass and not a part of the Mass itself.

FAITH FORMATION

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

Today is the feast of Epiphany, the tradition of Scripture and our faith that the child Jesus was visited by 3 Wise men, Magi, or Astrologers as they have been known. Regardless of what their vocation, they came from afar and were of different cultural backgrounds. They came to pay homage and honor to this child who they knew was like no other.

Today's message is really all about inclusion and that all people belong. No one is to be excluded from Christ. What St. Paul says in Scripture about the gentiles refers to all people of all backgrounds, experiences and orientation. We are all co-heirs, members of the same body, and co-partners in the same promise of Christ Jesus through the gospel.

I get tired of people using religion as an excuse to look down on other people. And I am frustrated at the times that I have done this myself. The Solemnity of the Epiphany teaches us this: there is no US and THEM in Jesus Christ. There is only an US, an US that includes all people, everywhere, all the time. Happy Epiphany, Happy open hearts and minds to all.

Walk the Talk! Be Peace! – Deacon Ron

Religious Education Formation (REF) *Serve One Another Through Love – Galatians 5:13*

- 1/14 NO REF MLK Weekend
- 1/12-14 Confirmation Subiaco Retreat Away
- 1/21 REF All (11-12:30pm K-5, 6:30-8pm 6-7-8)
- 1/28 PRAISE PRAYER & PIZZA (6-7:30pm)

First Eucharist

- **Parent Only Meeting:** Sunday, January 28th, 11:15-12:15am in the church. All parents of First Eucharist children are required to attend.

Confirmation

- The next Mini Session is scheduled for Sunday, Feb. 11th, 2-5pm. This is a Parent and Candidate Session.

Adult Faith Formation

- **Men's Fellowship:** 1st Sat. of each month 7-8am – Next Fellowship February 3rd.

Year-end Statements

If you would like a year-end tax statement of your 2017 Stewardship contributions, please call or e-mail the Parish Office to have yours e-mailed or mailed to you.

Men's Retreat at St. Francis – Feb. 23 – 25

The men of St. Mark the Evangelist are invited to their annual retreat at the St. Francis Retreat Center from Friday, Feb. 23 through Sunday, Feb. 25. The theme is **“Entering the Heart of God: Praying the Lord's Prayer in Our Day.”** Suggested offering is \$175.00. Register at the Retreat Center at (517) 669-8321 or by visiting their website at www.stfrancis.ws.

Thank You Art & Environment!

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.