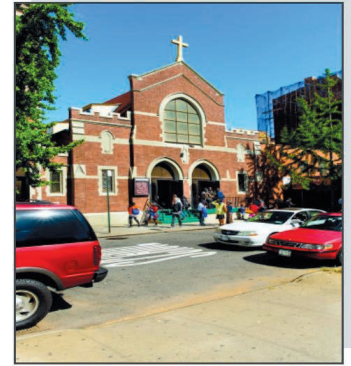
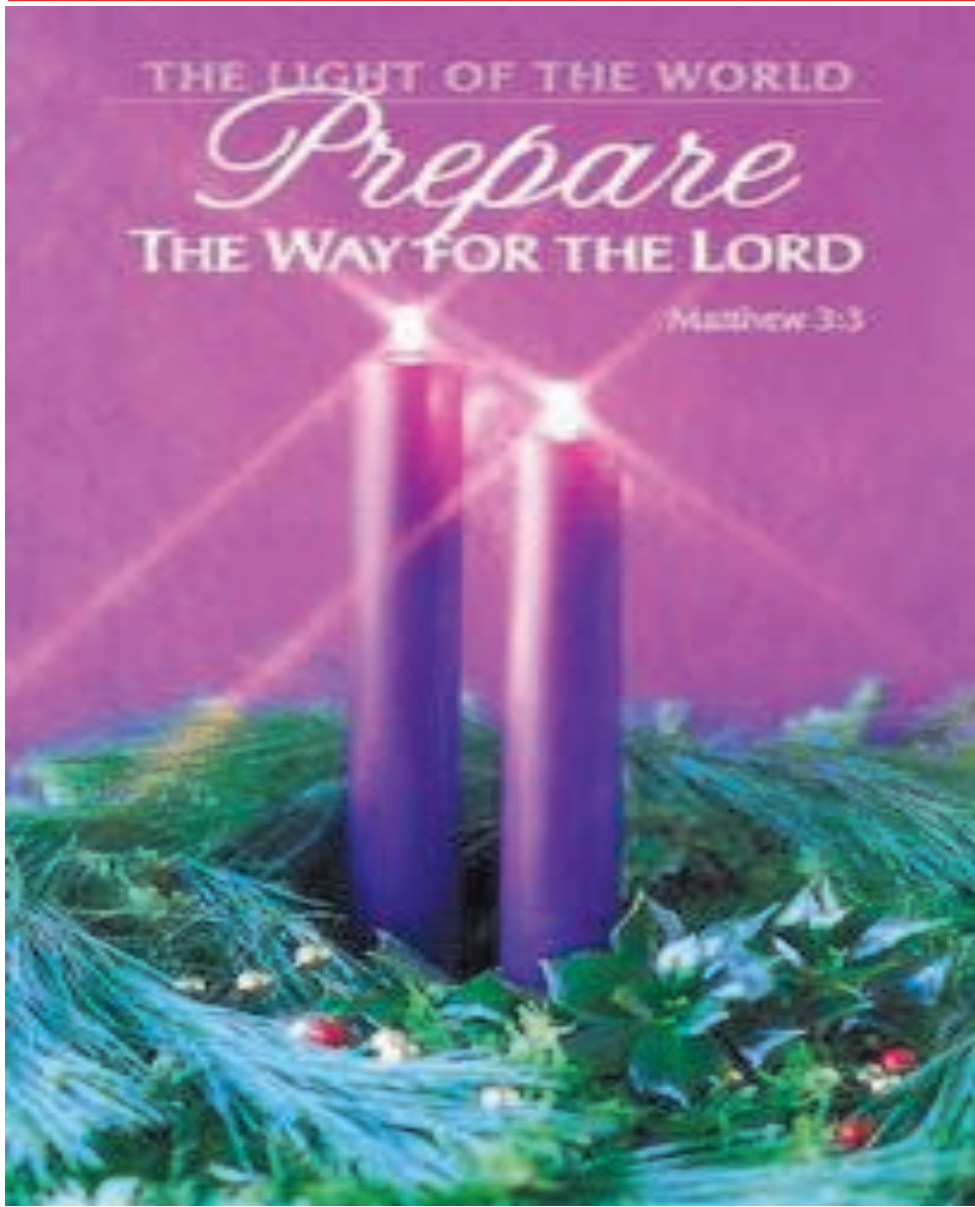


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**MISSION STATEMENT:**

**We are more than Sunday  
Morning.**

**We are worship, service,  
and fellowship.**

**We are a community of  
Faith.**

**All are Welcome!**

**MASS SCHEDULE:**

Saturday - 5:00 pm

Sunday - 8:30 am

11:15 am

5:00 pm (French)

Tue-Fri - 12:15pm

Friday- 8am to 7pm - Adoration  
of the Blessed Sacrament

Confessions-anytime by request

**Website:** [stmark138.com](http://stmark138.com)

**Email:** [stmark138@yahoo.com](mailto:stmark138@yahoo.com)

**Facebook:** St. Mark Church -  
Harlem

**Fax:** 212.491.6803

**Second Sunday of Advent  
December 10, 2017  
2eme de l'Avent**

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## "We are more than Sunday morning"

Please remember in your prayers: Gloria Palmer, Doris Moss, Henry Isom, Marie Landers, Eleanor Jefferson, Ishmael Jackson, Willa Mae Washington, Tyrone Randell, DeCosta Stroble, Elizabeth Young, Tracey Bultron-Lewis, Myrtle Patterson, Walter Thompson, Rivanna Johnson, Dorothy Allen, Kenny Love, Birdell Cotton, Emma Evans, Muriel William-Young, Rose Jean Jacques, Rose Mandazou, Aubrey Woods, Paul Prevost, Rufus Apará, Shirley Cuevas, Souleymane Porgo, Pearl Rollerson, Debra Woodland-Lee, Carol Tull, Lottie Culpepper, Violet Stephenson

**"The Scheduling of Masses"**  
**Masses are now available!**  
**The Diocese Stipend is \$15.00.**

Letters and cards to Fr. Freddy are to be addressed to St. Mark Parish, 65 W 138th Street, NY, NY 10037 or brought to the parish office.

Religious Education Classes will be every other Sunday at 10:00am for those children wishing to prepare for the sacraments. Registration packets are available in the back of the church. The next class will be November 26th at 10:00am

### December Birthdays !!!!!

- |                            |                       |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 John Alexander           | 1 Berta Matos         |
| 2 Laurie Hyacinthe         | 4 Kayla Ruano-Lumpris |
| 4 Lukas Ruano-Lumpris      | 5 Rianna Johnson      |
| 6 Brian Enriquez           | 6 Winifred Simmons    |
| 7 Jacob Martin             | 7 Joseph Martin       |
| 8 Ligia Clamencia-Satchivi | 8 Joseph Foug         |
| 9 Cynthia Hargrove         | 9 Isabella Satchivi   |
| 9 Cynthia Smart-Ndiaye     | 10 Tomatse Ogedegbe   |
| 11 Molly Goodrich          | 13 Claudia Anderson   |
| 13 Stephanie Vamvoukakis   | 16 Alicia Maitland    |
| 17 John Thompson           | 18 Ricoindo Dolcine   |
| 18 Rashelle Diaz           | 20 Robbina Simmons    |
| 22 Cynthia Ellison         | 23 Congo Noel         |
| 24 Dao Krings              | 24 Cody Mahon         |
| 27 Rossalyn Quayé          | 27 Robin Robinson     |
| 28 Myles Raiford           | 29 Blanche Bella      |
| 30 Maelya Zongio           | 30 Mary Vamvdukais    |
| Victor Bassole             | Prince Raphael Bella  |
| Reginald Culpepper         | Selena Davidson       |
| Justin Elanga              | Delores Palms         |
| Blarse Sorghe              | Enjoli Tuitt          |
| Richard Tuyna              | Ethan Uwiduhaye       |
| Pier Washpon               | Sidonne Zabsoire      |

### Parish Finance Council

Robin Lockett, Chairperson  
 Joseph Acakpo Gloria Jones  
 Collin Daley Richard Ellison  
**Trustees**

Avis Thomas Joseph Acakpo

Volunteers are needed for our parish food pantry. The pantry is open – Saturdays 10am– 1pm– **Please Help!** There is a special need for the assistance of males on Thursdays.



**PASTORAL STAFF**

Fr. Freddy Washington, CSSp, Pastor  
 Fr. Jean Pierre Kapumet Tambwe, CSSp, Administrator

*Parish Staffed by the Congregation of the Holy Ghost (Spiritans)*

**Parish collections for the week of  
 December 3rd —\$2,475.00**

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTRY SCHEDULE—**

Lectors Eucharistic Ministers

**Sunday, December 10, 2017**

8:30am

Annette Charles Nkiru Mbamalu  
 Thomasine Grant-Dimery Winifred Simmons

11:15am

Robert Maynard Lucille Bonilla  
 Cody Mahon Sr. Precila

**Sunday, December 17, 2017**

8:30am

Avis Thomas Sr. Anastasia  
 Winifred Simmons Nkiru Mbamalu

11:15am

Robin Lockett Eileen Madison  
 Britany Pratt Ramona Maynard

**Sunday, December 24, 2017 Christmas Eve**

8:30am

Annette Charles Sr. Anastasia  
 Nkiru Mbamalu Winifred Simmons

11:15am

Britany Pratt Martha Treminio  
 Waymon Carrasquillo Nancy Villar

**6:00pm Christmas Vigil**

Thomasine Grant-Dimery Lucille Bonilla

**Monday, December 25, 2017 Midnight Mass**

Winifred Simmons

**Bake Goods are wanted for the Midnight Welcome Home Fellowship. Please bring to the rectory on Saturday or Sunday, Christmas Eve. Thank You!**

**(5:00pm Sat.)**

**\* For the Spirit of the Parish**

**(8:30am)**

**\* Lucy Ananti & Lotenna Akunedozi, Rest In Peace Nikiru Mbamalu**

**(11:15am)**

**\* Fehintola & Benjamin Ogedegbe, In Memory of Nathaniel Ogegegbe**

**(5:00pm)**

**\* For Fr. Freddy Washington**

**THE SCRIPTURE— December 10, 2017  
 Second Sunday of Advent**

Today, on this 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent, we read from the Gospel of St. Mark. Unlike the gospels of Luke and Matthew, the Gospel of Mark does not include any details of Jesus' birth. For St. Mark, he begins by focusing on St. John the Baptist as one who helps to prepare the way for the Lord. St. Mark's gospel begins in its opening sentence: The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: *Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths."*

From the very beginning, St. Mark affirms that Jesus is the Son of God. As he presents John the Baptist. He also calls each one of us into this covenant of announcing the Lord's coming and preparing a way for him. Jesus' life reminds us that preparing a place for Christ to be born begins in our hearts. Through baptism, our hearts are cleansed and made open was that God's action in our lives can truly make us his people.

Advent really announces to us all that -We matter to God! God will never leave us in exile. God constantly calls his people back to him with hearts and hands and voices. We must trust that God's words are true. God will never abandon his people. We all can imagine that our way of doing things is not the same as God's way of doing things. Nevertheless, we must continually seek God's will in our lives.

The Season of Advent offers us an opportunity to witness and proclaim God's love for us all. The simple lesson of Advent asks us to 1) Be ready to change. 2) Acknowledge that God will help us change. 3) Welcome the Holy Spirit to open our hearts to others along this journey. 4) Always have trust that God is with us. At the heart of this lesson, we must recognize that we cannot do this alone. We need each other. Identify at least one action that you will take this week to try to be more faithful followers of Jesus.

Advent is a season of a faith journey into which we are invited. How strong is your faith? What causes you to doubt the most? Many times, when these questions are asked, we often think of someone other than ourselves who either helps or causes doubt in our faith life. Today, Jesus is asking, who do you say that I am? If what you is true, how have Jesus' presence in your life made a difference?

Advent asks a new mindset from us. With this new change of heart, we will become more believable as we announce Christ's forgiveness in our lives and become more open to God's forgiveness in the lives others.

**"God of timeless grace,  
 you fill us with joyful expectation.  
 Make us ready for the message that prepares the way,  
 that with uprightness of heart and holy joy  
 we may eagerly await the kingdom of your Son, Jesus  
 Christ,  
 who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.  
 Amen."**



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