

The Lord is kind and merciful

February 24, 2019

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time



Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 23

5:30 pm For Dave Woeste by Woeste Family

Sunday, February 24

9:00 am For Kimberly Lewis by Daniel & Annemarie Huntz

11:00 am For Donald Dobbings by McDermott Family

Monday, February 25

8:45 am For

Tuesday, February 26

8:45 am For Marie Louise Chan by Kopreski Family

Wednesday, February 27

8:45 am For Elizabeth Feldhusen by St. Mark's Parishioners

Thursday, February 28

8:45 am For

Saturday, March 2

5:30 pm For Parishioners of St. Mark's Parish

Sunday, March 3

9:00 am For Helen Capozzi by Nyman Family

11:00 am For Parishioners of St. Mark's Parish

**REMEMBRANCE MEMORIALS
FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY**

Sanctuary Lamp: In loving memory of Vito and Marie Benardone and Aeneas and Genevieve Corry by Corry/Benardone family

Altar Breads & Wine:

Mass Candles:

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 2

5:30 pm

Celebrant: Fr. Marcin Michalowski

Lector: Fred McQuaide

Eucharistic Ministers: Mary Scarda

Altar Servers: Help Needed

Sunday, March 3

9:00 am

Celebrant: Fr. Marcin Michalowski

Lector: Kevin O'Shea

Eucharistic Ministers: Rick Gebbia

Altar Servers: Help Needed

Sunday, 11:00 am

Celebrant: Fr. Marcin Michalowski

Lector: Sharon Donovan

Eucharistic Ministers: Diane Herzog

Altar Servers: Help Needed

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Monday, February 25

8:45 am Mass

4:30 pm CEC Grades K-5

Tuesday, February 26

8:45 am Mass

6:15 pm JYM and Family Faith Formation

Wednesday, February 27

8:45 am Mass

9:30 am Women's Bible Study

Thursday, February 28

8:45 am Mass

Friday, March 1

Parish Office Closed

7:00 pm Wine Tasting Event

Saturday, March 2

8:00 am Men's Bible Study

5:30 pm Mass

Sunday, March 3

9:00 am & 11:00 am Mass

SYM - Reconciliation for Confirmation Candidates after 11:00 am Mass

1:00 pm Columbiettes Mardi Gras Celebration

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Current Year	Last Year 2018
Figures not available	Figures not available
Supermarket Gift Cards: Figures not available	St. Mark's Faith Direct Church Code is NJ484

FAITH DIRECT...

Have you already slipped on the New Year's resolutions? Don't worry; giving with Faith Direct is an easy resolution to keep! By enrolling in online giving you will simplify your monthly budget and provide St. Marks with consistent, reliable support. Visit www.faithdirect.net and use our church code **NJ484** or text the word **ENROLL** to (Text to Give) Phone Number. Thank you for your support. Fr. Marcin



Please keep the food pantry in your prayers and on your shopping lists this February. They are in particular need of medicine cabinet items, peanut and jelly, pasta/sauce, and coffee/tea, but anything you can donate will be greatly appreciated. Thank You.

MY DEAR PARISHIONERS,

I am very happy to be back home. Here is my new home and you are my family. My trip to Poland went well except delays both ways. It happened to me for the first time but I guess there always has to be a first time. I hope you are doing well and keep yourselves happy and close to Jesus Christ.

Today in the Liturgy of the Church we observe 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time. In today's Gospel Jesus says: "*Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you; Do to others as you would have them do to you; Stop judging and you will not be judged; Give, and gifts will be given to you.*" This Sunday we hear some of the most difficult teachings of our Lord, Jesus Christ. What makes Christians different and what makes Christianity distinct from any other religion? It is grace - treating others, not as they deserve, but as God wishes them to be treated - with loving-kindness and mercy. God is good to the unjust as well as the just. His love embraces saint and sinner alike. God seeks our highest good and teaches us to seek the greatest good of others, even those who hate us. **Our love for others, even those who are ungrateful and selfish towards us, must be marked by the same kindness and mercy which God has shown to us.**

At the heart of the teachings of Jesus that we hear today are two teachings that are so important in our lives: forgiveness and acceptance of mistreatment. Jesus tells us "love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you." These teachings are so against our modern ways of thinking! Yes these same teachings would revolutionize our present world if we all lived them. The challenge is not to think to ourselves: "Nobody lives that way." Rather, we can be thinking: "How can I live this way because Jesus has invited me to live this way."

Let us pray today that our hearts might truly be open to forgiveness and to the acceptance of being treated badly. Let us love all of our enemies: the enemies of our country, the enemies of our families, our personal enemies, the enemies of our Church and whatever enemy there is. Let us love the outcasts, the lepers of our times: anyone that we would not want to live with on a regular basis! Let us learn to do good for all of these enemies. Let us bless them and pray for them. What a world we can create together if we walk this path with our Lord Jesus Christ! In our celebration of the Holy Mass today, may God give us strength! **Let us remember this phrase from today's Gospel: "For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you.**

The Gospel today shows us a whole way of life. We must be merciful, not judging, forgiving and giving to others. That sounds so easy, but it costs us our whole life. It sounds as if we could not live very well if we really lived that way. Yet the truth is that the more we can live that way, the more truly human we become and the more divinity can shine forth through us.

Let us ask God today to help us have this courage and strength to live the divine life that Jesus has given us by His death and resurrection. May this world be transformed by the divine love given to us.

"Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful"

***LENTEN PARISH MISSION – March 16th – 20th by Msgr. Joe Goode – St. Mark's Church**

March 23rd- 27th by Msgr. Ray Lopatesky – OLM Church
Can you imagine that in two weeks (Ash Wednesday – March 6th) we begin LENT our preparation for Easter. This year during Lent we will have a Parish Mission, please mark your calendar today. More details are coming soon.

*In three weeks (March 9th at 5:30pm mass) our Bishop his Excellency Arthur Serratelli will administer the Sacrament of

Confirmation to 28 candidates from our Parish. Mark your calendar and join us for this beautiful celebration.

*First Saturday Devotion at OLM Church – Next Saturday – Come and see the goodness of the Lord. 9am confession followed by Rosary, Adoration and Holy Mass.

St. Mark's – our patron – Pray for us...

God bless you,

Fr. Marcin

FROM FR. SLAWOMIR...

Antonio Valdivieso – February 26

Bishop and Martyr (1495 – 1550)

Antonio Valdivieso, a Spanish Dominican assigned to Nicaragua, was the first bishop in the Americas to die for the cause of justice and the defense of the Indians.

From the moment he arrived in Nicaragua in 1544, Valdivieso vigorously opposed the cruel oppression of the native Indians by the Spanish, including the governor and his family. Departing for Spain, he presented his complaints directly to King Charles V. The king in turn named him bishop of Nicaragua. Afterward, Valdivieso returned with trepidation, convinced that his new appointment was the equivalent of a death sentence.

When he landed in Central America, Spanish soldiers tried unsuccessfully to prevent his return to the capital in Leon. Once in the cathedral he resumed his prophetic preaching. Before long, plans for his assassination were being openly discussed. On February 26, 1550, the governor's son and several of his henchmen forced their way into the bishop's home and stabbed him, along with two other Dominicans.

"I write these letters hurriedly in order that Your Majesty might be aware ... of the great need that exists in these parts for justice."

- Bishop Antonio Valdivieso

FROM FR. JAVIER...

TEACHING FROM THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

THE SACRAMENTS OF THE CHURCH

The Sacrament of the Eucharist

The fruits of Holy Communion

My dear brothers and sisters in an ancient prayer the Church acclaim the mystery of the Eucharist: "*O sacred banquet in which Christ is received as food, the memory of his Passion is renewed, the soul is filled with grace and a pledge of the life to come is given to us.*" If the Eucharist is the memorial of the Passover of the Lord Jesus, if by our communion at the altar we are filled with every heavenly blessing and grace, then the Eucharist is also an anticipation of the heavenly glory.

At the Last Supper the Lord himself directed his disciples' attention toward the fulfillment of the Passover in the kingdom of God: "*I tell you I shall not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.*" Whenever the Church celebrates the Eucharist she remembers this promise and turns her gaze "*to him who is to come.*" In her prayer she calls for his coming: "*Marana tha!*" "*Come, Lord Jesus!*" "*May your grace come and this world pass away!*"

The Church knows that the Lord comes even now in his Eucharist and that he is there in our midst. However, his presence is veiled. Therefore we celebrate the Eucharist "*awaiting the blessed hope and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ,*" asking "*to share in your*

glory when every tear will be wiped away. On that day we shall see you, our God, as you are. We shall become like you and praise you forever through Christ our Lord."
God bless you

JOIN OUR HEATH VILLAGE MINISTRY...

For over 30 years, St. Mark's has been ministering communion services and Masses to our Catholic Heath Village residents. We have extended this ministry to OLM as our needs continue to expand, especially with the building of a new Heath retirement community across the street from the existing one. Our ministers often experience incredible joy from serving the Heath residents who are so grateful when we bring them the liturgy and the Eucharist. We so often hear their heartfelt thanks especially at this time in their lives when it's not so easy to make it to church. You do not have to be a current Eucharistic Minister (EM) to join - Fr. Marcin will take care of your brief training. The commitment is just a couple of hours each month. The EMs who serve today often say they get more out of this ministry than do the residents! We hope you will reflect on this request and find it in your heart to join us. Please contact Rick Gebbia at rgebbia@comcast.net or (908) 489-0462 if you are interested.

WINE TASTING DINNER...

Join us for the tastiest value-priced red and white wine varietals/blends in the world in addition to appetizers, a buffet dinner (which some say is fit for the finest kings and queens of Europe) plus coffee and dessert! **Friday, March 1, 2019 7:00 to 10:00pm** St. Marks Church. Seating is limited to 100 - Sign up now! Cost: \$40 per person at the door. **HURRY!** Sign up by February 24, pay by February 24 and... treat yourself to a \$10 advance discount so that you pay only \$30 per person! Place checks payable to St Marks in the box in the gathering space.

AMAZON SMILES-YOU SHOP AMAZON DONATES...

Buy your gifts and essentials at smile.amazon.com year round! You shop. Amazon donates. Visit smile.amazon.com Type in "St. Mark the Evangelist Church Long Valley, NJ" under "Select a Charity". 0.5% of your purchase goes to St. Mark's at no cost to you!

WEBSITE HELP...

St. Mark's is looking for someone to maintain our website. Do you have website experience? Could you spend a few hours a month making updates to keep our website fresh and updated? Let us know as we could use the help with our website. If interested, please call the parish office 850-0652.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS....

NEW EYES FOR THE NEEDY

The Knights of Columbus will be having an eyeglass recycling container in the gathering space beginning February 1 through February 28. Please donate your used eyeglasses which will be given to the needy and will be sincerely appreciated.

MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION...

It's time to eat lots of delicious food, to enjoy Jazz music entertainment before Lent begins. Come out to St. Mark's on Sunday, **March 3rd from 3-5 pm** to celebrate the beginning of Lent. Tickets will be sold in the gathering space the weekend of February 23/24 for \$12 a ticket. Please call Patty at 908-3426305 for further information. This event is sponsored by the LV Columbiettes to provide for various local organizations. Thank you

COMMUNITY NEWS

VILLA WALSH ACADEMY SUMMER CAMP...

Girls entering Grades 4-8 . Week 1: June 24-June 28
Week 2: July 8-July 12. Morning session 9am-12:00 pm. Basketball Volleyball, Soccer, Tennis, Track/Cross Country or Art. Afternoon session 1pm-4 pm Basketball, Volleyball, Tennis Lacross, Softball or Art. Both sessions participate in our supervised lunch from 12-1pm.

Evening Sessions for High School Athletes: Week 1: June 24-June 28 Volleyball 4:30 pm-7:30 pm. Week 2: July 8-July 11 Basketball from 4:30-8 pm

Visit website www.villawalsh.org under Athletics tab or email Camp Director, Shannon Graziani, summercamp@villawalsh.org

Part Time Employment - 2 positions

Cafeteria/Recess Aides needed in K-8 school in Stanhope (only 10 miles from St. Mark's).

2.5 hours per day; 5 days per week \$12 per hour

Hours are 10:45 AM - 1:15 PM Perfect for stay-at-home parent with school-aged children and/or recent retirees

Duties include monitor lunchroom and outdoor recess; assist younger students with lunch orders.

If interested, email letter of interest and resume to Cathy Yonki: cyonki@stanhopeschools.org. Any questions, call 973-347-0008 x4102



Tony Atkins, Mary McArdle, Rocky Labato, Anna McFarland, Girard Nolte, Jr., George and Ann Senftinger, Fredrick Senftinger, Mary Travisano

We are updating our sick list. If you know someone who is in need of prayers, please email Mary at mary.stm@comcast.net or call parish office

