

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.

It is amazing that George Carlin - comedian of the 70's and 80's - could write something so very eloquent...and so very appropriate. **A Message by George Carlin:**

"The paradox of our time in history is that we have taller buildings but shorter tempers, wider freeways, but narrower viewpoints. We spend more, but have less, we buy more, but enjoy less. We have bigger houses and smaller families, more conveniences, but less time. We have more degrees but less sense, more knowledge, but less judgment, more experts, yet more problems, more medicine, but less wellness.

We drink too much, smoke too much, spend too recklessly, laugh too little, drive too fast, get too angry, stay up too late, get up too tired, read too little, watch TV too much, and pray too seldom. We have multiplied our possessions, but reduced our values. We talk too much, love too seldom, and hate too often.

We've learned how to make a living, but not a life. We've added years to life not life to years. We've been all the way to the moon and back, but have trouble crossing the street to meet a new neighbor. We conquered outer space but not inner space. We've done larger things, but not better things.

We've cleaned up the air, but polluted the soul. We've conquered the atom, but not our prejudice. We write more, but learn less. We plan more, but accomplish less. We've learned to rush, but not to wait. We build more computers to hold more information, to produce more copies than ever, but we communicate less and less.

These are the times of fast foods and slow digestion, big men and small character, steep profits and shallow relationships. These are the days of two incomes but more divorce, fancier houses, but broken homes. These are the days of quick trips, disposable diapers, throwaway morality, one night stands, overweight bodies, and pills that do everything from cheer, to quiet, to kill. It is a time when there is much in the showroom window and nothing in the stockroom. A time when technology can bring this letter to you, and a time when you can choose either to share this insight, or to just hit delete...

Remember; spend some time with your loved ones because they are not going to be around forever.

Remember, say a kind word to someone who looks up to you in awe because that little person soon will grow up and leave your side.

Remember, to give a warm hug to the one next to you because that is the only treasure you can give with your heart and it doesn't cost a cent.

Remember, to say, 'I love you' to your partner and your loved ones, but most of all mean it. An embrace will mend hurt when it comes from deep inside of you.

Remember to hold hands and cherish the moment for someday that person will not be there again.

Give time to love, give time to speak! And give time to share the precious thoughts in your mind.

AND ALWAYS REMEMBER:

Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.

Peace,

MONDAY, December 19

7:00 p.m. – Advent Awakenings – Rooms 1 & 2

TUESDAY, December 20

10:00 a.m. – Shawl Ministry – Contact Parish Office

6:30 p.m. – Word & Eucharist

WEDNESDAY, December 21

8:30 a.m. – Mass: Safety in Travel / Parish

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

10:00 a.m. – AA – Room 1 & 2

6:00 p.m. – RCIA – Room 6

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

7:30 p.m. – A & E – Christmas Preparations

THURSDAY, December 22

7:00 p.m. – Choir Practice – Church

FRIDAY, December 23

Hospital Visits

SATURDAY, December 24

CHRISTMAS EVE

4:30 p.m. – Mass: +Joyce Alford / Alford Family (Children's Mass with pageant)

10:30 p.m. – Mass: +Alice Ward / Karen Mackey (singing begins at 10:00 p.m.)

SUNDAY, December 25

CHRISTMAS DAY

10:30 a.m. – Mass: People of the Parish / Parish

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, 12/19: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a;

Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25

Tue, 12/20: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38

Wed, 12/21: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a;

Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

Thur, 12/22: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56

Fri, 12/23: Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66

Sat, 12/24: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79

Sun, 12/25: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]

Christmas and New Year's Mass times

- + **Christmas Eve** at 4:30 p.m. (Children's Mass) and 10:30 p.m. (singing begins at 10:00 p.m.)
- + **Christmas Day** at 10:30 a.m.
- + **New Year's Eve** at 4:30 p.m.
- + **New Year's Day** at 10:30 a.m.

Welcome to our new parishioners!

Please welcome our latest new parishioners the DeLeeuw Family: Kenneth, Kristin and Aaron.

Fourth Sunday of Advent SUMMONED BY GOD

As Christmas draws near, Advent's scriptures lure us into a world of dreams, signs, wonders, and the miracle of the virgin birth. Too often we allow the great stories of our faith, the ones that are most familiar, simply to wash over us. Today's Gospel account of the events leading up to the birth of the Lord reads like a present-day soap opera. Yet Joseph's courage, even in the midst of what must have been an incredibly confusing time, provides a model for us. Each week, we are summoned by God to embrace the way of goodness and truth through the proclamation of God's holy word. Like Joseph, we are called to do as the Lord commands us. As we stand at the threshold of Christmas, let us have the courage to be open to whatever it is that the Lord will require of us as we celebrate the miracle of Bethlehem.

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PARISH STEWARDSHIP of TREASURE

December 10 and 11

Weekly Collection.....	\$ 2,723.82
Online Giving	\$ 2,603.00
Children	\$ 14.90
Christian Service	\$ 845.75
Feast of the Immaculate Conception.....	\$ 579.00



25 Days of Giving Catholic Charities – December

Throughout the month of December, Catholic Charities is teaming up with Dort Federal Credit Union and NBC25 to help those in need this winter! Clothing, food, and personal needs items will be collected during the annual 25 Days of Giving. You can help! For more info and to find a drop off location near you visit www.ccsdc.org.

Art & Environment Help Needed – Dec. 21

Help is needed as our A & E team prepares our worship space for Christmas. We will meet at 7:00 p.m. in the church on Wednesday December 21. Free hot chocolate. Come help us prepare for Jesus' birth.

Pizza with Padre – Dec. 26

Fr. Mike invites all young adults to Pizza in the Parish Center on Dec. 26 at 6:00 p.m. Parents, please extend this invite to those planning on being home for the Christmas Season from: college, university, military or work. RSVP with the Parish Office by Dec. 22.

St. Mark @ North End Soup Kitchen – Dec. 30

Friday, Dec. 30 is our parish's day to serve lunch at the North End Soup Kitchen. To volunteer, call the Parish Office; we gather at 8:30 a.m. by the Parish Office entrance in the parking lot for carpooling.

Feast of the Epiphany – Jan. 7 and 8

Mark your calendars for the Epiphany Parish Dinner on Saturday, Jan. 7. Sign up to enjoy Pasta Dinner with our family. The Children's Epiphany Luncheon is on Sunday, Jan. 8. Your family can enjoy a kid friendly lunch in celebration of the Three Wise Men's visit to the Christ Child and the return of REF sessions.

FAITH FORMATION

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

Every child has a right to be celebrated with love. Every child is a joy, whether a planned joy or an unexpected joy. We have a responsibility as Christians to celebrate the arrival of our babies. They are all our babies. They are part of our family. They are made in the image and likeness of God. They will receive the indelible imprint of God at their baptism. They will radiate his presence in a way the world never experienced before. They will be capable of being saviors, saviors to their parents, their aunts and uncles, their grandparents, saving them from selfishness, saviors to those whom they will love in their lives.

Today the Gospel tells us about Joseph's response to this unexpected pregnancy. He wanted to leave. But the Angel came to him and helped him understand the joy of this moment. He celebrated this unexpected child and in doing so celebrated the presence of God's love on earth. We pray to St. Joseph today to help us to do what he did. We need to care for, to love and to celebrate our babies. In doing so we are celebrating the arrival of yet another reflection of the presence of God on earth. Have you taken your 10 minutes yet today to be silent with God? The Advent Journey continues.....Walk the talk. Be Peace!

– Deacon Ron

REF Children and Youth

- 12/21 – High School Youth Group (7-9pm)
- 12/25 and 1/1 – NO REF (K-5)(Middle School YG)

Adult Faith Formation

- **Advent Awakenings:** Mondays, Dec. 19th, 7pm in the Parish Center
- **Men's Fellowship:** 1st Sat. of each month 7-8am – Next Fellowship Jan. 7th.

St. Mark High School Youth Group Retreat

- January 6-8, 2017, Subiaco Retreat Center Oxford. All High School Youth 10th-12th grade are invited to spend a fun and faith-filled weekend together reflecting on Life and Faith. We will be joining together with St. John Davison. Permission Forms available at Youth Group or through the Faith Formation Office.

Morning of Prayer and Reparation – Jan. 7

The World Apostolate of Fatima Diocesan Morning of Prayer and Reparation for World Peace will be held at Good Shepherd Church, 400 N. Saginaw, Montrose on January 7, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. The morning will include Divine Liturgy, Investiture in the Brown Scapular, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Holy Hour of Prayer and Rosary.

CCW Blanket Making – Jan. 10

During the CCW meeting in January CCW will also 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. 10 at 7:00 p.m.

Giving Tree

We will be distributing the gifts on Monday Dec. 19. This was the last weekend to turn in the gifts. On behalf of the families that were able to receive gifts this Christmas, thank you for your generous hearts. Your awareness and response to the Giving Tree is wonderful to experience.