

# 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.

St. Mark The Evangelist



Catholic Community

## 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.

## Padre's Portion

March 4, 2018

## Weekly Calendar

**Lent 2018** - The symbol for the Third Week of Lent is **Fire**. The following excerpts are from the Liturgical Conference, From Ashes to Easter. The focus this week is '**Changing**.'

**Changing:** "Habits are not easy to change. Yet the events of life are constantly calling on us to change our ways. A new job or the loss of an old one, financial crises, sickness, the growing independence of our children, the beginning of a new love relationship, all call on us to change in some way. There is a natural human inclination to resist change. We are comfortable in our self-designed ruts. Change in our way of life is costly. The gospel is always calling on us to change and grow. Jesus preached a message of conversion. Turn away from evil. Turn toward God. Conversion is the everyday experience of choosing or refusing to grow. Lent is the time when the church stops and reflects on what changes the gospel demands of us."

**Symbol: Fire** – "Fire gives light. It gives heat and warmth. Fire consumes and transforms, destroys and creates. Fire purifies and refines. Fire describes anger and revenge as well as love and devotion. The mystery of fire brought the Hebrews to associate God's presence with fire. Moses describes his first call from God in terms of a flaming bush that did not consume itself. The Israelites were led through the desert by a "pillar of fire." As Moses and the Israelites camped at the foot of the mountain, "Mount Sinai was all wrapped in smoke, for the Lord came down upon it in fire" (Ex. 20:18). God's presence among the people was likened to a consuming fire that gathered all into itself, uniting while purifying. Fire symbolizes for Christians the Spirit of God among us. The Spirit descended as tongues of fire on the assembly at Pentecost. The Spirit is a fire that purifies, creates, refines, destroys, and transforms - if we let the Spirit do so."

The articles above speak about conversion, which is an ongoing process in our lives. Especially this Lenten Season, everyone can take the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Whether we go individually or participate in a Communal Service, we receive the Grace of God that enables us to bring about forgiveness of self and others. As we change our clocks next weekend in an easy gesture of moving the hands ahead, it is another force that moves nature into spring. For us, it may require a great amount of spiritual force to allow God's healing presence within us.

During Lent our community participates in **CRS Rice Bowl**, a faith-in-action program that invites us to encounter our neighbor through prayer, fasting and almsgiving and see how we can support those worldwide who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities. As we prepare for this holy season, it is especially meaningful to come together in prayer as a family. Reflecting on the crosses of hunger, poverty and war carried by our brothers and sisters forced to flee their homes, we have an opportunity to also reflect on our roles in caring for them as members of our human family.

Please consider these suggestions in your family's Lenten plan:

- Read the stories of Hope and daily reflections to inspire your Lenten journey and guide your Lenten almsgiving.
- Prepare simple, meatless meals on the Fridays of Lent to eat in solidarity with our brothers and sisters around the world.
- Visit [crsricebowl.org/stories](http://crsricebowl.org/stories) to watch videos of the people and communities you support through your Lenten gifts to CRS Rice Bowl.

Peace,

### **MONDAY, March 5**

7:00 p.m. – Live Lent

### **TUESDAY, March 6**

10:00 a.m. – Shawl Ministry

6:30 p.m. – Mass: World Peace / Parish

### **WEDNESDAY, March 7**

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

6:30 p.m. – Soup, Stations and Substance

### **THURSDAY, March 8**

6:00 p.m. – RCIA

7:00 p.m. – Choir practice

### **FRIDAY, March 9**

#### **Hospital Visits**

6:00 p.m.-12:00 a.m. – CCW Spring CROP

### **SATURDAY, March 10**

7:00 a.m. – Lenten Men's Fellowship

9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. – CCW Spring CROP

4:30–5:15 p.m. – Confessions – Church

5:30 p.m. – Mass: +Robert Villabol / Ron & Sharon Roberts

### **SUNDAY, March 11**

8:00 a.m. – Mass: +Peggy Guiry / Rita & Harold McCartney

9:30 a.m. – Mass: +Margaret Ridenour / Cliff & Jennine & Family

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

9:30 a.m. – RCIA 2<sup>nd</sup> Scrutiny

10:30 a.m. – Hospitality Hour

10:30 a.m. – Bell Choir practice

11:00 a.m. – REF: Gr K-5

6:00 p.m. – REF: Gr 6-12

#### **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](mailto:joanturner38@sbcglobal.net) or 248-410-2286.

#### **READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Mon, 3/5: 2 Kgs 5:1-15b; Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4; Lk 4:24-30

Tue, 3/6: Dn 3:25, 34-43; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6-7bc, 8-9;  
Mt 18:21-35

Wed, 3/7: Dt 4:1, 5-9; Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20;  
Mt 5:17-19

Thu, 3/8: Jer 7:23-28; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Lk 11:14-23

Fri, 3/9: Hos 14:2-10; Ps 81:6c-11ab, 14, 17;  
Mk 12:28-34

Sat, 3/10: Hos 6:1-6; Ps 51:3-4, 18-21ab; Lk 18:9-14

Sun, 3/11: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23; Ps 137:1-6; Eph 2:4-10;  
Jn 3:14-21 Alternate readings (Year A):  
1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ps 23:1-6;  
Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38]

#### **Welcome to our New Parishioners!**

Please welcome our new parishioners Christopher & Deanna Turner and their children.

**Third Sunday of Lent  
KEEP HOLY THE SABBATH**

There's no better way to deepen our Lenten practice than to review the Ten Commandments. The first three, having to do with our right relationship to God, get the most ink. The one we busy people probably have the most problem with is keeping holy the Sabbath.

If we take this commandment literally, babies will go undiapered and dishes will stay on the table, or perhaps meals will not be served. The sick will go unattended and nothing that has anything to do with physical labor will be done. Is mental labor really work? How about changing that dirty diaper (poor baby!)?

We need to depend on God to discern how to observe real Sabbath time in our lives. The point of this commandment is that God has given us a great gift: one whole day per week when we are free to rest, worship God, sing, feast, love, and rejoice. As Psalm 19 proclaims: "The law of the Lord is perfect, / refreshing the soul" (19:8). Our Sabbath rest is a great gift, to be received from God with joy, not with nitpicking.

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PARISH STEWARDSHIP of TREASURE	
February 24 & 25	
Weekly Collection.....	\$ 6,319.50
Online Giving.....	\$ 1,165.00
Children.....	\$ 4.50
Youth.....	\$ 0.00



**CCW Annual Spring Scrapbook CROP – Mar. 9 & 10**

Here is your opportunity to catch up on organizing those pictures! Contact Cindy Bell to register at 248-660-4931 or cabsandkids@aol.com. Registration includes plenty of space, snacks, vendors and prizes. The CROP will be held Friday 6:00 p.m. to midnight (\$12) and Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. (\$35). Snacks will be provided on Friday and breakfast, lunch & dinner served on Saturday.

**Catholic Relief Services Collection – March 17 & 18**

There is a change to last weekend's bulletin. Our collection for Catholic Relief Services will be on March 17 & 18. Please continue to follow collection information in next week's bulletin.

**St. Patrick's Day Box Lunch Sale – March 15**

We are organizing an event to support Catholic Charities' St. Patrick's Day Box Lunch Fundraiser. Enjoy a corned beef & swiss sandwich on rye, with sides for only \$7. Your lunch will be delivered to the Parish Center on Thursday, Mar. 15. All are invited to stay and eat. Call Joan Turner at 810-606-8711 or Parish Office by **Mar. 5** to place your order; please pay by cash or a check made out to the parish.

**Tuesday Evening Help Needed**

The parish is looking for an adult to cover our Tuesday night office hours from 6:00-7:30 p.m. This person will be required to answer phones, perform small office tasks and help prepare for Tuesday evening Mass.

**Bulletin Ads**

If you would like to advertise in our bulletin, please contact Sue Griffith at the Parish Office (810) 636-2216 or by email at stmarkparish2@hotmail.com.

**FAITH FORMATION**

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

The woman at the well (John 4:5-42) is one of my favorite stories about God's love and forgiveness. It is one of the simple messages that basically says, "God forgives, God loves and he wants us to live that message everyday of our lives."

Here's a thought: begin each day with a simple meditation. First, while you're showering, dressing, whatever, say to yourself, "GOD LOVES ME! He loves me for who I am, not what I do, because I am a child of God." Jesus loved the woman at the well. He knew she sinned. She knew she sinned, but he wanted her to know that he loved her and that began to change her. Second, say to yourself, "GOD FORGIVES ME and I must forgive myself." Our sins are deep and they have hurt others, but we must know GOD FORGIVES and we must bring it to God and he will transform us, just like he did with the woman at the well. Third, say to yourself, "GOD, TODAY I LIVE FOR YOU." In everything you are and everything you say, LIVE FOR GOD! The woman at the well left her chance meeting with Jesus full of joy and sharing it with others, giving them the hope that God is real. She decided to LIVE FOR GOD!

So today, meditate and say, "GOD LOVES ME, GOD FORGIVES ME, and TODAY I LIVE FOR GOD." It's real my friends and he won't disappoint. Our Lenten journey continues..... Walk the Talk! Be Peace! ~ Deacon Ron

**Religious Education Formation (REF)**

- 3/11 REF (K-5: 11-12:30pm, 6-12: 6-7:30pm)

**St. Mark Youth Group Mission Trip 2018**

- Our annual Summer Youth Mission Trip will take place July 22-28, 2018. We will be going to Owensboro, Kentucky to build a house with Habitat for Humanity. Registration will begin soon. Plan ahead and mark the date. For all High School Aged Youth.

**Adult Faith Formation**

- **Lenten Men's Fellowship:** All Men of the Parish are invited. Lenten Saturdays, 7-8am – Mar. 10, 17, 24
- **Soup, Stations, Substance**  
– Wednesdays, 6:30-8:15pm. Mar. 7: Why do we need church?, Mar. 14: The Paschal Mystery, Mar. 21: The Last things?
- **Live Lent Series:** Be challenged in prayer, the Word and great discussions with your parish community. (Sign up in the Gathering Space) Lenten Mondays, 7-8:30pm – Mar. 5, 12, 19, 26

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**

There are three rites referred to as the Scrutinies solemnly celebrated during the RCIA period of Purification and Enlightenment and Lent. The rites are celebrated on the 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays of Lent. In these rites, the cycle A readings are used from the Gospel of John. Each miracle performed by Christ in the readings demonstrates the limitless power of God. These rites further the conversion and deepen the resolve to hold fast to Christ and to carry out the decisions to love God above all. In order to inspire in the Elect a desire for purification and redemption by Christ, they are called to participate in the Scrutinies. Let us continue to pray for our Candidates: Jennifer and David.