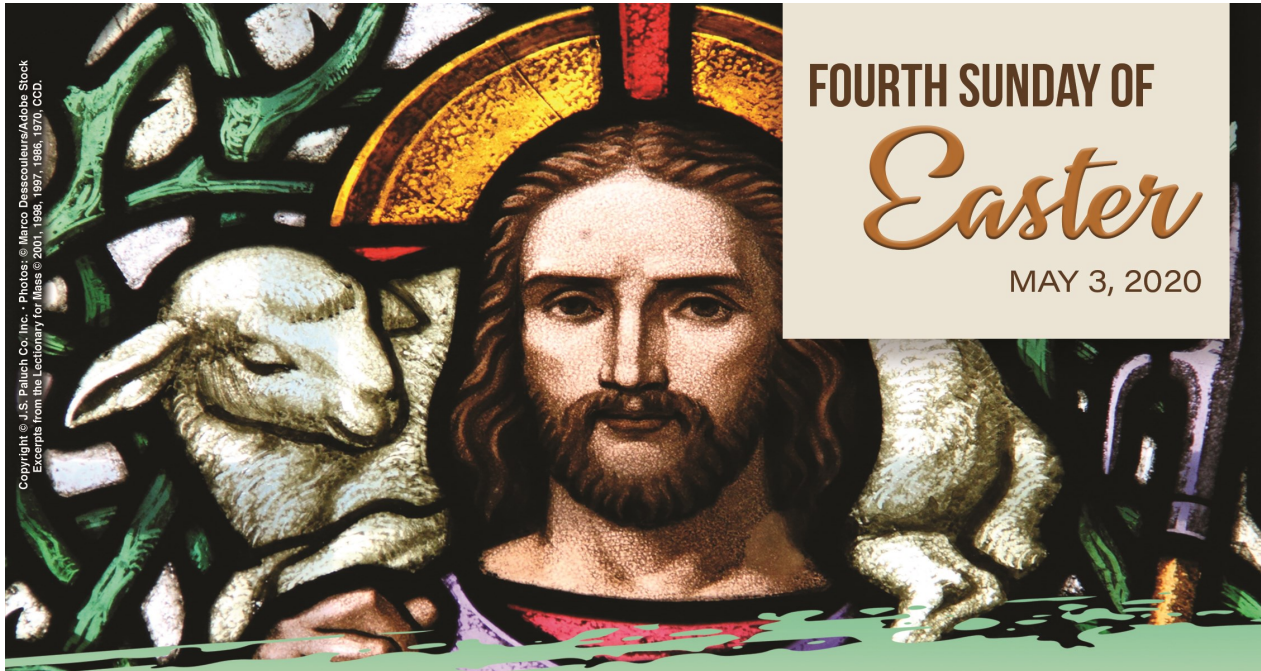


ST. MARK CATHOLIC CHURCH

4220 Ripa Avenue | St. Louis, MO 63125

Office: 314.743.8600 | Fax: 314.743.8618 | www.stmarkstl.com



FOURTH SUNDAY OF

Easter

MAY 3, 2020

The shepherd calls his own sheep
by name and leads them.

John 10:3

**Masses
and
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
have been suspended
until further notice.**

**Please check the parish website for
updates and live streaming of Masses.**

Sacraments such as Confession
Call 314.743.8620 or 314.743.8609
to make an appointment with one of the Priests.

Prayer Hotline

Dolores Bollwerk - 314.631.5108

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Interested in becoming Catholic, speak with Fr. Brian Hecktor
314.743.8609 - parish office or 314.743.8620 - rectory

Bulletin Announcements

Submissions must be received by 12 Noon on the Monday prior to
publication. Submit to secretary@stmarkstl.com.

CLERGY

Rev. Brian E. Hecktor
Parochial Administrator
frhecktor@stmarkstl.com
314.743.8609 - parish office
314.743.8620 - rectory

Rev. Ted Vitali, C.P.
Non-Resident Associate
vitalit@slu.edu
314.729.7572

Deacon Richard Rosenkoetter
Permanent Deacon
RichardRosenkoetter@archstl.org

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

PARISH: 4200 Ripa Avenue | St. Louis, MO 63125

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314.743.8603 | alicewilcox@archstl.org
Christina Sanders, Ph.D. - Secretary
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Julie Bingham - Principal
314.743.8643 | principal@stmarkstl.com
Mary Althage - Secretary
314.743.8641 | malthage@stmarkstl.com

From the Desk of Fr. Brian Hecktor ...

Dear St. Mark Parishioners,

You may have received a call from another parishioner this week. Christina Sanders organized volunteers to call everyone in the parish directory to say hello, see how you're doing, and see if there's anything the parish might do for you. It's been awhile since we've been together and we wanted to reach out to let you know we're thinking about you and looking forward to seeing you again.

We continue the celebration of our Lord's Resurrection in this 4th Week of Easter. The smell of flowers and blooming trees always reminds me of Easter and new life. And even though the enjoyment of springtime through our senses may be somewhat subdued because of so many restrictions, we can still meditate on and rejoice in the fact that our Lord is Risen and promises a life greater than even the best of times here! But first, we must faithfully follow Him.

Thus we have Good Shepherd Sunday this weekend. Sheep follow their shepherd not because of instinct or desire, but because they come to know his voice and they trust that he will lead them to safety and nourishment. We do not and should not blindly follow our Shepherd. We must take time to read and study so as to know Him better. But above all, like any other relationship, we come to know Him best by simply spending time with Him in prayer.

The church is open, Monday-Saturday, 6 am-12 pm, for you to spend time in the presence of our Eternal Shepherd. He will never lead you in the wrong direction. Come and be with Him, get to know Him, and always trust in Him.

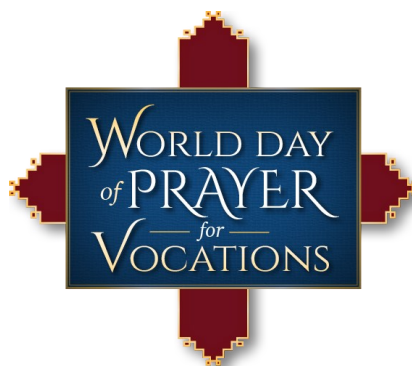
Have a great week and God bless you. *Fr. Hecktor*

Good Shepherd Sunday

Dear friends, on this day in particular, but also in the ordinary pastoral life of our communities, I ask the Church to continue to promote vocations. May she touch the hearts of the faithful and enable each of them to discover with gratitude God's call in their lives, to find courage to say "yes" to God, to overcome all weariness through faith in Christ, and to make of their lives a song of praise for God, for their brothers and sisters, and for the whole world. May the Virgin Mary accompany us and intercede for us. ~ Pope Francis

World Day of Prayer for Vocations, 2020.

As found on April 17, 2020 at <https://nrvcc.net/292/publication/11357/article/15674-2020-world-day-of-prayer-for-vocations-may-3>.



PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

God our Father, we thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son's Kingdom as priests, deacons, religious, and consecrated persons. Send your Holy Spirit to help us respond generously and courageously to your call. May our St. Mark community of faith support vocations of sacrificial love in our youth. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

IN NEED OF A SHEPHERD

For a while it was very fashionable to own pigs as pets. The publicity surrounding these creatures informed us that they were—contrary to their popular image—very clean animals, and also quite smart. Sad to say, sheep will most likely never enjoy this sort of domestic vogue. They are neither clean nor smart and are largely defenseless when left on their own, even in large numbers. The biblical image of us as the flock of sheep is not a particularly flattering one. Sheep without a shepherd are truly sad, because they most likely will perish either from their inability to fend for themselves or from their lack of defenses against predators. Placing ourselves in the heart of this unflattering image can reinforce our faith. Until we come to a profound realization of how much we need a shepherd, we cannot appreciate how deeply blessed we are to have been given a Shepherd, one who laid down his life for us and was raised to life eternal in the Spirit, so he might guide us and we might follow him in faith forever.

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Church Building Hours

Monday - Saturday | 6 am - Noon

Parish Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday, & Friday | 8am - Noon

Sunday Bulletin Distribution

Go to <https://www.stmarkstl.com/bulletins>

Email by signing up at ebulletin.jspaluch.com

Church's Cry Room (6 am - Noon)

Mass Online

Go to www.stmarkstl.com to view Masses celebrated at St. Mark Church.

Also, see page 2 of this bulletin.

Mass Intentions

Fr. Vitali will take 6:30 am weekday and 7:00 am Sunday Mass intentions. Fr. Hecktor will celebrate Masses for 8:00 am weekday intentions. All Sunday Masses (including Saturday at 5:00 pm and excluding 7:00 am Mass) are being rescheduled as Fr. Hecktor will offer one Sunday Mass "For the People."

May 2 - 10 (Saints & Observations)

Saturday (St. Athanasius; First Saturday)

4:00 pm For the People (Fourth Sunday of Easter)

Recording may be found at www.stmarkstl.com

Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Easter;

World Day of Prayer for Vocations)

7:00 Memory of Anthony & Jenny Scotino

Monday

6:30 Ernest Frattini

8:00 St. Louis Firefighter Robert Morrison

Tuesday (Cinco de Mayo)

6:30 Louise Moore

8:00 Leo & Susie Tinki

Wednesday

6:30 St. Louis Firefighter Derek Martin

(rescheduled from 5/3, 9 am)

8:00 Rich Krus

Thursday (National Day of Prayer)

6:30 Letetia Gianfrancesco (rescheduled from 5/9, 5 pm)

8:00 Eugene Metzger

Friday

6:30 Sean & Bob Dooley (rescheduled from 5/9, 8 am)

8:00 Christina Sanders - Special Intention

Saturday

4:00 pm For the People (Fifth Sunday of Easter)

live streaming at www.stmarkstl.com

Sunday (Fifth Sunday of Easter; Mother's Day)

7:00 Lee & George Sweeney

(rescheduled from 5/10, 9am)

Readings for Sunday, May 3, 2020

First Reading: All peoples called by God will receive the gift of the Spirit if they repent and are baptized (Acts 2:14a, 36-41).

Psalm: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want (Psalm 23).

Second Reading: Once we were like straying sheep; but now we have been returned to the shepherd, our guardian (1 Peter 2:20b-25).

Gospel: The shepherd leads the sheep out into pastures of abundant life (John 10:1-10).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

Readings for the Week

Monday: Acts 11:1-18; Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4;
Jn 10:11-18

Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87:1b-7; Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday: Acts 12:24 — 13:5a; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8;
Jn 12:44-50

Thursday: Acts 13:13-25; Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27;
Jn 13:16-20

Friday: Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2:6-11ab; Jn 14:1-6

Saturday: Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 14:7-14

Sunday: Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19;
1 Pt 2:4-9; Jn 14:1-12

All Catholics within the Archdiocese of Saint Louis, have been dispensed from their obligation to attend Sunday Mass since the weekend of March 14 - 15, 2020 until further notice by Archbishop Robert Carlson.

TV, ONLINE, & LIVE STREAM MASS

*Bringing spiritual comfort and
the blessings of joy-filled hope in our Risen Savior.*

At this time we encourage all to connect to Mass, especially on Sundays:

+ KPLR ch. 11 (CW) at 8:30 am & KTVI channel 2.2 (Antenna TV) at 9:00 am.

+ Heart of the Nation's Mass online anytime on Sundays at www.HeartoftheNation.org.

+ Live Stream Masses are found at:

www.stmarkstl.com

Instagram live: [@stmarkcatholicstl](https://www.instagram.com/stmarkcatholicstl)

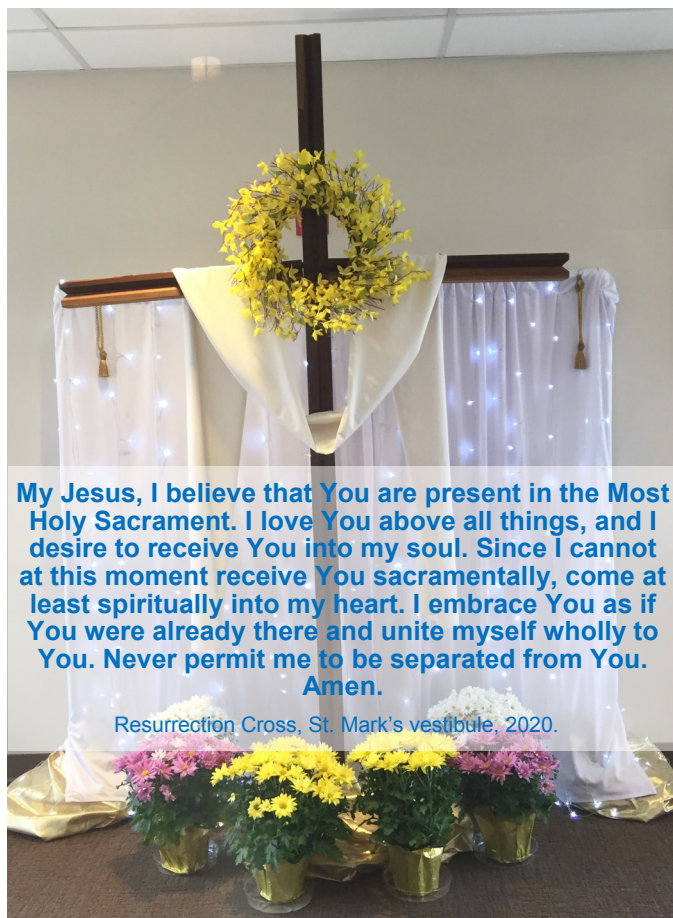
Facebook: [St. Mark Catholic School](https://www.facebook.com/St.Mark.Catholic.School)

<http://cathedralstl.org/live/https://>

www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass/https://

www.ewtn.com/tv

When viewing Mass, by one of the above suggested means or another, after Communion, please pray the "**ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**" (below).



My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Resurrection Cross, St. Mark's vestibule, 2020.

BLOOD DRIVE

St. Mark

Church & School Blood Drive

All presenting donors receive voucher for \$5 gift card!

Sunday, May 3

TODAY/SUNDAY!

8:30 am - 1:00 pm

Gymnasium

4220 Ripa Avenue

**YOU MUST HAVE A
RESERVED SPOT.
NO WALK INS.**



To schedule an appointment, contact Kelly Goersch:

314.504.5397 / thefourks@live.com

or go to www.bloodcenter.org

Use sponsor code 10875 to schedule online

GIVE BLOOD, SAVE LIVES!

www.bloodcenter.org

FROM THE PRINCIPAL ...



Dear Parishioners,

I have exciting news to share! Your *Beyond Sunday* gifts are making a difference here at St. Mark. We received a \$26,000 *Beyond Sunday* grant from the Roman Catholic Foundation.

The grant will fund our innovative new project, Watch our STREAM Grow! This project will allow us to replace the old fencing around the Parish Office which houses our school garden. We are also purchasing outdoor Stations of the Cross, a greenhouse, and classroom seating for our outside area. We will also be planting a Marian garden and a memorial garden. Our grant also includes improvements for our STREAM Lab. We will be purchasing a green screen, some video cameras, and additional robots to continue to develop our STREAM Lab.

I am excited about these improvements as they will help us to continue to develop and grow our STREAM curriculum (science, technology, religion, engineering, art, math) and will improve the overall appearance of our school grounds.

The Roman Catholic Foundation awards *Beyond Sunday* grants to archdiocesan and parish Catholic schools and PSR programs in the Archdiocese of St. Louis through a competitive application and review process. To date, \$3.1 million has been granted to benefit Catholic education in our local community. For more information, please visit rcfstl.org.

St. Mark, Pray for Us. ~~Julie Bingham

Ladies Guild News ... Annual Communion Breakfast (that was scheduled for May 17) has been cancelled in light of the current health concerns. It is our hope that we will reconvene in August and start off with a salad supper.

URGENT NEED FOR YOUR HELP!



The COVID-19 Virus is creating an increase in NEW neighbors-in-need seeking help from St. Vincent de Paul. People in our area who have never sought help from SVdP before, find themselves out of work and falling behind on paying their bills and keeping food on their table. Even with their government stimulus check and some filing for unemployment, it's not enough to go around.

At this time the utility companies are not disconnecting customers and landlords and mortgage companies are understanding to a point, but SVdP expects to be inundated with requests for help when the Stay At Home mandate is lifted and people start back to work.

We Need Your Help

SVdP donations to the Poor Box in Church have declined dramatically the last two months. A supply of envelopes for SVdP donations are in the church Cry Room (the only door open to enter church Monday - Saturday, 6 am - noon). Please help by sending a SVdP donation when you mail your weekly donation to St. Mark or simply place your envelope in the Poor Box in the back of church. If you write a check, make it payable to St. Vincent de Paul.

Thank you for your financial support and your prayers for our neighbors-in-need.

Sincerely, ~~Members of St. Mark's SVdP Society

MANY THANKS!

Sincere THANKS to parishioners who graciously contributed bags and boxes of food donations to the Affton Christian Food Pantry by depositing items in the container in the Church Cry Room. During the month of April we collected 67 bags and boxes of food donations (representing approximately 600 canned and boxed foods) plus 28 loaves of frozen bread donated by the St. Mark Fish Fry Committee.

The Need Is Still Critical!

Don't let up with your donations. Because of COVID-19 and the Stay-At-Home Mandate, the Pantry continues to provide food help to its regular clients plus many first-time new families. The Pantry is operating effectively under its emergency mode keeping its volunteers and clients safe.

Thank you for your continued support.

~~Members of St. Mark's SVdP Society and Affton Christian Food Pantry Volunteers from St. Mark's Church



peace with the LORD

Please pray for the repose of the souls of
... **Joan McDonald**, parishioner
... those who have died from the Coronavirus.
May they, and all the faithful departed,
rest in peace.

 Please pray for all the sick 

... **Bob Gion & Mary DeHecker**, parishioners
... those suffering from the Coronavirus
... those suffering from Mental Illness



As we near Memorial Day (Monday, May 25), we wish to list in the bulletin those in our parish and family members of parishioners who are currently serving in the military. By Friday, May 15, if you would like a family member(s) listed in the May 24 edition of our parish's Sunday Bulletin, please contact Sandy Bast at 487-0556 (home) or 941-9074 (cell) or tbast@sbcglobal.net.

May God bless all who have been or are members of the military.

Tithing, your gift to God.

April 26, 2020 Offering

Envelopes	\$ 5,702.00
Loose:	60.00
Online Giving	1,775.00
School Support	<u>180.00</u>
Total	7,717.00

Please consider mailing your Sunday contribution to the Parish Office (4200 Ripa Avenue | St. Louis, MO 63125) or use Online Giving (see below).



Please consider Online Giving

How do YOU sign up for Online Giving? It's simple!

- ⇒ Go to <https://www.stmarkstl.com/online-giving>.
- ⇒ Click on the Create New Account link, and follow the directions.

MOTHER'S DAY IS NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 10TH.
Purchase your Mom gift cards for her special day.
To order your cards, call Alice Wilcox at 314.743.8603.



Bath & Body Works
Bed Bath & Beyond
Best Buy
CVS
Dick's Sporting Goods
GAP/Old Navy

Restaurants

Applebee's
Arby's
Bob Evans
Buffalo Wild Wings
Burger King
Chili's
Cracker Barrel
Dairy Queen

Department Stores/Retailers

Home Depot
iTunes
JC Penney
Kohl's
Lowe's
Macy's
Marshalls

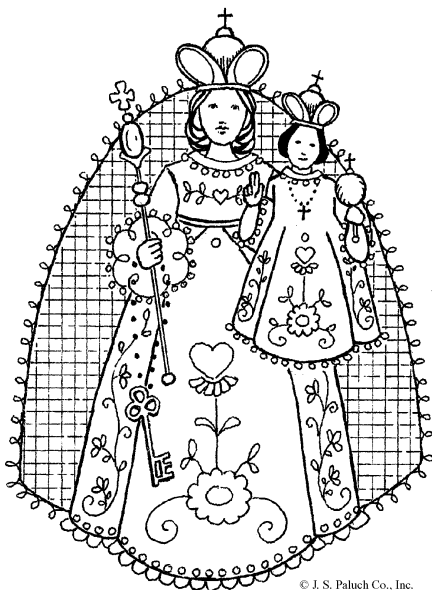
Michaels
TJ Maxx
Target
Walgreens
Walmart



Jack in the Box
Longhorn
Noodles & Co.
O'Charley's
Olive Garden
Outback Steakhouse
Pasta House
Pizza Hut
Red Lobster

Red Robin
Starbucks
St. Louis Bread Co.
Steak 'n Shake
Subway
TGIFriday's
Taco Bell
Texas Roadhouse
Wendy's

May ~ Month of Mary



OUR LADY OF CONSOLATION

Fourth Sunday after Easter

In the seventeenth century, when plague ravaged the population of Luxembourg, the people developed a special bond with Mary, Consoler of the Afflicted. An image of her was enshrined in a small chapel built on the outskirts of town and many favors were authenticated among visiting pilgrims. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Our Lady of Consolation, Pray for Us during this Coronavirus Pandemic.

May Crowning at Home

We encourage you to participate in liturgical practices for you and your family at home. One great way to engage as a family is to have an in-home May Crowning. Following is a simple May Crowning that we invite you to celebrated:

- * Place a statue of Mary on a pedestal.
- * Sing a hymn honoring Mary.
- * Read a Scripture passage about Mary such as Luke 1:26-38 (the Annunciation); Luke 1:39-45 (the Visitation); Luke 2:6-12 (the Nativity); Luke 2:41-50 (the boy Jesus in the Temple); John 2:1-12 (the wedding feast at Cana); Luke 23:27-29 (Mary meets Jesus carrying his cross); John 19:25-30 (Mary at the foot of the cross).
- * Offer a brief reflection on the role of Mary as the first disciple
- * Walk in procession while singing or playing a Marian hymn.
- * Place a garland of flowers on the head of the statue.
- * Pray *Hail Mary*, *Hail, Holy Queen*, or *Memorare*.

ST. MARK ROSARY CALL-IN

Our St. Mark Parish Community will pray the Rosary each Monday and Thursday evenings. We will start praying at 6:45 pm, so you need to call in / join the group at 6:40 pm.

To join in the call, here is what you need to do:

- Dial into the conference line long distance number 425.436.6367, the access code is 228179#.
- If you are asked to announce your name, say nothing and press the # button.
- If the call doesn't connect, please hang up and try again.
 - If the call still does not connect, send an email to stmark-svdp01@hotmail.com and include your telephone number. Someone will call you back or email you the following day.
- We want to hear you during the Rosary so please do not mute your phone.
 - Please be patient as we all learn this system.

The order of the prayers of the Rosary and the prayers may be found at

<http://www.newadvent.org/images/rosary.pdf>.

Call St. Mark parishioner Tom Danner at 314.892.4255 if you have questions.

POPE FRANCIS'S PRAYER TO MARY DURING CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

O Mary,
you always shine on our path
as a sign of salvation and of hope.
We entrust ourselves to you,
Health of the Sick,
who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain,
keeping your faith firm.
You, Salvation of the Roman People,
know what we need,
and we are sure you will provide
so that, as in Cana of Galilee,
we may return to joy and to feasting
after this time of trial.
Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform to the will of the Father
and to do as we are told by Jesus,
who has taken upon himself our sufferings
and carried our sorrows
to lead us, through the cross,
to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

ST. MARK PARISH PRAYER CHALLENGE

Week of May 2 to May 8, 2020

We are pleased to publish the second weekly prayer of the St. Mark Parish Prayer Challenge, submitted by Mary Althage. Watch this space each week for a new prayer, submitted by adult members of our parish, our school and our PSR program. We will pray the selected prayer aloud just prior to all of that specific weekend's Masses.

A heartfelt thanks to all of you that participated! In these trying times, we can all certainly benefit from more prayers!

Dear Lord,

Thank you for today! Help us feel your love and presence in all we do.
Shine your light on those who need your help today; the sick, lonely and those close to death. Give them the grace they need as they travel this path.
Open our eyes to the beauty of the world. May we be thankful for the gifts given to us and help us use these gifts for your glory and honor.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord.

Amen

Submitted by adult parishioner, Mary Althage.

In March, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops launched the **"WALKING WITH MOMS"** year of service program which seeks to provide continuous assistance and service to women in difficult pregnancies and to help them after the baby is born.

In March, as well, St. Mark Parish began to participate in this program by identifying pro-life agencies in our Sunday bulletins for which we can assist.

Help women
in your community
choose *life*.
walkingwithmoms.com



LITTLE LAMBS BABY SHOWER

Looking for a way to help out a Catholic agency during this pandemic that provides many resources to women and children? **Join with fellow parishioners this May in participating in a virtual baby shower for new and expectant moms through Good Shepherd Children and Family Services.** This baby shower helps to provide for young moms in their maternity shelter who are learning how to parent, moms in the community who need extra support to strengthen their families, and families who are welcoming a new child in foster care into their home. You can purchase items on a registry from Target or Amazon and have them shipped to their office at: Good Shepherd Children & Family Services | *Little Lambs Baby Shower*: 1340 Partridge Avenue | St. Louis, MO 63130.

Target Registry: <https://www.target.com/gift-registry/giftgiver?registryId=86eb38ec3f8f4c05896ec6a802258dc2>
Amazon Registry: <https://www.amazon.com/baby-reg/good-shepherd-emma-vonderhaar-april-2019-stlouis/1XSCJEGYILOCC>



Monetary donations are welcomed via their donate page, www.goodshepherdstl.org/donations. Thank you for your efforts to help their moms and babies during this trying time. *Good Shepherd is grateful for any assistance you can provide.*

Information Sheet

St. Mark Catholic Church #930000

Print 350 of this May 3, 2020 Bulletin