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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: St. Mark Goodrich Catholic Church
Our mission: St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Community 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)

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
I love you, O Lord, my strength.
O Lord, my rock,
my fortress, my deliverer.
Psalm 18:2-3
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PARISH PASTORAL MINISTERS:
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Sacramental Minister Rev. David Howell
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sroberts@stmarkgoodrich.org
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cseymour@stmarkgoodrich.org
PARISH OFFICE HOURS:
Monday, Wednesday & Friday 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

NEW PARISHIONERS: Welcome! Individuals who actively participate with us are asked to register by contacting the Parish Office.

BAPTISM, MATRIMONY, ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Please contact the Parish Office.

What's happening at St. Mark this week
MONDAY, October 26
9:30 a.m. Mass—People of the Parish/Parish
10:00 a.m.—Confession
7:00 p.m.—Faith Chat Conference Call
TUESDAY, October 27
6:30 p.m.—Mass—+Christine Schilling/CCW
7:00 p.m.—Finance Council Meeting
WEDNESDAY, October 28
9:00 a.m.—Morning Devotions with Bob Totten /Conference Call
THURSDAY, October 29
7:00 p.m.—Choir Practice—Pavilion
FRIDAY, October 30
8:30 a.m.—Mass—+Marie Foerster/Anne Boyle
9:00 a.m.—Confession
SATURDAY, October 31
4:30 – 5:00 p.m.—Confession
5:30 p.m.—Mass—+Mary Lou Guenette/Aileen Jarema
SUNDAY, November 1—All Saints Day
9:30 a.m.—Mass—+Al Hitzelberger/Hitzelbergers & Dalys
10:40—11:00—Drive Up Communion
11:00—12:30 p.m.—REF—K-5
5:00—6:30 p.m.—Youth Group

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Ron’s Thoughts...

It was 1986 and I was a young youth minister. A friend of mine came to me with some very disturbing news. She was not a church goer and did not really have much of a faith. She called me to tell me she was pregnant and on her way to get an abortion. I was speechless and didn’t know how to respond. In no way could I give her my support. I tried to convince her that I could find a way to help her if she would just turn around. She did not. All she asked was that she wanted me to be there when it was done. What was I to do? How could I be there when I was so against what she was doing? How could she put me in this position? Besides who might see me? I went. As hard as it was I arrived and waited in the car. She came out of the building and came right to my car. I didn’t say much and just gave her a hug. As we pulled out of the parking lot 2 people came to my car pounded on my windows and shouted’ “Baby killer!” I was devastated. I wanted to shout back, “It’s not me!” But, in their eyes, I was.

I have shared that story very little in my life. Even now I risk condemnation, so why now? I AM PRO-LIFE! I am against the very idea of this devastating choice. It is wrong and it is sad that anyone could make this choice. I share this story today because over the years I have witnessed much anger and discord in the dialogue surrounding this very divisive issue. I have listened to both sides and have come to one conclusion. As much as I support the changing of this law, I support greater the necessary means and resources that we need as humanity to CHANGE THE WAY WE THINK, so that this law becomes a mute law. Legal or not legal abortion will continue. Maybe our dialogue and effort should be how do we help people to see as God sees and to look at ALL LIFE with respect and dignity? I have always told my own children that there is never a bad reason for a baby, sometimes the timing might be off, we will let our love for life figure this out. The love for life comes from loving God more and more each day.

As today’s Gospel tells us, Loving God with our whole heart, our whole soul and our whole mind means that our lives must revolve around God. We must love him with every part of our lives. Every action of our lives must display the love of God. We are people of God. We are people of love. If we are ever anywhere or involved in anything where the love of God is not evident, then we have no business being there. We pray that we might have the courage to be people of love. And let that love help us see as God sees.

Walk the talk. Be Peace!
D-Ron (rkenney@stmarkgoodrich.org)

St. Mark Faith Formation and Youth Group Schedule

11/1—11am-12:30pm Family Faith Formation (K-5) Parish Center
11/1—5-6:30pm Youth Group (6-12) Parish Center
Sacrament Prep
11/14—Reconciliation/Eucharist Mini Session 1 (2nd Graders) Parish Center 9-11am
11/22—Confirmation Mini Session 1 (9th Graders) Parish Center 2-5pm

TO REGISTER for Faith Formation classes you may go online to our website: www.stmarkgoodrich.org and go to Faith Formation and REF program. We are doing online registration only this year. Please help us plan for 2020/21 by registering early. Contact D-Ron for more info.

Covering Our Heads Campaign! The Ceiling Project!

Updates: Painting began this week. Our estimate of being back in the church for worship is the beginning of November. **If you would like to still contribute** to help off- set the costs you can drop off in the collection basket and mark it **Ceiling Project** or Go online to our Website and click on **Ceiling Project**. Contact Dcn. Ron for more information. Thank you in advance for your generosity in helping to make our worship space better suited to our worship together as a parish family.

Mass Is Canceled—Tuesday, November 3rd.

Due to the Presidential election being held at St. Mark in the parish center there will NOT be a Tuesday evening Mass on November 3rd.

ST MARK FAITH CHAT CALL—ALL ARE WELCOME!

Join Fr. Dave, Dcn. Ron and other parishioners connecting and talking about Faith and Life. This call takes place on Monday’s at 6:50 pm. Dial from any phone 1-971-224-6612, enter the code 452784 and announce yourself i



World Mission Sunday—Thanks for your participation!

Thank you for answering your baptismal call to witness for mission on World Mission Sunday! Please continue to pray for missionaries, and for the people to whom they bring the “good News” of Jesus. May God bless you for your generous missionary spirit.

This Week’s Challenge...

Love of Neighbor...“All who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.” (Luke 18:14)

- Exodus 22:20 –26—Social laws
- 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10—A model for believers
- Matthew 22:34-40— The greatest commandment



- **Adults:** In a practical sense, what is one thing that would change in your life if you loved your neighbor as yourself?
- **Kids:** Why is it hard sometimes to love your neighbor?



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Time & Talent

Even though we are not using many volunteers the time is coming when we will and we would like to be prepared. I know that many of your situations have changed since last year so we would like each of you to fill out a form (online if possible) indicating what you would like or feel comfortable to volunteer for. We have a very wide range of opportunities including those that have no contact with anyone (such as providing food or Hope in the Box items). We all have something we can do, large or small and you never know what impact it will make on those less fortunate. Or, what impact your support has on your Parish, whether it is monetary, social or spiritual. The form should not take more than a few minutes to fill out and submit. Please click here for a link to [Stewardship Commitment \(https://www.stmarkgoodrich.org/stewardship-commitment-form\)](https://www.stmarkgoodrich.org/stewardship-commitment-form) or it can be found on our website under the Ministries/Activities tab.

October is Socktober at Catholic Charities

Did you know that on average, a homeless person walks 10 miles a day? Where are they going? The services that they require are spread across town and since they generally have little money, walking is the only way to get there. It's week 3 of Socktober and the cold weather is definitely starting to set in! Give the gift of warm toes! You can drop off sock donations in our Hope in a Box or socks can be dropped off at the Center for Hope located at 812 Root St in Flint.

Recycling Tip...Have A Vegetarian Day

You don’t have to give up meat for life, but try to commit to one meat free day a week. It takes 2,500 gallons of water to produce a single pound of beef. And each hamburger that comes from animals on ex-forestry ground is responsible for the destruction of fifty-five square feet of forest.

LET US PRAY:

For Peace; for Women/Men in the Military Service:
SSG J Gillett; Maj. S Halleaux; Maj. C Kaighen;
SSG T Kenney-Wasliewski; S/Sgt. D Kendall; Cpl Greg Misiak, ATAN Daniel P. Wood

For Our Sick: Those who are homebound, or in the hospital or another healthcare facility.

For Prayer Ministry requests: Contact Joan Turner at joanturner38@sbcglobal.net or 248-410-2286.

AFTERWORD....Fr. Dave Howell

FAITH CHAT ...Last Monday in Faith Chat I mentioned that there are 24 Catholic Churches, which surprised many of our listeners. To be more precise, there are six different Churches and 24 variations of these Churches. The six are: The Latin or Roman Rite, the Western Syrian or Antiochene Rite, the Eastern Syrian or Chaldean Rite, the Armenian Rite, the Alexandrian Rite and the Byzantine or Constantinopolitan Rite. There are 24 variations of these. Each one celebrates the same 7 Sacraments but in different ways; each one has deacons, priests & bishops. (All of these variations have married deacons & priests except for the Latin or Roman Rite.) This Monday at 7 pm, I will give some more information on all these 24 Catholic Churches.

CONSCIENCE... Before being ordained to the priesthood, I had to meet with Bishop Povish for what is called the Scrutiny or questioning. We talked for about 30 minutes. What still stands out in my memory was the last few minutes. The bishop asked if I had any questions and, not surprisingly, I did. During the ordination rite for both priests and deacons, the one being ordained folds his hands and place them in the bishop’s hands. Then the bishop looks at the candidate and says. “Do you promise me and my successors obedience and respect?” I asked the bishop what he meant when he would ask me that question. He responded by saying that he hoped I would do whatever he asked that was reasonable. Then he said, what do you think it means? I responded by saying I would do anything he asked as long as it did not violate my conscience. He reacted with surprise and said, “Of course, no one should ever do something that violates their conscience.” He went on to tell me that with regard to the other part of the question, respect, he did not think that was something he could demand. “I hope, it is something I will earn”, he said.

VOTING ONE’S CONSCIENCE ...I mention that exchange because in just a few days every citizen over the age of 18 will have the opportunity to vote, if you have not already voted. No one, can tell anyone how they can vote. Nor can anyone use the threat of hell fire and brimstone to coerce someone to vote in a particular way for any candidate or proposition on the ballot. All of us are required by our faith to vote according to the dictates of own our conscience. For I believe that only in following our consciences can we truly gain self-respect.

Fr. Dave Howell

