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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)

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 7, 2021
Jesus said, "Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up."
JOHN 2:19

PARISH PASTORAL MINISTERS:
Administrative Pastor, Rev. Joseph Krupp
frjoe@hfgb.org
Sacramental Minister Rev. David Howell
dfrhowell@gmail.com
Pastoral Associate, Deacon Ronald Kenney
rkenney@stmarkgoodrich.org
Director of Music Ministry, Michael Goetz
mfjgoetz@gmail.com
Youth Minister, Kyle Ulrich
kulrich@stmarkgoodrich.org
PARISH SUPPORT STAFF:
Administrative Assistant, Joanne Salvati
jsalvati@stmarkgoodrich.org
Business Manager, Sue Griffith
sgriffith@stmarkgoodrich.org
Liturgical Ministries Coordinator, Colleen Seymour
cseymour@stmarkgoodrich.org

PRAYER MINISTRY REQUESTS, Joan Turner
joanturner38@sbcglobal.net or 248-410-2286.
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, March 8
9:30 a.m.—Mass—+Maurice Ferguson/Steve and Debbie Ogleski
7:00 p.m.—Faith Chat Conference Call
TUESDAY, March 9
6:30 p.m.—Mass—People of the Parish/Parish
WEDNESDAY, March 10
9:00 a.m.—Morning Devotions with Bob Totten /Conference Call
6:30 p.m.—Stations of the Cross
THURSDAY, March 11
No Parish Activities
FRIDAY, March 12
8:30 a.m.—Mass—+Connor Shea
SATURDAY, March 13—Catholic Relief Service Collection
8:00 a.m.—9:00 a.m.—Men's Fellowship/Conference Call
4:30 -5:00 p.m.—Confession
5:30 p.m.—Mass—+Holly Francis/John & Patty Candiloro
SUNDAY, March 14—Catholic Relief Service Collection
9:30 a.m.—Mass—+Rudy Bolf/John & Patty Candiloro
10:40—11:00—Drive Up Communion

Ron's Thoughts...

YOU CAN BE BETTER THAN THIS. Every once in a while I think about that phrase as I am reflecting on my life. I look at this world and I do want to be better than the direction I sometimes see society and culture moving towards. I want to be better than an immoral society that sees sex as a recreation and morality as a stale remnant of the past. I want to be better than a society that seeks fulfillment in material possessions and seems to measure success by the amount of stuff we have. I want to be better than a society that seems to move more towards intolerance and exclusion.

You see, that is Jesus' message to the WOMAN AT THE WELL YOU CAN BE BETTER THAN THIS! Jesus transformed the WOMAN AT THE WELL because He was concerned about her. He wanted her to be the best person she could be. He told her that she could do it. And she heard His message burning in her heart. She thirsted for a better life, she thirsted to do better than what she was. Jesus offered her something better and guess what? She decided right then and there, SHE WANTED TO BE BETTER!

Maybe some of the reasons WHY I AM NOT BETTER is that I have not really tried hard to be better. Maybe, it's the same with you. Perhaps that temper, that lack of patience, that bad language, that addiction we avoid in seeking help for. Maybe it's our inability to see or accept that maybe it's me that causes hurt and pain because I am always focused on me and not the other. That is why we seek penance during Lent. We know that JESUS cares for each of us individually. We know that JESUS sees the bumps and bruises of our lives. JESUS doesn't condone our sins, be they big or little. JESUS hurts for us. JESUS wants us to be better. Like the woman at the well His Love transforms us. JESUS tells us, YOU CAN BE BETTER THAN THIS. DO YOU? Our journey of Lent continues.... Walk the talk. Be Peace! D-Ron (rkenney@stmarkgoodrich.org)

St. Mark Faith Formation and Youth Group Schedule
Family Faith Formation will continue for the month of March through take home packets. Please pick up your family packets on the day scheduled at 11am in the Parish Center.

- 3/21—Family Faith Formation Packet Pickup – 11 am in the Parish Center
- 3/21—Youth Group (6th – 12th) 5 – 6:30pm (In Person/Zoom TBA)

Easter Lily Memorial Sale

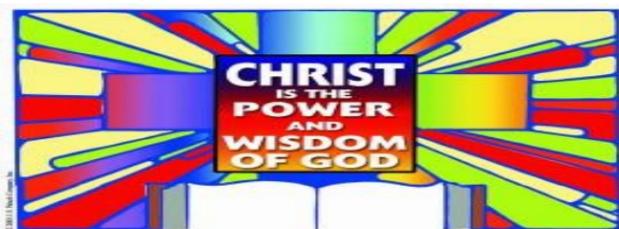
The St. Mark Youth Group will be sponsoring Easter Lily Memorials to help support Their Summer Mission Trip. Orders will be taken March 14th and March 21st please see the table in the gathering space on these weekends. All memorials will go to help decorate our church for the Easter Season. Honor a loved one and help with sending our youth to become Missionary Disciples.

Journey to Easter ... with Fr. Dave and Dcn. Ron!

Please tune in each weekday of Lent for Journey to Easter with Fr. Dave and Dcn. Ron as they share their favorite Bible Passages that have helped to mold their life of faith and ministry. These short reflections can be viewed on FB: StMarkCatholicChurch-Goodrich, on our website www.stmarkgoodrich.org, and Youtube Channel: St Mark the Evangelist Catholic Community.

Unite Our Nation Rosary Rally at Michigan's State Capitol on March 13

Unite our Nation, founded by the laity, is a non-political organization formed to help bring peace and prayer to local communities and healing to our nation. A local hour of prayer, including the rosary has been organized as Unite Michigan. Please join us on March 13, 12:00 Noon in front of the steps at the Michigan State Capitol building in Lansing where we will be led in prayer by Fr. Derda. A public rosary rally is a time to give witness to people of all races and beliefs, keep polarizing politics out, and focus prayer to unite our nation. If you are interested in joining the team or simply attending, please reach out to Sandra Sherwood at ejsherwood@charter.net.



Faith Chat—Monday Evening at 7:00 pm

Connect with Fr. Dave, Deacon Ron and fellow parishioners on Monday evening's at 7 pm. Dial 1-971-224-6612, enter the code 452784 and announce yourself in.

This Week's Challenge...

*Trust and Doubt...*For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles. (1 Corinthians 1:22-23)

- **The Ten Commandments**—Exodus 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7, 8, 12-17
- **The Wisdom and Folly of the Cross**—1 Corinthians 1:22-25
- **Cleansing of the Temple** —John 2:13-25

- **Adults:** When has the message of the cross seemed absurd to you, and when have you seen its wisdom?
- **Kids:** Where do you see goodness in God's world?

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Weekly Collection.....\$4,836.00

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DSA—Commitment Weekend—March 6-7

This weekend is our Diocesan Services Appeal Commitment Weekend. I invite all members of our parish community to join in support of our annual appeal. Our parish goal is \$34,216.00. No gift is too small... every dollar donated helps those in our parish and in our unified efforts in the wider church. Further, one-half of all paid contributions received, over and above our parish goal, will be returned to our parish for our local use here at St. Mark Parish. You can submit your DSA pledge envelope during Mass this weekend - or take your DSA envelope home to prayerfully consider your gift decision. Those paying by cash or check are invited to return your completed pledge form, in the DSA envelope, to our parish office. Those who wish to pay by credit card or electronic funds transfer may enter your gift online at www.dioceseoflansing.org/dsa. I encourage every one of our parish households to reflect on the many blessings we have received from the Lord and share these blessings through a generous gift to our DSA.

St. Francis Retreat Center—April 10

Mid-life Singles: Are you looking for a renewed sense of connection & purpose during this pandemic? Register today for a REFLECT Day of Reflection at the St. Francis Retreat Center, in DeWitt, MI (10 miles north of Lansing), Take a chance and get involved... you won't regret it! Cost is \$45 including continental breakfast and lunch. For more information www.ReflectRetreat.com, e-mail reflect.michigan@gmail.com, or call (586) 770-1772 for details.

St. Mark the Evangelist Virtual Holy Land Pilgrimage With Fr. Dave

Monday, April 5, 2021 7p.m. Join us for a virtual pilgrimage as Fr. Dave will share his passion for and his knowledge of the places that played such an important role in the Story of Easter. This will be a Zoom meet please use the following link: Join Zoom Meeting at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83599025256?pwd=Q3lyVE NGYjNha1h3ZDJDb2UzYjJxUT09> Meeting ID: 835 9902 5256, Passcode: 660996

Weekly Readings: March 8 – March 14

Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15b; Lk 4:24-30, **Tuesday:** Dn 3:25, 34-43; Mt. 18:21-35, **Wednesday:** Dt 4:1, 5-9; Mt 5:17-19, **Thursday:** Jer 7:23-28; 11:14-23, **Friday:** Hos 14:2-10; Mk 12:28-34, **Saturday:** Hos 6:1-6; Lk 18:9-14, **Sunday:** 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23; Jn 3:14-21

AFTERWORD....Fr. Dave Howell

Learning the Liturgy ...The Mass is divided into two main parts: the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. There are two "bookends": the Opening Rites and the Closing Rites. The purpose of the Opening Rites is to gather us together as a worshipping assembly and to prepare us for the Word of God. This week Faith Chat will look at the Liturgy of the Word. This part of the Liturgy is deeply rooted in the first century synagogue service and follows a similar pattern. On the Sabbath, the community gathered while singing the last five of the psalms in a responsorial fashion. When all were assembled the rabbi prayed an opening prayer which praised God for the gift of the Sabbath. Then a layman would read a passage from the Torah (the first five books of the Bible) followed by a psalm response led by the cantor. A second layman would then read a passage from the Prophets (which included all the historical books as well as the books of prophecy). Again, there was a sung psalm response. Some synagogues also included a reading from the other writings. (The Christian Synagogues included the Gospels among these texts and considered the letters of the apostles to be prophetic texts.) After the readings the rabbi gave a sermon and the assembly responded with the Shema (Deuteronomy 6:4-9), the great statement of Jewish faith, "Hear O Israel, the Lord our God is Lord alone!..." The Liturgy then ended with the 13 Benedictions or petitions. This pattern became the format of the Liturgy of the Word for the early Christian Synagogues.

Joseph the Just ...Years ago, the opening hymn for the Liturgy was announced: St. Joseph was just a man! (It was supposed to be St. Joseph was a Just man.) While there was truth told in the mistake, the hymn was in praise of something more important. Joseph is introduced to us in Mt 1: 19. He is the espoused husband of Mary, who had shocked him with the news she was pregnant. Joseph knew he was not the father and it seems the story Mary had told him about the Holy Spirit was something he could not understand or accept. He could have taken her to the rabbi and denounced her as an adulterous, which meant she would be stoned to death. But Matthew tells us that he was a just or upright man, which seems to indicate he was kind and caring – the very type of person who justifies God's love for him. So, he decided to end their engagement as Jewish law required, by divorcing her. In just a couple of words, Matthew tells us about the kind of man who would teach Jesus about carpentry and, more importantly, about life. It sounds like St. Joseph was *just the man* to do that!

Fr. Dave Howell

Stations of the Cross

Join us in person or Live Stream, Wednesdays during Lent 6:30 pm to pray the Stations of the Cross.