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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 live Christ's commandment: "Love one another, as I have loved you." (John 15:12)

I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever.
John 6:51
AUGUST 8 2021
NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PARISH PASTORAL MINISTERS:
Administrative Pastor, Rev. Joseph Krupp
frjoe@hfgb.org
Sacramental Minister Rev. David Howell
dfrhowell@gmail.com
Parish Administration and Ministry Director,
Deacon Ronald Kenney
rkenney@stmarkgoodrich.org
Director of Music Ministry, Michael Goetz
mfjgoetz@gmail.com
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, August 9
9:30 a.m.—Mass—+Caroline Dunlap/B.J. Dutko
TUESDAY, August 10
6:30 p.m.— Mass—+John Sabo/Bob & Mary Ann Emick
WEDNESDAY, August 11
9:00 a.m.—Garden Angels
6:00 p.m.—Summer Youth Group
THURSDAY, August 12
No Parish Activities
FRIDAY, August 13
8:30 a.m.—Mass—+Clemens J. Bielecki/Sally Fumich
SATURDAY, August 14
4:30 p.m.—Confessions
2:00 p.m.—Kenney/Brown Wedding
5:30 p.m.— Mass—Wedding Anniversary of Adele & Maurice Ferguson/Adele Ferguson
SUNDAY, August 15
9:30 a.m.—Mass—+Norma & Harry Alford/Kelly Alford

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

Ron's Thoughts...

The words, "I believe" often becomes a mantra for some sports teams as they make that climb towards success. The message drives the spirit of the team and their supporters as they compete to become the next champion. The words worn on hats, shirts and expressed in banners in the stands point the crowd towards the challenges ahead. They embrace the "I believe" mentality and truly believe that their team can accomplish anything.

I often reflect on this phrase when I reflect on the Catholic belief in the Eucharist. Now remember, the belief that Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist is central to our Catholic Faith. The Eucharist is more than a symbol. IT IS the body, blood, soul and divinity of Christ. He gave this to us so that we can physically take him into our being. He reminds us in the 6th chapter of the Gospel of John that he is "THE BREAD OF LIFE." To take communion is more than a symbol of something Jesus did, it is Jesus and in that moment he has become for us THE BREAD OF LIFE and wants to be with us every step of our life's journey. That is truly awesome.

Many people treat communion as a sacramental instead of as a sacrament. A sacramental is a devotional object or practice to remind us of some aspect of our faith. Signing ourselves with holy water is a sacramental. It reminds us of our baptism. Receiving ashes at the beginning of Lent is a sacramental. This practice reminds us of our dependence on God. Sacramentals are useful, but are totally optional. The Eucharist is not a sacramental. It is a sacrament. It is the real presence of Jesus Christ uniting His Body and Blood to us. Communion is the Bread of Life that we need to eat to have eternal life. Yet, some people treat communion as a sacramental, an option. They say, "To me communion is something I do when I go to Church, but it is not necessary for me to receive communion; so I do not attend Mass every Sunday."

It takes a great leap of faith to believe in the Eucharist. It takes courage to be Catholic. Today, say "I BELIEVE" and let those words drive your passion for your faith and know that when you say, "I BELIEVE," with Jesus you can accomplish anything. Walk the talk.

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



RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

You may be interested or know someone who is interested in becoming Catholic or completing the sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist) and learning more about the Catholic Faith. Sessions will begin this fall and run through Easter of 2022. Contact me if you want more info in joining the journey closer to the CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN LIFE. rkenney@stmarkgoodrich.org.

CRIM WATER STATION! ATTENTION ALL FAMILIES!

St. Mark Youth and Adults will be working the finish line water station at the Crim Festival of Races on Saturday, August 28th, 6am-12pm. All youth and families are welcome to join us. Sign up by emailing D-Ron rkenney@stmarkgoodrich.org

St. Mark Welcome Back Weekend Celebration!

- ✓ Friday, August 27th, at dusk, *Family Movies at St. Mark!* Movie: *The Stray* tells the true story of a dog who saves a struggling family in more ways than one.
- ✓ Saturday, August 28th, 7:30pm, *Outdoor Concert featuring Tony Melendez!* Go to www.stmarkgoodrich.org to the Donate tab to reserve a spot – Bring your own chair.
- ✓ Sunday, August 29th, *Outdoor Liturgy 11am and Family Picnic and Parish Raffle 12noon!*

Raffle Tickets/Tony Melendez Tickets

Thank you to everyone who has returned their raffle tickets. There will be someone selling raffle tickets after both masses this weekend. If you need additional raffle tickets you can pick them up after the weekend masses or contact the parish office to make arrangements to pick up more. There are still 30 additional books of tickets to sell so please pick one up this weekend. We will also be selling Tony Melendez tickets in the Gathering Space. If you have any questions please contact Joanne Salvati or Colleen Seymour for more information.

Please Offer Prayers for those preparing for the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony!



Marriage Banns
Brown/Kenney

This Week's Challenge...

Life for the World ... Jesus said, "I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world." (John 6:51)

- **Elijah's Fight to Horeb**—1 Kings 19:4-8
- **Vices to be Avoided**—Ephesians 4:30-5:2, 
- **Discourse on the Bread of Life, Continued**— John 6:41-51

- **Adult:** When has the bread of life given you the strength you needed to face a difficult situation in your life? 

- **Kids:** What will you ask Jesus to help you with when you receive Holy Communion this week?

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July 31 & August 1, 2021

Weekly Collection.....\$4,930.00

Online Giving.....\$ 865.00

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Brick Pavers Order

Brick Pavers for the Peace Prayer Garden are available through the Parish Office or by filling out the forms in the breezeway. You can also contact Sue Griffith at sgriffith@stmarkgoodrich.org. Bricks are \$35.00 each and are limited to three rows with 14 letters including spaces. We will be placing an order later this summer so please get your orders in.

Jobe Syndrome Seminar—St. Francis Retreat Center, Dewitt MI, Saturday September 11, 10am – 3pm

Seminar presentation of Deacon Gene Hausmann's new book: *Jobe Syndrome and Scientific Evidence for the Existence of God and Evil*. The book is written to assist young people, their parents and teachers who struggle with reconciling Science and Religion. Four different lines of scientific evidence are presented to demonstrate how rational is our faith in God. Registration fee is \$25, and includes lunch. Please register online at www.stfrancis.ws or call St. Francis at 517-669-8321.

Catholic Charities 80th Anniversary

All are invited to attend Catholic Charities' "Cheers to 80 Years" fundraising event on September 16, 2021 from 5-7 pm at the formal St. Michael Church (now Catholic Charities Conference Center). Cost is \$55 per person or \$75 at the door. Event includes hors d'oeuvres, silent auction, and live auction. Information flyers will be in the Gathering Space. We'd love to have enough parishioners to make up at least one St. Mark table. **Please go to ccsgc.org/cheersto80years to purchase your ticket.** Call the office for more information or if you plan to attend.

Gently used Athletic Shoes

The Social Justice Commission will be collecting gently used athletic shoes the weekends of August 21-22 and August 28-29. They will be picked up by Francisco Dionne and given to Catholic Charities. Please refer to this week's bulletin insert for more information. A collection bin will be located in the Gathering Space.

Weekly Readings: August 9 – August 15

Mon: Dt 10:12-22; Mt 17:22-27, **Tue:** 2 Cor 9:6-10; Jn 12:24-26, **Wed:** Dt 34:1-2; Mt 18:15-20, **Thur:** Jos 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17; Mt 18:21 — 19:1, **Fri:** Jos 24:1-13; Mt 19:3-12, **Sat:** Jos 24:14-29; Mt 19:13-15, **Sun:** Vigil: 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2; 1 Cor 15:54b-57; Lk 11:27-28
Day: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; 1 Cor 15:20-27; Lk 1:39-56

AFTERWORD....Fr. Dave Howell

THE LANGUAGE OF LOVE ...The essence of Catholic Social Teaching rests squarely on the second of the two great commandments Jesus proclaimed: "you shall love your neighbor as yourself" (originally found in Leviticus 19:18). The love that Jesus commands is neither an emotional nor a romantic love but a love best defined as a profound respect. That is why St. Paul in his letter to the Corinthians would describe love saying: "*Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, is not pompous, it is not conceited, it is not rude, it is not self-centered, it is not quick-tempered, nor does it brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but delights in the truth.*" It is the attitude that motivates the way we are to treat one another. Sadly, human beings have a difficult time speaking the language of love, of speaking to each with respect. Most folks learned how to do this very early in life, we were taught to speak respectfully and politely to each other; to say *please, thank you, may I...* Growing older, we seem to have forgotten those lessons and conversations become a competitive sport. It is all about winning, sometimes winning at any cost. The war of words escalates; we don't talk, we shout; we don't respond, we attack. Compromise becomes a negative word and members of families, communities and society become deaf to one another and drift further apart. Jesus made it so simple: *Love God with all our heart, all our soul and all our strength (Dt 6:5); Love our neighbor as our self (Lv19:18) and, finally, his one and only commandment: Love one another as I have loved you (Jn 13:34).* It can be difficult to practice, but our families, our communities, our nation and the world would be much better if we learned to speak the language of love.

ONE MORE THOUGHT ... I try to save thoughts and ideas I encounter in my reading. The following is a quote from a homily of Pope Francis from June, 2020. It seemed appropriate given the first part of this column: "

So many people have memories marked by a lack of affection and bitter disappointments caused by those who should have given them love and instead orphaned their hearts. We would like to go back and change the past, but we cannot.

God, however, can heal these wounds by placing within our memory a greater love: his own love. The Eucharist brings us the Father's faithful love, which heals our sense of being orphans. It gives us Jesus' love, which transformed a tomb from an end to a beginning, and in the same way can transform our lives. It fills our hearts with the consoling love of the Holy Spirit, who never leaves us alone and always heals our wounds."

Fr. Dave Howell

