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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)

The shepherds went in haste  
to Bethlehem and found  
**MARY AND  
JOSEPH,  
AND THE INFANT  
LYING IN  
THE MANGER.**  
Luke 2:16  
January 1, 2023 • Mary, the Holy Mother of God  
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**PARISH PASTORAL MINISTERS:**  
Administrative Pastor, Rev. Joseph Krupp  
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Sacramental Minister, Rev. David Howell  
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Parish Administration and Ministry Director,  
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**PRAYER MINISTRY REQUESTS, Joan Turner**  
joanturner38@sbcglobal.net or 248-410-2286.  
**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:**  
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & 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.  
**Conference Line Phone Number**  
(971) 224-6612, Code 452784

**What's happening at St. Mark this week**  
**MONDAY, January 2**  
9:30 a.m. — Mass — +Samuel Smiley/Janet Waters  
**TUESDAY, January 3**  
10:00 a.m. — Prayer Shawl Ministry  
6:30 p.m. — Mass — People of the Parish/Parish  
7:00 p.m. — Men's Club  
**WEDNESDAY, January 4**  
10:00 a.m. — AA  
7:00 p.m. — RCIA  
**THURSDAY, January 5**  
7:00 p.m. — Choir  
**FRIDAY, January 6**  
8:30 a.m. — Mass — +Lillian & Roy Carter/Carter Boys  
9:00 a.m. — St. Joseph's Guild  
9:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m. — First Friday Adoration  
**SATURDAY, January 7**  
7:00 a.m. — Men's Fellowship  
4:30—5:00 — Confessions  
5:30 p.m. — Mass — +Jim Ellis/Karen Thornton  
6:30 p.m. — Epiphany Potluck  
**SUNDAY, January 8—The Epiphany of the Lord**  
9:30 a.m. — Mass — +Vivienne Kell/John & Patty Candiloro  
10:30 a.m. — Hospitality  
10:45 a.m. — Bell Choir  
11:00 a.m. — 12:30 p.m. — Family Faith Formation  
5:00—6:30 p.m. — Youth Group

FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION / AVAILABILITY CALL PARISH OFFICE 810-636-2216

### Ron's Thoughts...

With the beginning of 2023, the tradition of making New Year's Resolutions surrounds our thoughts and minds as we head into another year. As I head into 2023 here are a few resolutions that I am challenging myself with: Serve God and God's people with all my heart and soul. Strive for good physical health and spiritual health. Be more forgiving. Look for ways to serve those that are marginalized in society, through action and effort. Be more patient. Live a life of tolerance and acceptance of others by seeing similarities not differences. Be kind and loving. Try to see the good in others first, rather than their faults and failings. Be generous. Seek justice and live what is good and right each day. Be humble. Make life more about others and not about ME. Be Joyful. Put my Faith more into action each day through prayer, Bible reading, church, spending more time with God in the sacraments. Be faith-filled and faithful. And start each day saying... "Today I'm Going to Put God First!" Walk the Talk! Be Peace! Happy New Year!

D-Ron (rkenney@stmarkgoodrich.org)

### St. Mark Faith Formation Schedule

- 1/6-8—Subiaco Youth Retreat – Away
- 1/8—Family Faith Formation (11-12:30pm)
- 1/8—Youth Group Cancelled because of Retreat
- 1/14—First Eucharist Mini Session #4 (Parish Center)
- 1/29—Confirmation Mini Session #4 WITH PARENTS (2—4pm)

### Thank-you!!

Thank You, to all those who shared a picture of their Nativity Scenes at home. It brightened our Christmas Liturgies and brought a little bit of our Parish Family to each other.

### COVID-FLU-RSV!

PLEASE during these days of increased spread of these viruses let us remember to be diligent in thinking about others and doing our part to decrease the spread. Wear masks if you have compromised health, wash hands, and please don't come to church if you are feeling sick. Let us remember to be kind to one another and especially when we choose to mask up.

### ST. MARK MEN'S CLUB

Meets 1st Tuesday of the month at 7pm. In the Parish Center. Next meeting is January 3rd. All Men of the parish are invited. Join us as we plan upcoming events: Euchre Night, Fat Tuesday Spaghetti Dinner and Children's Easter Egg Hunt.

### 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, SPC. Aaron Boyle.



### Blessings

Today's readings include another account of the story of Jesus' birth. The reading from the book of Numbers reminds us that we are blessed. We are looked upon with kindness and grace. The psalm and Galatians remind us of the blessings given through God's Son. Luke tells of our ultimate blessing, that Mary, a human being like us, gave birth to a child who is God's Son. Mary, a young mother, watches all that is happening around the birth of her son. She listens as the shepherds bring messages from angels, a message she also received from an angel, about her son. Yet Mary remains silent. She keeps all this news about her son to herself. She reflects on all these experiences. The only thing she shares is the name of her son, Jesus, a name given him before he was even conceived. Her silence leaves us wondering if this is how one responds to such a great blessing.

### Calling all snowbirds

If you plan to be spending the winter away, please let the Parish Office know your alternate address so we can keep in touch through mailings.



### Catholic Retreat for Singles—Feb 24-26

**Mid-life Singles (mid-30s to 50s):** Are you looking for a renewed sense of purpose & belonging? Register today for a life-changing REFLECT weekend retreat at the St. Francis Retreat Center, in DeWitt, MI (10 miles north of Lansing), on Feb 24-26, 2023. Take a chance and get involved... you won't regret it! Cost is \$215 for meals and a single room. Visit [www.ReflectRetreat.com](http://www.ReflectRetreat.com), e-mail [reflect.michigan@gmail.com](mailto:reflect.michigan@gmail.com), or call (586) 770-1772 for details.

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### CCW and Fleece Blankets

Every year in January the CCW makes tied fleece blankets for Catholic Charities and Heartbeat. We invite all women to join us on Jan. 10 after the 6:30 Mass. We are looking for donations of fleece as well as workers to tie the blankets. If you are interested in picking up fabric, look for sales at JoAnn's. We need 1 1/2 yards at 60" long of two matching colors to make one blanket.

### Epiphany Potluck Dinner—Jan. 7

Mark your calendars for the Epiphany Potluck Dinner on Saturday, Jan. 7 after Mass. We will be celebrating the Epiphany by sharing our favorite food and recipes with each other. Please plan to join us in the Parish Center. Warmers to keep hot dishes at the right temperature during Mass are available.

### Social Justice January Project

The Social Justice Commission and Catholic Charities ask for your help again. On the weekends of January 14-15 and 21-22, we will be collecting cold weather hats and gloves for the clients of Catholic Charities. Thank you in advance for your generous support.

### Parish Breakfast—Jan. 15

Join us for our Parish breakfast which will be homemade oatmeal, muffins, fresh fruit and yogurt on Jan. 15th after the 9:30 am. Mass. All are welcome.

### St. Mark Euchre Tournament—Jan. 28th @ 7:00 p.m.

St. Mark Men's Club will be hosting a Euchre Tournament Saturday, Jan. 28th @ 7:00 p.m. Entry fee is \$20.00 (Cash or check at the door). 1st place—\$100, 2nd place—\$50, 3rd place—\$25. Snacks, pizza provided. Sign up in the Gathering space or email [rkenney@stmarkgoodrich.org](mailto:rkenney@stmarkgoodrich.org).

### Euchre—January 27

Friday Euchre is back. The next Euchre tournament is January 27 at 10:00 a.m. For more information please contact Tim or Bonnie Gainey @[mitgainey@gmail.com](mailto:mitgainey@gmail.com).

### Giving Tree—Thank-you

Thank you from all the recipients of the Giving Tree. You have given all a brighter Christmas. Your generosity continues to grow.

**Week January 2 — January 8**  
**Mon:** 1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28, **Tue:** 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Jn 1:29-34, **Wed:** 1 Jn 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42, **Thu:** 1 Jn 3:11-21; Lk 4:14-22a, **Fri:** 1 Jn 5:5-13; Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-28 [23, 31-34, 36, 38], **Sat:** 1 Jn 5:14-21; Sal 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 2:1-11, **Sun:** Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

### AFTERWORD....Fr. Dave Howell

**A NEW YEAR...** is much like a Christmas trees with a pile of presents all around it. One might look at any particular gift and guess what might be in it, but it is only a guess and those are frequently wrong. We will come to know what is there as each gift is unwrapped and opened. No one, except God, knows what 2023 will have in store for any of us. At best, we know it will be a mixture of good and bad, wonderful surprises and difficult moments. We can worry and obsess over what problems may loom in the coming year; or we can approach each day as a real gift from God. Let's begin every day of this new year with the "Old Preacher's Prayer": "Lord, nothing will happen today that you and I can't handle together!"

**ON A PERSONAL NOTE...** Ever since I first began ordained ministry, I realized that my best homilies were addressed to me, you simply hear me preaching to myself. The same can be said of the words I wrote above. This winter will present a couple of health issues for me. In September, in preparation for hernia surgery, I discovered a problem with my heart. Years of atrial fibrillation have weakened my heart and slowed me down. In October, I went to ER with an attack of Diverticulitis. A CT Scan discovered my aortic aneurysms had enlarged and needed to be repaired. (That was done in a pair of procedures before and after Thanksgiving.) Unfortunately, the scan also indicated that I have cancer of the bladder, which has been confirmed by a biopsy. While it's unfortunate that I will have to deal with both the heart and bladder cancer in the months ahead, I am very fortunate that both have come to light. Both the September surgery and the October trip to ER, revealed more life-threatening health issues. While it may seem like a coincidence that these were discovered before they got worse, I view it as another sign of God's Providence. Years ago, in a difficult time, I realized God did not bring me this far to let me down. Those words mean even more to me now. I sincerely thank you for any prayers you might offer on my behalf and on behalf of all those who are ill. I will keep you informed of what is happening to me. But it seems my winter plans will probably include surgery and some recovery time.

**MANY, MANY THANKS!!...** Once more I am overwhelmed with the generosity of so many here at St. Mark! My sincere thanks to all of you who sent a Christmas card, a plate of cookies, a tin of fudge or homemade candy. I am sincerely grateful to all of you who were so kind to me!

Fr. Dave Howell