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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)

"Thus, the  
Last  
will be  
First..."  
September 24, 2023

**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  
mfgoetz@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, 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, September 25**  
9:30 a.m. — Mass — +Erin Modrzyński/Debbie & Steve Oglenski  
**TUESDAY, September 26**  
6:30 p.m. — Mass — +Ron Tomasik/Pat Tomasik  
**WEDNESDAY, September 27**  
10:00 a.m. — AA  
**THURSDAY, September 28**  
7:00 p.m. — Choir  
**FRIDAY, September 29**  
8:30 a.m. — Mass — +Joyce Maysura/Nancy Ellis  
8:30 a.m. — North End Soup Kitchen  
9:00 a.m. — St. Joseph Guild  
**SATURDAY, September 30**  
4:30—5:00 p.m. — Confessions  
5:30 p.m. — Mass — +Ron Tomasik/Rita Brust  
**SUNDAY, October 1**  
9:30 a.m. — Mass — +Mary Zuwała/Ron Zuwała  
10:30 a.m. — Hospitality  
10:45 am — Bell Choir  
3:00 p.m.—Holy Land Information with Fr. Dave/Parish Center  
5:00—6:30 p.m.—Youth Group

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

Ron’s Thoughts...

This weekend we begin our Family Faith Formation for our Pre-4 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. This is a family format where families come together. We begin together and then we go to our appropriate age groups, including parents. The whole idea is to support the family as the domestic church, the church at home. By coming together, we become a community that prays together and grows together.

I share this often, but the greatest gift that my parents gave to me, besides life, has been my faith life. I grew up knowing that church and family went hand in hand. I grew up knowing that faith was something that we did more than just one hour a week on Sundays. I grew up watching my parents and my family grow together with our parish community as a family of faith. I grew up knowing that being a Catholic Christian was not just something to identify with, but something that showed us how to live each day. I grew up knowing that God was, is and always will be the most important thing in my family.

Yes, I was lucky and yes you can give your family that same experience of life. Begin today by making your faith experience the most important part of your family. Family Faith Formation (Pre4 – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade) begins Sunday at 11am, MS/HS (6<sup>th</sup> grade – 12<sup>th</sup> grade) Youth Group begins Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 5-6:30pm, First Reconciliation and Eucharist (2<sup>nd</sup> Grade) Mini Sessions begin October 14<sup>th</sup>, 9-11am and Confirmation (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Graders) begins on Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at Holy Family 6:30pm. Make today the day you say, TODAY I’M GOING TO PUT GOD 1<sup>st</sup>! Walk the talk. Be Peace!

D-Ron ([rkenney@stmarkgoodrich.org](mailto:rkenney@stmarkgoodrich.org))

St. Mark Faith Formation

- ALL REGISTRATION will be done online at [www.stmarkgoodrich.org](http://www.stmarkgoodrich.org) go to Faith Formation.
- **K-5 SPIRIT program** - Family Faith Formation Model families register and attend together on Scheduled (twice a month) Sundays, 11am-12:30pm. There will be family presentations, projects and age-appropriate breakout sessions. **BEGINS THIS SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 24<sup>th</sup> FAMILY ORIENTATION MEETING in the church 11am.**
- **6-12 Youth Group** - will be a Youth Group Model with Community building, Catechesis and Prayer which will be on scheduled Sundays 5-6:30pm. **BEGINS OCTOBER 1st**
- **First Reconciliation/Eucharist and Confirmation Prep** will be separate with Saturday Mini Sessions for First Rec/Euch and Sunday Mini Sessions for Confirmation. All Sacrament Candidates are required to attend Family Faith Formation or Youth Group in addition to Sacrament Prep. **BEGINS SATURDAY OCTOBER 14<sup>th</sup> 9-11am.**
- **St. Mark and Holy Family Confirmation Program – NEW THIS YEAR** we will be combining our Confirmation Prep with our sister parish Holy Family. MINI Sessions will be divided between St. Mark and Holy Family. The program is open to 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders this year. **An orientation meeting for parents and youth will be October 4<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm at Holy Family.**

40 Days for Life, a peaceful prayer vigil.

Wednesday, September 27th – Sunday, November 5th  
Daily at 3371 Beecher Road Flint, MI. Details at [www.40daysforlife.com/en/flint](http://www.40daysforlife.com/en/flint). Or contact Sue Boyd at (616) 802-8020 Email: [Flint40days@yahoo.com](mailto:Flint40days@yahoo.com)

Adult Faith Formation

Men’s Fellowship –1st Saturday of each month, 7-8am, Join other Men of St. Mark in prayer, fellowship, and growth as we strive to become Men of Faith. All men invited. Next: 10-7-23.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

Are you interested or do you know someone who is interested in completing the sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist) and learning more about becoming Catholic. Contact D-Ron at [Rkenney@stmarkgoodrich.org](mailto:Rkenney@stmarkgoodrich.org). **RCIA INFORMATION MEETING – Tuesday, October 17, 2023 at 7pm in the Parish Center.**

Trunk or Treat—Oct. 28

Family Faith Formation is hosting a Trunk or Treat Saturday, October 28th from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Trunk or treat is a safe alternative to door to door treating. It will take place in the St. Mark parking lot, where trunk hosts will decorate their cars and pass out candy. We are looking for trunk hosts for this event. If you are interested in being a trunk host, please sign up in the Gathering Space. You can also sign up on sign up genius at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050C45ACAA2FA5FC1-44440826-faith>. If you have any questions please contact Joanne Salvati at [jsalvati@stmarkgoodrich.org](mailto:jsalvati@stmarkgoodrich.org).

Respect all Life

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST  
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PRESENTS:

the October Speaker Series

Topics coincide with the Fr. Mike Schmitz, Catechism in a Year podcasts!

WHAT DOES THE CATECHISM SAY?  
THREE NIGHTS, TIMELY TOPICS  
WEDNESDAYS AT 7:00 PM

SPEAKERS:

DR. MONICA MIGLIORINO MILLER  
What does the Catechism say about ...  
October 4: Abortion and Euthanasia

DR. JANET SMITH  
What does the Catechism say about ...  
October 11: Gender & Homosexuality topics  
October 18: Contraception & In Vitro Fertilization

Q & A ALL SESSIONS, QUESTIONS WELCOME!

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September 16 & September 17, 2023

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Parish Dinner—October 7

Join your parish family for a delicious meal of pasta, meatballs, salad, garlic bread and desserts after Mass on Saturday, October 7. Please sign up in the gathering space or contact the Parish Office.

Blessing of the Pets—October 8

Bring your pets to our special blessing ceremony, Sunday, October 8th at 12:30 p.m. The blessing will take place in our Peace Prayer Garden at St. Mark.

St. Mark’s Grief Journey—October 16

Have you lost a parent, spouse, child, sibling or friend? The loss of someone we love is a heavy burden to bear. Whether that loss is recent, or several months or years ago, you are welcome to join our next six-week Grief Journey. Sessions begin October 16th, and continue every Monday following the 9:30 a.m. Mass, through November 20th. To register call St. Mark’s parish office, 810-636-2216. All participants will be reading Now That You’ve Gone Home by Joyce Hutchinson and Joyce Rupp. Books are available in St. Mark’s parish office. For questions about the program, call Debbie Oglenski at 989-479-6765.

Help Spread the Faith Collection—Sept. 23-24

The Help Spread the Faith Appeal makes our local evangelization efforts, like Faith magazine and the televised Outreach Mass, possible. By supporting the Help Spread the FAITH Appeal, you will help us continue to answer Christ’s call to reach out with the Gospel message. If you are considering making a donation, and are doing so by check please make it out to the parish for ease of processing. Thank you for your consideration.

Veterans Information Night at St. Mark—Oct 19

St. Mark will have an evening of information for Veterans to learn about the many benefits that are available to them. Please join us on Thursday, October 19th at 6:30pm in the Sr. Joan Parish Center. Lt. Commander Henry Storm (Ret.USN) from VFW Post 1008 and Joe Pine (US Army Spec 4 Ret) will be sharing information. We are excited about this opportunity to help veterans from our parish.

Week September 25 —October 1

Mon: Ezr 1:1-6; Lk 8:16-18, Tue: Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Lk 8:19-21, Wed: Ezr 9:5-9; Tobit 13:2, 3-4a, 4b, 9b; Lk 9:1-6, Thu: Hg 1:1-8; Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a & 9b; Lk 9:7-9, Fri: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12ab; Jn 1:47-51, Sat: Zec 2:5-9. 14-15a; Jeremiah 31:10, 11-12ab, 13; Lk 9:43b-45, Sun: Ez 18:25-28; Mt 21:28-3

AFTERWORD....Fr. Dave Howell

**LAUDATO SI`** ... This is the fifth in a series of reflections on Pope Francis Encyclical letter Laudato Si` on the ecology of the earth and the divine calling of Christians to care for “our common home.” The heart of what Pope Francis proposes is integral ecology; an ecology “which respects our unique place as human beings in this world and our relationship to our surroundings”. In fact, “nature cannot be regarded as something separate from ourselves or as a mere setting in which we live”. Everything is interconnected. With many concrete examples, the pope confirms his thinking that “the analysis of environmental problems cannot be separated from the analysis of human, family, work-related and urban contexts, and of how individuals relate to themselves”. We are not faced with two separate crises, one environmental and the other social, but one complex crisis, both social and environmental. “Human ecology is inseparable from the notion of the common good”. In today’s world, “injustices abound and growing numbers of people are deprived of basic human rights and considered expendable”, committing oneself to the common good means to make choices in solidarity based on “a preferential option for the poorest of our brothers and sisters”. This is also the best way to leave a sustainable world for future generations of today and tomorrow. We need to assure that we leave a better world to future generations. Integral ecology also involves everyday life. The encyclical gives specific attention to the urban environment. Here human beings have a great capacity for adaptation and an admirable creativity and generosity. This is seen in how individuals and groups respond to alleviating the adverse effects of environmental limitations, helping people to live productively amid disorder and uncertainty. Nevertheless, authentic development presupposes an integral improvement in the quality of human life: public space, housing, transport, etc. Finally, Pope Francis urges us to accept our bodies as God’s gift. This is vital for accepting the entire world as a gift from the Father and our common home. Thinking that we enjoy absolute power over our own bodies turns, often subtly, into thinking that we enjoy absolute power over creation.

**THE HOLY LAND & JORDAN ...** I am planning a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land next May 7-21. The total price includes air fare, accommodations, fees, all the meals & tips. The total package comes in at a lower price than we were quoted for the same pilgrimage this fall. The price is based on a minimum number of participants & reservations need to be finalized soon. If you have any questions, you can contact me at [dfrhowell@gmail.com](mailto:dfrhowell@gmail.com) There will be an information meeting with the travel agent Sunday, October 1 at 3 pm in the hall. Everyone is welcome!

Fr. Dave Howell