

ST. MARK'S ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

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E-MAIL: ST.MARK-OFFICE@VERIZON.NET

Rev. Michael A. DiGeronimo, Pastor

Cell Phone: (508) 414-8477

Email: FrMichael@saintmarksparish.org

Rev. Mr. Daniel F. Lavoie, Deacon

Email: DeaconDan@saintmarksparish.org

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Lisa DeHaan, Youth Minister

Email: Lisa@saintmarksparish.org

Kathleen Huggins, Coordinator of
Elementary Religious Education

Email: Kathleen@saintmarksparish.org

Paul Machunski, Business Manager

Mark Bailey, Music Director



Parish Mission Statement

As a parish family guided by the Holy Spirit, the faith community of St. Mark is committed to Jesus Christ and His Church. We are called to proclaim the Gospel through the celebration of Life, the Sacraments, and Liturgy. To glorify God and love one another we will strive to carry out this mission by sharing our talents and resources, serving all those in need, nurturing God's gift of hope in our community and welcoming all to grow in the Catholic faith.

MASSES

Mon - Thurs: 9:00 AM

Saturday: 4:00 PM

Sunday: 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

Holy Days: 9:00 AM and 7:00 PM

COMMUNION SERVICE - Friday: 9:00 AM

PENANCE Saturdays: 3-3:30 PM

ADORATION - First Wednesday of Every Month

Sunday Mass Livestream

10:30AM on our website

and available afterward



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www.KoC12710.org

Email: Council12710.kofc@gmail.com

*New Parishioners please use our website (SaintMarksParish.org)
or contact the Rectory to register.*

GLPI **D MASS**
INTENTIONS

Saturday January 8, 2022
Vigil of the Baptism of the Lord
4 PM John Watson

Req by the Smith family
Sunday January 9, 2022

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord
8 AM Frances Shugrue
Req by Mark Bailey and Mary Kate Doherty
10:30 AM John F. Doherty
(25 th Anniversary)
Req by the family

Monday January 10, 2022
9 AM For the people of St. Mark's Parish
Tuesday January 11, 2022

9 AM Anne Chartrand
Req by Beverly MacCollum
Wednesday January 12, 2022

9 AM All Souls
Thursday January 13, 2022
9 AM Barbara E. Valutkevich
(Month's Mind)

Friday January 14, 2022
9 AM Communion Service

Saturday January 15, 2022
Vigil of the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
4 PM Earl B. Finne

Req by Deb and Steve Glaza
Sunday January 16, 2022
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
8 AM Frances Shugrue

Req by St. Mark's Haiti Ministry
10:30 AM Lou DiVirgilio
Req by Mark Bailey and Mary Kate Doherty

YOUTH MINISTRY *Faith Formation*
YOUTH events and Faith Formation Programs



Our EDGE group will this Sunday January 9th
and then again on January 30th.

Our next several gatherings will be a series on the Bible. As we learn how to navigate our way, we will **deepen our understanding of God's Word**, and how it is relevant to our modern life. With tools to better understand Scripture, we will better equipped to pray more with the Bible and share God's Word with those we encounter!



We continue **DOWNSIDE-UP**
on Sunday January 23rd, Winning Last Place



RETREAT for all in Life Teen,
1st weekend in February
DETAILS to be sent via flocknote



CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

for PARENTS & TEENS

Kickoff meeting for those in the 2nd year of Life Teen (10th grade) and their parents will be Tuesday evening, January 25th at 7:00 PM



Postponed

Our annual Pasta & Meatball drive-through fundraiser
(proceeds benefit the Teach the Children and Foyer St. Etienne programs in Haiti)
which we were planning to hold on January 15th, is postponed for now. We will communicate when a new date is planned.



Reflections From the Reverend

Update on the Foyer St. Etienne Rebuilding

Originally it was thought that the Foyer Nursing Home would have to be totally rebuilt; however on new inspection, engineers came to the conclusion that the original building could mostly be saved with some renovations and improvements. We had hoped that Hope for Haiti, the clinic which is next door to the Foyer would pay for the whole re-construction, but just this week, Father Fred has informed us that they will pay for half.

Total cost: \$80,000
Hope for Haiti subsidy: \$40,000
Oblates of Mary Immaculate
Subsidy: \$10,000
Balance to be raised: \$30,000

Since Father Fred has no other resources to draw from, I have pledged to him that St. Mark's Parish will take on the responsibility of paying this balance of \$30,000. We do have a Haiti Savings Account which is presently restricted for interest use only for emergencies, the current balance of which is \$49,266. This account was money set aside for this charity from the sale of St. Anne's Parish.

I will be consulting with our Finance Committee and with all of you in the coming days to determine how we get this important work done as soon as possible so that our friends can have their home back. In the opposite column are pictures of the proposed renovation of the Foyer.

Please keep our friends in Haiti in prayer as the country is still in chaos, and everyday life continues to be dangerous.

Sincerely,
Father Michael

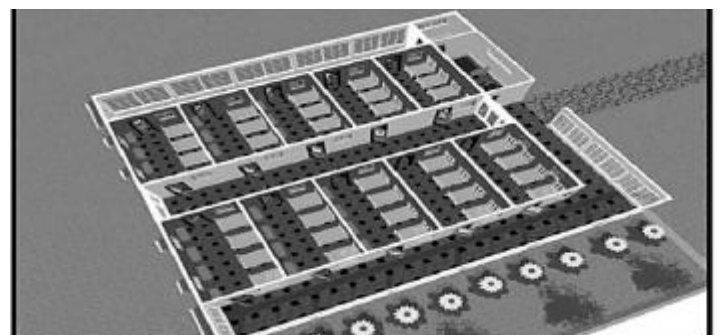


We welcome **Madelyn Lee Piccioli**, daughter of Erin and Christopher Piccioli of Johnson Road who was baptized at St. Mark's this past Sunday. May the good and gracious Lord bless her and her family as they continue to grow!

Covid and the Surge

While we do not have a mask mandate for church attendance here in the Diocese of Worcester as yet, I would ask that you use your common sense when you attend Mass. Those who are unvaccinated should definitely attend wearing a mask; those who have children unvaccinated should also be masked up; and anyone vulnerable, even though vaccinated should also wear a mask for their protection. Please be conscious of the people around you, and your responsibility to them as friend and neighbor! Father Michael

Proposed Foyer St. Etienne Renovation



FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



What Is Circle of Grace?

Circle of Grace is a developmentally appropriate personal safety curriculum that teaches children how to recognize and respond to unsafe situations. This is a K-12 program that will be implemented as part of religious education throughout the Diocese of Worcester. There are 1-3 lessons at each grade level, which facilitate important discussions between children and trusted adults.

Why is this being implemented now?

In the past area schools were believed to be covering this material. However, due to recent shifts to the health curriculum at public schools, the Office of Religious Education has chosen Circle of Grace to ensure children are educated on this important topic.

Those with children in grade 5 or under can join Kathy for a *Zoom* meeting on Monday January 10th at 7pm to learn more.

(Contact kathleen@saintmarksparish.org if you did not receive the meeting ID and password.) Lisa will be reaching out to those with students in grades 6-12.

Religious Education News

January 10th at 7pm there will be a parent meeting at 7pm on *Zoom* for those whose children are in our First Grade and Elementary Programs. Meeting codes have been sent to those registered for this program.

Classes for those in first through fifth grade **resume on January 23rd** at 9am. This will be a parent session for those whose children are preparing for First Communion.

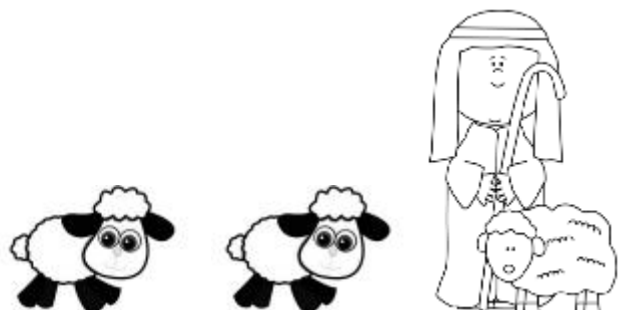
It's not too late to **register for our First Grade or Elementary Programs!** If you didn't sign up at the start of the year, but feel more comfortable now that your child has had the opportunity to be vaccinated, you are *welcome to join us for the second half of the year*.

Children's Liturgy meets each Sunday during the 10:30am mass. Drop off is in the church hall starting at 10:20am. *No pre-registration required, join us at anytime.*

Masks need to be worn by all adults and children attending religious education or family ministry programs, regardless of vaccination status. We follow the same quarantine protocols as the schools, so if your child is allowed to attend school, they are welcome to join us at St Marks.

If you have questions on any of our children's programs please contact;

kathleen@saintmarksparish.org





Christmas parties in Haiti. Top left, Teach the Children; plus pictures of Mass and party for Foyer (nursing home) residents at their interim tent home.

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