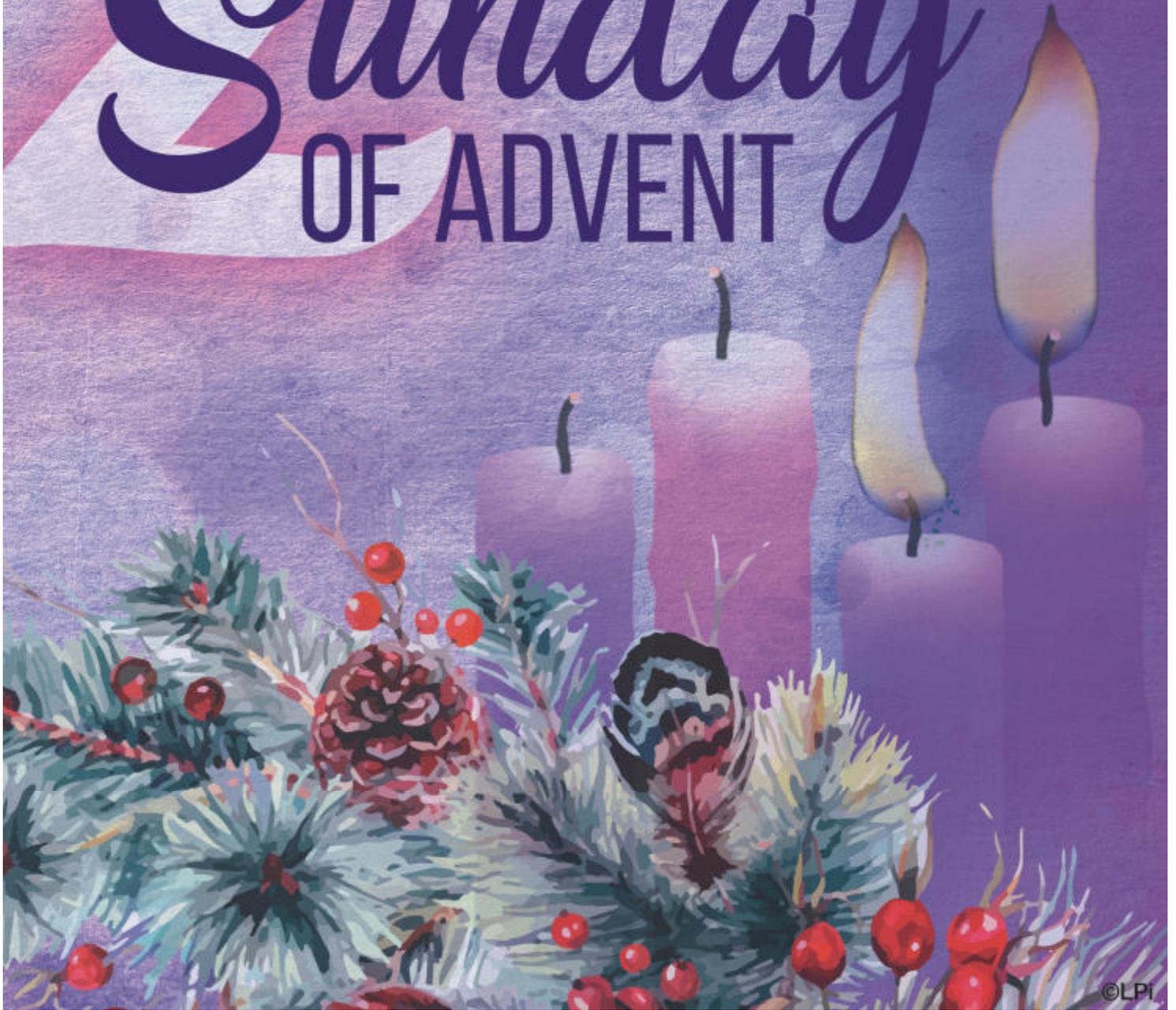


2nd

Sunday
OF ADVENT



ST. MARK PARISH



Dear Parishioners and Friends,

As we walk our Advent journey of hope and joy toward the Feast of Jesus' Incarnation, we are inspired by the amazing example of His Mother Mary! Our Lady teaches us how to be open to the grace of God and entrust our daily lives to God's divine Providence. God's plan of redemption might have been more "mysterious" for Mary, than it is for us. After all, we can look at the history of salvation from the perspective of two millennia of theological and spiritual insights. We can surely identify with and learn from the young, inquisitive, courageous, trusting, and amazingly enlightened, "handmaid of the Lord." During these challenging times, Mary's words echo in our souls and illumine our daily path - as she "treasured all these things and reflected on them in her heart" (Luke 2,19).

For all of us at St. Mark this is also the time to make a sacrificial donation to the **Generous Beyond Measure!** We remain most frugal and diligent in the use of our financial resources. As you know, for many years, we have not been able to generate enough funds from our weekend collections and other contributions, to pay the monthly bills. Therefore, the **GBM** has been a "life-line" to make our budget. Any donation is essential and greatly appreciated. Our registered parishioners will be receiving a letter from me, asking for your support. If you are not registered with St. Mark and are willing to help, we are most grateful for your generosity. Thank you for your sacrificial offering which enables us to provide for the works of evangelization, ministerial outreach, and financial sustenance. Together we continue to proclaim the Good News!

In Christ's abundant Life,
Fr. Stanley

MISSION STATEMENT

As the Eucharistic family of St. Mark Parish, we are called to welcome, love and serve. We continue the mission of Jesus Christ: "to transform our lives and believe in the Good News."

(Mark 1:15)

Advent Spiritual Journey

"This is the time of fulfillment.

The reign of God is at hand!

**Reform your lives and
believe in the Gospel!"**

(Mark 1:15)

**Holy Mass every Wednesday
at 9:30 am and 7 pm**

**Individual Confessions every Saturday
at 3 pm**

**The Immaculate Conception
Holy Mass, Dec. 8, 9:30 am**

**Vicariate Reconciliation Services
visit: www.cmvic.net**

DECEMBER 6, 2020

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Jubilation to Share

Sometimes you have something to share with people that causes you to well up inside with excitement to the point of going crazy. A pregnancy test, a pay raise, a college acceptance, a wedding or engagement are all examples of moments in life when we might be bursting at the seams to tell somebody the good news. When we finally get the chance to tell somebody, joy just seems to flow through us with ease. We literally want the entire world to share in our jubilation.

When was the last time you shared with a friend or loved one how much your faith in Jesus means to you? You don't feel the same motivation to share? Are you not overwhelmed with a desire to spread the Good News?

Don't feel bad. You are not alone. As Christians, we often fail to grasp the powerful implications of being a disciple of Jesus Christ. We can become complacent and lose sight of what matters the most. That is when sharing with others about our faith seems uncomfortable.

Faith is a gift. As everyday stewards we are called to share with others what God has given us. Advent is a great time to grow in our faith and love of the Lord. The more we cultivate our faith and the closer we draw to Him, the more we will want to share about Him. We might not have the impact of John the Baptist in the course of human history, but our proclamation of the Gospel to another might be the gift that changes their history.

– Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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GOSPEL MEDITATION

2nd Sunday of Advent

People knew over a year in advance that the Pope was coming for a visit to America and the preparations began. Security, space limitations and requirements, protocols, crowd management, itineraries, invitations, regulations, and so much more was necessary to pull this event off effectively. It's not every day that we get a visit from such a prominent dignitary. Thought, effort, meticulous attention to detail and vision all are necessary to make this thing work. After all, he can't just show up in the ordinary and normal daily routines of life and catch people unprepared! Tickets have to be purchased, buses rented, hotel rooms reserved, and travel arrangements made early because it will be impossible to see him if we wait too long!

We do this kind of preparing not only for prominent religious figures but for political dignitaries, notable sports figures, people of fame, and even actors. If an individual intrigues us, we are going to want to do all we have to do to get a "good seat" in the house. Does Jesus Christ captivate this much of our attention? We are asked to prepare the way of the Lord and to do so not with frantic frenzy but patient enthusiasm. We do not have to stand on a street corner making profound announcements about God's coming or become overly zealous in our embrace of the Good News. Our task is quieter, more interior, captivating, and consuming. We are asked to change. We have to conduct our lives with holy devotion.

Is the cost of that ticket too much for you? Don't you want the "best seat" in the house? You don't want to miss Our Lord's arrival when he comes, do you? After all, if he comes while you are going about your daily routines without you even knowing, he may catch you off guard. Or, he may come in disguise looking like a beggar, a prisoner, migrant, refugee, or someone who is lost. Would you be ready to recognize him then? Preparing for the coming of Christ requires a change of mind, heart, and behavior. It is not adequate to simply do the things we always do. We want our lives to speak of the exciting news of Christ's coming and the joy that the Gospel brings. It has to do with our demeanor, values, priorities, choices, and how we structure daily routines. Of course, it involves sacrifice. All anticipations do! Are you excited, captivated, enthusiastic, and sitting on the edge of your seat eager to celebrate his coming among us at Christmas, and waiting for him to come again? If not, why not?

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NOTES

Dear Parish Family,

We hope you all had a happy and safe Thanksgiving.

A huge thank you to everyone for your most generous donations to our *I-CAN* Project! We are so happy to have the pantry filled with food for our brothers and sisters in need. It goes quickly.

Blessed are we to also have Immaculate Conception School do a food drive for the benefit of our Food Pantry. We are so grateful to this community for choosing St. Mark to be the recipient again this year. A special thank you to Anita Colo for arranging this. We can never have too much food!

Perhaps you have seen the “commercial” for the Pope Francis Center in Detroit with Fr Tim McCabe on television. This is where the *Making Sprits Bright* boxes for men will be going. Obviously, we will not be sharing where the boxes for women and children will be taken, as it is a “women’s shelter.” Exciting to know that you - our generous parishioners are supporting this needy cause and bringing Christmas joy!

Thank you to everyone for supporting the *Meijer Simply Give* by purchasing cards at their 12 mile & Mound store. If you are purchasing on December 12th, we will receive double the amount.

Please pick up your 2020 contribution envelopes in the Gathering Space. If you would be so kind as to pick up envelopes for a neighbor or friend, who is not able to come to church at this time, it will be most helpful.

Calendars are coming, but are not here yet.

Reminder: you may purchase Blue Books for Advent, Oplatke wafers, and St. Mark Christmas Ornaments after Masses the next couple of weeks or by contacting the parish office.

It is difficult for some of our parishioners who do not have a computer or access to one to receive the information which is sent out from the Parish. If you are aware of this situation, please either print the email or share the news verbally. We all want to be up to date on what is happening. The weekly bulletin is on line at stmarkparishwarren.com.

May our loving God bless you.

Mary Jo

THE WORD

Readings for the week of December 6, 2020

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14//2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

Monday: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/
Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab/Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/
Lk 1:26-38

Next Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 51-54/1 Thes 5:16-24/
Jn 1:6-8, 19-28



Saturday, December 5

4:00 pm Aloysius Schwartz
Frances Szpont
William Jod Way

Sunday, December 6

8:30 am Robert Grigg
Vince Roodbeen
Fran Dziemski
Ann Elizabeth Reilly

11:00 am Christine Mixen
Ray Kusza
Karol Lipinski
Angeline Lipinski
Richard Lipinski
Donald Krynsinski
Irene Lipinski

Tuesday, December 8th

9:30 am James Wawrzyniak
Helen Moskal
Chester Moskal

Wednesday, December 9

9:30 am St. Mark Parishioners

Saturday, December 12

4:00 pm Herbert Dempz
Isabelle McLaughlin
Loretta Shaddon
France Szpont
Eugene Selasky

Sunday, December 13

8:30 am St. Mark Parishioners
11:00 am Henry Ark
Ray Kusza

ST. MARK OUTREACH



THANK YOU EVERYONE!!

**"I CAN SHARE THE HARVEST"
WAS A BLESSFUL AND
BOUNTIFUL SUCCESS!!!**

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

First Reading:

Five hundred years before the birth of Christ, Isaiah prophesied these words of comfort and hope to the Israelites captive in Babylon. What would bring comfort and hope to you in this season of Advent?

Second Reading:

Today we hear how Peter challenged those in his day who denied that Christ would return. Peter argued that our human timeline is not God's timeline. How do you reason with people today who deny the fundamentals of our faith?

Gospel:

Mark opens his Gospel by presenting the words and activities of John the Baptist in the context of fulfilling Isaiah's prophecy heard in our first reading. Why do you think connecting Isaiah to John the Baptist was important to Mark and his community?

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PRAYER INTENTIONS

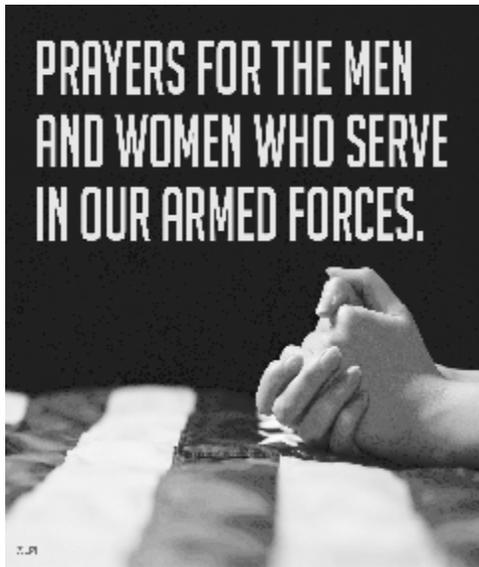


Joan Edem

Jason Idalski

Millie Thomas

Only **immediate** family members may request a 'prayers for the sick' listing. Call the Parish Center: 586-759-3020. Names remain on the list for 4 weeks.



PRAYERS FOR THE MEN
AND WOMEN WHO SERVE
IN OUR ARMED FORCES.

**WE PRAY FOR ALL OF OUR
MILITARY, & PARTICULARLY:**

Sr. CPO Michael Brightman

Lt. Commander Adam Craig

LCPL Sarah J Page

Sgt. Steven Parisi

Major Michael F. Weigle

Family members who wish to have their loved ones prayed for may do so by submitting names to the parish office.

LIVE THE LITURGY

Prepare the way of the Lord! The message of John the Baptist becomes the calling of every baptized disciple of Jesus Christ. Each one of us is asked to prepare the way of the Lord. Given the humble means of our lives, how can we do this? It certainly does not require that we stand on street corners announcing God's future coming! We can more readily take up the task of our lifework by clearing our lives of unnecessary, distracting clutter. By creating solid and deep spiritual lives, we can heighten our awareness of God's presence and help people point to and discover God's presence around them. By conducting ourselves in holiness and devotion, we can speak volumes to those we meet. Not by preaching actual words, but by living lives that communicate the comfort God wants His people to know. As the world sometimes frantically unfolds around us, we can be people of patience who show others that it's okay to wait for God's gift to come. Conducting our lives in this manner, we will know the peace that comes from doing what we have been asked to do.

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POPE TWEETS

"Let us frequently repeat the traditional #Advent prayer: "Come, Lord Jesus" (Rev 22:20) before meetings, studying, work, and before making decisions, in the important moments or times of trial: Come, Lord Jesus!"

- Pope Francis

@Pontifex Twitter (December 1, 2020)

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Outreach: 586-759-3026

Parish Fax: 586-759-3024

E-mail: parishcenter@stmarkparishwarren.org

WEBSITES

Parish: www.stmarkparishwarren.com

Central Macomb Vicariate: www.cmvic.net

Archdiocese of Detroit: www.aod.org

STAFF LISTING

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Deacon George Posavetz, (Deacon Emeritus)

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Mary Jo Ruebelman,

Office Manager / Worship Coordinator

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PASTORAL COUNCIL

Chris Bailey

Cynthia Filipovich

Diane Hamilton

Tom Harm

Phyllis Wisniewski (Christian Formation)

Karen Kowalski (Stewardship)

Michael Powell (Worship)



STEWARDSHIP

OUR FINANCIAL SACRIFICE TO ST. MARK PARISH

We thank you for your generosity.

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISMS

Parents are asked to contact the Parish Center Office to arrange for Baptism instruction and a date for the Baptism.

MARRIAGES

Couples wishing to celebrate the sacrament of matrimony at St. Mark Parish are asked to allow at least six months to complete arrangements.

RECONCILIATION

Private Confessions: Saturday 3:00 PM.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

LAST Sunday of every month after all Masses.

View this bulletin online at www.parishesonline.com

Photographs are taken at all public parish events for use on the St. Mark Parish website. For questions or concerns, please contact the Parish Center Office.

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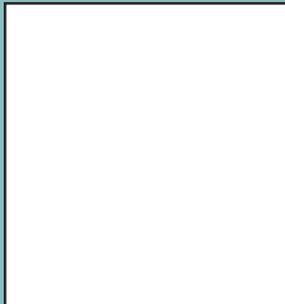
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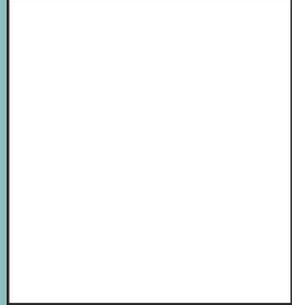
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