



*2nd Sunday*  
IN ORDINARY TIME

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Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them,  
“What are you looking for?” - Jn 1:38a

# ST. MARK PARISH



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Our faith is not just about ideas. It's really about having an encounter with God and, in particular, the Risen Christ! Once we give ourselves over to the notion of God's presence, we have to train ourselves to listen for God's voice and be attentive to God's call. Having companions on our faith journeys is so incredibly important as they can help us fine-tune our listening skills and discern God's voice from others we may be hearing. Faith is all about having these profound encounters not only with God but with our brothers and sisters, and creation itself. Anyone or anything that is alive with God's presence becomes an occasion for God to speak and call us to deeper graces and experiences. "Come, and you will see."

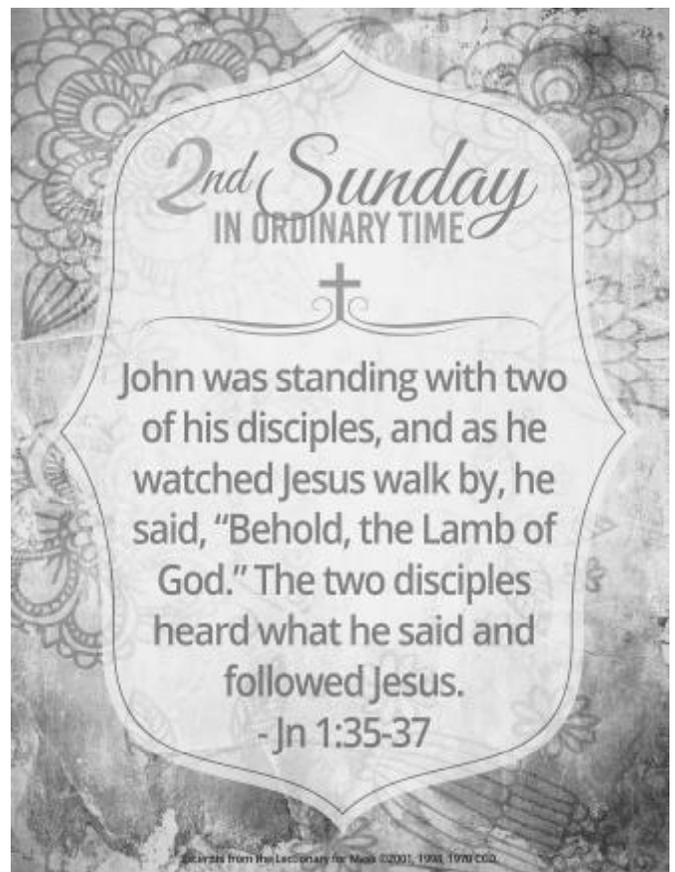
The example and teaching of Jesus, the lives of the saints, those living among us and those glorified in heaven, and the wonder and beauty of creation can all serve to help us listen more clearly and assist in positioning ourselves for this profound God meeting. It is an encounter that can quickly and easily lead to a friendship and intimate intertwining of our souls to their Maker, making a claim on us like no other. Then, the Word of God moves from being just a body of ideas to something we simply accept and do. The person of Jesus Christ swiftly moves from being just a good prophet in word and deed to the incarnate presence of God Himself, the Lamb of God. The voice leads us to the Person behind it.

The Gospel is hard to follow. We can intellectually debate whether what Jesus said is really what we are asked to do. The Gospel ideas do not always make sense in our practical, secular world. The person of God always does. We can debate the practicality and sense of ideas and doing so often keeps the more difficult ones at a safe distance away from us. Jesus said to love our enemy, but we really don't need to do that, our minds try to convince us. It just doesn't make sense. Yet, if we are truly in love with the God who is behind the voice of those words, they make perfect sense. Our deep and intimate love of this God would even find us laying down our lives for Him if necessary. Speak Lord, your servant is listening.

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## 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)



JANUARY 17, 2021

# NOTES

The Archdiocese of Detroit is offering a Scripture Challenge...

## Grow Year Scripture Challenge

*“Listening and responding to God’s word in the Sacred Scriptures must be at the heart of our efforts to unleash the Gospel. One who is in love desires to know more and more about the beloved. Since all Scripture speaks of Christ, immersing ourselves in the word is a way to deepen our initial encounter and grow in our relationship with him.” —UTG Marker 3.2*

We are inviting all joyful missionary disciples to read the four Gospels, the New Testament, or the whole bible in 2021! We’ve broken it down into 6 different challenges, depending on what you feel you can commit to in the New Year. Join a saintly guild and commit to making 2021 a year to grow closer to Jesus, the Word of God!

5k Challenge Holy Family Guild – Follow 52Sundays each week (for parents and families)

10k Challenge Blessed Stanley Rother Guild – Daily Reading of the Gospel

Half-Marathon Challenge St. Josephine Bakhita Guild – Reading the New Testament in a Year

Full Marathon Challenge Our Lady of Guadalupe Guild – Reading the Whole Bible in a Year

Triathlon Challenge Blessed Solanus Casey Guild – New Testament in a Year, Monthly Confession, and join a small group

Ironman Challenge St. John Paul II Guild – Reading the Whole Bible in a Year, Monthly Confession, join a small group, and Daily Rosary

Go to [www.unleashthegospel.org/scripture-challenge/](http://www.unleashthegospel.org/scripture-challenge/) to sign up. Once you sign-up and select your challenge you will receive an email with all the details.

## Prayer Resources

### Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you.

Amen.

### Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, we fly unto thee O Virgin of virgins, our Mother. To thee do we come. Before thee we stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not our petitions, but in your mercy hear and answer us.

Amen.

## LIVE THE LITURGY

We have often heard it said that God is always calling but we are not always listening. It is not only that we are not listening, but that we are not familiar enough with God to even recognize that it is God who is calling! We can easily mistake God's voice for someone or something else and miss some profound opportunities for connection. We have to train our minds, hearts, and souls to specifically listen for the voice of God. It is a voice that draws us to deeper places, leading us to moments of grace and more profound God awareness. To look at Jesus and be able to say, "Behold, the Lamb of God," means that I know something special about this person whom others know as simply a man. I will become more attentive and receptive when he says, "Come, and you will see." I may even be more willing to set aside what I am doing and actually go.

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**Christ Is Anything but Ordinary**

We're about to dive headlong into week two of Ordinary Time, and we need to admit, after the hustle and bustle of the holidays, things are indeed looking more ... ordinary, at least in our spiritual lives.

The transcendent highs of the Christmas season are flatlining a bit and the vivid imagery of the Nativity scene has faded. The solemn anticipation of the Advent season is by now a distant memory.

Are you bored yet?

Here's a secret: I think that Ordinary Time can actually be quite extraordinary, if we're really living out our baptismal call.

In today's Gospel, Jesus point-blank asks Andrew, who is following him after hearing John the Baptist's testimony: "What are you looking for?" He's asking us the same question.

What are you looking for? Why are you following me? Is it for the Christmas cookies and the Advent carols? Is it for the King's Cake on the Epiphany? Is it for the feeling we get on Christmas when we just know God has done a wondrous thing?

None of those things are bad, but they are not what Andrew was looking for, and they were not what Christ promised him when he said, "Come, and you will see." Andrew was looking for the Messiah — the One who makes even Ordinary Time extraordinary. The One who can sanctify the longest and dullest of to-do lists, on the longest and dullest of days. The One whose peace can reign in our homes on January 25, not just December 25.

Remember what you are looking for. Come, and you will see.

— *Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS*

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THE WORD

Readings for the week of January 17, 2021

- Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10/  
1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42
- Monday: Heb 5:1-10/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4/Mk 2:18-22
- Tuesday: Heb 6:10-20/Ps 111:1-2, 4-5, 9 and 10c/Mk 2:23-28
- Wednesday: Heb 7:1-3, 15-17/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4/Mk 3:1-6
- Thursday: Heb 7:25—8:6/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17/Mk 3:7-12
- Friday: Heb 8:6-13/Ps 85:8 and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Mk 3:13-19
- Saturday: Heb 9:2-3, 11-14/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9/Mk 3:20-21
- Next Sunday: Jon 3:1-5, 10/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/1 Cor 7:29-31/Mk 1:14-20



**Saturday, January 16**

- 4:00 pm Frances Szpont
- Jerome Tobin
- Tony & Jenny Benicek
- Sharon Wagner

**Sunday, January 17**

- 8:30 am Karen Baugher
- Jackie Loch

- 11:00 am Ray Kusza
- Christine Mixen

**Wednesday, January 20**

- 9:30 am Majorie Williams

**Saturday, January 23**

- 4:00 pm Frances Szpont
- Rebecca Sherman
- Eledge Family
- Karol Lipinski
- Angeline Lipinski
- Richard Lipinski
- Irene Lipinski
- Donald Krysinski

**Sunday, January 24**

- 8:30 am Toriano Dewberry
- Gregory Allen
- Jackie Loch
- 11:00 am Ray Kusza
- Patrick Elliott

ST. MARK OUTREACH



Thank you for your generosity and prayers which keeps the St. Mark Food Pantry providing food to our community! Stay Safe!

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

**First Reading:**

Eli was the priest of the temple in Shiloh. He raised Samuel and helped Samuel to hear God’s voice in his life. Who have you taught to hear God’s voice?

**Second Reading:**

Paul taught the Corinthians that believers should “glorify God in your body” by avoiding immorality. What do you think is needed to live a good, moral life?

**Gospel:**

In John’s account of the call of the first disciples, Jesus poses the question, “What are you looking for?” In your own spiritual journey, how do you know you have found Jesus?

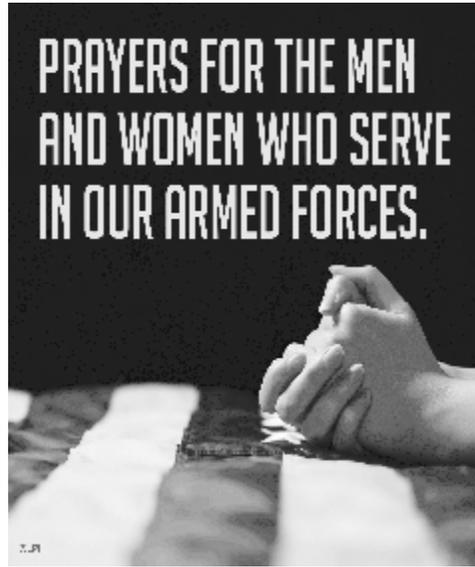
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PRAYER INTENTIONS



Jason Idalski  
Larry Pokorski

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.



WE PRAY FOR ALL OF OUR MILITARY, & PARTICULARLY:

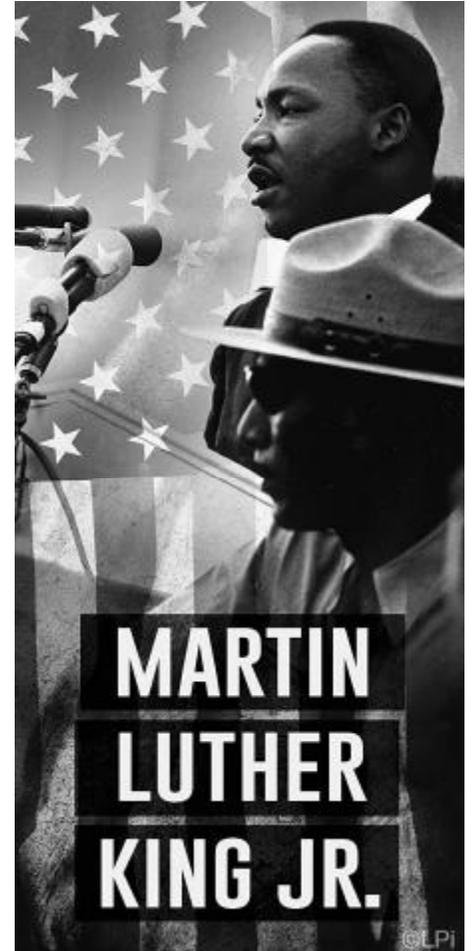
- Sr. CPO Michael Brightman
- Lt. Commander Adam Craig
- LCPL Sarah J Page
- Sgt. Steven Parisi
- Major Michael F. Weigle

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

**Priestly Vocations:  
Discernment Group**

The Office of Priestly Vocations is starting a discernment group for men (18-55) considering the priesthood on Thursday, January 21, 2021 – 7:00-8:30pm. It will be led by Fr. Craig Giera, director of priestly vocations, and will include prayer, a presentation on discernment, free discernment resources, and light refreshments and fellowship with other-like-minded men. Please contact the vocation office for more info:

<https://detroitpriestlyvocations.com/discernment-groups/>.



POPE TWEETS

“We possess a great wealth that depends on what we are: the life we have received, the good within us, the indelible beauty God has given us by making us in his image. All these things make each of us precious in his eyes, each one of us is priceless and unique in history.”

- Pope Francis  
@Pontifex Twitter (January 12, 2021)

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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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**PASTORAL COUNCIL**

Chris Bailey

Cynthia Filipovich

Diane Hamilton

Tom Harm

Phyllis Wisniewski (Christian Formation)

Karen Kowalski (Stewardship)

Michael Powell (Worship)



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](http://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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