



5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

When it was evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by demons. The whole town was gathered at the door. He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons, not permitting them to speak because they knew him. - Mk 1:32-34

ST. MARK PARISH



Dear Parishioners and Friends,

This Liturgical Year we continue to encounter Jesus and learn His fundamental teaching, as we proclaim with the universal Church - the Gospel according to St. Mark. Though its language and literary style are rather basic and at times a bit “unpolished,” this Gospel is one of the oldest texts of the New Testament, and primary source of the life of Jesus for other evangelists. Written in vivid and lively narrative, the Gospel of Mark invites us to know our Lord and Savior, and become His faithful and Spirit-filled disciples.

We are called to recognize Jesus – as being fully divine and fully human. St. Mark writes in the Prologue: “The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.” Throughout the narrative, the disciples and crowds are “baffled” by Jesus’ supernatural power of healing, authentic teaching authority, profound self-awareness, and clear knowledge of His messianic identity. The religious and political powers perceive Him as a real threat - exposing their hypocrisy and well-established systems of control, and so they conspire to destroy Him. Only God the Father, and, surprisingly, the demonic powers recognize His true nature and mission. The man possessed by the Legion of demons shouted: “Why meddle with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God.” Toward the end of the Gospel, upon seeing the manner of Jesus’ death, the Roman centurion declared: “In truth this man was the Son of God.”

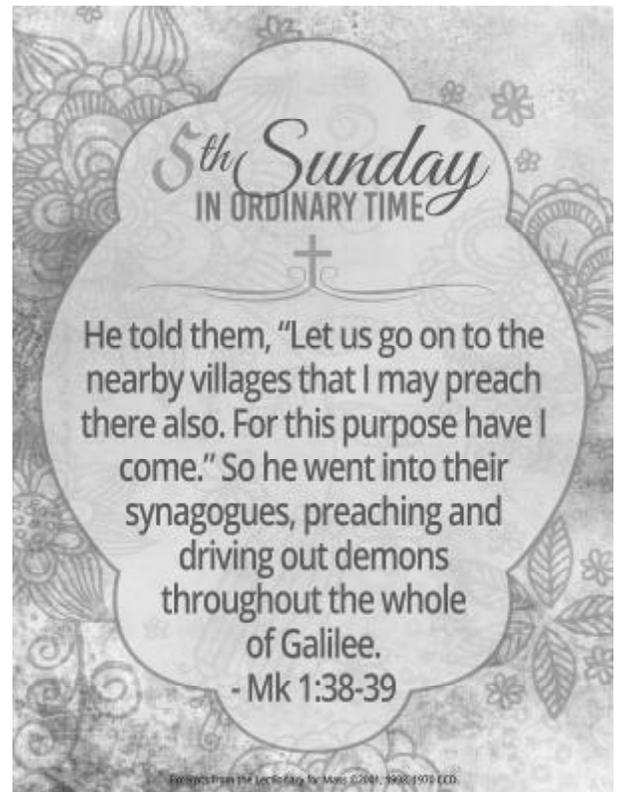
The humanity of Jesus is depicted with touching and genuine naturalness. He reacts to people’s needs and pain, and various events, with authentic human emotions of compassion, sadness, apprehension, surprise, joy, admiration, fear, distress and indignation. For example, seeing the malice of the religious authorities, “Jesus looked angrily at them, and grieved to find them so obstinate.” Our Lord rejoiced to see and bless the children, and He said: “It is to just such as these that the Kingdom of God belongs.” Aware of His “human limitations,” Jesus acknowledges that there are things He does not know. “As to the exact day or hour, no one knows it, neither the angels in heaven nor even the Son, but only the Father.” Let us ask the Holy Spirit and St. Mark the Evangelist for inspiration, as we prayerfully read the Good News and proclaim it to all creation!

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)



FEBRUARY 7, 2021

NOTES

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

2020 donation statements are ready to be picked up or mailed from the parish office. If you wish to pick up your statement, please call the parish office during regular business hours – Monday thru Wednesday 9 until 2pm, and Thursday 9 until 1pm. Please call the office when you are outside the canopy entrance and we will bring it out to you. If you wish to have your statement mailed, please contact us at 586-759-3020 or email at parishcenter@stmarkparishwarren.org.

Please be aware: SCAM ALERT

There continues to be scams going around the Archdiocese where people pose to be church employees and even pastors asking for gift cards and money for a variety of reasons. Please know you will never be contacted via e-mail or text by ANYONE, including Fr. Stanley, requesting money or gift cards. This goes for any other group or activity you may participate in as well. No one will be asking for money or gift cards via email or text.

February 7, 2021 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

If I only knew then what I know now, how different life would be. This sentiment, expressed in myriad ways, is found on every human being's lips at one point or another. Life may have brought us to a vulnerable place where we see some of the poor choices we made and the effects they are having. Perhaps we fell into some destructive and dysfunctional relationships or behaviors and are finding how they held us captive. Our zeal and passion for life may have drifted away and we are waking up to the reasons apathy has taken hold. Life can be hard. In fact, some would describe their lives as a drudgery. They walk through each day with an anxious unsettledness, wondering when their restlessness will cease. There is a temptation to believe that what I see is all I will get. Mortality and hopelessness await the dawn. If I could only have known what would come in the future, I could have made better choices and avoided all of this misery!

Really? While we can certainly give into weakness, sin, impulsiveness, and idiosyncrasies that cause us to stumble over ourselves, life is really a journey. If we don't make the mistake of wallowing in the mire of self-pity and realize the new life God is calling us to, then there are thrills, adventures, surprises, and soul-searching graces we can surely miss. We are not tethered to our past nor are we bound to the ills life can bring upon us. We are never hopeless or helpless. The problem is that our myopic vision only allows us to see the misery and misfortune that is before us, not the potential that can come from choosing healthier and more life-giving options. Jesus came that we might have fullness of life. We need to learn how to reach for Jesus' hand and let him help us to our feet.

We need to allow God into our pain and heal our past. We have to wrestle with our histories, agonize and search and cry out for the Divine healing we need to restore our faith, hope, and love. Job could not see how his story would end or trust the guidance of the God who called him. We live in that same blindness and suffer from the same lack of confidence. Once we allow ourselves to be touched by God's healing power, we begin to see that all of the pieces of our lives are necessary parts of a greater whole. Along the way of our lives, God uses our omissions and failures to create new things and possibilities. When doors close, others open and we can be amazed by the joyful and unexpected surprises we receive. Once we know the power of God's creative, healing, life-giving, forgiving, and dynamic presence, it is no wonder we want to put ourselves at the service of others and show them what life can be.

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LIVE THE LITURGY

Have you ever wondered what life would be like if you could see the future and know how things turn out? While it's intriguing to ponder what life would be like if we possessed this knowledge, actually knowing could easily rob us of the thrill, adventure, and soul-searching graces of our journey. Like Job, life does not always leave us on a happy note. Life experience can bring us face-to-face with our mortality and leave us with a profound sense of helplessness. We do not see the wholeness and fulfillment that will one day come and cannot grasp the certainty that a resolution to our plight will come our way. We need to learn how to reach for Jesus' hand and let him help us to our feet. Living a life of faith means realizing that we are not here to figure out life on our own. In order to drink deeply of what life presents us, we have to wrestle in the depths of our souls, agonize and search, possibly reach the lowest point of desperation, and cry out for the Divine healing we need to restore our faith, hope, and love. It is no wonder that those who are touched by God's healing power want to then serve others and show them the deeper waters that can be explored. Knowing too much can rob us of joyful surprises.

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EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP**The Audacity of Holiness**

Do you know a holy person? I'm not talking about piety — that's important, too, in its own way. But right now, I'm speaking of holiness.

St. Therese of Lisieux called holiness "a disposition of the heart that makes us humble and little in the arms of God, aware of our weakness, and confident — in the most audacious way — in His Fatherly goodness."

The holy person sees a storm on the horizon of life, and rather than give themselves over to fear and despair (natural and understandable reactions), regards the gathering winds as an opportunity to rely more fully on God. The holy person takes a bad situation and sanctifies it with charity and understanding that defies our fallen human nature.

Peter's mother-in-law was still in the throes of a fever when Jesus grasped her hand. It wasn't until she took his hand and allowed him to help her up that "the fever left her and she waited on them." Before the fever could leave her, she had to commit to holiness — to put her trust in him in a most audacious way. She had to find it within herself to lift her weakened hand to grasp his — and as soon as she did, she was rewarded. Her bodily health restored, she gave thanks, and attended to his needs.

God's hand is always outstretched to us. Will we take it, even if the fever of sin and pride and worldly concerns rages in our souls? Will we muster the strength? Will we be audacious enough to have confidence in His Fatherly goodness?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, *MTS*

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THE WORD

Readings for the week of February 7, 2021

Sunday: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39

Monday: Gn 1:1-19/Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10 and 12, 24 and 35c /Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday: Gn 1:20—2:4a/Ps 8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday: Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17/Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30/Mk 7:14-23

Thursday: Gn 2:18-25/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5/Mk 7:24-30

Friday: Gn 3:1-8/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7/Mk 7:31-37

Saturday: Gn 3:9-24/Ps 90:2, 3-4abc, 5-6, 12-13/Mk 8:1-10

Next Sunday: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11/1 Cor 10:31—11:1/Mk 1:40-45



Saturday, February 6

4:00 pm Frances Szpont
Toriano Dewberry
Billy Joy Baker
Wanda Stachelski

Wednesday, February 10

9:30 am St. Mark Parishioners

Saturday, February 13

4:00 pm Frances Szpont
Herbert Dempz
Isabelle McLaughlin
Richard Shaddon
Fr. Fabian Slominski
Wayne Travis

Sunday, February 7

8:30 am Robert Grigg
Jackie Loch
Robert Weaver
Eugene Kreska

11:00 am Ray Kusza
Christine Mixen
Caitlin Hunt
Bernard Markaity
Raymond Elliott
Sally Whitstock

Sunday, February 14

8:30 am Mary Ann Stevens
Jackie Loch
Sandra Doroton

11:00 am Ray Kusza
Jim Wawrzyniak
Patrick Elliott
Millie Posavetz

ST. MARK OUTREACH



THANK YOU FOR YOUR
GENEROSITY.

STAY SAFE!

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

First Reading:

We hear how Job struggled to find meaning and hope in his life. How does your faith help you get through difficult times in your life?

Second Reading:

Paul speaks of his singular desire to preach the “gospel” (the Good News of Jesus Christ). When do you share the gospel message with others?

Gospel:

We learn that from the beginning of his public ministry Jesus was very purpose-driven: healing the sick and preaching the good news. How intentional is the practice of faith in your daily life?

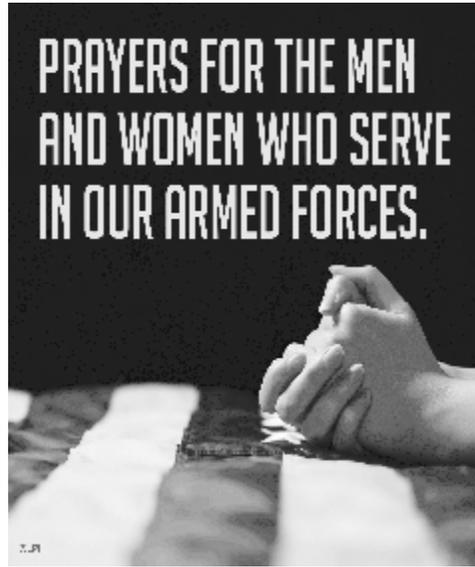
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PRAYER INTENTIONS



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.

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.

POPE TWEETS

“Let us contemplate God’s patience and implore the trusting patience of Simeon (Lk 2:25). In this way, may our eyes, too, see the light of salvation and bring that light to the whole world.”

- Pope Francis
@Pontifex Twitter (February 3, 2021)



4401 BART AVE. | WARREN, MICHIGAN 48091

Parish Phone: 586-759-3020

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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

PASTORAL TEAM

Father Stanley Obloj, Pastor

fathrobloj@stmarkparishwarren.org

Deacon Brian Carroll, Deacon

deaconbrian1941@gmail.com

Deacon George Posavetz, (Deacon Emeritus)

Gwen Aikens, Outreach Coordinator

GAikens@stmarkparishwarren.org

Amanda Brewer, Religious Formation / Bulletin Editor

abrewer@stmarkparishwarren.org

Ron Jenkins, Social Media

Steve Martin, Maintenance Supervisor

parishcenter@stmarkparishwarren.org

Mary Jo Ruebelman,

Office Manager / Worship Coordinator

parishcenter@stmarkparishwarren.org

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

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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