

21st

SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Simon Peter answered him, "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life."

- Jn 6:68

ST. MARK PARISH



Dear Parishioners and Friends,

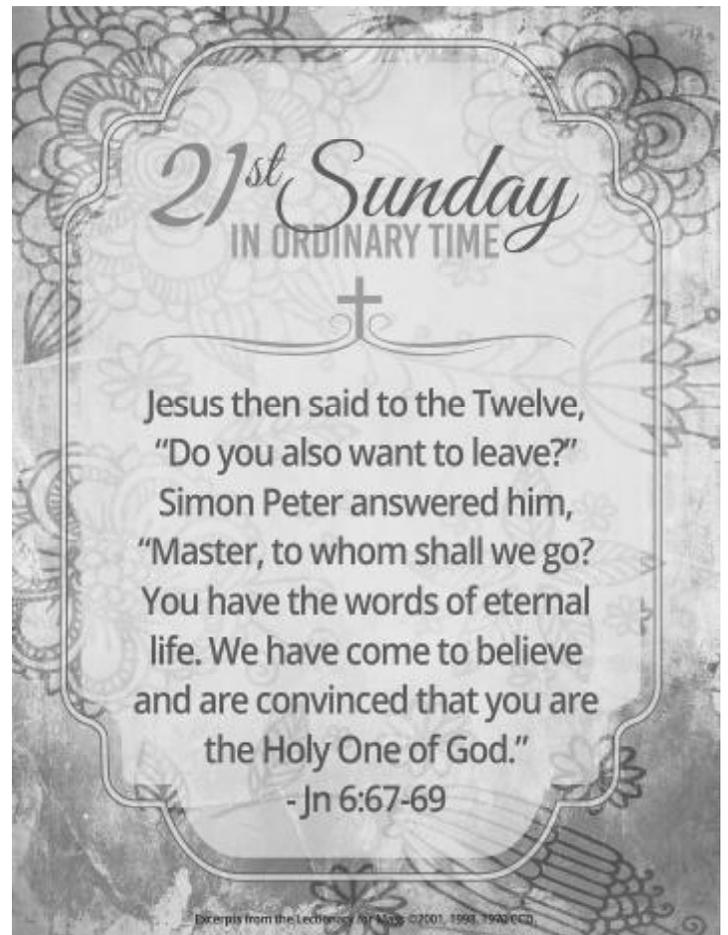
The 2021 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) is in progress. I thank you for your sacrificial contribution to this annual Archdiocesan campaign. Any amount is greatly appreciated and it brings us closer to our goal of \$31,546. As of August 17, we have reached about 52% of our assessed target. This is a huge financial challenge for our parish, as we consider the current economic situation, and the fact that the majority of our parishioners are living on a fixed income. We hope that each household will be willing and able to assist our parish family with this worthy and important appeal – as we support a multitude of services and ministries.

Our registered parishioners should have received “CSA packets” directly from the accounting company which is handling and processing the CSA campaign for the Archdiocese. If you have not received any materials, please call our parish office for information. This year’s theme, **Fuel the Mission**, is inspired by the words of St. Paul: “Whatever you do, do from the heart” (Colossians 3:23). In the spirit of individual and communal mission to announce the Good News of Jesus Christ, I ask you for your generous contribution.

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)



AUGUST 22, 2021

GOSPEL MEDITATION

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Far be it from us to forsake the Lord for the service of other gods.” We struggle with our gods. They appear in the forms of things like money, power, prestige, popularity, privilege, and self-fulfillment. We like these “gods” because they make us feel good and ask very little of us in return. When we worship them, we worship ourselves. How can you go wrong with that? We buy into the illusion that if something can give us a comfortable life, free of want and need, then it is worth setting other things aside to pursue it. In essence, we sell our souls. Our struggle with “who is God” and to whom do we belong is a real one and one that can easily find us empty and experiencing disillusionment.

The devil tempted Jesus in the desert and promised him more. We are promised “more.” But in pursuing the more and the satisfying we lose track of the cost, and the cost is great. We sacrifice our very life in pursuit of something disguised as life. We sacrifice truth for something that only “feels” true. While the true and real God certainly promises us many things, many things are also required. It is not about the warm and secure feelings and self-absorption the world wants to provide, but of giving back. There can be no lukewarm stance with regard to faith. If we are in, then faith in Jesus Christ asks us to do some difficult things: work in service of God’s kingdom (not our own), love our enemies, offer no resistance to injury, that we must die to ourselves in order to find ourselves, and trust that Jesus truly gives us his flesh and blood to eat and drink. These are hard things to accept and even harder to put into practice. It is no wonder that many, who may be attracted to Jesus at first, walk away in pursuit of the more self-satisfying gods.

But truth is truth. If we cannot accept it from the lips of Jesus Christ, then where else will we find it? To whom can we go? There is only one source of truth and life, Jesus Christ. Jesus has the words of eternal life and if we do not go to him, then where else will we find this gift? But we must be faithful and buy into the whole package deal that requires sacrifice and fidelity. When we do, we find ourselves, through the Body and Blood of Christ, connected to the Source of all life and then intimately bound with our brothers and sisters. We all have to decide whether we want to stay or go and if we can accept what Jesus has to say. It’s a choice we all have to make.

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LIVE THE LITURGY

Many people give their allegiance to something until it asks them to do something challenging or radical. Then, they find themselves rethinking whether they want to be associated with it. The same holds for God. Either we serve God, or we don’t. There can be no lukewarm stance with regard to faith. If we are in, then faith in Jesus Christ asks us to do some difficult things: work in service of God’s kingdom, love our enemies, offer no resistance to injury, and trust that the Eucharist is in fact Jesus’ very Body and Blood. For some, buying into these things may prove too difficult and a return to a life without them is preferred. But truth is truth and it can only be found in God. If we find it hard to accept it from the mouth of Christ, where else can we go to find it? The task before us is to commit to the truth even when it may be easier to pursue something else. Truth is always worth obtaining even when it is difficult. Jesus offers us the truth of life, a life that is found in his own flesh and blood and a life of discipleship.

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PARISH NEWS

Dear Parish Family,

The Archdiocese of Detroit has issued the latest guidelines for parishes and schools.

Liturgical Protocols

The Archdiocese of Detroit encourages Mass-goers, regardless of Vaccination status, to wear face-coverings and to practice social Distancing to reduce exposure to COVID-19.

- Each pastor should evaluate their location in the AOD, and implement the following protocols:
- Establish the area where social distancing is observed
- Strongly encourage masking and social distancing
- Hang signage indicating masking and social distancing are encouraged
- Evaluate space for the musicians, and strongly recommend those who are unvaccinated do not participate in the choir at this time
- Retain sanitization/ face covering surrounding the distribution of Holy Communion

The faithful are reminded that particular dispensations from the obligation to participate in Holy Mass remain in effect for people who are ill or find themselves in other circumstances. More information is available at Aod.org/emergency response.

These guidelines are in concert with information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

As you know we take these recommendations very seriously. We have lost parishioners to this disease and currently have several of our parish family hospitalized. Please remember that although you may have been vaccinated, you – like others that have not been vaccinated can not only spread this virus, but become infected.

WE ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO PLEASE TAKE EVERY PRECAUTION!

Let's continue to pray for one another for healing, strength, and wellbeing.

In Christ's abundant Life,

Fr. Stanley

Are you called to the priesthood?

The Archdiocese of Detroit Office of Priestly Vocations offers resources for any young men discerning the priesthood. Our new website has information on applying to seminary, frequently asked questions, and how to get in touch with the vocation director.

Learn more at www.detroitpriestlyvocations.com



THE WORD

Readings for the week of August 22, 2021

- Sunday: Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b/Ps 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21, 22-23/
Eph 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32/Jn 6:60-69
- Monday: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Mt 23:13-22
- Tuesday: Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/Jn 1:45-51
- Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13/Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab/Mt 23:27-32
- Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13/Ps 90:3-5a, 12-13, 14 and 17/Mt 24:42-51
- Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12/Mt 25:1-13
- Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Mt 25:14-30
- Next Sunday: Dt 4:1-2, 6-8/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5/Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27/
Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23



Saturday, August 21

- 4:00 pm Frances Szpont
- Jorge Café
- Souls in Purgatory
- Chris Mixen
- Danuta Pustelnik
- Jason Pustelnik

Sunday, August 22

- 8:30 am Anna Gavin
- 11:00 am Linda Galindo
- Vike Palvshaj
- Earl & Marilyn Parrish
- Dale Parrish

Wednesday, August 25

- 9:30 am The People of St. Mark

Saturday, August 28

- 4:00 pm Edward Pelc
- Agnes & Raymond Grimski
- Bob Stelman
- Ray Elliott

Sunday, August 29

- 8:30 am Irene Janiszewski
- Wanda & Hubert Saunders
- 11:00 am Linda Galindo
- Earl & Marilyn Parrish
- Dale Parrish

ST. MARK OUTREACH



Thank you so much for food and monetary donations.

The Pantry needs:

- Tuna
- Soup

THANK YOU!



QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

First Reading:

Joshua, who helped settle the Israelites into the Promised Land, knew the struggle ahead lay in Israel's fidelity to God. How does anyone best show fidelity to God?

Second Reading:

Toward the end of his letter, Paul takes up the topic of husbands and wives. He speaks of the importance of mutual subordination and love. What do you see as secret to a successful marriage?

Gospel:

Jesus' bread of life discourse ends with the report that "many of Jesus' disciples" no longer followed Jesus. How should we respond to family or friends who choose to walk away from Jesus?

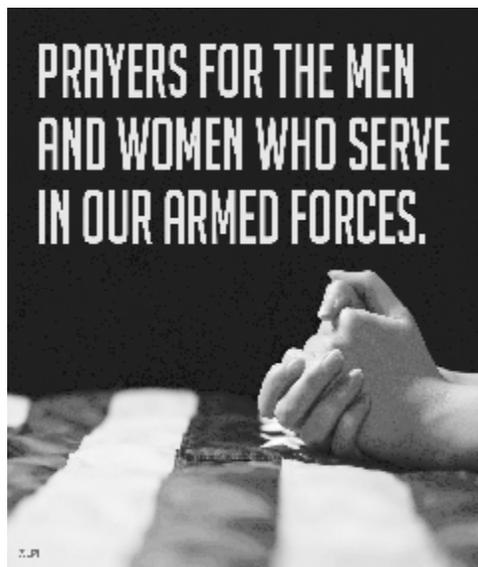
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PRAYER INTENTIONS



Julia Dehring
Eleanor Dehring
Richard Harrison
Mary Hernandez
Theresa Lawrence
Tim Reiter

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

"It is good for us to ask ourselves if we still live in the period in which we need the Law (cfr Gal 3:23-25), or if instead we are fully aware of having received the grace of becoming children of God so as to live in love. #GeneralAudience."

- Pope Francis
@Pontifex Twitter (August 18, 2021)



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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

PASTORAL TEAM

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Deacon George Posavetz, (Deacon Emeritus)

Gwen Aikens, Outreach Coordinator

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Amanda Brewer, Religious Formation / Bulletin Editor

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Steve Martin, Maintenance Supervisor

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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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