The background is a vibrant, abstract composition of overlapping geometric shapes in shades of teal, orange, yellow, and red. In the center, a dark silhouette of a person is shown carrying a large wooden cross on their back, walking away from the viewer. The scene is set against a warm, orange-hued sky, possibly at sunrise or sunset, with some reeds visible in the foreground.

24th

SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." - Mk 8:34b

ST. MARK PARISH



24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

We need to get our bearings straight and properly lay life's cornerstone. Otherwise, the rest of our journey will be skewed, and our judgment clouded. We can recall Jesus' famous rebuke of Peter, "You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." Even he, as one of Jesus' closest friends struggles with understanding things and grasping the big picture. Pierre Teilhard de Chardin (1881-1955) a renowned and learned French Jesuit priest often has these words attributed to him: "We are not human beings having a spiritual experience. We are spiritual beings having a human experience." Whether they were actually from his lips, they certainly mimic his thought. These wise words orient us and capture the essence of who we really are.

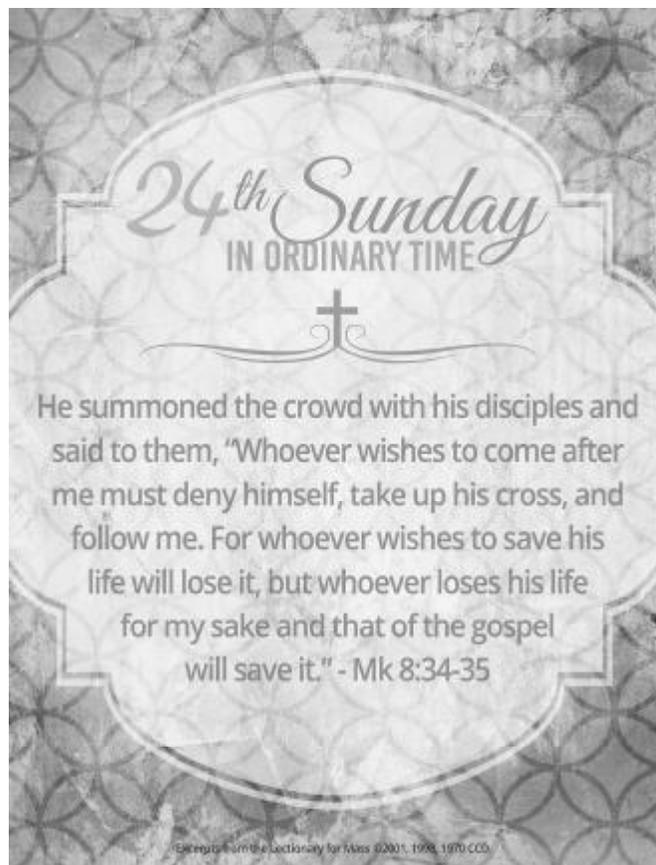
Many people consider spirituality an option. It is no wonder that they come to this conclusion when they predominantly define themselves using human terms and concepts. Immersed in this world view, they struggle finding any semblance of God because God does not work according to human expectations! This is especially true when suffering and death enter life's picture. If we are only human beings having a spiritual experience, then we wrongly expect our spirituality to serve us as we desire. The human expectation is that my spiritual life is something that is useful in avoiding pain, hardship, and death, not something that gives the courage to live through it!

So, when we protest and get upset with God because our journey is becoming difficult, painful, treacherous, disappointing, and even pointing us toward death, Jesus rebukes us as he did Peter and gently reminds us how to see. It is God who inspires and opens hearts to see truth and beauty. In God, the true meaning of things is understood, and we receive a depth of insight and understanding that is not found following purely human paths. It is not our task to understand God, as God is beyond human understanding. Ours is the joyful privilege of simply resting in God's presence simply because God is God and we are who we are. As spiritual beings having an exciting and adventurous human experience, it is in our DNA to do so. Through prayer we can let go and let be. This is how we lose our lives but then save them.

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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)



SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Can You Walk the Walk?

I've met and talked with enough people to feel confident that if you polled 100 fallen-away Catholics about why they didn't want anything to do with the Church, the term "accountability" would pop up in almost all of their answers.

And to be fair, a lack of accountability isn't just a Catholic problem. Talking the talk but not walking the walk has been a shortcoming handed down throughout the ages, across all creeds and nationalities.

Loving our neighbor, welcoming the stranger, clothing the naked, feeding the poor — it all sounds fantastic, especially when we're the ones saying it. But the doing — well, that's a different story, isn't it? We would do well to remember that Christ calls one of his best friends "Satan" when Peter tries to convince Jesus to stray from his destiny.

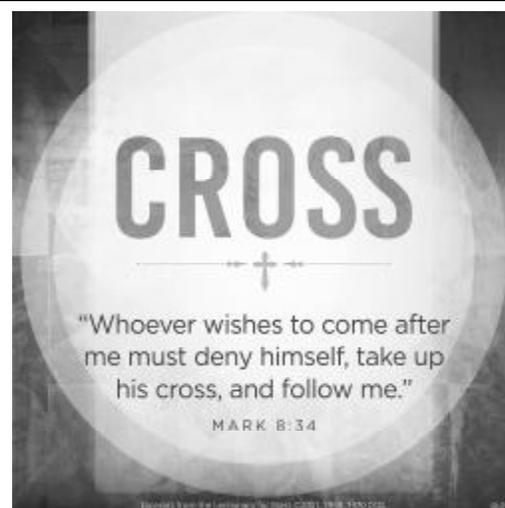
Have you ever been called Satan by one of your good buddies? I'll bet it's not a great feeling. But think about what Peter was doing. He had just said, "You are the Christ." And now, mere moments later, he's saying: "Don't say these things. Don't say you're going to suffer. Don't say you'll be killed."

He was telling Christ to squander what the Lord had given him. He was telling him that having faith was fine, but being faithful? It's just a little too hard. God has a destiny for you, too, and He's asking you to be open to it. Maybe it's not in your comfort zone. Maybe you don't think you can do it.

Lord, give us faith — but help us, also, to do the work.

— *Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS*

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LIVE THE LITURGY

Rest in the presence of God simply because God is God and you are you. This is all that is necessary. Out of this relationship will come inspiration, understanding, courage, constancy, truth, and virtues of all kind. We will find ourselves knowing the true meaning of things and developing a depth of insight that is not found following purely human venues. It is God who inspires and opens human hearts to see truth and beauty. In God, we understand all of our relationships with a richer appreciation and come to know who Jesus, who speaks of God's kingdom, really is. The trust that is fostered from resting with the Divine One allows us to see that God's ways are not our ways. There is something bigger going on in this picture of life. It is something mystical and magical that seeks to surprise us at every turn. It is not for us to cling to this world and its limitations. Our adventure is to dream bigger and brighter, realizing that it is even in suffering that the radiant light of the dawn will come. God's ways allow for our paths to be rocky, challenging, difficult, and even crippling at times. Purely human eyes cannot understand the 'why' of such experiences. The eyes and mind of God, however, reveal and detail a journey that ends in glorious resurrection joy. When we lose our axis and become too human in our thinking, Jesus rebukes us and gently reminds us how to see.

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PARISH NEWS

Dear Parish Family,

Walt Disney said "All our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them."

Did you ever dream of going to Paris, writing a novel, being an Olympian, being a baseball player for the Tigers, paint a landscape or whatever, and then life got in the way and your dream never came to fruition? It is not too late! We may have to modify our wishes, but the opportunity is out there. With COVID, we have the time to save our pennies for that dream trip. We may never be on the Broadway stage, but community theater is a great place to fulfill our acting aspirations. "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you, and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" (Jeremiah 29:11).

Whenever dreams are mentioned, we think of Martin Luther King and his "I have a dream!" speech. Mother Theresa had the vision to "serve the poorest of the poor," which became a vision for the whole world.

At times, we daydream and may conceive of an idea, invent, or create something that impacts our own lives or the lives of many. Wonder where the dream/ concept of inventors comes from? This could be you! In (Proverbs 16:3), "commit to the Lord whatever you do, and He will establish your plans." Our all-knowing God has plans and dreams for all of us to fulfill. May the Holy Spirit inspire us: as we challenge ourselves as we pursue them.

Wishing all of you a very blessed day!

Mary Jo

St. Mark Christian Formation

Christian Formation for 2022-21 will begin on Sunday, September 26th. Our Theme is the Beatitudes. We will spend time each month looking at each of the Beatitudes and see how we can live them out in our daily lives.

All families should have received this year's registration packet. If you did not receive the packet or have any question please contact Amanda,

abrewer@stmarkparishwarren.org.

We are looking forward to a faith-filled year!



THE WORD

Readings for the week of September 12, 2021

- Sunday: Is 50:5-9a/Ps 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Jas 2:14-18/Mk 8:27-35
- Monday: 1 Tm 2:1-8/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17/Lk 7:1-10
- Tuesday: Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17
- Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16/Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Jn 19:25-27
- Thursday: 1 Tm 4:12-16/Ps 111:7-8, 9, 10 /Lk 7:36-50
- Friday: 1 Tm 6:2c-12/Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20/Lk 8:1-3
- Saturday: 1 Tm 6:13-16/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Lk 8:4-15
- Next Sunday: Wis 2:12, 17-20/Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8/Jas 3:16—4:3/Mk 9:30-37



Saturday, September 11

- 4:00 pm Herbert Dempz
- Isabelle McLaughlin
- Nancy Rezich
- Whitney Gossett
- Steve Patrishkoff
- Allen Miettinen
- Henry Gambrell
- Robert Twardecki

Sunday, September 12

- 8:30 am Leon & Dolores Kozemchak
- Victor Palushaj
- Jackie Loch
- 11:00 am Linda Galindo
- Danuta Pustelnik
- Jason Pustelnik
- Earl & Marilyn Parrish

Wednesday, September 15

- 9:30 am Betty Corbeill

Saturday, September 18

- 4:00 pm Dennis Stevenson
- Karol Lipinski
- Angeline Lipinski
- Richard Lipinski
- Irene Lipinski
- Donald Krysinski
- Elaine Walendzik

Sunday, September 19

- 8:30 am Anna Gavin
- Paul & Veronica Pataky
- 11:00 am Irene Janiszewski
- Earl & Marilyn Parrish

ST. MARK OUTREACH



The Pantry Needs:

- Cereal
- Soup

Thank you so much for food and monetary donations.



QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

First Reading:

Despite his suffering, the prophet Isaiah insisted “the Lord God is my help.” In what way do you need the Lord’s help today?

Second Reading:

James sees faith alone as insufficient for Christians. He even asserts: “I will demonstrate my faith to you from my works.” Could you do the same?

Gospel:

We hear today Jesus’ definition of discipleship: “Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.” How well do you measure up to this definition of discipleship?

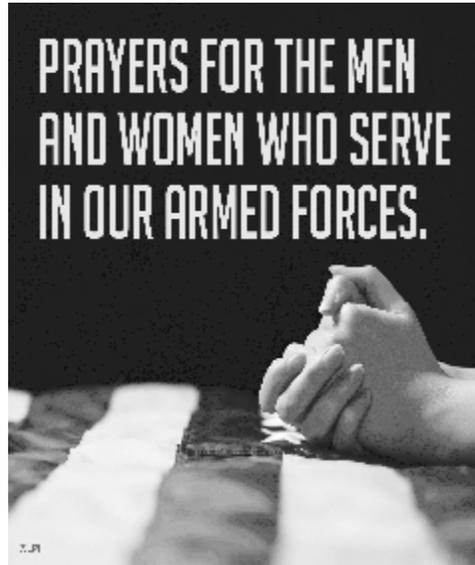
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PRAYER INTENTIONS



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

"God is gloriously and mysteriously present in creation since he is the Lord who reigns over it. To discover this, we need to be silent, listen, contemplate. #SeasonOfCreation"

- Pope Francis

@Pontifex Twitter (September 6, 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

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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

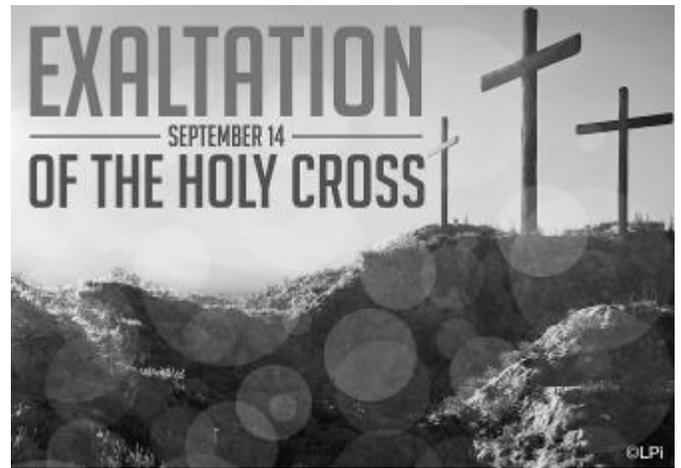
Diane Hamilton

Tom Harm

Phyllis Wisniewski (Christian Formation)

Karen Kowalski (Stewardship)

Michael Powell (Worship)



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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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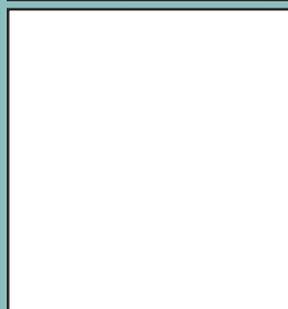
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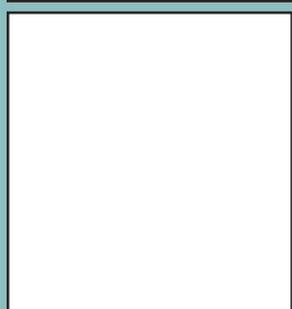


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