

The Lord will bless his people with peace.

January 12, 2020 ~ The Baptism of the Lord



MASS INTENTIONS
OF THE WEEK

Saturday, January 11

5:30 pm For Parishioners of St. Marks

Sunday, January 12

9:00 am For Antonette Britton *by Madaras Family*
11:00 am For Raymond VanHoorebeke
by Carolyn & Steve Kramartisch
For Luis Eltora *by Skoczylas Family*

Monday, January 13

8:45 am For

Tuesday, January 14

8:45 am For Marianna Pierzak *by Fr. Marcin*

Wednesday, January 15

8:45 am For Antoni Bala *by Fr. Marcin*

Thursday, January 16

8:45 am For

Saturday, January 18

5:30 pm For Spencer Vespolo *by Westrick Family*

Sunday, January 19

9:00 am For John Stewart
11:00 am For Jrena Wasowska *by granddaughters*

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

January 18,19, 2019

Saturday, 5:30 pm

Lector	Euch. Ministers	Gift Bearers	Altar Servers
Help Needed	Help Needed	Help Needed	Help Needed

Sunday, 9:00 am

Lector	Euch. Ministers	Gift Bearers	Altar Servers
Help Needed	Help Needed	Help Needed	Help Needed

Sunday, 11:00 am

Lector	Euch. Ministers	Gift Bearers	Altar Servers
Help Needed	Help Needed	Help Needed	Help Needed

NEW SCHEDULES NOT AVAILABLE

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Monday, January 13

8:45 am Mass
4:30 pmCEC Grades K-5
7:30 pm.....Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday, January 14

8:45 am.....Mass
6:15 pmFamily Faith
8:00 pmK of C meeting

Wednesday, January 15

8:45 am..... Mass

Thursday, January 16

8:45 am ----- Mass

Friday, January 17

Parish Office Closed

Saturday, January 18

8:00 am.....Men's Bible Study
5:30 pmMass

Sunday, January 19

9:00 & 11:00 amMass
Senior Youth Ministry



WEEKLY COLLECTION

Current Year	Last Year 2018
December 29, 2019: \$1,280.50	December 30, 2018: not available
Christmas 2019: \$11,143	Christmas 2018: \$8,095
January 5, 2020: \$3,162	January 6, 2019: \$1,992
Parish Debt Reduction: \$1,032	Parish Debt Reduction: \$559
Supermarket Gift Cards December 29, 2019 Sales.....\$1,650 Profit.....\$82.50 2019 YTD Profit.....\$6,295.75 2018 YTD Profit.....\$6,562.50 # of Families.....7 January 5, 2020 Sales.....\$3,400 Profit..... \$170 YTD Profit..... \$170 # of Families.....13	St. Mark's Faith Direct Church Code is NJ484



For the month of January

Sanctuary Lamp: In loving memory of Vito and Marie Benardone and Aeneas and Genevieve Corry *by Corry/Benardone family*

Mass Candles: In loving memory of Dorothy Totin Donohue and Marion Chambers *by Stokes family*

Altar Breads & Wine:

MY DEAR PARISHIONERS,



Merry Christmas. We are still in Christmas Season but today is the last day of this full of grace time. We conclude Christmas Season with the feast of THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD but peace, love and blessing of our Lord Jesus stay with us because Jesus is with us always in the special way in the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

The baptism John the Baptist administered in the river Jordan was a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. Jesus was sinless so why did he come to John to be baptized? We see that John the Baptist was obviously uneasy as he said, "I need to be baptized by you, and yet you are coming to me?" Jesus wanted to be baptized even though he didn't need baptism because it would be through baptism that everyone would become followers of Jesus. Everything we do in the Church we do because it comes from Jesus.

Jesus' baptism in the Jordan expressed the intention of his whole life right up to dying on the cross for us, taking our sins on himself to save us. Our baptism also expresses the intention of our whole life up to our death, leaving our sin behind and living with the life of Jesus. Every day is to be a living out of our baptism with that new life of Jesus. Every day is another opportunity to turn from sin and continue following Jesus which we began with our baptism. When we were baptized we entered the tomb with Jesus to leave a life of sin behind. Our baptism receives its power from Jesus' death and resurrection. Our baptism is a sharing in the effects and salvation of Jesus' death and resurrection, a sharing in the new life of Jesus we receive from his death and resurrection. Jesus was baptized so that all righteousness might be fulfilled and this happens when we live our baptism by turning from sin to live the life of Jesus and all righteousness is fulfilled.

What a gift and grace the Church is to us. It offers us what Jesus himself offered two millennia ago. Jesus didn't need to be baptized in the Jordan by John the Baptist but since the sacraments and everything we do in the Church come from Jesus, and it would be through baptism that we would become followers of Jesus, Jesus desired to be baptized also. **As we celebrate the baptism of Jesus it reminds us that everything we have and do in the Church comes from Jesus. The Church is the Bride of Christ, and where you have Christ's Bride, there you also have Christ.**

WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF BAPTISM?

Water baptism is a public declaration of three very important things:

1. You are a follower of Jesus Christ. "Those who accepted his message were baptized." —Acts 2:41
2. You are beginning a changed life in Christ. "We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life." —Romans 6:4
3. You are part of a new family. "So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ." —Galatians 3:26-27

TOGETHER, WE MARCH FOR LIFE Washington, D.C. January 24, 2020

Abortion is the most significant human rights abuse of our time. Will you take a stand? JOIN US FOR THE NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE. The right to life is a human right. Our defense of that right is a joyful witness to the beauty and dignity of every human person.

The March for Life is an inspiring, peaceful. Vibrant, and joy-filled rally of women, men, young people, and children from all across the country, every year, tens of thousands of pro-lifers converge on the National Mall and march on Capitol Hill on the anniversary of the Supreme Court's 1973 Roe v. Wade ruling which legalized abortion in all 50 states. It's the largest annual human rights demonstration in the world. But this is not just a protest... **TOGETHER, WE GATHER TO CELEBRATE LIFE.** We celebrate each and every life, from the moment of conception. We envision a world where every life is celebrated, valued, and protected.

TOGETHER, WE GATHER TO CELEBRATE LIFE. We celebrate life from the moment of conception to the moment of natural death, and every moment in between.

The coach will leave on January 24 from St Luke's at 7am, and return after 8pm, depending on traffic and any rest break. Parishioners wishing to reserve a seat can do so by contacting Mike Lennon at: mike.lennon@comcast.net, (908)246-3188

Next weekend a free will offering will be taken to help us to cover the cost of the bus. Thank you. Your help is needed!

Religious Education News

THANK YOU...

On behalf of the Dept. of Child Protection & Permanency of Morris County, I would like to thank you all for your generous contributions during the 2019 holiday season. All the children truly appreciated your kindness. You did not have to give gifts to our needy families, but you chose to do so. For that, you have continued gratefulness. With your help, our clients were able to give their children gifts for the holidays. I hope you have an amazing 2020. Elena Fletcher

SIGN UP SHEET FOR FOOD FOR ANTIOCH RETREAT...

There is a sign-up sheet in the gathering space for food items that are needed to feed our teens and adults who will be attending the Antioch Retreat on January 24-26. Your support is greatly appreciated.



FROM FR. JAVIER...

TEACHING FROM THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH - THE SACRAMENTS OF THE CHURCH

The Sacrament of Holy Orders

Who Can Receive This Sacrament?

My dear brothers and sisters, according with our tradition and with our *catechism* "Only a baptized man (*viri*) validly receives sacred ordination." "The Lord Jesus chose men (*viri*) to form the college of the twelve apostles, and the apostles did the same when they chose collaborators to succeed

them in their ministry. The college of bishops, with whom the priests are united in the priesthood, makes the college of the twelve an ever-present and ever-active reality until Christ's return. The Church recognizes herself to be bound by this choice made by the Lord himself. For this reason the ordination of women is not possible." Also, no one has a right to receive the sacrament of Holy Orders. Indeed no one claims this office for himself; he is called to it by God. Anyone who thinks he recognizes the signs of God's call to the ordained ministry must humbly submit his desire to the authority of the Church, who has the responsibility and right to call someone to receive orders. Like every grace this sacrament can be received only as an unmerited gift.

"All the ordained ministers of the Latin Church, with the exception of permanent deacons, are normally chosen from among men of faith who live a celibate life and who intend to remain celibate "for the sake of the kingdom of heaven." Called to consecrate themselves with undivided heart to the Lord and to "the affairs of the Lord," they give themselves entirely to God and to men. Celibacy is a sign of this new life to the service of which the Church's minister is consecrated; accepted with a joyous heart celibacy radiantly proclaims the Reign of God."

In the **Eastern Churches** a different discipline has been in force for many centuries: while bishops are chosen solely from among celibates, married men can be ordained as deacons and priests. This practice has long been considered legitimate; these priests exercise a fruitful ministry within their communities. Moreover, priestly celibacy is held in great honor in the Eastern Churches and many priests have freely chosen it for the sake of the Kingdom of God. In the East as in the West a man who has already received the sacrament of Holy Orders can no longer marry. God bless you

LONG VALLEY FOOD PANTRY....CHRISTMAS PASSED – WINTER IS AHEAD. Many thanks to those who donated food items or gift cards to the Food Pantry for Thanksgiving and Christmas! You certainly brightened the season for many families right here in Long Valley. Now we're in the midst of the critical winter season. There's still time to 'play Santa' by giving much-needed food items to the Food Pantry. Hearty soups, hot cereal, baby food, pasta/sauce, etc. are especially needed. As always, anything you can donate will be appreciated. And you might even feel a little warmer!



Additional donations received: **In Memory/Honor of:** Megan Anne McQuaide, Turrin Family, Rose Marie Riley, Felix & Helen Fox, Jennie & Vincent Cuzzo, Caruso Family



Richard Alvarez, Tony Atkins, Barone Family, John Paul Chavez, Bob & Jeff Cheripka, Daria Cremonini, Brittany Cicchino, Carol DeAlvandres, Ann Geary, Sue Geary, Heidi L, Daniel Huntz, Suzy Ladlee, Linda, Vincent Lai, Mary McArdle, Denise Niessing, Girard Nolte, Jr., Rosemarie Picarelli, , Christopher Popp, Tim Popp, John S, Don & Joyce Schmitt, George and Ann Senftinger, Fredrick Senftinger, Special Intention, Tracy Tobin, Christopher Zeliff



Together with St. Luke and OLM, the Knights are sponsoring a bus to the March for Life in Washington, DC on January 24, 2020. To reserve a seat or obtain more information, email mike.jennon@comcast.net

Reflection for the Week

You may say to yourself, "My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me." But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth.

Deuteronomy 8:17-18a

We are looking for a few Good Knights! You don't have to attend every meeting and participate in every charitable or Church event. Considered the "right arm of the Catholic Church," the Knights of Columbus is the largest Catholic fraternal, family service organization in the world! Help those in need and grow in your faith. We are an active council and have a lot to offer.

Become a Knight!

www.lvkofo.org

JOIN THE MUSIC MINISTRY! NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

The Music Ministry is actively seeking new members to join its ministry. All parishioners are invited to join regardless of experience including children and teens in Grades 6 and up. Instrumentalists are also welcome. You do not need to commit to singing/playing weekly. Rehearsals are held on Monday night at 7:30 in the church. Please contact Melissa Heike mheike6@gmail.com 201-874-2503.

FUNDRAISING...THANK YOU...

Thanks to everyone who participated in our recent 5K Run, runners/walkers/volunteers as well as Pat and Lisa Regan. Thanks to you our event was a huge success.

USED BOOK SALE...St. Mark's Fundraising Group will be holding a Used Book Sale on March 7/8. We will be collecting books and DVD's (children's and adult's) from now thru Feb. 20. Books/DVD's can be dropped off in the collection bin located in the gathering space as well as at the front entrance. Please do not leave text books, encyclopedias, magazines or VCR tapes. Thank you.

SAVE THE DATE! FUNDRAISER AT PANERA BREAD...

St. Mark's will be having a fundraiser at Panera Bread on Route 57 in Hackettstown on **Tuesday, January 28 from 4:00-8:00 pm**. Bring or show an electronic version of the flyer to the cashier or if ordering online enter "PRFUND" as your Promo Code and Panera will donate a portion of the proceeds from your purchase to St. Mark's. The flyer can be found on St. Mark's website.

LONG VALLEY COLUMBIETTES... will be collecting PJs and Books on the weekend of January 18/19 and 25 /26. Newborn to teen size PJs and new used books will be donated to the Pajama Program which gives new pajamas and new books to children all across the country in support of their right to a loving bedtime and good night. A box will be provided in the gathering space for these donations. Thank you for helping those in need.

