

*The Lord is my light and my salvation..*  
**January 26, 2020 ~ Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**



**Saturday, January 25**

5:30 pm For Dennis Schaffer *by Lennon Family*

**Sunday, January 26**

9:00 am For Milton Myron Sowiak **by the Schwints**

11:00 am For Theresa Dobbings *by McDermott Family*  
 Janet Trujillo *by Marione Family*

**Monday, January 27**

8:45 am For Joseph Wejnerowski *by Fr. Marcin*

**Tuesday, January 28**

8:45 am For

**Wednesday, January 29**

8:45 am

**Thursday, January 30**

8:45 am For

**Saturday, February 1**

5:30 pm For Aurelia Stypulkoski *by Lennon Family*

**Sunday, January 26**

9:00 am For Anna M. Rapuano *by Rich & Marianne Nyman*  
 A Special Intention

11:00 am For Dorothy D'Epagnier *by Kenney Family*

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

*February 1, 2,, 2020*

**Saturday, 5:30 pm**

Lector	Euch. Ministers	Gift Bearers	Altar Servers
Sharon Donovan	Joanne Lee	Help Needed	Help Needed

**Sunday, 9:00 am**

Lector	Euch. Ministers	Gift Bearers	Altar Servers
Tony Cretella	Patrick Kenney	Help Needed	Help Needed

**Sunday, 11:00 am**

Lector	Euch. Ministers	Gift Bearers	Altar Servers
Dina Carmelengo, Maria Green	Ed Michonski	Help Needed	Help Needed

**THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S**

**Monday, January 27**

8:45 am Mass  
 No CEC classes  
 7:30 pm.....Choir Rehearsal

**Tuesday, January 28**

8:45 am.....Mass  
 No CEC  
 8:00 pm.....K of C Meeting  
 4:00-8:00 pm Fundraiser at Panera Bread, Hackettstown

**Wednesday, January 29**

8:45 am..... Mass

**Thursday, January 30**

8:45 am ..... Mass

**Friday, January 31**

Parish Office Closed

**Saturday, February 1**

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

**Sunday, February 2**

9:00 .....Mass  
 11:00 am..... K-10 and Family Faith Mass  
 SYM Classes



**WEEKLY COLLECTION**

Current Year	Last Year 2019
<b>January 12, 2020: \$1,560.15</b>	<b>January 13, 2019: \$2,473</b>
<b>Diocesan Assessment: \$375</b>	
<b>Supermarket Gift Cards</b>	
<b>January 19, 2020</b>	
Sales.....\$2,050	St. Mark's Faith Direct
Profit:.....\$102.50	Church Code is <b>NJ484</b>
YTD Profit.....\$373.75	
# of Families.....7	

**FAITH DIRECT...**

With the dawn of the New Year, we continue to rejoice in the birth of our Lord and Savior. I am blessed and thankful for all the gracious gifts that you provided to our parish in the past year. Your prayers, support, and monetary gifts allow us to continue to spread the Gospel and share God's message of love and peace. Faith Direct will automatically process donations to the offertory or any second collections of your choosing. To enroll in online giving, visit [faith.direct/NJ484](http://faith.direct/NJ484). Thank you for your continued support of our parish family. God Bless you



*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:** Special Intention *for Skoczylas Family*

**2019 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS...**

If you would like to receive an end of the year statement of your contributions to St. Mark's you can email our Bookkeeper [joanne.stm@comcast.net](mailto:joanne.stm@comcast.net)

## MY DEAR PARISHIONERS,

Today in our celebration of the Lord's Day we come to the third Sunday of Ordinary Time. We heard in today's Gospel that after Peter and Andrew were called they left their nets and followed Jesus and after James and John were called they immediately left their boat and their father and followed Jesus. Of course the reason they were able to leave everything to follow Jesus is because they loved Jesus. If they did not love Jesus they would not have been able to leave everything to follow Jesus.

The call the disciples received in our Gospel today to leave the boat and the fishing is remarkable. We are not all called in a similar fashion but I would like to see our Gospel today as a reminder to us to make room for God in our lives, to work for his kingdom. Even though you don't give up your livelihoods, you are called to be disciples.

**The call in today's Gospel to leave the boat and the fishing is a reminder to make room for God every day, to build up God's kingdom instead of building up our own kingdom.** When we do then we are the better for it. Then the prophecy in our first reading and Gospel is fulfilled in our lives also: *The people that lived in darkness. Has seen a great light; On those who dwell in the land and shadow of death. A light has dawned. (Isa 9:1)*

Jesus called the apostles, "Come after me." It was a call firstly to spend time with Jesus. Jesus called them not because they were better than others but because he loved them. The apostles responded because they loved Jesus, and because they loved Jesus obedience and suffering would not even seem like obedience and suffering. "Come after me." They left everything and followed Jesus.

The assessment of the Twelve Apostles gives hope to us because if they could go on to accomplish great things for the Lord then so also can we. We are each called by the Lord at baptism and confirmation to be his witnesses. No one can say they are not suitable. If Jesus could use the apostles with their obvious weaknesses, he can also use you to advance his kingdom. God calls you to make a difference to the world, God wants to use you in his plan for the salvation of the world.

**Will you allow God to use you in his plan for the salvation of the world? Will you make a difference?**

Today Jesus calls us. Like Peter we lack faith. Like Andrew we have much to learn. Like James and John we are selfish sometimes. Like Matthew we have a past. Like Thomas we doubt sometimes. Seeing that the apostles of limited competence did so much for the Church gives confidence to us. If Jesus could use them he can certainly use us. With the intercession of Jesus for us at the right hand of the Father and by our spending time in prayer with the Lord we too can grow from strength to strength and accomplish great things for God and his kingdom.

**ST. MARK ...pray for us...**



**Next Sunday we celebrate the Presentation of the Lord. At all masses we will bless candles so if you have a candle you use for devotional purpose at home please bring it with you to church next Saturday or Sunday.**

## BLESSING OF THE THROAT – NEXT WEEKEND AT ALL MASSES



Next Saturday and Sunday we will conduct the traditional blessing of the throat at all weekend Masses in honor of the Feast of Saint Blaise, Bishop and Martyr, whose feast was celebrated on Monday (Feb.3). Saint Blaise was a 4th century Bishop in Armenia who had miraculously cured a boy who was choking. This blessing is just one reminder in the liturgical calendar of the Church's ministry for the health and healing of all people.

## CATHOLIC SCHOOL WEEK

Today is the start of National Catholic Schools Week, and Catholic schools have an important mission given to them by the Lord, and that mission is being communities of faith, knowledge and service.

Pope Francis when a Cardinal wrote: "The education of children and young people is such an important task in forming them as free and responsible human beings. It affirms their dignity as a gift that flows from our original creation as children made in the image and likeness of God. And because education truly forms human beings, it is especially the duty and responsibility of the Church, who is called to serve mankind from the heart of God and in such a way that no other institution.

We need to gratefully accept the gift of Catholic tradition. We must be alert to the standards governments impose but never compromise our task to educate not just for college or a career, but for caring citizenship and for the salvation of souls.

We need to proclaim and witness our Catholic identity with grateful hearts. Catholic education is on the front lines of the New Evangelization to share as Pope Francis has put it the joy of knowing Jesus Christ personally. That requires standing up for basic human rights in word and action, including the right to life from conception to natural death, the dignity of every person in the years in between, for traditional marriage, for chastity, for religious freedom even when it may seem unpopular.

**Future of our country depends of what kind of education we will offer to children and young people.**

## PIZZA NIGHT WITH BISHOP...

For young men in high school or college, or older Monday, Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> at DePaul H.S. Wayne and Thurs, Feb. 13 at Pope St. John XXIII H.S. in Sparta 7-9pm. Come join Bishop Serratelli and priests from the Diocese of Paterson for adoration, reflection, fellowship and of course pizza. For more information, please call Vocation Office at 973-777-8818 ext. 715

## FROM FR. JAVIER...

### TEACHING FROM THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

#### THE SACRAMENTS OF THE CHURCH - The Sacrament of Holy Orders

##### The grace of the Holy Spirit

My dear brothers and sisters, according with the Catholic teaching the grace of the Holy Spirit proper to this sacrament of Holy Order is configuration to Christ as Priest, Teacher, and Pastor, of whom the ordained is made a minister.

For the bishop, this is first of all a grace of *strength* ("the governing spirit": *Prayer of Episcopal Consecration in the Latin rite*): the grace to guide and defend his Church with strength and prudence as a father and pastor, with gratuitous love for all and a preferential love for the poor, the sick, and the needy. This grace impels him to proclaim the Gospel to all, to be the model for his flock, to go before it on the way of sanctification by identifying himself in the Eucharist with Christ the priest and victim, not fearing to give his life for his sheep: *"Father, you know all hearts. You have chosen your servant for the office of bishop. May he be a shepherd to your holy flock, and a high priest blameless in your sight, ministering to you night and day; may he always gain the blessing of your favor and offer the gifts of your holy Church. Through the Spirit who gives the grace of high priesthood grant him the power to forgive sins as you have commanded to assign ministries as you have decreed and to loose from every bond by the authority which you gave to your apostles. May he be pleasing to you by his gentleness and purity of heart, presenting a fragrant offering to you, through Jesus Christ, your Son. . . ."*

The spiritual gift conferred by presbyteral ordination is expressed by this prayer of the Byzantine Rite. The bishop, while laying on his hand, says among other things: *"Lord, fill with the gift of the Holy Spirit him whom you have deigned to raise to the rank of the priesthood, that he may be worthy to stand without reproach before your altar to proclaim the Gospel of your kingdom, to fulfill the ministry of your word of truth, to offer you spiritual gifts and sacrifices, to renew your people by the bath of rebirth; so that he may go out to meet our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, your only Son, on the day of his second coming, and may receive from your vast goodness the recompense for a faithful administration of his order."* God bless you.

#### 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!

#### LECTOR MINISTRY...

My new friends,

Have you ever felt a desire to feel more connected to your St Mark's Church community? Have you ever felt the slightest nudge, "I wonder what it would be like to stand up there and Proclaim His Word?" Well maybe you can, and maybe those desires to be a stronger part of the Community, and to read His amazing Word, are from the Holy Spirit. Act on those desires! Sign up to lector after Mass this and next weekend. We are a welcoming bunch who will train and support you. Your commitment amounts to about one Saturday or Sunday a month. Bring your questions to the table at the back of church, or to any lector. Please feel free to call, text or email me with any questions. We are growing His team. We need you! Blessings, Maryann Hobbie 973-570-0701 [Hobbie@icloud.com](mailto:Hobbie@icloud.com)



#### 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 201-874-2503 [mheike6@gmail.com](mailto:mheike6@gmail.com)

#### FUNDRAISING EVENTS...

**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.

#### NEW EYES FOR THE NEEDY...

The Knights of Columbus will be having an eyeglass recycling container in St. Mark's gathering space February 1-28. Please donate your used eyeglasses which will be given to the needy and be sincerely appreciated.

**OPEN HOUSE...**POPE JOHN XXII Middle School in Sparta is a thriving Catholic school with an enrollment of 243 students in grades 5, 6 and 7. We are committed to providing students with a faith-based educational program that fosters academic excellence. We invite you to attend an Open House for prospective families on Wednesday, January 29 at 9am. RSVP to Anne Kaiser at 973-729-6126, or at [admissions@popejohn.org](mailto:admissions@popejohn.org)

#### VILLA WALSH ACADEMY 2020 SUMMER CAMP – GIRLS GRADES 4-8...

Two sessions offered: Session 1: June 22-26, 9am-12 pm, and Session 2: June 29-July 3, 1pm-4pm. For registration visit website at [www.villawalsh.org](http://www.villawalsh.org) under Athletics tab or email camp director, Shannon Graziani, [summercamp@villawalsh.org](mailto:summercamp@villawalsh.org). 973-538-3860

#### VALENTINES DAY ROSE SALE....

The L.V. First Aid Squad Auxiliary is hosting our First Annual Valentine's Day Rose Sale on Feb. 13th from 12pm-7pm and 14th from 12pm-6pm at the LV First Aid Squad building on East Mill Rd. We are selling 1 Dozen Red Roses for \$30, 2 Dozen Non-Red Roses for \$35, and 1 Dozen Non-Red \$25. We are accepting pre-orders through our website [www.store.lvfas.org](http://www.store.lvfas.org) now through Feb. 9th and also accepting walk-ins on February 13th from 12pm-7pm and 14th from 12pm 6pm. All Roses can be picked-up at the Long Valley First Aid Squad building at 70 East Mill Rd in Long Valley. Our fundraising helps us support the LV. First Aid Squad with new equipment.