

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

January 28, 2018

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Saturday, January 27

5:30 pm For Helen Clark by Clark Family
For Joan Pirolo by Masterson Family

Sunday, January 28

8:00 am For William Wagner by Regan Family
9:30 am For Bernard Cho by Hobbs Family
11:00 am For Aeysha Quireshi by OLM parish staff

Monday, January 29

8:45 am For Aeysha Quireshi by Marianne Nyman

Tuesday, January 30

8:45 am For

Wednesday, January 31

8:45 am For

Saturday, February 3

10:45 am Mass at Heath Village
5:30 pm For Hank Magnusen by Madaras Family

Sunday, February 4

8:00 am For Mary & Milton Celano by Clark Family
9:30 am For Anthony Vicchiarriello by Nyman Family
11:00 am For Tom Mackie by

**REMEMBRANCE MEMORIALS
FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY**

Altar Breads & Wine – In loving memory of Patsy & Philip Marchese by Marchese family.

Sanctuary Lamp – In loving memory of Vito and Marie Benardone by Corry and Benardone families

Mass Candles:

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE
February 3, 4, 2018**

Saturday, 5:30 pm

Celebrant: Fr. Marcin Michalowski
Lector: Fred McQuaide
Eucharistic Ministers: Joanne Lee
Altar Servers: Jared Bermeo

Sunday, 8:00 am

Celebrant: Fr. Marcin Michalowski, Deacon Jim Jones
Lector: Susan Vetterl, Bill Barron
Eucharistic Ministers: Rick Gebbia
Altar Servers: Help needed

9:30 am

Celebrant: Fr. Marcin Michalowski, Deacon Bob Head
Lector: Kevin Mullin
Eucharistic Ministers: Terri & Bob Baffuto, Steve Beggin
Altar Servers: Kaitlyn Buchanan

11:00 am

Celebrant: Fr. Marcin Michalowski, Deacon Tom Gibbon
Lector: Tom & Sarah Hanifin
Eucharistic Ministers: Diane Herzog, Lorraine Fleming
Altar Servers: Piper Heike, Jordan Roehrig

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Monday, January 29

8:45 am Mass
4:30 pm CEC K-5 3rd grade retreat with parents

Tuesday, January 30

8:45 am Daily Mass
4:30 pm CEC K-5 3rd grade retreat with parents
7:30 pm Choir
8:00 pm Knights of Columbus

Wednesday, January 31

8:45 am Daily Mass
9:30 am Women's Bible Study
6:00 pm K of C Meeting

Thursday, February 1

Parish Office Closed

Friday, February 2

No events planned

Saturday, February 3

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

Sunday, February 4

Masses, 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 am

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Current Year	Last Year 2016
January 21, 2018: \$2,202 Envelopes used: 42	January 22, 2017: \$2,878 Envelopes used: 56
Extended Catholic Obligations: \$258 Envelopes used: 66	Extended Catholic Obligations: \$629 Envelopes used: 30
On-line for January: \$8,440 Donors: 66	On-line For January: \$9,755
Supermarket Gift Cards: January 21, 2018 Sales: \$2,450 Profit: \$122.50 YTD Profit: \$518 # of Families: 10	St. Mark's Faith Direct Church Code is NJ484

FAITH DIRECT...

I am thankful for all the generous gifts that you provide to our parish, but I realize that you cannot be with us every Sunday of the year. Please consider using our secure electronic giving program, *Faith Direct*. *Faith Direct* will automatically process any offertory or second collections donation of your choosing. Visit www.faithdirect.net and use our church code: **NJ484**.

Thank you for your continued support. God Bless You, Fr. Marcin

FROM FR. MARCIN...

My dear parishioners,

Today we celebrate the 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time. In Today's Gospel Jesus goes to the synagogue in Capernaum with four of his disciples where people are astonished that he teaches with such authority.

A man in the synagogue, possessed by an evil spirit, recognizes Jesus as the Holy One of God? Who has come to destroy the spirits of evil. After Jesus casts out the evil spirit, the people in the synagogue are amazed at the power and authority that Jesus possesses, and go out to spread his fame throughout Galilee.

Jesus, the Son of God, has all the authority in the universe. God created all things through him and put all things under him.

What do we mean when we speak about the authority of the Lord? What do we mean when we talk about authority in general? What ways do we exercise authority? What ways do we exercise the authority of the Lord?

Jesus uses authority to serve, not to be served. Jesus uses his authority to help us, not to destroy us. And that is how he wants us to use whatever authority we might have. Whether our authority is at home, at work, or somewhere else, he wants us to use it to help others, not to make ourselves into big shots.

He drives out the demons, not us. Evil spirits are not the only kind of demons Jesus has authority over and drives out for us. Sin itself is an enemy that does us damage and lords it over us.

What is your enemy? What habit, what sin? What have you beaten down, enslaved? Whatever it is, it cannot withstand the authority of Jesus. When we stand close to Jesus, these enemies cannot have the last word and cannot push us around. When our attention is on Jesus, they do not seem so fearsome, so strong, because Jesus puts them down – overcomes them. In Jesus, we are bold and strong, and these fears and sinful habits are weak and insignificant.

Why not take our needs to Jesus? Give our problems to him and trust him. Lord Jesus is for us, now and always.

The Holy One of God came down to earth for this purpose: For our salvation. Christ came to crush Satan's head and to redeem us, to rescue us and set us free, free from the snares and assaults of the devil. Jesus, by his death on the cross and by his life-bestowing resurrection from the dead -- Christ Jesus won the victory for you, you who realize your own helplessness. It is victory over sin, over Satan, over death and the demons of hell. And he delivers this victory to us by his word, the very word we are hearing right now.

Do we believe that God's word has power to set us free and to transform our life?

HOLY HOUR –ST. MARK'S CHURCH - MONDAY, JAN 29 – 7PM-8PM – PRIEST FOR CONFESSION

Monday night Holy Hour will be held at St. Mark's Church 7-8. Think of a visit to the Blessed Sacrament as coming to see your best friend. Sit quietly and enjoy being in each other's company. Instead of talking to the Lord, try listening to what He wants to tell you.

BLESSING OF THE THROAT – NEXT SUNDAY AT ALL MASSES



Next 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 next Saturday (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.

Today I am in Jerusalem celebrating Holy Mass in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. It is in this church that Calvary, the place of Jesus' crucifixion is located, and the Tomb of Christ is also found. I am remembering all of you, my dear parishioners, as I pray before these sacred places which were the scenes of our salvation. I am coming back on Tuesday, Jan 30. See you next Sunday.

*OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAIN PRAY FOR US...
ST. MARK PRAY FOR US...*

FR. MARCIN

FROM FR. SLAWOMIR...

St. John Bosco – January 31

Founder, Salesians of Don Bosco (1815-1888)

John Bosco was born to a peasant family in Piedmont. Following his father's death he was raised by his mother, an especially devout woman. The seeds of John's vocation were evident in early life. At the age of nine he had a dream in which he managed to tame a crowd of unruly boys after receiving encouragement from a mysterious lady. "Softly, softly," she told him. "If you wish to win them! Take your shepherd's staff and lead them to pasture." Gradually, even as an adolescent, he discerned his calling: to care for poor boys, to help them with their religious instruction, and inspire them to lead healthy, moral lives.

After pursuing ordination, John set about to implement his mission. He established an oratory to house hundreds of homeless boys. He went on to organize workshops to impart practical skills and employment. His dedication drew wide admiration and support and eventually a band of dedicated assistants. With them he formed a new religious congregation named after St. Francis de Sales.

The Salesians grew in number, and eventually their communities spread throughout Italy and across the world. Don Bosco died on January 31, 1888. He was canonized in 1934.

"I have promised God that until my last breath I shall have lived for my poor young people. I study for you, I work for you, I am also ready to give my life for you. Take note that whatever I am, I have been so entirely for you."

FROM FR. JAVIER...

TEACHING FROM THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

The Fifth Commandment You shall not kill. "You have heard that it was said to the men of old, You shall not kill: and whoever kills shall be liable to judgment. But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be liable to judgment".

My brothers and sisters, the Fifth Commandment also talks about respect for the souls of others: scandal

"Scandal is an attitude or behavior which leads another to do evil. The person who gives scandal becomes his neighbor's tempter. He damages virtue and integrity; he may even draw his brother into spiritual death. Scandal is a grave offense if by deed or omission another is deliberately led into a grave offense".

Also scandal takes on a particular gravity by reason of the authority of those who cause it or the weakness of those who are scandalized. It prompted our Lord to utter this curse: *"Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened round his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea."* Scandal is grave when given by those who by nature or office are obliged to teach and educate others. Jesus reproaches the scribes and Pharisees on this account: he likens them to wolves in sheep's clothing.

Scandal can be provoked by laws or institutions, by fashion or opinion.

Therefore, they are guilty of scandal who establish laws or social structures leading to the decline of morals and the corruption of religious practice, or to *"social conditions that, intentionally or not, make Christian conduct and obedience to the Commandments difficult and practically impossible."* This is also true of business leaders who make rules encouraging fraud, teachers who provoke their children to anger, or manipulators of public opinion who turn it away from moral values. God bless you.

THANK YOU FOR ANTIOCH...

The Antioch Retreat is a long and wonderful tradition at St. Mark's. I can tell you what a privilege it is to work with our wonderful young people on this retreat. Over the many years, I have witnessed lives being redirected, reshaped or completely changed because of what we have experienced on Antioch. The Holy Spirit makes His presence known through others and touches hearts in everlasting ways during that short weekend. I will stop here, because I can talk about the wonders and triumphs of the Antioch retreat for hours and volumes!

This retreat does not "just happen". It takes the hard work, dedication, love and courage of so many to share what they have to make a difference for another. I wish to sincerely thank all of those who helped to make this year's retreat exceptional. *"Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."* Matthew 9:14 God bless you all! Sue Reilly

NEW EYES FOR THE NEEDY...

The Knights of Columbus will be having an eyeglass recycling container in St. Mark's gathering space beginning February 1 through February 28, 2018. Please donate your used eyeglasses which will be given to the needy and be sincerely appreciated.

REMEMBERING TOM MACKIE...

On Sunday, February 4th, the 11:00 AM Mass will be offered for Tom Mackie on behalf of the St. Mark's Choir and parish community. Let us come together at this Mass to remember Tom, who passed away from cancer this past summer. Let us remember the more than 25 years he was a member of our choir and recall how his wonderful, God-given voice enhanced our liturgies. We hope to see you there. Thank you.

UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS AT ST. MARK'S SAVE THE DATES...

- March 4 – Annual Pot Luck Lunch
- April 6 – Winetasting
- April 29 – St. Mark's 30th Anniversary Mass and Luncheon. Bishop Arthur Serratelli will be our celebrant at the 11:00 am mass.

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS....

If you would like a statement of contributions for 2017, please contact Joanne, our parish bookkeeper at joanne.stm@comcast.net. You can also call her at the parish office. Please do so by January 31, 2018.

**ST. LUKE'S SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY PRESENTATION...
Autism can't define me..I define Autism!** free presentation by Kerry Magro on Sunday, February 4 1:00-3:00 pm.

ST. LUKES' CATHOLIC PRESCHOOL PROGRAM...

Registration for the 2018-2019 school year will be held during the month of January and February, Tuesday through Thursday from 12-1pm at the Preschool. Registrations are also accepted at the parish office. Forms are located in the gathering space and can also be accessed on the St. Luke website at www.stlukeparishlv.com a \$50 non-refundable check is required to reserve your child's enrollment. Questions??? email preschool@stlukelv.org

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Randi Alloway, Richard Alvarez, Tony Atkins, Charlie, , Kenneth Bernisky, Paul Buckley, John Callaghan, Emily Condit, Natalia Danilczuk, Krish Dharia, Catherine DiPasquale, Elizabeth, Connie Elliott, Larry Fine, Tracey F, Elaina Grace Gaffin, Ann Geary, Jerry Green, Barbara Gotterdam, Louie Gutierrez, Helen Greenly, Harper Lynn Granito, Regina Hague, William Heimsly, Bob Hodiern, Maria Dougherty Jante, Donna Jennings, Laurel Jilek, Joey, Claudia Kallmeyer, Jim Karpinski, Kevin Kay, Russell H. Keller, Mary Koenig, Jean Koenig, Mara Lak, Christina Lanaris,, Margaret Leon, Maryann Litori, Wayne Marks, Anthony Marino, Norman Milz, Marie Molloy, Irene, Madelyn S. Maruggi, Raymond McCarthy Jr., Jonathon McClelland, Meghan McDonough, Harold & Mary McKay, Edward Michonski, Sr., Kathy Minichini, Robert Neilson, Sr., Maryanne & Jack Newell, Girard Nolte, Jr., Marilyn O'Connor, Josh Olsen, Jim Owens, Arlene Parikh, Nicky Pilosi, Clifford Reynolds, Jim Robinson, Ryan, Jillian Elizabeth Sayer, Jeff Schpiner, Rev. Frank Rodimer, Rhonda Soto, Special Intention, Judy Stone, Cindy, Sullivan, William Thompson, Mary Travisano, Debbie Trepkau, Rev. Zbigniew Tyburski, Anne Walsh, Robert Ron Werner, Marie Zimbile

