



St. Mark the Evangelist Parish

St Mary Worship Site: 15164 Juniper Dr., Marne, MI 49435
St Michael Worship Site: 17150 88th Ave., Coopersville MI 49404

Welcome to St. Mark the Evangelist parish. I am delighted to have you join our parish family and I am very blessed to serve you as pastor of this wonderful faith community which is warm and embraces all who come to pray with us.

For well over a century, the parishes of St. Mary in Marne and St. Michael in Coopersville have been beacons of faith for Catholics in eastern Ottawa County. But a healthy church is a living organism, not a museum, ever-growing evolving. As we looked toward the coming years of the lives of Sts. Mary and Michael we felt the need to ensure that we weren't just "doing church," but being the prophetic and evangelistic Church Jesus has called us to be. As a result of this needed evolution of our parish identity the resources of both communities were combined to form a new parish dedicated to St. Mark the Evangelist.

This isn't a change in who we are, but a clarity of where God is leading us. It is an inspirational, long-term horizon that remains stable even as the world around us changes. As Roman Catholics we are one Church, we have one mission given us by Christ; now as St. Mark the Evangelist we can truly see this through and bring all of God's children together as one family.

We bid welcome to one and all who seek to live and love the Gospel with the brothers and sisters of the parish of St. Mark the Evangelist. Let us together "give thanks to the Lord, for He is good. His mercy endures forever."

Our parish is proud to offer many opportunities for parishioners to come together in faith. I have included a booklet of some of the [ministries](#) offered here. Additionally, if there is a personal or family need that requires individual attention, know that our parish staff is always here to assist you.

We are a very active Catholic parish. In order to keep our parishioners informed regarding upcoming events and activities, we provide a weekly bulletin, which is available at the entrance to our church and is also on our website: [St. Mark – Marne, MI](#). You will also hear pulpit announcements after weekend Masses and see special notices at the entrance of the church.

As you are well aware, while our mission to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ is a spiritual one, it also requires physical resources in order to be done well. Thanks to the generous support of our parishioners we are able to offer a place to worship God, resources for growing in the faith, and at the same time reach out to those in our community who are struggling to make ends meet. I realize that giving back to the church can be a real sacrifice for many, but please know that your selfless contributions are both necessary and greatly appreciated! Please watch the mail for your personalized contribution envelopes to arrive. Online options are also available if you prefer: [Ways to Give – St. Mark](#)

I believe God calls us to Him and into the faith community where we can flourish. Welcome to your faith community and welcome to St. Mark the Evangelist, we are glad that you are here.

If there is anything I can do to help you in your journey to grow closer to God, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached by email at: frmhodges@gpriests.org or 616.677.3934. In case of emergency, please call- 616.745.1409. I pray that you may find warmth and happiness in our parish and I look forward to getting to know you personally in the weeks and months ahead. God, bless you and your family!

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Michael Hodges

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July 2026