

Together We Serve



Saint Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church
Directory of Ministries & Programs

How Can You Help?

Stewardship is a way of life that calls each of us to recognize God's many blessings and respond with grateful hearts. Through stewardship, we discover the difference that faith-filled generosity can make in our own lives and in the lives of those around us.

Good stewardship is the faithful offering of our time, talents, and treasures. By following the example of Jesus, we are invited to share the gifts God has entrusted to us in service to our parish, our community, and those in need. Every act of kindness, every hour of service, every talent shared, and every gift offered becomes an expression of gratitude for all that God has given us.

As members of our parish family, we are called to live as faithful stewards by growing in prayer, serving with compassion, and giving generously. Together, we can strengthen our parish, support one another, and be a living witness to Christ's love in our community.

Ministries & Programs Offered

This booklet contains information on the Ministries and Programs offered at St Mark

Please select the areas that you can share your time and talents with your parish family.



40 DAYS FOR LIFE: is a unique pro-life effort that consists of 40 days of prayer, fasting and peaceful vigil in front of abortion clinics. Spring and Fall Campaigns in Grand Rapids take place in front of Planned Parenthood-425 Cherry Street SE Grand Rapids, This facility provides the abortion pill and refers for abortions. Dozens of area churches including St Mark the Evangelist adopt a day of prayer. Would you be willing to pray for one hour to fill in the time slots to pray to end abortion?

We will need 2 prayer volunteers from 7 am till 7 pm throughout the day. This is a powerful and proven effective way to close abortion centers and show the Mother's that we are praying and thinking about them and their babies. Please consider a hour of your time.

ADOPT-A-GARDEN: “adopt” an outdoor area on our parish grounds to help keep looking good and create a great first impression for all who come to our parish. An individual, a couple, a family or a team of your friends can sign-up for a small, specific area on the Parish grounds and keep this “adopted” area spruced-up on a regular basis. You would be responsible for any weeding, trimming, or simple planting and watering in your garden area. The expectation is you would work at least once a month so your area stays weed-free, leaf-free and liter free as much as possible. (the church will supply mulch or other plants and flowers if needed) You pick the time that is most convenient to give this service, whatever day or time works for you and your team.

ADORATION: Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament on Tuesdays after 12PM Mass and concluding at 3:30PM. (St Mary Campus) Wednesdays after 12PM Mass and concluding at 3:30PM. (St Michael Campus) This is a wonderful opportunity to spend personal time with the Lord. It seems nearly impossible for many of us who are consumed with the daily drudgery of eat, work, shuffle around kids, eat, sleep, repeat. How can we carve out time for an hour of holy prayer before the True Body of Jesus when it's difficult to even spend fifteen minutes daily to read our devotions or pray with Scripture? Just remember, Jesus gives us more than we give Him. We are always in need of people who will commit to one hour each week to just sit with the Lord, or to be on standby in case someone is unable to make their hour. Everyone is always welcome to stop by and spend time with our Lord.

ADVENT GIVING TREE: is a way to give to those in need by taking tags off the tree in the parish narthex, purchasing the gifts listed, and bringing the gifts back wrapped to put under the tree. The tree is placed in the narthex after Thanksgiving and remains up through the second weekend in December.

ALTAR SERVER: All boys and girls who have received their First Eucharist are welcome to serve. Altar Servers enter into a fuller participation of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass while assisting the priest during the weekend and special Masses. All candidates recognize serving in this role is a privilege. Duties are to be performed with attention and reverence. Servers are scheduled on a rotational basis. Training is required

BIBLE STUDY: Adults of the Parish meet on Wednesdays 9AM to 10:30AM in the St Mary Community Room. Newcomers are invited to join at any time. It is informal and informative.

COFFEE & DONUT SERVERS- Parishioners provide an atmosphere of fellowship for their Parish Family after Masses the first weekend of every month by serving coffee, punch and donuts.

COLLECTION COUNTERS- Responsible for counting and recording all of the monies collected at all of the Masses. Accuracy and Confidentiality is required. Counting is typically done on Monday Mornings.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER- Fully initiated Catholic men and women assist in ministering the precious body and precious blood of Christ to the community of the faithful at Mass. The call to serve in this ministry demands sincere reverence, respect and a devotion to the Eucharist. Serving someone with special needs or limitations, or going to someone who cannot come forward in the communion process may be necessary. Training is provided.

FINANCE COUNCIL- Composed of parishioners, The Finance Council serves the pastor as primary consultants in financial matters. They assist the pastor in formulating policies and procedures for the effective management of parish assets.

FUNERAL LUNCHEON- This ministry involves the coordination of luncheons following a funeral. Volunteers prepare and donate food for the luncheon and others help to serve at the luncheon.

GIFT BEARER- What an honor it is to carry the wine, hosts and offerings to the priest at Mass for consecration! Any occasion can be a time to serve as a Gift Bearer: a birthday, an anniversary, or just a "happy day." Or maybe you would like to bring up the gifts on the memorial of a loved one. Gift Bearers actively participate in the celebration of the Mass by presenting the gifts of Bread and Wine at the altar and require no special skill or permanent ministerial duty, and yet it is a beautiful and significant part of the Mass performed by lay people.

HOSPITALITY MINISTER- Ministers greet worshippers, assist with seating, coordinate gift bearers, gather the weekly offertory and other special collections, distribute bulletins, remove clutter from pews after Masses. Also required is giving assistance to any parishioner needing special attention, i.e. arranging for Eucharistic Minister to bring Communion to parishioner if they are unable to come forward, and attending to any ill parishioners. You provide a vital ministry by serving as hospitality ministers to all our fellow guests at the Lord's table.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS- Men 18 years and older that are practicing Catholics are welcome to become a member of the Knights of Columbus. Knights are required to go through 1st, 2nd and 3rd degrees. The Knights support our parish activities, the local and surrounding communities and the world.

LECTOR- Parishioners, young and old, proclaim God's Word in scripture, lead the parish in the Prayers of the Faithful at Mass. Being a lector is spiritually rewarding and brings the Word of God to life during Mass. This ministry is open to any actively practicing Catholic who is high school age or older, who has been confirmed. Training is provided.

MENTOR OF MARRIAGE PREPARATION- Parishioners who are in faith-filled, sacramental marriages and who have a sincere desire to help those who are about to be married are trained in marriage mentoring. A firm understanding of our faith and a commitment to the sacramental nature of marriage are required. Marriage mentors meet with couples as they plan to marry, discussing a host of issues that are part of every marriage covenant. Mentors help couples to be better prepared for the many demands that this sacrament makes of those who seek to enter into marriage. Mentor couples meet with couples five or six times prior to the wedding. Meetings are held at the convenience of the parties

involved. Mentor couples must be married, practicing Catholics who treat all discussions as confidential.

MUSICIANS/CHOIR MEMBERS- Parishioners (Adult & Youth) are called upon to provide music for a liturgy.

OUR LADY OF FATIMA GUILD: is a service-oriented group dedicated to praying the Rosary and helping people in need. Those who benefit from the Guild are St. Mary's Parish and area organizations. Help is given in many forms: food, clothing, money, friendship, Christmas Cards, and gifts. Funds are raised from member donations and Ladies Advent by Candlelight as well as drives conducted to collect items for the different organizations in need. Meetings are held in the Community Room monthly from September through December on the second Tuesday of the month. Meetings consist of praying the Rosary, Guild matters, and fellowship. All ladies of the parish are invited to join. For mor information call Lori Rander 616-215-6524 or the Parish Office.

PARISH SOCIAL COMMITTEE- Help with the planning and organization of Parish Activities: Parish Picnic, Euchre & Bingo Parties, Festival, Golf Outings, Soup Supper, etc.

PASTORAL COUNCIL: Composed of parishioners who consult with the pastor in discerning through prayer and study how the parish can best carry out the mission of Christ in our world. Membership is open to parish members who participate in a series of formation sessions and are selected by the Pastor.

PRAYER LINE: Prayer line ministers agree to pray for any request made. Anyone can be a part of the prayer line. You can receive prayer requests by email or by phone. Are you willing to commit to a few minutes of prayer and to maybe make a phone call or two to pass on the request. Confidentiality is required.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION / VBS CATECHIST: Do you have a Love of the Lord and of His Children? If so, we are looking for you! Catechists are called to this special ministry to share, educate and form our children in their Catholic Faith.

SACRISTAN: Ministers help in preparing the Sanctuary and the Altar for the Liturgy, including the hosts, wine and vessels. Additional responsibilities include ensuring that "all is in order" for the Mass. Service in this capacity requires previous experience as Lector or Eucharistic Minister.

WORSHIP & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE: Parishioners who volunteer their time to adorn and prepare the sacred space of St Mary's for the changing of the church's calendar. Throughout the Liturgical year, they come together to enhance our surroundings for the seasons such as Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, or any other special feast of the church. This does not require any special talents other than a willingness to serve. The committee also cleans the church linens and altar cloths. (formerly done by the Altar society)

You WILL Make a Difference!

Stewardship is...

- The way we take care of things and people God has given to us.
- How we use the talents we were blessed with.
- The way we say "Thank You" to God.

"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace." 1 Peter 4:10

Pastor:

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For emergency please call: 616.745.1409

Deacon:

Deacon Tom Roberts / 616.677.3934 troberts@saintmarysmarne.org

Main Parish Office

616.677.3934 / secretary@stmte.org



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