

St. Mark Church
2609 E 19th St.
Brooklyn, NY 11235

Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 5:00 PM Vigil Mass
Sunday: 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 AM,
12:30 PM
Weekdays: 8:30 AM
Holy Days: 7:30 PM Vigil Mass
8:00, 10:00 AM

Phone: 718-891-3100
Fax: 718-891-9677



St. Margaret Mary Church
Ocean Ave. & Oriental Blvd.
Manhattan Beach NY

Mass Schedule:

Sunday: 11:00 AM
Wednesday: 9:00 AM

Email:
stmarkrcbklyn@aol.com
Website:
www.stmarkbrooklyn.org

ST. MARK ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

Pastor: *Rev. Robert V. Mucci*

Parochial Vicar: *Rev. Ebenezer K. Abban*

In Residence: *Rev. Joseph P. Quigley*

Parochial Vicar: *Rev. Sergiy Emanuel*

Pastor Emeritus: *Rev. Msgr. Gerard J. Arella*

Summer Priest: *Rev. Samuel Parkoo*

Devotions:

Miraculous Medal Novena every Wednesday after the 8:30 AM Mass

Litany of the Sacred Heart every First Friday 8:20 AM
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every First Friday from Noon to 3PM

Baptism:

Fourth Sunday of each month at 2:00 PM.

Required Baptism classes take place on the third Sunday of each month at 9:30 AM in the Rectory Conference Room. Call the Rectory during office hours to make an appointment with a priest two (2) months prior to the Baptism.

Marriage:

Please make arrangements by calling the Rectory at least 6 months in advance. Please log on to www.pre-cana.org for complete information about marriage preparation in the diocese, according to diocesan regulations.

Anointing of the Sick:

First Saturday of the month at the 8:30 AM Mass.

Confessions: Saturdays, 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM.

Appointment to see a Priest:

If you desire an appointment to meet with a priest, please call the parish office. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM.

Parish Office: 718-891-3100

Ms. Angela Scannapieco

Ms. Jacqueline Biagioni

St. Mark School: 718-332-9304

Mrs. Carol Donnelly, Principal

Mrs. Lori Ryan, Secretary

St. Mark Religious Education: 718-769-6311

Ms. Jo Ann Pino

Youth Ministry Coordinator:

Mr. Michael Davis 347-574-1828

St. Mark Choir: 917-650-5704

Mr. Patrick Marvella, Director of Music

St. Vincent De Paul Group: 718-891-0443

Mr. Tom Scalese, President

Ms. Jean Hogan, Vice President

Homebound Ministry: 718-332-2663

Ms. Maureen Genoversa, Coordinator

Ministers of Hospitality: 718-891-3100

Mr. Tom Scalese

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist:

347-659-4350

Mr. Edgar Perez, Coordinator

Lectors: 718-743-5338

Ms. Stephanie Rizzo, Coordinator

Rosary Society:

Ms. Kathy Fackovec, President 718-934-7964

Mrs. Maria Mansuroglu, Vice President 718-332-3843

Golden Age Society:

Mrs. Joan Belt, President 718-646-2176

Ms. Josephine Bonnano, Vice President 718-934-2650

"With God all things are possible"

Mass Intentions  **for the week**
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St. Mark Church



Saturday, Aug 22

5:00 PM Joseph Gandolfo

Sunday, Aug 23

8:00 AM The People of the Parish

9:30 AM Joseph Cumella

11:00 AM Paula Weber

12:30 PM Pedro Maresma

Monday, Aug 24 St. Bartholomew

8:30 AM Nicholas Panno

Tuesday, Aug 25 St. Louis

8:30 AM Joseph Benvenuti

Wednesday, Aug 26

8:30 AM James Belt

Thursday, Aug 27 St. Monica

8:30 AM Natalie Cervantes

Friday, Aug 28 St. Augustine

8:30 AM Natalie Cervantes

Saturday, Aug 29 Passion of St. John the Baptist

8:30 AM Thomas Senaca

5:00 PM Frank & Violet Maggi

St. Margaret Mary Church



Sunday, Aug 23

11:00 AM Espana Rodriguez

Wednesday, Aug 26

9:00 AM Julius Santa Barbara

Sunday, Aug 30

11:00 AM Fifth Sunday Mass Knights of Columbus Baron DeKalb

Miraculous Medal Novena

Wednesday after the 9:00 AM Mass

Homebound in Manhattan Beach:

If you or someone you know would like to have a Eucharistic Minister visit and administer Holy Communion; please call Gilda at 718-769-1312. Also, please advise Gilda of any sick parishioner who wishes to be included in the Prayer of the Faithful at Sunday Mass.

AUGUST 23, 2015
TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME

If we approach Christianity from our own presuppositions then we completely miss the fact, as Pope Benedict XVI writes, that "being Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction." We are to look beyond the saying to the Say-er. This is what it means to "be subordinate to one another out of reverence for Christ." Decide today whom you will serve—your own ideas or the Lord?

Today's Readings:

Joshua 24:1-2a,15-17, 18b

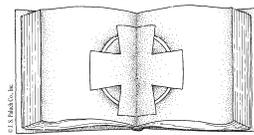
Psalms 34:9a

Ephesians 5:21-32

John 6:60-69

Please pray for the sick:
Marcelle Clottin, Alfred DiGrazia, Joseph Spinella,
Joseph John Buccheri, Sally Frances Buccheri,
Eugene Chrzanowski,
& Diane Camacho
who is in need of a kidney donor.
 718-284-0704

YOU HAVE
 THE WORDS OF
 ETERNAL
 LIFE



Flowers at the St. Joseph altar for this week are offered in memory of
Joseph Scondato (1 year anniversary)
Requested by Joan & The Boys
 +++
 Gifts to honor a loved one; living or deceased, are available (bread & wine, candles or flowers).
Please contact the parish office for information.

There are open dates for Mass intentions for both St. Mark & St. Margaret Mary.



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“Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.”

This weekend, Jesus' Bread of Life Discourse to which we have been listening these past five Sundays comes to an end. And the scene which began so promisingly with large crowds following Jesus because they saw the signs he was performing by healing the sick, and then even greater crowds searching after him and wanting to carry him off and make him king after he fed the five thousand with the five loaves and two fish, finishes so sadly with many of his disciples walking away and returning to their former way of life, because they found his teaching that he would feed them with his body and blood too hard to accept. Disappointed, and I would also imagine somewhat dejected, Jesus turns to the Twelve and asks them, ““Do you also want to leave?” And Simon Peter, God bless him, once again speaks up for the group of Apostles and answers, “Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God.”

What a great lesson for all of us who, two thousand years later, still find many of the things that Jesus said hard to accept. Whether it be Jesus' and his Church's teaching on divorce, on marriage being between one man and one woman, on chastity, on the sanctity of all human life, on loving our enemies, on forgiving one another, on serving the poor and the marginalized, how many people today say that these teachings are hard and must change in order to conform to society's standards?

The Greek word used for hard in this passage means hard to accept, not hard to understand. Time and again it is not an intellectual difficulty which keeps people from accepting the faith and truly living a Christian life, it is the height of Christ's moral demands. The real difficulty of Christianity is twofold. It demands an act of surrender to Christ, an acceptance of him as the final authority; and it demands a moral standard of the highest level. So many people walk away from the Church, not because they no longer believe, but because they no longer want to believe, because their belief challenges them to repentance and conversion. They would prefer to live the life of the flesh, but as Jesus says, the flesh is of no avail; it is the Spirit that gives life. Jesus says, “The words I have spoken to you are Spirit and life.” He alone can tell us what life is really all about. He alone can give us the grace, his Spirit dwelling in us, to give us the courage and strength to live it well. He alone can reveal to us our true purpose in life and give us the power to work out that purpose against the constant opposition that comes from the world without and our stubborn pride within.

At the end of the day, Christianity is not a philosophy we accept, nor a theory to which we give our allegiance, nor a system of rules and regulations meant to enslave us. It is a personal response to Jesus Christ. It is the allegiance and love we give to Him because our hearts will not allow us to do anything else. Jesus was well aware that some would not only reject his offer of life, but would reject it with hostility. John tells us that Jesus knew from the beginning the ones who would not believe. He offers us his grace, but it is up to us to receive it and put it into practice. He gives us the free will to resist and walk away, and those who do so are not shut out by God but by themselves. St. Augustine once famously said, “If you believe what you like in the gospels, and reject what you don't like, it is not the gospel you believe, but yourself.” I don't know about you, but I will take my chances with the Gospel, the Good News of Jesus Christ.

– Fr. Bob

Sunday Collection: August 16, 2015

St. Mark Church

1st Collection: \$3,829.00

2nd Collection: \$982.00

Attendance: 499

Envelopes Returned: 144

St. Margaret Mary Church

1st Collection: \$409.00

2nd Collection: \$77.00

Attendance: 48

Envelopes Returned: 18



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2015 Annual Catholic Appeal

St. Mark

Goal: \$40,125

Amt. Pledged: \$74,711

Amt. Rec'd: \$58,751

of Donors: 269

% Participation: 31.28%

St. Margaret Mary

Goal: \$2,354

Amt. Pledged: \$6,540

Amt. Rec'd: \$6,250

of Donors: 19

% Participation: 20.21%



Who is St. Monica?

The circumstances of St. Monica's life could have made her a nagging wife, a bitter daughter-in-law and a despairing parent, yet she did not give way to any of these temptations. Although she was a Christian, her parents gave her in marriage to a pagan, Patricius, who lived in her hometown of Tagaste in North Africa. Patricius had some redeeming features, but he had a violent temper and was licentious. Monica also had to bear with a cantankerous mother-in-law who lived in her home. Patricius criticized his wife because of her charity and piety, but always respected her. Monica's prayers and example finally won her husband and mother-in-law to Christianity. Her husband died in 371, one year after his baptism. Monica had at least three children who survived infancy. The oldest, St. Augustine, is the most famous. At the time of his father's death, Augustine was 17 and a rhetoric student in Carthage. Monica was distressed to learn that her son had accepted the Manichean heresy (all flesh is evil) and was living an immoral life. For a while, she refused to let him eat or sleep in her house. Then one night she had a vision that assured her Augustine would return to the faith. From that time on, she stayed close to her son, praying and fasting for him. *In fact, she often stayed much closer than Augustine wanted.* When he was 29, Augustine decided to go to Rome to teach rhetoric. Monica was determined to go along. One night he told his mother that he was going to the dock to say goodbye to a friend. Instead, he set sail for Rome. Monica was heartbroken when she learned of Augustine's trick, but she still followed him. She arrived in Rome only to find that he had left for Milan. Although travel was difficult, Monica pursued him to Milan. In Milan, Augustine came under the influence of the bishop, St. Ambrose, who also became Monica's spiritual director. She accepted his advice in everything and Monica became a leader of the devout women in Milan as she had been in Tagaste. She continued her prayers for Augustine during his years of instruction. At Easter, 387, St. Ambrose baptized Augustine and several of his friends. Soon after, his party left for Africa. Although no one else was aware of it, Monica knew her life was near the end. She told Augustine, "Son, nothing in this world now affords me delight. I do not know what there is now left for me to do or why I am still here, all my hopes in this world being now fulfilled." She became ill shortly after and suffered severely for nine days before her death. She is considered the patron saint of mothers.

Upcoming Events

Scripture Study The Gospel of Mark

A five week course meeting on Wednesday evenings from Sept. 9th through Oct. 7th from 7:00-8:30 pm. Each week we will watch and listen to a dramatic reading of a portion of Mark's Gospel followed by an in depth discussion. Recommended, but not required is the book *Hearing Mark – A Listener's Guide* by Elizabeth Struthers Malbon and published by Trinity Press International. It is available on amazon.com for roughly \$25. Teachers & catechists who complete the course will earn 8 credit hours in the Living and Leading by Faith program. The registration fee is \$10.00. To register, please call the rectory office.

****For the *Priest, Prophet, King* series which will begin on Oct. 14th, the registration fee is \$25.00 which includes a workbook. The registration deadline for this course is Sept. 21st to allow us to order the necessary materials.****

St. Therese—Story of A Soul

One woman live performance from St. Luke Productions

Saturday, Sept 19th 7:00—9:30 PM

Our Lady of Grace Church—Fr. Cutrone Gym Avenue W & East 3rd St.

Tickets: \$10.00 per person on sale at rectory 718-627-2020

Also at Our Lady of Grace:

Shanghai Nights Card Party

Friday, Oct 16 7:00 PM

Live Games, Prizes, Asian Cuisine, Door Prizes \$35.00 per person for info call rectory # above.

**IRISH DINNER CABARET
BUCKLEY'S RESTAURANT
FRIDAY NOV. 13, 2015
"ECHOES OF IRELAND"**



Starring The Paddy Noonan Band with Tommy Mulvihill, Jimmy Walsh & PJ Cardinal
Special Guest: Sheila Noonan
For reservations & information call Regina Dunn 518-624-6699



Don't forget; St. Mark Catholic Academy opens on Sept. 9th 2015

The School of Evangelization of the Diocese of Brooklyn is in the process of accepting a new group of candidates for the 3 year Lay Ministry Program (LMP). The goal of this program is to prepare lay persons with leadership potential to assume positions as volunteer pastoral leaders for a particular ministry in the parish. The LMP provides a resource at the diocesan level that addresses the need for future Lay Pastoral leaders. The program integrates theological education, spiritual formation, pastoral skills development, supervised ministry practicum & a mentoring process. If you are interested please call the rectory at 718-891-3100.

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

In Preparation for Pope Francis' visit to the US in September, the St. Mark Home Academy Association will be selling Vatican Flags. Flags are 12x18 on a 24 inch stick, and will be Available after all the Masses starting the weekend of Aug 29-30. Suggested donation: \$3.00 each



IMPORTANT:
SAFE ENVIRONMENT

St. Mark Parish complies with the Safe Environment mandates that are set forth by the Diocese of Brooklyn and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. **All teachers, volunteers, coaches, scout leaders, etc., all employees and volunteers who have any contact with children, must attend a VRITUS training workshop; sign a Code of Conduct, and agree to a background check.**

The workshops are free. For more information: www.virtus.org

The Diocese of Brooklyn does everything possible to assure that everyone, particularly children, are safe in all pastoral functions and settings.

Bishop Kearney HS TACHS Prep
Sept 15-Nov 3, Tuesdays 4-6pm,
8th grade, (coed) Fee: \$250
www.bishopkearneyhs.org/TACHS



St. Mark R.C. Parish

Office of Faith Formation

Office Hours:

Our office will be closed for the summer, but we will be checking messages. 718-769-6311

Our classes will start on
Sunday, September 20, 2015 at 9:30am
New and Re-registration for Faith Formation
Classes 2015-16

New registrations will need the original Baptism & Birth Certificates. If transferring from another parish you must bring proof of attendance & dates of any sacraments received.

Re-registration: all students **MUST** be registered each year. **Fees** are 1 child-\$125, 2 children-\$205, 3 children-\$265, 4 or more children-free.

REGISTRATION can be done on line at our web site at: www.stmarkbrooklyn.org or forms can be picked up in the rectory or in the church.

Adult Confirmation: Classes will be held on Thursday evenings starting October 2015 please contact Ms. Pino for more information.

Confirmation for 8th graders: We are taking registration for an evening class for those preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in the 8th grade. (Must have had 7 years in religion classes prior to 8th grade. This class will be held on Thursday evenings at 7:00pm probably every other week. You are obligated to attend mass every week. If we do not get enough young adults enrolled, we will not be able to hold the evening session.

The Sunday weekly Confirmation class is still available if that fits your schedule Please contact the Faith Formation Office at 718-769-6311 for more information, leave your name & number so someone can return your call.

RCIA-Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults is a process which helps a person prepare to become a member of the Roman Catholic church, a process of inquiry, evangelization, prayer and study leading to reception of the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. Also, for those who have been baptized but never received the sacraments of Eucharist and/or Confirmation; classes are held on Sunday afternoons beginning in October 2015.

Volunteers needed: Catechists/instructors are needed to work with the children a few hours a week on Sundays beginning in September to help them learn about God. Helpers age 16 and older are always welcome to help in the office on Sundays. Please leave your name and phone number.