



*Welcome to the Catholic Community of*

# ***SAINT MARK***

## ***THE EVANGELIST***

*A Catholic Community of Caring Since 1981  
Serving Londonderry, Hudson & Windham - New Hampshire*

**Church and Parish Center (603) 432-8711  
One South Road, Londonderry, NH 03053**

**Fr. Mike Zgonc**  
**Deacon Tom Lavallee**  
**Cathy Kinnon**  
**Brandon Sargent**  
**Rebecca Nusbaum**  
**Claudia Dominguez**  
**Allan Fernald**  
**Artie Carew**  
**Richard Dussault**

*Pastor*  
*Permanent Deacon*  
*Religious Education Director*  
*Evangelist/Youth Minister*  
*RCIA Coordinator/Youth Minister*  
*Director of First Impressions*  
*Music Director*  
*Music Director*  
*Custodian*

### **MASS SCHEDULE**

**Saturday @ 5:00 PM**

**Sunday @ 8:00 AM 9:30 AM and 11:00 AM**

**Monday through Thursday @ 9:00 AM**

**Welcome Home! We, as a Parish Family,  
are so glad you are here!**

*As sharers of the one baptism & the one Spirit of the Risen Christ, we have come together as the Parish Community of St. Mark the Evangelist to proclaim our identity as the People of God.*

*The Eucharist is the center of our life and work together. Through the one bread, we become the one body of Christ, a living sacrifice of praise. In our worship of God, the Author of life and holiness, we proclaim our hope in the life of Christ's Resurrection; we open our hearts and minds to the Spirit of God dwelling in our midst.*

*In our work, together, we seek...*

*to enable our children to grow in the wisdom and knowledge of God; to accompany our young sons and daughters on their journeys of discovery toward adulthood; to deepen our faith commitment through prayer & study; to be present to one another in the joys and sufferings, the victories and struggles of life; to give witness to the Gospel of justice and compassion to our hurting world.*

*We welcome to our parish family all who share our Catholic faith & traditions & our search for God in all things.*

*-Parish Mission Statement*



Facebook: [stmarkslondonderry](https://www.facebook.com/stmarkslondonderry)  
Twitter: [@stmarksnh](https://twitter.com/stmarksnh)  
Website: [www.stmarksnh.org](http://www.stmarksnh.org)

**From the Desk of Deacon Tom...**

Brothers and Sisters,

Happy New Year! This Sunday, the First Sunday of Advent, begins a new Liturgical Year. As Christians, we live IN the world but we are not OF the world. We hear this saying frequently in our church, but we may not grasp or reflect on what it means. I wrote the beginning of this column before looking at the readings for this weekend, and I see now that the first few lines of our First Reading from the book of Isaiah explain the phrase.

"You, Lord, are our father, our redeemer you are named forever. Why do you let us wander from your ways and harden our hearts so that we fear you not?" Interesting that Isaiah called God "father" before Jesus came and taught the disciples how to pray by calling God "Abba" or father. How prophetic of him! Of course he was, arguably, the greatest of the prophets (and, by the way, has one of the longer books in the bible). God has placed in our hearts that internal longing to be close to Him, but we are easily distracted by all the responsibilities in our everyday lives.

The reading speaks of longing for God, praising His greatness and wanting Him to enter the world to bring us to Himself. The longing similar to how we likely felt as children - that lighting the first candle on the Advent wreath meant Christmas seemed so far away. Now, as adults with all the responsibilities, we probably look at that first candle and think "I've only got three more weeks to get all this shopping done!"

The challenge is to try to find some small amount of time in what the world considers the Christmas season - sometime shortly after Halloween up until Christmas Eve - and instead try to separate ourselves from all that hype and maybe for just a few moments re-experience that child-like thinking that Christmas seems so far off. For us, the Christmas Season doesn't BEGIN until Christmas Day (technically, at the 4:00 PM Mass on Christmas Eve)!

Maybe it's arriving to Mass just a few minutes earlier to reflect on the Season of Advent in hope and anticipation. It could be attending one of our Monday Night Faith Formation sessions. Or maybe it's just stopping in the chapel on your way to or from work on Tuesdays during Advent to spend 15 minutes for Eucharistic Adoration in front of the Blessed Sacrament. If your days are booked, there will be Eucharistic Adoration and Confession available on Monday evenings this Advent season from 6:00 - 6:45 PM in the Church.

There are plenty of opportunities over the next few weeks to experience for a short time the childlike longing for God that He has placed in our hearts.

May God give you His Peace!

Deacon Tom

**In Remembrance...**

We kindly ask the entire St. Mark's community to pray for the repose of the soul of Mr. John Balletto. On Friday, November 17, Mr. Balletto went into cardiac arrest and passed away while driving northbound on Mammoth Road. His vehicle veered off the roadway and into our sign. He is survived by his wife Melody, and his children Grace, Ruth, Paul, Timothy, Stephen, and Lydia. Please remember them all in your prayers during this Advent season.

*Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

**Last Call for \$600!!**

The NH Knights of Columbus are once again sponsoring a **Student Respect Life Essay Contest!** The deadline for entries is **December 15, 2017**, by midnight! The contest is open to all New Hampshire middle and high school students. The Knights will make up to six cash rewards of \$100! The theme this year is: "How would you respond to claims that Pro-Life denies a woman's choice? Contest details may be obtained from KofC NH contest chairman John P. Matuszewski (603-434-4098), or KofC NH State Pro-Life Chairman Ron Distasio (603-595-7837)

**Poor Box for November & December**

Donations to the Poor Box for November and December will be used to support the St. Mark's Christmas Basket Program. This parish effort provides food and gifts to local families in need during the Christmas Season. Stay tuned for further information on how you can help with this wonderful parish tradition.

**Christmas Basket Program**

This is the last week to choose a gift for the Christmas Basket program. Stop by the Welcoming Room on your way out of Mass today and make your selection. Members of the Community Affairs Committee will be available to assist you and answer questions. Please return your gifts **no later than December 10**. This return date is crucial to being able to deliver to families in a timely fashion. **PLEASE**, return your gifts no later than December 10.

**Religious Education News**

- \* Confirmation Rehearsal will be held next **Saturday, December 9, at 10:00 AM**. Students are asked gather in the Church Hall at that time.
- \* The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated here at St. Mark's next **Sunday, December 10th, at 2:00 PM**. Please keep these students and their families in your prayers as they receive the grace of being fully initiated into the Catholic Church!
- \* 10th Grade Confirmation class is tonight, **Sunday December 3 at 6:30 PM** in the Parish Hall.

**Youth Ministry!**

Our next High School Youth Night will be **Sunday evening, December 17, at 6:00 PM** in the Parish Lounge! Come on down and hang out with us as we prepare to celebrate Christmas! Food and fun, as always! Bring a friend! We'll see you there! If you have any questions, please call the Parish Office, or send an email to [brandon@stmarksnh.org](mailto:brandon@stmarksnh.org).

**This Week @ St. Mark's!!!**

**Sunday, December 3:**

- 10:30 AM RCIA (Lounge)
- 4:00 PM Children's Choir (Church)
- 6:30 PM Confirmation Class (10th Grade)

**Monday, December 4:**

- 6:00 PM Exposition & Confession (Church)
- 7:00 PM Evensong (Church)
- 7:30 PM Adult Faith Formation (Lounge)

**Tuesday, December 5:**

- 6 AM-11 PM Eucharistic Adoration (Chapel)
- 4:30 PM Religious Education
- 6:00 PM St. Gianna Volunteer Appreciation (Hall)
- 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry (Room )
- 7:00 PM Grace Within Alumni (Lounge)
- 7:00 PM Religious Education
- 7:30 PM Choir Practice (Church)

**Friday, December 8:**

- 3:00 PM Christmas Baskets (Hall)

**Saturday, December 9:**

- 9:30 AM Al Anon (Room 209)
- 10:00 AM Confirmation Rehearsal (Church)
- 11:30 AM Christmas Baskets (Hall)
- 1:00 PM Baptism (Church)

**Christmas Trees!! Won't you join us?**

St. Mark's Knights of Columbus Council 10488 is hosting their annual Christmas Tree Sale! This is the Knight's hallmark fund-raiser for the year, and the proceeds support the various service projects that these men provide for our parish family and the whole community! Support them and St. Mark's by purchasing a fresh, beautiful tree from the Knights!

Have a teenager in your house getting ready to apply for college? Institutes of higher education LOVE to see community service projects on applications! The staff at St. Mark's would gladly write such recommendations for college-bound students. The K of C Christmas Tree Sale is a fun and rewarding opportunity to acquire some of those community service hours! Bring a friend and come on down to help spread some Christmas cheer! If you're interested, stop by the Welcome Center, or call the office at 432-8711.

**Second Annual Christmas Concert!**

Join us *Saturday, December 16, at 7:00 PM* for a night of festive choral music at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish in Derry! Our beloved St. Mark's Choir will be performing alongside the choirs of St. Thomas and Holy Cross! This is a free event with a reception to follow at the Aquinas Center. Come and enjoy the sounds of the season! For more information, please contact the Parish Office at 434-8711.

**Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception**

This *Friday, December 8*, the Church remembers the miracle of our Blessed Mother being created without the stain of original sin, in order that she would become the true Arc of the Covenant, the mother of the Messiah. Join our St. Mark's family at 9:00 AM or 7:00 PM as we celebrate Holy Mass in honor of Our Lady

**Christmas Liturgy Schedule**

**Sunday, December 24:**

- 4:00 PM Mass with Children's Choir (Church)
- 4:00 PM Mass (downstairs in the Church Hall)
- 7:00 PM Mass with Adult Choir

**Monday, December 25:**

- 12:00 AM Midnight Mass
- 10:00 AM Mass

**Advent Evensong & Adult Faith Formation**

Join us this *Monday evening, December 4, at 7:00 PM* for an Evensong prayer service in the Church. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed at 6:00 PM and the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available until 6:50. Join us immediately afterwards at 7:30 down in the Parish Lounge for Adult Faith Formation! Father Mike will lead us in a meditation on the theme of 'Hope' - a very relevant topic in this season of joyful expectation. Refreshments will be provided, and we always have a lot of fun. Come join us!

The following week, on Monday evening, December 11, we will again join together for evening prayer with a presentation to follow. That week, Deacon Tom will lead a discussion on the spiritual and traditional roles of all the characters in the Nativity story. You don't want to miss it! If you have any questions, please call the Parish Office at 432-8711.

**Mass Intentions for Dec. 2 - Dec. 10**

**12/2 Saturday, 5 PM:**

Pam & Carl Wakefield by Andrea Oullette

**12/3 Sunday, 8 AM:**

Ted Swiderek by Stan & Sheila Swiderek

**12/3 Sunday, 9:30 AM:**

People of the Parish

**12/3 Sunday, 11 AM:**

Yvette Patenaude by John & Suzanne Patenaude

**12/4 Monday, 9 AM:**

Jordan Lewis by Cynthia Nichols

**12/5 Tuesday, 9 AM:**

Adrian Pallone by his family

**12/6 Wednesday, 9 AM:**

Ed Dzeirgowski by Donna & Edward Whitney

**12/7 Thursday 9 AM:**

Grace & Thomas Yang by Mary Y. Lynch

**12/9 Saturday, 5 PM:**

Pat Trongo by Judy & Mike Palenchar

**12/10 Sunday, 8 AM:**

Frank Griffin by his family

**12/10 Sunday, 9:30 AM:**

Kathy Pond by the Giguere family

**12/10 Sunday, 11 AM:**

Daniel Patenaude by John & Suzanne Patenaude

**Sacrificial Giving (Nov. 18 - 19)**

**Operating Funds**

Offertory Envelopes (144)	\$4,042.00
Loose Cash/Checks	\$1,839.00
Electronic Giving	\$40.00
ParishPay	\$1,553.00
Social	\$88.00
General Donation	\$186.00
Mass Donations	\$20.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,768.00</b>

**Designated Funds**

Capital Development	\$50.00
Charitable	\$100.00
Diocesan (Human Development)	\$588.00
All Saints Day	\$55.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$793.00</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$8,561.00</b>

**Sacrificial Giving (Nov. 25 - 26)**

**Operating Funds**

Offertory Envelopes (161)	\$4,455.00
Loose Cash/Checks	\$2,141.00
Electronic Giving	\$205.00
WeShare (ParishPay)	\$2,061.66
General Donation	\$1,107.00
Mass Donations	\$78.00
Donations (wed/bap/fun)	\$500.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$10,547.66</b>

**Designated Funds**

Capital Development	\$165.00
Charitable	\$320.00
Diocesan (Human Development)	\$121.00
Christmas	\$10.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$616.00</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$11,163.66</b>

*As a new Liturgical Year begins, we give thanks to Almighty God for the unending blessings He bestows on our St. Mark's family. Your continued gifts of time, talent, and treasure have enabled our parish to thrive in its mission to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ to this community and beyond. Thank you.*

**Parish Contact Information**

Parish Office	(603) 432-8711
Religious Education Office FAX	(603) 434-5711
Parish Email	info@stmarksnh.org
Web Page	stmarksnh.org
Office Hours	Mon-Thurs 9 AM- 4 PM
Fr Mike	frmike@stmarksnh.org
Deacon Tom	dctom@stmarksnh.org
Cathy Kinnon	cathy@stmarksnh.org
Brandon Sargent	brandon@stmarksnh.org
Beccah Nusbaum	beccah@stmarksnh.org
Allan Fernald	allan@stmarksnh.org
Artie Carew	artie@stmarksnh.org
Claudia Dominguez	info@stmarksnh.org
Pastoral Council	Justin Paré
Finance Council	Kevin Cronin
Music	Allan Fernald (603) 434-9101 Artie Carew (603) 546-5503
Outreach	Dianne Zdankiewicz (603) 434-7991
Knights of Columbus	Brian Roche (603) 889-3284
Men of St Joseph	Bill Donroe (603) 432-6066
Prayer Line	(603) 424-4678
Safe Environment	Claudia Dominguez (603) 432-8711
Al-Anon	Saturdays, 9:30- 11 AM
Birthright	(603) 434-3000
NH Catholic Charities, Windham	(603) 893-1971

**Sacrament of Baptism**

Parents are asked to participate in the baptismal catechesis program prior to their child's baptism.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Saturday 3:30-4:30 PM or by appointment

**Sacrament of Marriage**

Couples should contact the parish office at least six months in advance and before making any other wedding arrangements.

**Sacrament of the Sick**

Please call us to request the Sacrament of the Sick or to receive communion in the home.

**Eucharistic Adoration**

Tuesdays, 6:00 AM-11PM / First Fridays 8 PM-12 AM