



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
Cathy Kinnon
Brandon Sargent
Rebecca Nusbaum
Claudia Dominguez
Allan Fernald
Artie Carew
Richard Dussault

Pastor
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 and 10:30 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

From your Parish Evangelist...

What does God look like? I'm sure many of us have the classic image of an old, wise man with a long white beard. Most likely that stems from various artistic images we have seen - like the ceiling fresco from the Sistine Chapel: the Father reaching out from His angelic throne to touch the finger of Adam. The Book of Genesis tells us of God's interior dialogue as He decided on the grand finale of creation: "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness" (Gen 1:26). Does this mean God looks like us? Maybe. Maybe not.

So what about being made in His image differs us from everything else He created? We share in the Divine likeness by sharing God's ability to make choices. Not instinctual choices like we see in the animal kingdom, but rational decisions. We humans have been given the gift of our reason to determine good from not-so-good. We have a natural inclination towards goodness. This is the likeness of God. This is the gift of free will.

Proper orientation of our free will can be a battle, for sure. We're imperfect and self-interested, and most of us are bound to make a poor decision every now and again. Our readings this week remind us that we're not alone in the struggle. God speaks to us through the prophet Ezekiel, "Is it my way that is unfair, or rather, are not your ways unfair?" Sure, God has given us some rules, but we're the ones who choose whether or not to follow them! The psalmist pleads to the Lord to strengthen him in his decisions: "Your ways, O Lord, make known to me; teach me your paths, guide me in your truth and teach me."

God's rules are meant to keep us on the path to goodness...to help influence our human wills to imitate His Divine Will - to be a reflection of His love - to truly be in His image and likeness. Seeking the good requires unity of purpose, as St. Paul reminds us today - instructing all of us to make choices that unite us in "the same mind, with the same love, united in heart, thinking one thing."

Our Lord's parable in Matthew's gospel again presents us with the power of our choices. Life is a constant series of decisions, and God has given us the gift of being able to say "I will not," or "yes, sir." However, as the parable demonstrates, we all come to make the right decisions at different phases of our lives. We may refuse the goodness at the start, and then take a turn for the better, or vice-versa. We always have a choice. God gifted us with His image and likeness because He desires us to seek Him, to seek the good. He didn't want us to be robots. He wanted us to experience the beauty and majesty of His creation and to eventually see Him as He truly is: Perfect Love; Perfect Goodness. If we could not discern Light from Dark, if we could not use our reason to choose good over evil, we would never be able to truly appreciate the blessing of free-will that gives us a true share in the Life of God.

In Christ,

Brandon Sargent

New Permanent Deacon Assignment

As was announced last weekend, with the ordination of ten new permanent deacons that were ordained a few weeks ago, many assignment changes were made. St. Mark's was notified by the Bishop's office that Deacon Tom Lavalley will be assigned here as of next weekend. A permanent Deacon is a volunteer role within the parish who assists in several ministries such as baptisms, and RCIA. Deacon Tom works full time in sales and will be assisting us when his job and time allows. We look forward to welcoming Deacon Tom and his wife Cathy back to the St. Mark's community next weekend!!!

Women's Ministry!!

ROSARY – We would like to welcome all members of the parish to join us after Mass on Wednesday mornings to pray the rosary for peace in the world and for the respect of life from conception until natural death. After Mass is concluded, we will allow a few minutes for personal prayer before we begin the rosary together. If you would like to know more, please contact Susanne Live4Him@myfairpoint.net.

BOOK GROUP - St. Mark's Woman's Ministries would like to begin an evening book group meeting every other month starting Thursday, September 28! We would meet in the Lounge at 7 PM and discuss a faith inspiring book. The first book we would discuss is *The Way of a Pilgrim and The Pilgrim Continues His Way*, translated by Helen Bacovcin. Each participant would be responsible to get their own book. If you are interested in taking part in this group, please contact Susanne at Live4Him@myfairpoint.net, or call the Parish Office. Registration and materials for this course is \$20. You can register and drop of your payment at the Welcome Center after Mass, or at the office during business hours. Checks can be made out to St. Mark's. Those registering after September 10th will be responsible to purchase their own journal online at <https://ascensionpress.com/shop/products/wisdom-gods-vision-for-life-journal>.

Mother - Daughter Tea...

On *Saturday, November 4th, from 1-3 PM*, in partnership with the Gianna Family Care Center of Londonderry, we will be hosting a Mother Daughter Tea for girls ages 9 - 13 and their mothers! We invite you to come explore God's special gift of human fertility and the beauty and wonder of God's holy plan for becoming a woman. This program builds a foundation for continued communication between a mother and her daughter. Our speaker, Nancy Malo of Catholic Medical Center, will be discussing topics including the changes in a young woman's body as it prepares for future motherhood; the female reproductive system; the sacredness of human life; the self-respect of modesty; and the virtue of chastity. If you have any questions please contact Susanne at Live4Him@myfairpoint.net.

Blessing of the Animals!!!

St. Francis' Feast Day is celebrated on Wednesday, October 4. Since this falls during the week, we will be having the customary 'Blessing of the Animals' as well as an 'ecological' Way of the Cross (to continue our celebration of the Season of Creation) on *Sunday, October 10 at 2 PM* over by our outdoor Stations of the Cross. Bring yourself, Fido, Rover, Clyde, and whatever other animal you want to bring to be blessed!!!!

This Week @ St. Mark's!!!

Sunday, October 1:

10:30 AM RCIA (Lounge)
12:30 PM 9th Grade Parent Meeting (Church)
4:00 PM Marriage Ministry Core Team (Lounge)

Tuesday, October 3:

6 AM- 11 PM Eucharistic Adoration (Chapel)
4:30 PM CCD Classes
6:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry (Room 103)
7:30 PM Choir Practice (Church)

Wednesday, October 4:

10:00 AM Women's Bible Study (Lounge)
7:00 PM Grace Within (Room 102)

Friday, October 6: *Nocturnal Adoration*

5:30 PM Lenten Supper (Hall)
7:00 PM Wedding Rehearsal (Dvorak/Felix)

Saturday, October 7:

9:30 AM Al Anon (Room 209)
1:30 PM Dvorak/Felix Wedding (Church)

Wedding Bells!!!

It will be a privilege to witness the Sacramental Marriage of Steven Dvorak at Sarah Felix next Saturday! May we join as a community in prayer for them as they commit themselves to each other in this wondrous Sacrament! Steven was raised here at St. Mark's and is the son of Mike and Susan Dvorak.

Keep in prayer....

This week our St. Mark community remembers in prayer all who have died... especially Ed Dziergowski, husband of Lois Dziergowski...and for Father Moe Lavigne, a priest of our diocese who passed away this week. And also we continue to remember Kevin Driscoll, the brother of Cathy Kinnon in our prayers. *Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they and all the faithful departed rest in peace.*

RCIA??? You???

This is the time of year when we start up our RCIA program (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)! This is a discernment process for those who have never been baptized, or baptized in another faith seeking full communion with the Catholic Church. Could God be nudging you to take the next step? Come and See! Our RCIA classes meet after the 9:30 Mass on Sunday mornings in the Parish Lounge. See you there! Contact Beccah at beccah@stmarksnh.org.

Spend an Hour with Him

Nocturnal Adoration will be held on *Friday, October 6, beginning at 8 p.m. until midnight*. Please join us for prayer and adoration before the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel each hour. For information, call Dennis at 437-6051.

Community Outreach

The next meeting of St. Mark's Community Outreach will be on *Monday, October 9, at 6:30 PM* in Room 104 of the Parish Center. Preparations and planning for our Stockings for Soldiers collection and the Christmas Basket Program are well underway!! Bring your ideas and your helping hands! We hope to see you on October 9th!

Religious Education News

*9th grade students and parents are reminded of their confirmation meeting today (Sunday) at 1:00 in the Church

*Religious Education Classes have started this past week. If you have not yet register please call Cathy Kinnon at 434-5711

*1st grade Families are reminded of their child's first meeting on Thursday, October 12th at 4:30-5:45 Chapters 1-5 should be completed at that time.

Oktoberfest Thank You!!!

What a wonderful event we had last Saturday! Thank you to Diana Lamothe and the FUNdraising team for the countless hours of planning and organizing this amazing event....it was fun for all! Check out the pictures and videos of this event on our website stmarks.org or on our Facebook page! A special thanks also to the many sponsors who made this event possible! Another special thanks to whoever came up with the Dunk Tank idea.... Fr Mike is STILL drying off!

Can you help??

The NET team puts on a retreat for our High School Students each year...and we need a place to house the 6 young men who are on the team. They would need a place to stay from *Friday, October 20th to Sunday, October 22nd*. Can you help? Contact Cathy Kinnon at the office if you are willing to house these ministers for a few days!!

Children's Liturgy of the Word

We are looking for a few extra volunteers (18+) to help out with the Children's Liturgy of the Word, offered during the 9:30am Mass. The Children's Liturgy is a wonderful experience for our children ages 4-8 to come together, learn the rituals of the Mass, and hear the gospel at their own level! Children are dismissed from the Mass, just after the opening prayer, and are lead by adult volunteers to our designated classroom. The children return to their family during the offertory and remain in the church until the conclusion of the Mass. We'd love to have you join us! Contact Stephanie Wright at stephaniesigmund@yahoo.com or 617-782-3414 for more information.

Sacrificial Giving (September 23-24)

Operating Funds

Offertory Envelopes (135)	\$3,713.00
Loose Cash	\$1,679.00
Electronic Giving (4)	\$105.00
Parish Pay Weekly Avg (55)	\$1,564.16
Social	\$58.00
General Donation	\$109.39
Religious Ed Tuition	\$680.00
Mass Donations	\$170.00
Total	\$8,078.55

Designated Funds

Capital Development	\$1,580.00
Diocesan Collection (Priest/Ret/CathU)	\$1,577.00
Poor Box (Hurricane/CathCharities)	\$3,148.00
Total	\$6,305.00

Grand Total **\$14,383.55**

Mass Intentions for Sept 30-Oct 8

9/30 Saturday, 5 PM:

Pasquale Trongo by Larry and Marie Bean

10/1 Sunday, 8 AM:

Genevieve Allen by Stan and Sheila Swiderek

10/1 Sunday, 9:30 AM:

Kathleen Belmonte by her family

10/1 Sunday, 11 AM:

Elisa Patnaude by John and Suzanne Patnaude

10/2 Monday, 9 AM:

Kathleen Anderson by Allan & Terry Fernald

10/3 Tuesday, 9 AM:

Adrian Pallone by the family

10/4 Wednesday, 9 AM:

Marie Houle by the Gosselin family

10/5 Thursday 9 AM:

Zora and JS Strauss by the family

10/7 Saturday, 5 PM:

Ruth Picarello by the family

10/8 Sunday, 8 AM:

Alan Gosselin by the Gosselin family

10/8 Sunday, 9:30 AM:

Gerald M. Gillespie by K of C 10988

10/8 Sunday, 11 AM:

Catherine Kelley by the Kelley family

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
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

Pastoral Council	Justin Paré
Finance Council	Kevin Cronin
Music	Allan Fernald (603) 434-9101
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) 432-7425
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 3:30-4:30pm or by appointment
Mondays from 6:00-7:00 PM (Lent)

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, 6:00am-11pm / First Fridays 8pm-12am