



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
Brandon Sargent
Claudia Dominguez
Allan Fernald
Artie Carew
Richard Dussault

Pastor
Permanent Deacon
Evangelist/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

From your Parish Evangelist...

Of all the well-deserved criticism I received as an adolescent, the repeating theme at the root of it all was, “Brandon, you just don’t *LISTEN!*” I’m sure that I wasn’t alone in receiving this critique. Not that it did much good, because like every teenager, I knew *everything*.

While not true in every case, it may be safe to say that a certain amount of arrogance and disregard for authority is part of the coming-of-age process. Most of us get ‘put in our place’ at some point and develop a more modest and humble worldview. Yet as free and independent people, our life lessons and experiences do tend towards autocracy. Knowing what’s best for ourselves and our families is part of the human condition, as our lives demand that we all step into positions of authority at some point. From aloof rebel to responsible leader - all in one lifetime!

Our readings today address this phenomenon. While we all become set in our ways (for better or for worse), Scripture reminds us of our obligation to listen and adhere to authority - God’s authority. Moses speaks of a prophet to come: ‘to him shall you listen.’ We often think of a prophet as one who predicts the future, but foresight is an added feature to what a prophet really is: a special mediator between God and man. A prophet is a proclaimer of God’s will; an inspired teacher. A prophet is an authority.

In the light of the New Testament, we can see that Moses is not merely referring to the prophets of the Old Covenant to follow him like Isaiah and Jeremiah, but to Prophet of all prophets: Jesus Christ. He is the ultimate mediator to the Divine, because He is God Himself. He is the ultimate authority, because He is the Word by which all things were created and through which everything continues in being (Col 1:15-17). We are the ‘people he shepherds, the flock he guides,’ as the Psalmist proclaims today. His authority is absolute, and we are obliged to adhere to the Truth whenever we encounter it. ‘If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.’

Moses warns us of the grave consequences in following false prophets, and in today’s Gospel we encounter an active manifestation of falsehood in the form of demonic possession. Even the fallen angels obey the authority of Christ! Even in their corruption and pride they hear the Truth. They *LISTEN*, and they obey.

We tend to avoid speaking of the devil and his false prophets in modern times. Yet Jesus doesn’t speak of the evil one as an analogy or metaphor. Our Lord tells us that the devil is the ruler of this world (John 12:31). The ruler of a world of pretentiousness, pride, greed, and arrogance. He’s the one who tells we know better. He’s the one who tells us that we can do it on our own. We don’t have to hear what we don’t want to...

But as St. Paul tells us today, these sentiments lead us to error and anxiety. Paul is pointing out a cliché we are all familiar with: ‘Life Happens.’ We get caught up with all the things of the world and we start to drift away from Christ as the Authority in our lives. The distractions of life are certainly not all evil or demonic - but when they are cause for us to stop *LISTENING* they are certainly dangerous. When our experience and circumstances lead us to believe that we know better than the Truth, we can be sure that we are drifting into dangerous waters...

Let us all renew our humble commitment to Christ’s authority. May we strive to keep Christ as the center of all that we do. May he give us the courage to never stop *LISTENING*...

Peace be with you.

Brandon Sargent

Adult Faith Formation

Our next Adult Faith Formation session is this **Monday evening, January 29!** Mike Speltz will lead us in a discussion on our Christian duty to be faithful stewards of God's creation. As Ash Wednesday approaches, perhaps we can approach or Lenten practices with creation care in mind? Join us and be part of the discussion!

Adult Faith Formation begins at 7:00 in the Parish Lounge. Refreshments will be provided, and we always have a lot of fun. See you there!

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! Interested? Please contact Stephanie Wright at stephaniesigmund@yahoo.com or 617-782-3414 for more information. Or stop by the Welcome Center and sign up!

Spend an Hour with Him

Nocturnal Adoration will be held on **Friday, February 2** beginning at 8 PM 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.

Blood Drive at St. Mark's!!

St. Mark's Knights of Columbus Council 10488 is sponsoring a Blood Drive on **Saturday, February 10 from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM** in the Parish Hall! To schedule an appointment, please call 1-800-RED CROSS or visit redcrossblood.org and enter the sponsor code STMARK_LONDONDERRY. Stay tuned to the weekly bulletin for more details. If you would like to volunteer that afternoon with assisting donors, we'd love to have your help. Contact the Parish Office at (603) 432 - 5711 and let us know you're interested!

Religious Education News

A reminder that 9th Grade Confirmation students will meet this Sunday evening, **January 28!**

We have been receiving a lot of inquiries about the logistics concerning the Restoration of the Sacramental Order (i.e. First Communion and Confirmation). We appreciate your patience, as we are awaiting dates from the Diocese on when the Sacraments will be celebrated here at St. Mark's in 2018. We will have this information available as soon as we receive it!

In the interim, please stay tuned to the weekly bulletin - we are currently preparing a comprehensive circler that will contain pertinent information to help your family prepare for this transition.

Any Religious Education inquiries please contact the Parish Office at 432-8711 or email info@stmarksnh.org.

St. Valentine's Day Breakfast

Join us following the 8:00 and 9:30 Masses on **Sunday, February 11** for a St. Valentine's Day Breakfast! Pancakes, bacon, hash browns, and more! We'll have a fun craft project for the kids, too! Admission is \$5, and \$20 for a family of four or more! What a great opportunity for fun and fellowship before we begin our Lenten journey later that week... See you there!

This Week @ St. Mark's!!!

Sunday, January 28:

10:30 AM RCIA (Lounge)
12:30 PM Baptisms (Church)
6:30 PM 9th Grade Confirmation Class (Hall)

Monday, January 29:

7:00 PM Adult Faith Formation (Lounge)

Tuesday, January 30:

6 AM- 11 PM Eucharistic Adoration (Chapel)
4:30 PM Rel. Ed Grades 2-5 (Rel. Ed Center)
7:00 PM Rel. Ed Grades 6-8 (Rel. Ed Center)
7:30 PM Choir Practice (Church)

Wednesday, January 31:

Office Closed for Diocesan Workshop

Friday, February 2:

8:00 PM Nocturnal Adoration (Chapel)

Saturday, February 3:

9:30 AM Al Anon (Room 209)

Join our St. Mark's Souper Bowl Team!

St. Mark's Outreach is sponsoring a collection of cans of soup on *Saturday and Sunday, February 3 & 4* for **Super Bowl (Souper!) Sunday**. Donations will be given to local soup kitchens to help those in need have a Super healthy meal!! When you buy snacks for your Super Bowl parties, please remember to put a can of soup in the cart for the less fortunate! There will be a container at the entrance to the church for your donations. Thanks for your support!!

Vacation Bible School at St. Mark's!!

We are happy to announce that our St. Mark's family will be conducting Vacation Bible School in the Summer of 2018!! Next year's VBS theme is *Shipwrecked!*

Our kids will "venture onto an uncharted island where they are rescued by Jesus! They'll be anchored in the truth that Jesus carries them through every storm in life. They will learn to hold on to God's promises when they are lonely, they worry, they struggle, do wrong, and feel powerless."

We are in the initial planning stages of this event, and we'd love to have you 'on-board'! VBS is geared towards children Preschool to Grade 5. It is a vibrant, energetic week filled with games, activities, and a ridiculous amount of FUN! We would love to have you join us in planning, preparing, and putting on this event. Adults and teens are welcome! If you are interested, please call the Parish Office at 434-8711, or email info@stmarksnh.org! More information will be forthcoming, so stay tuned to the bulletin for more details!

Prayer Shawls...

Do you know someone in need of a spiritual lift? Someone who could benefit from the power of prayer? Perhaps someone in the hospital, homebound, or going through difficult challenges? We at St. Mark's are blessed to have a wonderful group of women who knit Prayer Shawls to accompany others on their journeys through life. If you know someone who could benefit from this gift of love and prayer, stop by the Welcome Center and pick one up.

Poor Box

The January Poor Box will benefit Rockingham County Community Action's fuel assistance program. Donations will be used to help local households in need cover the cost of fuel in these cold winter months. For further information contact www.snhs.org. Thank you for your generosity!

High School Night!!

Next *Sunday, February 4* is High School Night! Yes, the big game is on, and due to popular demand we will be watching it together! No worries if football isn't you're thing, we have plenty of other fun stuff to do. And besides, it more about hanging out anyways, right? We usually wrap up the evening at 8:00, but we will probably stick around until halftime (whichever comes sooner)... We're sure to have plenty of food, so bring a friend along and check it out!

Concerning Tax Information...

Please take a look at the statement you received from us regarding your giving for 2017. If anything appears to be missing or seems lower than expected, please contact the Parish Office and we will gladly work with you to get the information you need to complete your taxes. We ask that you do this by the end of February 2018. As always, thank you for your continued generosity!

Woman's Ministry

Our next book discussion will be *Thursday, March 15*. At that point we will be deep into the season of Lent. With this in mind, we would like to invite all women of the parish to join us in reading *Death on a Friday Afternoon* by Richard John Neuhaus, and to join our discussion of at 7 PM in the Lounge. If you have any questions, contact Live4Him@myfairpoint.net.

From the back of the book: "If what Christians say about Good Friday is true, then it is, quite simply, the truth about everything." In this book, Neuhaus unpacks the truth of the Seven Last Words of Jesus, a truth that sets Good Friday apart from all other days. *Death on a Friday Afternoon* invites readers to embark on a journey into mystery and wonder, and to ponder the stories of people today who in their troubles find themselves at the foot of the cross.

Sacrificial Giving (Jan 20 -21)

Operating Funds

Offertory Envelopes (147)	\$4,456.00
Loose Cash & Checks	\$2,063.00
Electronic Giving	\$100.00
WeShare	\$1,691.66
Fuel (81)	\$50.00
Social	\$50.00
General Donations	\$150.00
Mass Donations	\$51.00
Total	\$8,611.66

Designated Funds

Capital Development (4)	\$60.00
Charitable (7)	\$185.00
Special Collection (Holy Days)	\$35.00
Diocesan	\$53.00
Seminarian Fund	\$2,497.25
Total	\$2,830.25
Grand Total	\$11,441.91

Mass Intentions for Jan. 27 - Feb. 4

1/27 Saturday, 5 PM:

Rev. Tom Bresnahan by the Kinney family

1/28 Sunday, 8 AM:

Kevin Driscoll by Rita Griffin

1/28 Sunday, 9:30 AM:

People of the Parish

1/28 Sunday, 11 AM:

Michael Walsh by Kelly Go

1/29 Monday 9 AM:

Connie Petrivelli by Rod & Bernice Granese

1/30 Tuesday, 9 AM:

John Conner by the Lott family

1/31 Wednesday, 9 AM:

John Conner by K of C Council 10488

2/1 Thursday, 9 AM:

John Balletto

2/3 Saturday, 5 PM:

Ed Dziergowski

2/4 Sunday, 8 AM:

John Flemings Jr. by Sam & Mary Ann Boldeia

2/4 Sunday, 9:30 AM:

Nora & Charlotte Dowd by Edgard & Maria Medina

2/4 Sunday, 11 AM:

Anne Marie Soroko by Nouhad Soueidan

Parish Contact Information

Parish Office	(603) 432-8711
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
Brandon Sargent	brandon@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) 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 3:30-4:30 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