



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
Lisa Olsen
Allan Fernald
Artie Carew
Richard Dussault

Pastor
Permanent Deacon
Director of Evangelization
Family Faith Formation
Office Administrator
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 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...

Hard to believe, but our annual Lenten pilgrimage is already here! Only a few weeks ago we were celebrating the joy and wonder of our Lord's birth, and now we begin our interior retreat in preparation for His passion and death. A quick transition for sure, but always timely as we align our spirituality with the cycle of God's creation - from isolated winter to the slowly warming rays of a glorious spring!

Our Lenten experience is one of departure. We are called to separate from the noise and distractions of this life and focus on our need for redemption. Our salvation comes at a great cost - not only the ultimate cost of Calvary, but the necessary costs that come with our conforming to God's precepts. That cooperation is not always easy, as we know. Christian discipleship asks that we restrain many of the desires of our human conditions in our quest to 'be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect' (Mt 5:48). But with the Grace we receive in Word and Sacrament 'we may grow in understanding of the riches hidden in Christ and by worthy conduct pursue their effects', as our Opening Prayer this weekend declares.

This 'worthy conduct' is our end of the bargain. In our First Reading, our Creator establishes the first covenant with humanity through Noah. We must remember that a covenant is not a one-sided deal. A covenant is a bond - in this case, an eternal bond.

Our Father has promised never to again unleash all encompassing retribution on His Creation. He has set His bow in the clouds - not merely and allegory about rainbows - but as a visible demonstration that His bow, His weapon of war, has been retired - not to be raised against us again. On our part, we must walk in the paths of Love and Truth as the Psalm tells us today. We must remain humble and allow our fallen natures to absorb all the Lord has taught us. We have to hold up our end of the deal.

In the waters of our Baptism we pledge our commitment to the Covenant. St. Peter points out today that it is no coincidence that it was through the waters of the Flood that the Covenant was established with Noah. Our Baptism establishes the eternal bond each one of us has with the Father, making us His adopted children through Christ. Like all children, we have a responsibility to take instruction, and when the time comes we are asked to take what we've learned and start making our own decisions in light of the formation we've received.

Easier said than done. Yet we have been given hope in the example of Christ, who is like us in every way but sin (Heb 4:15). In three sentences, St. Mark tells us today of our Lord's temptation in the desert. In a prefiguration of our Lenten journey, Jesus Himself departs from everyday life - and He encounters the same characters that we will: Satan - the ruler of the temporal world of temptation; the wild beasts - the threats of evil and tragedy; and the angels - God's promise of protection to His faithful in the face of calamity.

May this Lent bring a renewal of our commitment to the New Covenant, where the flood waters of our Baptisms inspire us to seek the fulness of redemption won for us through the Blood of Christ. May we spend quality time in departure from the things that distance ourselves from our pledge to God, and may we strengthen the eternal bond that promises us Paradise.

Peace be with you.

Brandon

Stations of the Cross

Join us this *Friday, February 23*, and continuing every Friday in Lent until Holy Week, as we will be commemorating our Lord's Passion by meditating on the Stations of the Cross. We gather for this ancient and beautiful devotion every Friday during Lent at **7:00 PM** in the Church.

Something to Consider...

Giving up chocolate or soda for Lent? Here's another idea: give up some carbon! Everything we consume, from heating fuel to plastic bags, adds to the store of heat-trapping carbon dioxide in our atmosphere - and that hurts our planet, especially the poorest among us. If you would like to give up something for Lent, a 'carbon fast' can be a penance, an opportunity for alms giving, and an inspiration to prayer. *Stop by the welcome center to pick up a Carbon Fast handout*, with ideas for each week of Lent.

Lenten Suppers

Please join us this *Friday, February 23*, in the Parish Hall for our annual Lenten Supper! The men of Knights of Columbus Council 10488 are once again hosting this great tradition on Friday evenings throughout Lent. Admission is \$5 per person and no more than \$20 for a family of four or more.

Thanks to our "Souper" Parishioners!!

Thank you for your generous response to the request for donations of soup for the local food pantries! We received about 450 cans of soup that went to feed the hungry at Sonshine Soup Kitchen in Derry and Shepherds Pantry in Windham. May God bless you for your generous response to Our Lord's command to "Feed the Hungry."

Lenten Almsgiving Opportunity

During this Lenten Season our Poor Box donations will benefit Anne Marie-House - a transition facility that assists homeless families to become self sufficient and maintain their own homes. We will also collect paper goods, personal items and cleaning supplies throughout Lent to help these families "get back on their feet". Bins will be available in the gathering space at the back of the Church to collect donations. Thank you for your generous support!

Religious Education News

*An afternoon retreat will be held for all First Reconciliation Students and their parents on *Sunday, March 11* from 12:30 until 2:00 here at St. Mark's. More information will be coming home with your children this week! Please call the Parish Office with any questions at 432-8711.

Natural Family Planning

Want to learn a method of family planning that's healthy, reliable, and marriage-building? Thanks to modern scientific research, you can learn to observe and interpret the natural signs of fertility and reliably plan your family. Keeping your body free of chemicals, and improving your marriage — what's not to love?!

Natural Family Planning Course

St. Patrick Church in Pelham

February 17, March 17, and April 21 (Saturdays)

7:00pm - 9:00pm

Teachers: Barbara and Paul Donovan

Register at ccli.org or call Barbara and Paul at 603-463-7456.

Check out the Couple to Couple League's Facebook page to see what former students are saying about the lasting positive effects of NFP on their marriages!

This Week @ St. Mark's!!!

Sunday, February 18:

10:30 AM RCIA (Lounge)

6:00 PM High School Night (Lounge)

Monday, February 19:

7:00 PM Adult Faith Formation (Lounge)

Tuesday, February 20:

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, February 21:

7:00 PM Grace Within Alumni (Lounge)

Thursday, February 22:

7:00 PM K of C Business Meeting (Room 209)

Friday, February 23:

5:30 PM Lenten Supper (Hall)

7:00 PM Stations of the Cross (Church)

Saturday, February 24:

9:30 AM Al Anon (Room 209)

Men of St. Joseph

Don't forget to register for our annual celebration with Bishop Libasci at the the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Manchester on **March 17!** This is our 12th year celebrating the Feast of St. Joseph with men from all over the state! Mass is open to all, but our catered breakfast is by paid registration, only \$10 for admission again this year. Please check out our website at mensbreakfast2018.eventbrite.com - just type this address into your browser and register today!

If you've been away for a while, you are always welcome to join us whenever you can. May St. Joseph grant us the heart of a father and the soul of a warrior.

Vacation Bible School at St. Mark's!!

We are happy to announce that our St. Mark's family will be conducting Vacation Bible School the **week of June 25, 2018!** This 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."

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 Middle/High School students 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!

High School Night!

Tonight, **Sunday, February 18**, is High School Night! We meet at 6:00 PM down in the Parish Lounge. We chat, we pray, we eat, and we have a lot of FUN! Haven't checked out a Youth Night yet? We'd love to have you come and join us! Bring a friend along with you - they don't have to belong to St. Mark's, they don't even have to be Catholic! All are welcome as we continue to grow in together in faith and fellowship. Can't wait to see you there!

Easter Voices...

If you love to sing and if you have been thinking that "someday" you will join St Mark's music ministry, then your "someday" has arrived! We are in need of more voices for Easter. Please call Allan at 434-9101 for more information. Come and experience the joy of singing the Lord's praises. An added bonus is that it's a chance to also make new friends. Join us!

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 7:00 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.

Adult Faith Formation

Join us this **Monday, February 19** at 7:00 PM for the first of our Lenten Adult Faith Formation sessions! This Liturgical Year we are listening predominantly to the Gospel of Mark in our Sunday readings. Come together with us on Monday nights as we delve deeper into the sacred writings of our patron, St. Mark! Our parish evangelist Brandon Sargent will lead us in an organic and prayerful Bible study to accompany us through these first weeks of Lent. Come to learn, pray, discuss, and most of all enjoy fellowship!

Our Adult Faith Formation sessions are held in the Parish Lounge. Light refreshments are provided and all are welcome. We'll see you there!

Sacrificial Giving (Feb. 10 & 11)

Operating Funds

Offertory Envelopes (144)	\$4,398.00
Loose Cash & Checks	\$1,493.00
Electronic Giving	\$60.00
WeShare	\$5,205.99
Flowers	\$50.00
General Donations	\$581.00
Mass Donations	\$30.00
Total	\$11,817.99

Designated Funds

Capital Development (11)	\$167.00
Charitable (3)	\$100.00
Special Collection (3)	\$51.00
Diocesan (4)	\$56.00
Poor Box	\$50.00
Total	\$424.00

Grand Total \$12,241.99

Parish Contact Information

Parish Office	(603) 432-8711
Parish Email	info@stmarksnh.org
Web Page	stmarksnh.org
Office Hours	Mon-Thurs 9:30AM- 4 PM
Fr. Mike	frmike@stmarksnh.org
Deacon Tom	dctom@stmarksnh.org
Claudia Dominguez	claudia@stmarksnh.org
Lisa Olsen	info@stmarksnh.org
Brandon Sargent	brandon@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 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

Mass Intentions for Feb. 17 - Feb. 25

2/17 Saturday, 5 PM:

Pat Trongo by his wife & family

2/18 Sunday, 8 AM:

Intentions of Jane Morway & her family

2/18 Sunday, 9:30 AM:

Lucille DiMartino by the Leone family

2/18 Sunday, 11 AM:

Gloria Ciccolo by Andrea Ouellette

2/19 Monday 9 AM:

Donald Vanderstreet by Eileen Beliveau

2/20 Tuesday, 9 AM:

Anna Maria Martin by Mary Y. Lynch & family

2/21 Wednesday, 9 AM:

Ernest & Catherine Granese by their family

2/22 Thursday, 9 AM:

William Murphy by the Beliveau family

2/24 Saturday, 5 PM:

Harold Merran by the Santos family

2/25 Sunday, 8 AM:

Sister Vivian Pichette by Denise Demers

2/25 Sunday, 9:30 AM:

Donna Quandt by the Quandt family

2/25 Sunday, 11 AM:

Ron Goguen by Monique Savoie