

*They were overjoyed at seeing the star,  
and on entering the house  
they saw the child with Mary his mother.*

Matthew 2:10-11



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**St. Mark's Church**  
**Fr. Miguel Virella, SVD, Pastor**  
**Fr. Miguel Valle, Parochial Vicar**  
**Dr. Joseph V. Stillo, Deacon**  
**Michael Keary, Deacon**

**Rectory Hours**

Monday-Friday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

**Weekend Masses**

Saturday 4:30 PM

Sunday 8 AM, 10 AM, and 12 Noon  
 5PM in Spanish

**Daily Masses**

**Holy Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet after Daily Masses**

Monday-Friday at 7:30 AM and 11 AM

Saturday 7:30 AM Only (No 11 AM Mass on Saturdays)

**Devotions and Novenas**

**Miraculous Medal Novena** after daily Masses on Wednesdays

**Eucharistic Adoration** on Fridays after 7:30 AM Mass.

**Benediction** at 10:45 AM

**1st Fridays Spanish Adoration**  
 beginning at 7 PM.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Saturdays 3:30 PM to 4:15 PM and

Thursdays after the 7:30 AM and  
 11 AM Masses

**Rectory Office 732-449-6364**

|                     |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Bulletin            | Ext. 114                |
| Religious Education | Ext. 105                |
| Social Concerns     | Ext. 108                |
| Spanish Ministry    | Ext. 104 or<br>Ext. 105 |
| Weddings            | Ext. 100                |

**Ministries**

|                      |              |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Altar Rosary Society | 732-528-6948 |
| Bereavement Ministry | 718-637-1162 |
| CYO                  | 732-685-6011 |
| Music Ministry       | 908-415-0212 |
| Rosary Makers        | 732-245-8405 |

**IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

**January 4/5:** The second collection is for our Diocesan Assessment. Thank you!

**January 24:** St. Marks Altar Rosary Society will be reciting the Rosary for Life.

**January 25/26:** The second collection is for Latin America. Thank you for your generosity!

**January 29:** American Red Cross Blood Drive at St. Mark's. See page 5.



*Please pray for our sick: Marilyn Woerner, Barbara Peter, Ann Lehberger Joan Trutneff, Kevin Motzenbecker, Tom Ort, Kenneth Thorne, Mary Bogan, Peggy O'Brien, Patty Accavallo, Donna Brundage, Daniel DeSeno, Thomas Weeks, Jan Soriano, Nadine Piccolo, Patti & John Hillenbrand, Raymond Burghart, Joan Langlois, Robert Czech, Janet Thomas, Bruce Bogan, Sr.*

**Please Note:** Names will remain on the sick list read at mass for 4 weeks and then removed unless the requester calls to remain on the list for another 4 weeks. To ensure the consent of the person whose name appears here, the pastor's policy requires that only they or a family member may request a name be added to this list. Names will remain in the bulletin until the person or family request it be removed.

*Eternal Rest grant onto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.*

Please remember in your prayers those of our diocese, parish, friends, and family members who have recently died.

†Helen McGrath  
 †Jerry Dempsey  
 †William Hamel

*May the angels lead you into paradise.*



St. Mark's Church is wheelchair accessible. There is a ramp on the north side, and an elevator on the south side of the church. Handicapped parking is located in the driveway, the south side of the church, and in front of the church.

Because of an early deadline for printing, we did not have the collection data for the weekend of December 29, 2024. This data will be reflected in next weekend's bulletin.



**St. Marks Altar Rosary Society** will be reciting the Rosary for Life on Friday, January 24th after the 11 AM Mass. Special meditations for life will be recited and music provided by Lisa Marie Yaverone. Please join us in petitioning our Blessed Mother for an end to abortion and other end of life causes.



## † This Week's Mass Intentions

### Monday, January 6

**7:30 AM**

† Private Intention

**11:00 AM**

† Living and Deceased Members of  
St. Mark's Altar Rosary Society

### Tuesday, January 7

**7:30 AM**

Private Intention

**11:00 AM**

† Mary and James Mitchell by JoAnn McGuirk  
Susan Wright by Mr. & Mrs. Anthony P. Randazzo, Jr.  
† Angelina Cerbone by Jim & Joann O'Connell

### Wednesday, January 8

**7:30 AM**

Philamena Tortoriello by Family

**11:00 AM**

† Weeks & Roche Family by Pat Weeks

### Thursday, January 9

**7:30 AM**

Private Intention

**11:AM**

† Betty Geiger by John & Maria Checton  
Pregnant women & their babies by Norbeert Walliczek  
† Pat, John, Frank & Steve McCormack by Paulette McCormack

### Friday, January 10

**7:30 AM**

† John Briscoe by Pat & Jean Scatuorchio

**11:00 AM**

† Lynn Miller by Delores Critchley  
† Sally Rineer by Connie & Mark Duffy  
† William Hamel by Sarah Lynch

### Saturday, January 11

**7:30 AM**

† Jerry Dempsey by Peggy & Jim O'Brien

**4:30 PM**

† Cliff Turbitt by Donna & Ray O'Meara  
† Francis Hines by Maureen Kelly Machirella  
† Robert Coogan by Sara VanWickle

### Sunday, January 12

**8:00 AM**

People of the Parish

**10:00 AM**

† Patricia Hamilton by Todd & Jamie Leonhardt  
† Deceased Members of the Azzollini Family by Doster Family  
† Catherine Donatelli by Family

**12 Noon**

† The Honorable Robert Coogan by Bonnie & John O'Neill  
† Al Jordan by Bonnie & John O'Neill

**5:00 PM**

Carol Howe by Juana Zaragoza

**Fr. Valle celebrated early Nativity of the Lord with the Holy Innocent Group at 10AM, followed by a time of sharing in the church basement.**



# FOLLOW THE LIGHT



## Some Thoughts for January, 2025 by Marge Loenser

A very Happy and blessed New Year to all this year of 2025. It seems like only a couple of weeks ago I was wishing everyone a happy new year 2024! Wow, time literally does fly by. It would be nice if we could step on the brakes and slow time down just a bit. Or, how about: "Lord would You mind slowing down the rotation of the earth, sun and stars just a bit.?" His laughter is causing a tremor in the universe. Only kidding God. Your timing is perfect. It is us--we humans that need to plan better and adapt more readily to Your timing and plans.

The Solemnity of Mary begins the month on the first. Bless us all Holy Mother. We need your sweet intercession and prayers as we look ahead to all the possibilities that await our world this new year. Keep us safe in these very precarious times. Bless all who strive for justice, peace, law and order.

Both the Epiphany and the Baptism of the Lord fall on Sundays this year. (Jan. 5 and 12) I love St. Matthew's review of the visit of the wise men to see the "New born King." They traveled far to reach Bethlehem and present him with gold frankincense and myrrh. (Mathew 2: 1-12). Thank you St. Joseph for listening to the angel when he told you to take the Child and his mother and flee to Egypt because King Herod made plans to kill Baby Jesus. Herod ordered the slaying of all male babies age two and younger born in Bethlehem. (Matthew 2:13) We honored those infants on December 28th, which was the Feast of the Holy Innocents.

On the 20th we celebrate St. Pope Fabian. (The only other Fabian I know of was a singer in the late 1950's.) Anyway, Pope Fabian was the bishop of Rome from year 236 to 250. A dove was said to have landed on his head to mark him as the unexpected choice of the Holy Spirit. He was succeeded by Pope Cornelius who also became martyr and saint. Pray for us St. Fabian and St. Cornelius.

We also pray to St. Agnes of Rome, whose feast is on the 21st. She was a virgin martyr and only 13 years old when she was killed in 291 AD by Roman Emperor Diocletian.

January 25th is the March for Life and we pray for the end of abortion. Many will march in Washington D.C. and we pray for their safety and success. We also pray for those contemplating mercy killing, suicide and abortion, that they be open to the Holy Spirit and change their hearts. On this day we will have a Rosary for Life here at St. Mark's after the 11am mass. Please join us.

May God bless us all and give us the graces we need to seek and follow his will each day. Happy New Year!!

Love,  
Marge



**THE DIOCESE OF TRENTON** is committed to the initiatives outlined in the U.S. Bishops' Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People and to its own policies and guidelines in regard to the reporting and investigation of sexual abuse allegations involving minors.

If you have been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or if you know of someone who was, you can report that abuse through the diocesan **ABUSE HOTLINE: 1-888-296-2965** or e-mail [abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org](mailto:abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org).



**Next Weekend's Ministry Schedule  
January 11/12, 2025**

|                          | <b>Celebrant</b> | <b>Deacon</b> | <b>Reader</b>   | <b>Eucharistic Minister</b>                              | <b>Usher</b>  |
|--------------------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------|--|---|
| <b>Saturday, 4:30 PM</b> | Fr. Miguel       |               | Pat Wright      | Lynn Jelliff<br>Marianne Schobel<br>Jack Wright          | Anthony Granato<br>Walter Henry<br>Joe Walsh          |
| <b>Sunday, 8:00 AM</b>   | Fr. Miguel       |               | Robert Cavazini | Robert Cavazini<br>Richard Norris<br>Patrick Scatuorchio | Pat Ahern<br>Leo Hurley<br>Bob O'Neill<br>Glenn Skola |
| <b>Sunday, 10:00 AM</b>  | Fr. Miguel       | Deacon Joe    | Todd Leonhardt  | Jay Lorenzo<br>Jim Sheridan                              | Jim Sheridan<br>Rich Siderko                          |
| <b>Sunday, 12:00 PM</b>  | Fr. Miguel       |               | Molly McCauley  | Debbie Dunn<br>Molly McCauley<br><b>Minister Needed</b>  | Richard DeGroot<br>Howard Flood                       |



Readings for the Week  
January 5, 2025

**Monday** 1 Jn 3:22; 4:6 Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a Mt 4:12-17, 23-25  
**Tuesday** 1 Jn 4:7-10 Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8 Mk 6:34-44  
**Wednesday** 1 Jn 4:11-18 Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13 Mk 6:45-52  
**Thursday** 1 Jn 4:19; 5:4 Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17 Lk 4:14-22  
**Friday** 1 Jn 5:5-13 Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 Lk 5:12-16  
**Saturday** 1 Jn 5:14-21 Ps149:1-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b Jn 3:22-30  
**Sunday** Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 40:1-5, 9-11 Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 or Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 Acts 10:34-38 or Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7 Lk 3:15-16, 21-22.



**CYO News by Mary Reilly**

**A Blessed and Happy 2025 from St. Mark's CYO!!!**

*"Acquire the habit of speaking to God as if you were alone with Him, familiarly and with confidence and love, as to the dearest and most loving of friends. Speak to Him often of your business, your plans, your troubles, your fears—of everything that concerns you. Converse with Him confidently and frankly; for God is not wont to speak to a soul that does not speak to Him."* --St. Alphonse Liguori

At our last CYO meeting, everyone shared what he or she wanted to give Jesus as a birthday/new year gift. Most of our members said they just wanted to spend more time with Him—at Mass, in prayer, and just speaking to Him throughout each day and seeking His guidance and endless graces. Often when we spend this time with Him, we hear nothing nor are we motivated to do anything. We just feel a quiet and consoling peace in His presence. Then there are times that He fills us with courage to handle something difficult, or inspires us to do things to help or teach others. You always know when it is Jesus. His messages always come filled with love like no other. He has chosen you as His beloved disciple. Stand up and follow Him wherever He leads you!

Next CYO meeting: Sunday, Jan. 5 at 7:30 PM-- our New Year's celebration!

**American Red Cross**  
**Blood Drive**  
**Wednesday, January 29, 2025**  
**2:00 PM-6:00 PM**  
**St. Mark's Church**  
**215 Crescent Parkway, Sea Girt, NJ 08750**  
 Appointments are needed. [CLICK HERE](#) to schedule online or call 1-800-RED CROSS.


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 SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS

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Finding **FABER**


**THANK YOU!**





  
DIOCESAN YOUTH CONFERENCE


# THE JOURNEY


**FEB. 1<sup>ST</sup>  
2025  
10AM**


 **8th-12th grade**

 **Notre Dame H.S.  
Lawrence, NJ**

 **Advance Registration  
\$25**

 **Walk-in Registration  
\$35**

 [dioceseofrenton.org/dyc](http://dioceseofrenton.org/dyc)



*"Those who hope in the Lord will run and not be weary." (Is 40:31)*



**Surviving Divorce**  
HOPE AND HEALING  
FOR THE CATHOLIC FAMILY

St. Leo's in Lincroft is pleased to announce its continuing ministry for Separated and Divorced Catholics. It is called "Surviving The Holidays" Divorce: Hope and Healing for the Catholic Family" ([www.catholicsdivorce.com](http://www.catholicsdivorce.com)).

St. Leo's will be hosting an Information Night on Thursday, January 16, 2025 from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm in the Parish Hall located at 50 Hurleys Lane, Lincroft, NJ.

This Information Night will help you decide if you would like to attend our upcoming 12-week program starting in March of 2025 on Thursday nights. All the details will be provided to you at the Information Night. If you would like more information about our offerings, please check out our Ministry page at: <https://www.mylifechangecoach.com/divorceministry>.

**All are welcome!**

To register or if you are interested and would like more information, please email Michele Coppola Wilson at [healingheartsfromdivorce@gmail.com](mailto:healingheartsfromdivorce@gmail.com). Have any questions? Feel free to call or text anytime at 201-753-8485. **We hope you can make it!**

WWP restarts on  
1/7 and 1/8!

## Start your New Year with Walking with Purpose

*Join us for the women's Bible Study,  
Walking with Purpose (WWP).  
We gather at  
the St. Denis Parish Center on  
Tuesday evenings at 7:30pm  
or  
Wednesday afternoons at 12:15pm.*

*Come, join other women as we gather to learn  
how our Catholic faith and the teachings of  
Jesus Christ are relevant to our everyday lives.*

For more information, check out  
our local website: [wwpnjshore.com](http://wwpnjshore.com)

# Volunteers

MAKE GREAT THINGS HAPPEN!  
©JPPC

**St. Mark's is forming a hospitality team to assist with event setup, organization, and serving. If you're interested in joining, please call Linda at the Rectory at 732-449-6364.**

**Parish Mission Statement:** We, the Parish Family of St. Mark's in our quest to follow the Gospel of Jesus Christ, are building a faith-based community that assists all people in life's journey to be open to God's love and to share His joy. We are further committed to address the spiritual, physical, emotional and social needs of all people through service to individuals, families, parish and the greater community. As responsible stewards using our individual gifts, we promise to celebrate, renew and strengthen our faith, and to live our lives as a reflection of Christ's love for others. St. Mark's is designated as a Center for Hispanic Ministry in the Diocese of Trenton.

# Altar Servers Wanted



Fr. Miguel and Fr. Valle would like to invite your children to become Altar Servers here at St. Mark's.

An Altar Server is an invaluable support to the priest during the Mass as well as contributing to the enrichment of the server by allowing them to get fully involved and understanding the Mass better.

The ministry requires a sincere commitment on your part as well, but it is a beautiful way for your children to participate in the life of the church and learn some fantastic life skills. This is a great way to become involved in our church community!

**TRAINING SESSION:**  
**MONDAY, JANUARY 13TH**  
**5:30- 6:30 P.M.**

## REQUIREMENTS:

- MUST HAVE RECEIVED FIRST HOLY COMMUNION.
- HAVE A STRONG DESIRE TO SERVE THE LORD.
- SERVE TWO MASSES PER MONTH.



For more information, please call or email Diana Zuna at (732) 449-6364 ext. 105 or [diana@stmarkseagirt.com](mailto:diana@stmarkseagirt.com)



## Social Concerns Programs

### Feeding the Hungry



Are you looking for an easy way to help those in need? Here's one way you can make a difference. St. Mark's Social Concerns Ministry is resuming the Frozen Meals Program for the Center in Asbury Park which was discontinued due to the Covid pandemic. The Center in Asbury Park, Inc., is a volunteer-based New Jersey not-for-profit service organization, providing support services for people living with HIV/AIDS and their caregivers since 1992.

The process is simple! Here's what to do:

- Pick up food trays and lids next to the kitchen refrigerator in Fr. Child's Hall (St. Mark's Church basement)
- Fill the trays with generous portions of food
- Label the tray lids with the contents and date of preparation
- Return the meals to the freezer compartment of the refrigerator in Fr. Child's Hall.

**Please use only the trays provided.**

St Mark's volunteers will deliver the meals to The Center for distribution to their clients.

**Please contact Marybeth or Joe Walsh at 732 449-5656 with any questions. Your participation is greatly appreciated.**

### Collecting Travel Size Toiletries



St. Mark's Social Concerns Committee is collecting travel size toiletry items (soap, shampoos, toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs etc.) for delivery by volunteers to those in need in the Asbury Park area. Containers are located at Church entrances. **Thank you!**

## Mercy Center UPDATE!

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Mercy Center is no longer accepting clothing donations; however, there is an urgent need for canned soup.

Additional items needed are:

Diapers, size 4 and larger, and baby wipes, Coffee/tea, Mayo, mustard, ketchup, salad dressing.

Thank you for your support in helping our community!


**St. Joseph By the Sea**—Our programs are offered to enrich, renew and deepen one's interior communication with the Lord in an atmosphere of prayer, quiet and solitude. The scenic environment of the Atlantic Ocean and Barnegat Bay provides additional contemplative opportunity. **Current brochure can be found on our website at [www.sjbsea.org](http://www.sjbsea.org) or [CLICK HERE](#).**

**Offerings at Francis House of Prayer:** Spiritual direction, a one-on-one conversation with a spiritual director about God in your life, is always available. We offer the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius on a monthly and weekly basis, many opportunities to learn and practice contemplative prayer, reading programs on St. John of the Cross and other Carmelite Saints, and contemporary writers.

**For programs or to register call Trenton Diocesan Spiritual Center and Retreat House 609-877-0509 or [FHOP@verizon.net](mailto:FHOP@verizon.net) or [CLICK HERE](#).**


**Christmas Flower Memorial envelopes are available at church entrances. Envelopes can be placed in the collection basket, the box on the side altar or the rectory mail slot.**

**It's a beautiful way to celebrate the birth of our Savior and remember loved ones during Christmas!**



# Mass for Life & Life Expo

**CELEBRATED BY**



**Bishop David M. O'Connell, C.M.**


**PRAY, CONNECT, ENGAGE**  
Embrace the transformative power of the Eucharist, foster solidarity, and take decisive action to nurture a culture of life that honors every stage from womb to tomb.

**WHAT TO EXPECT:**

- Join us for a special Mass celebrated by Bishop David M. O'Connell, C.M.
- Engage with local organizations dedicated to upholding and promoting human dignity throughout all stages of life.
- Enjoy delicious refreshments, fostering new friendships, and strengthening bonds within our community.

**Friday**  
**JANUARY 24**  
11:00AM  
Co-Cathedral of  
St. Robert Bellarmine,  
Freehold

**All are Welcome • No RSVP needed**



For full information about the day's events, visit:  
[dioceseoftrenton.org/standing-together-for-life](http://dioceseoftrenton.org/standing-together-for-life)



Iglesia de "San Marcos" Apostolado Hispano Misa Dominical: Domingo 5:00 p.m.

Adoración al Santísimo: Primer Viernes de cada mes a las 7:00 p.m. en la Iglesia.

Padre Miguel Valle, Vicario Parroquial

frvalle@stmarkseagirt.com

Teléfono: (732) 449-6364 ext. 116 or 122.

Directora del Ministerio de Religión

Diana Zuna

diana@stmarkseagirt.com

Teléfono: (732) 449-6364 ext. 105

Ministerio Hispano

Patty D'Andrea

Spanishministry@stmarkseagirt.com

Teléfono: (732) 449-6364 ext. 104

**Calendario de Ministerios  
Domingo, Enero 12, 2025  
Misa 5:00 p.m.**

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| <b>Celebrante</b>              | Padre Valle   |
| <b>Lectores</b>                | Modesta Garcia<br>Amalia Ibañes   |
| <b>Ministros de Eucaristía</b> | Maria Sanchez<br>Rosa Robalino<br>Lidet Cartagena                                 |
| <b>Ujieres</b>                 | Isabel Lopez<br>Leodegaria Lopez<br>Brigeet Luna<br>Florina Ramirez               |
| <b>Monaguillos</b>             | Caroline Molina<br>Aurora Garcia<br>Robert Luna<br>Melyssa Reyes<br>Kailey Garcia |



IGLESIA SAN MARCOS LOS INVITA A INTEGRARSE  
AL GRUPO DE HOMBRES ADULTOS

**HOMBRES  
DE VALOR**

DOMINGOS DE 6:00-8:00 A.M.  
SOTANO DE LA IGLESIA

Este taller de oración se reúne los domingos  
para el rezo de laudes, vídeos, reflexión del  
evangelio y refrigerios.

PARA MAS INFORMACION LLAMAR:

CLEVER HEREDIA  
(203) 923-7635

JAVIER RAMIREZ  
(732) 500-0292

CONFERENCIA JUVENIL DIOCESANA

**THE JOURNEY**

1<sup>ER</sup> DE FEB 2025 10AM

8<sup>o</sup> a 12<sup>o</sup> grado  
Notre Dame H.S. Lawrence, NJ

Inscripción Avanzado \$25

Inscripción en persona \$35

dioceseofrenton.org/djc

"pero los que confían en el Señor tendrán siempre nuevas fuerzas y podrán volar como las águilas; podrán correr sin cansarse y caminar sin fatigarse." (Is 40:31)

# Monaguillos

Te gustaría servir a Dios en el altar?



El Ministerio de Monaguillos les hace una cordial invitación a todos los niños (as) y jóvenes que desean servir en el altar durante la misa los domingos. Tendremos un taller de información y entrenamiento para los que desean servir.

## REQUISITOS:

- HABER RECIBIDO LA PRIMERA COMUNIÓN
- SERVIR POR LO MENOS 2 VECES AL MES
- ASISTIR AL TALLER DE ENTRENAMIENTO

## TALLER DE ENTRENAMIENTO:

**LUNES, ENERO 13TH**  
**5:30- 6:30 P.M.**



Para mas informacion hablar con Diana Zuna  
(732) 449-6364 ext. 105 / [diana@stmarkseagirt.com](mailto:diana@stmarkseagirt.com)