



Saint Mark
the Evangelist Catholic Church

Second Sunday of Advent
December 10, 2017
Volume XIX #50

Father Joseph Culotta, Pastor



Masses:

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 P.M.
Sunday: 7:45 A.M. and 10:30 A.M.
Holy Days: 7:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M.

Confession:

Saturday: 2:30-3:30 P.M. or by appointment

Weekday Mass (Chapel):

Wednesday: 6:00 P.M.
Thursday and Friday: 8:30 A.M.
First Saturday: 9:00 A.M.

7340 Cahaba Valley Road
Birmingham, AL 35242
All mail to P.O. Box 380396
Birmingham, AL 35238

Phone: (205) 980-1810
Email: stmarkrc@bellsouth.net
Fax: (205) 980-9208
Website: www.stmarkrc.org

Office Hours:

Tuesday through Friday: 8:30 A.M. – 3:30 P.M.
The Church office closed on Monday.
Emergency: Father Culotta: 980-1810 #2 or 408-2766

Chapel Open for Prayer

Monday through Thursday: 6:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M.
Friday: 6:00 A.M. – 3:30 P.M.
Sunday: 12 Noon – 7:00 P.M.
First Friday Exposition: 9:00 A.M. – 12:00 Noon

Marriage Requirements at least six months in advance:

Meet with Father Culotta @ 980-1810, ext. #2
Visit wedding link on Website prior to meeting

Baptism Requirements & Preparation Class:

Contact Ashley and Nadder Fawaz at 706-3160 or lafawaz@gmail.com

STAFF:

Pastor:	Fr. Joe Culotta	980.1810 Ext. 2	stmarkpastor@bellsouth.net
Deacon:	David Varner	352-804-1924	Dvarner11@att.net
Pastoral Associate:	Sr. Terry Brethauer, MSBT	980-1810 Ext. 3	stmarkpa@bellsouth.net
Secretary:	JoAnne Rixey (Lindsay)	980-1810 Ext. 1	stmarkrc@bellsouth.net
Director Family, Children & Youth:	Mary Beth Crumly	980-1810 Ext. 5	stmarkfcy@bellsouth.net
Bulletin:	Paola Garza	980-1810 Ext. 6	stmarkre@bellsouth.net
Adult Ed, RCIA, Lectors & EM	Phil Boettcher	980-1810 Ext. 7	pfbboettcher@att.net
Bookkeeper:	Tana Bisch	980-1810 Ext. 8	stmarkfi@bellsouth.net
Youth – Grade 9-12 JCREW:	Kathy Okrongley	980-1810 Ext. 4	stmarkyouth@bellsouth.net
Youth – Grade 6-8 BLAST:	Tom Elie	843-345-5775	thomaseelie@aol.com
Music:	Dave and Amy Hains	985-2976	amyhains@gmail.com
Youth Choir:	Raul Gomez	602-9626	raulc.gomez@gmail.com
Nursery:	Nora Donnelly	516-458-9549	nwd946@aol.com
Social Hall Rentals:	Bonnie Murphy	410-3494	bam01126@bellsouth.net

MINISTRIES:

Altar Servers:	Gail Sanson	919-4898	gailsanson@me.com
Bereavement Ministry:	Darlene McCulloch	229-7134	jamesfmcculloch@bellsouth.net
Feast of Saint Mark:	Vince Di Chiara	222-2777	dichiarav@bellsouth.net
	Ann Penton	903-9073	ann.penton@icloud.com
Finance Council:	Ken Reimann	229-9812	kreimann@bellsouth.net
First Light:	Ruth Cook	991-1849	ruthcook@bellsouth.net
Greene County Food:	Peter Bibbo	441-9889	michboru@gmail.com
Hospitality Committee:	Jeanne Welsh	807-3968	j.bwelsh12@gmail.com
Knights of Columbus:	Brandon Moseley	919-7868	kofc13446@aol.com
Liturgy Committee:	Phil Boettcher	541-5625	pfbboettcher@att.net
Liturgy Committee:	Lou Inzinna	991-8649	lcinzinna@bellsouth.net
Pastoral Council:	Paul Albano	991-8008	docpja1@aol.com
Prayer Shawl Ministry	Linda Townsley	407-461-0265	ljtownsley@gmail.com
Property Management:	Ann Penton	903-9073	ann.penton@icloud.com
Scouting:	Tom Elie	843-345-5775	thomaseelie@aol.com
St. Vincent de Paul Society:	Janet Haines	616-5431	janetmhaines@bellsouth.net
Stewardship Committee:	Sammy Romano	862-9833	salvadorromano@me.com
Supper Club:	Cathy Johnson	266-9685	pilgrimmta@att.net
Ushers:	Scott Riley	266-2882	elmeister1@gmail.com
Welcome Committee:	Cricket Justice	968-3070	cricket.justice@gmail.com



PRAYER LIST

Larry Angell	Gary Haworth	Jean Purner
Howard Bayless	Barbara Herman	Cecilia Ragusa
Virginia Bayless	David Howard	Morgan Rhodes
Jeff Benedict	Kathy Hix	JoAnne Rixey
Mike Breipohl	George James	Elena Sain
Norma Burrow	Barbara Jones	Gertrude Sgroi
Nolan Clagg	Greg Lanzi	Sue Schumacher
Sam Culotta	Kathy Lupenski	Vita Stamba
Paula Culotta	Lisa Lupenski	Don St. Denis
Hope DeFalco	Kathy Matuszak	Ernie Stump
Amanda Farrand	Jim Meggs	Kathy Taylor
Betty Frost	Bobbie Mitchim	Jackie Tevendale
Carol Gaffney	Marietta Molay	Annie Tomburello
Tim & Phyllis Gill	Georgeann Moseley	Charles&Sharon Varano
Kevin Glandon	Rosalie Nabilo	Santo Vizzina
Carlos Godinez	Mark Newton	Jeanne Welsh
Joseph Guenther	David Nguyen	Stephen Wilkens

CHRISTMAS HAMS, ARNONE'S ITALIAN SAUSAGE SALE TO BENEFIT OUR SAINT VINCENT DEPAUL SOCIETY

The Knights of Columbus will be offering Christmas Hams and Arnone's Italian Sausage again this Advent. Smoked Ham for \$35 (approx. 9 lbs precooked) and 5 lb box of uncooked Italian Sausage for \$25. Place your order at KofC13446@aol.com or leave a voice message at 866-622-7865. Be sure to provide your name, phone number, and your order. And, be sure to receive a return eMail or phone call from us to confirm your order. Deadline for orders is midnight Dec. 18th, with pick up at the PLC on Fri. Dec. 22 between 4 – 6 pm. Proceeds from this sale will benefit St. Mark's Saint Vincent de Paul Society.

Mass Intentions

- Mon. Dec 11- 10:30 A.M.- at Somerby Retirement*
Tue. Dec 12 - 12:00 Noon - Ronald Poltorak
Wed. Dec 13 - 6:00 P.M. - Fr. Andrew Kennedy
Thurs. Dec 14 - 8:30 A.M. - Fr. Charles Bordenca
Fri. Dec 15- 8:30 A.M. - Nick Marino
Sat. Dec 16- 4:00 P.M. - Sharon Henderson
Sun. Dec 17- 7:45 A.M. - Tim Roach
Sun. Dec 17- 10:30 A.M. - People of the Parish

Weekly Readings

- 11 Mon** - Is 35:1-10/Lk 5:17-26
12 Tue - Our Lady of Guadalupe
 Zec 2:14-17 / 12:1-6a, 10ab/Lk 1:26-38
13 Wed - Is 40:25-31/Mt 11:28-30
14 Thu - Is 41:13-20/Mt 11:11-15
15 Fri - Is 48:17-19.Mt 11:16-19
16 Sat - Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Mt 17:9a, 10-13
17 SUN - Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/1 Thes 5:16-24
 Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Financial Information

	<u>Week of 11/26/17</u>	<u>Week of 12/3/17</u>
Weekly Offertory	\$ 8,891	\$ 10,523
Building Fund	\$ 9,088	\$ 9,192
Holy Days	\$ 100	\$ 35
	18,079	19,750
	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Weekly Offertory	\$ 730,123	\$ 740,646
Building Fund	\$ 889,550	\$ 898,742
Holy Days	\$ 14,403	\$ 14,438
Total Collected	\$ 1,634,076	\$ 1,653,826
Budgeted	\$ 1,503,680	\$ 1,553,644

New Parish Life Center Memorial Gift

We invite all parishioners to prayerfully consider participating in the Parish Life Center Memorial Gift Fund by making a special memorial gift. Gifts may be made for various reasons, for example, in memory of loved ones, in honor of someone, in thanksgiving or for any other reason you may wish. With the upcoming Christmas season, a gift could be made in the name of that special person on your list that you have no idea what to give as a gift.

If you choose, gifts of \$250 and above may be recognized with a leaf on the Parish Giving Tree with personalized wording. Your gift may be submitted using the form you recently received in the mail. Should you need a form, additional copies are available on the Greeter's Desk in the Narthex. If you have any questions, you may contact Milton Davis, 205-937-9381, Alain Gallet, 205-541-7956, or the Parish Office.

The purpose of this Fund is to contribute to the financing of the new Parish Life Center being proposed to better serve our Parish and Youth. We are confident with your continued support and generosity, we can achieve the goal of \$250,000, and for this, we thank you.

Centering Prayer

Workshop on the gifts of "the prayer of the heart". Centering Prayer Workshop, Sat., Feb 10, 2018. Location: St Mark. Cost: \$30., including lunch. Register by mailing check to Contemplative Outreach Birmingham, 3776 Bainbridge Trace Dr. Irondale, AL 35210.

Sympathy

Let us pray to the Lord for all who have died, especially ...Elsie Mae Higgins, mother of Jeanne Welsh

Update Saint Mark Special Memorial Gift for
Support of New Parish Life Center and Dedicated Youth Center

A word of thanks to those parishioners who have made a special 2017 Memorial Gift towards our pending construction project. As of December 4, seventy-two parishioners have responded and \$67,250 has been raised. Our ambitious goal is to raise an additional \$250,000 for the Building Fund Account so that the parish's down payment on the new construction might meet the diocesan cash requirement of 50%.

The construction project will be put out for bid in late January and the end of February we will know the real construction cost. Our goal is to continue increasing the Parish's Building Fund account so that we can build as much as possible in Phase One. Again, before construction can begin, the parish must have funding for approximately one half of the total construction cost.

Gifts towards the 2017 Special Memorial Fund may be designated to honor a loved one or to express thanksgiving. The names will be added to the Giving Tree located in the Narthex or gathering area of the church.

I appreciate your faithful stewardship that supports our regular Parish Offertory / Building Collection each week. It is a sacrifice for you and me to make an additional financial gift in 2017. Please remember, whatever amount you choose to give, we are helping to support the ministries we value today and growing the ministries that God envisions for Saint Mark tomorrow. I thank you for your consideration to help with our Memorial Gift Fund and to those who have made a special donation.

Hope and Joy,

Fr. Joe Culotta
Pastor



Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

On the Feast of St. Nicholas, St. Mark the Evangelist sent to the Sisters in Greene County presents for 310 children, cards from Walmart totaling \$8,660 for Christmas dinner and a check for over \$8,000.00 for Utility bills. Your generosity is appreciated!

*"The Giver of every good and perfect gift has called upon us to mimic His giving."
Attributed to St. Nicholas*

Merry Christmas

To all Parishioners from Saint Mark the Evangelist



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Update Mold Restoration

The good news is that after Thanksgiving week we passed inspection. Our third time was the charm. Now the Property Management Committee is working to get bids from local contractors to rebuild the areas that were affected, both restrooms, as well as the family restroom, and the sacristy. The Diocesan insurance agent will select the contractor and we are hoping that work might begin before Christmas.

In addition to rebuilding what is covered by the insurance, we will replace the air-conditioning units as well as the flat roof over the restrooms. Both are 15 years old and the recommendation is to upgrade. This will cost the Parish approximately \$45,000 to \$50,000.

I appreciate your patience as these needed repairs have effected all of us and for some to a greater degree... those who visit the Chapel, participate in Children's Liturgy and RAP classes, and especially our elderly parishioners and those with small children. I'm grateful for the Mass Coordinators, the ushers, the weekday sacristans, the Property Management Committee, and all those who are helping to make the best of an unfortunate situation. Perhaps the completion will be a late Christmas present for our Parish Community.

Hope and Joy,
Fr. Joe Culotta

Update Catholic Charities 2018 Appeal

As of November 30, Saint Mark Parish remains short of its Diocesan goal of \$188,000 by \$6,500.

Last year our Parish pledged over \$200,000.

Please remember to support the Annual Diocesan Catholic Charity Drive by making a pledge for 2018.



First Annual Breakfast with Santa!

Sunday, December 17 8:45 – 10:15 am

For all the young and young-at-heart - Santa looks forward to seeing you there! Bring a camera and a hearty appetite.

Chelsea Christmas Parade

Saint Mark is sponsoring a float on Saturday, December 16th ~ 10:00 am

Adult Education

Our Adult Education/Faith Formation program continues next Sunday, December 17 with a presentation on the Advent reflections by Father Gregory Bittner. Please join us in the Parish Life Center, from 9 AM to 10:15 AM. As in previous Advent reflections we will look at the UPCOMING week's readings as we prepare for the Christmas feast.

OLV School Support at METRO DINER

On Wednesday, December 13, come out and support Catholic education at the NEW Metro Diner in Inverness Plaza from 4-8pm! Metro Diner will donate 20% of inside sales to OLV School.



**Advent Reflection on
Our Lady of Guadalupe**

**December 12
10 AM to 11:30 AM in the Church**

**Morning Reflection
For the Women of the Parish**

Closes with Noon Mass

Liturgical Schedule	Saturday December 16, 2017 4:00	Sunday December 17, 2017 7:45	Sunday December 17, 2017 10:30
Extraordinary Minister of Communion	Darlene McCulloch, Beverly Huddleston, Tom Huddleston, Cathy Johnson, Sr. Terry Brethauer, Suzy Gray	Theresa LoMonaco, Katherine Rall, Jose Marrero	Joe Scotch, Bonnie Murphy, Heidi Swanson, Steve Shoemaker, Tom Slonneger, Brenda Slonneger, Brian Lynch, Vincent Lovoy
Ushers	Ray Morin, Jim Smith, Brandon Moseley, Thom Berry	Amos Mitchim, Giovanni Garza, Bonnie Mitchim	Rob Haley, Nancy Collis, Phillip Troha
Lector	Ree Morin - 1 Ruth Breipohl - 2	Nancy Ladshaw - 1 Jim E. Smith, Jr. - 2	Chuck Trierweiler - 1 Donna Francavilla - 2
Mass Coordinators	Bill and Jeanne Welsh	Bill and Pat Roach	Randy and Janet Haines
Altar Servers	Delaine Coleman, Emelia Mitchim, Nicholas Foster, Samantha Gagliano, Emma Zaiontz	Cooper Gray, Tanner Gray, Mary Caroline Gray, Kaitlyn Fagan, Kim Pham	Jackson Shields, Kaitlyn Shields, Daniel Ospina, Addison Miller, Brock Shields
Greeters	Pat Smith, Tom Lager, Karen Kapp, Mary Romano	Bev Dubois, Craig Dubois	Peter Bibbo, Myrna Scotch, Bill Tevendale
Altar Linens	Kristin Sessions		
Cantors	Allison Creel	Ken Jannot	Kathryn Garaca

Shawls for Hope



There will be a gathering of the prayer shawl ministry on Thursday, December 14, at 11:00a.m. at the home of Linda Townsley. We are always eager to welcome new members. We have a very dedicated group of women who are willing to share their time, treasure and talents. We welcome any donations of yarn, gift cards to craft stores or financial support. Please contact Linda Townsley at [407 461-0265](tel:4074610265) or ljtownsley@gmail.com if you would like to request a shawl, attend this gathering or make a donation.

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Fmr. Superintendent
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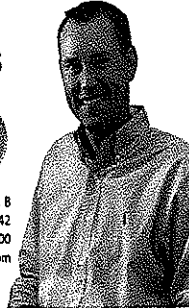
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