WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, Apr. 25, 2009
4:00pm Edith Ceraso

Sunday, Apr. 26, 2009
8:30am Edith Ceraso
11:00am For the Parish
5:00pm Mary Ellen Thomas

Tuesday, Apr. 28, 2009
6:00pm The Bione Family

Wednesday, Apr. 29, 2009
9:00am Bill Manz
6:00pm Jerry Healy

Thursday, Apr. 30, 2009
6:00pm Edith Ceraso

Saturday, May 2, 2009
4:00pm For the Parish

Sunday, May 3, 2009
8:30am Zilla Rose
11:00am Jeanne Fogt
5:00pm Newman Center Students

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CANDLE IN HONOR OF THE SICHKO FAMILY

ROSARY

The Rosary will be recited each Sunday at 8:10 am before 8:30 Mass.

WHAT TO DO IF…

You want to baptize your baby: Baptisms are on the third weekend of the month during Saturday and Sunday Mass. Call Cathy Cornett at 623-2989, prompt 5, ext. 3203 about the preparation program.

You want to join the parish: To register as a member, visit the Welcome Committee desk in the gathering space.

You want to get married: Please arrange an appointment with the priest at least six months before the date you would like to be married. You must be registered in the parish.

You want to make your First Communion or be Confirmed: If you are an adult, call Terry Culross at 623-6847 or Linda Clark at 623-0925. If you are in grades 1-8, call Cathy Cornett, 623-2989, prompt 5, ext. 2005.

You have a prayer concern: Please call Connie Wason at 623-1703 or Rose Mansfield at 623-0971, who are members of the Praying Hands Prayer Group, by Wednesday at 7:00 pm.

You would like to arrange a Mass Intention: Come to the parish office and ask for the secretary.

You want to put something in the bulletin: Instructions for getting announcements in the bulletin can be obtained by calling the parish office at 623-2989 and speaking with the secretary. **BULLETIN DEADLINE IS 12:00 PM ON TUESDAY.**

You would like more information about Knights of Columbus: Please call Otto Rieck at 582-4112.

You want to register your child in St. Mark School: Call the school at 623-2989, prompt 4.

You need a ride or can offer a ride to or from Church: Call the parish office at 623-2989, prompt 5, ext. 2001.

You wish to have an announcement read at Mass: Anyone wishing to have an announcement said before Mass must bring the announcement in to the Parish office for the pastor's approval by Thursday before the scheduled mass. Announcement can be emailed to: saintmarkcatholicchurch.net.

You would like the parish priest or parishioner to visit someone who is sick: Please call the parish office at 623-2989, prompt 5, ext 2002, if there is an emergency (imminent death or need of sacrament, prompt 3) or if you or a loved one are about to have surgery, are in a hospital or nursing home, or have become homebound. The priest is ready to visit, administer the Sacrament of the Sick and Holy Communion. ***Please provide the location and phone number of the person to be visited, and the time that is most convenient for the visit.***

You want to change your name or address in the Parish records OR are leaving the parish: Call the parish office at 623-2989, prompt 5, ext. 2001.

You want to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation: Reconciliation is offered 30 minutes before each weekend mass.

You would like more information about the Catholic Daughters of the Americas: Call Tricia Davis at 623-9184 or Laure Schadler at 624-9316.

PASTOR'S PAGE

Notes from the Pastor:

How wonderful, even in the midst of sadness and grief, to gather with the Manz family as we celebrated the life of William Manz. Once again, I am grateful for our Bereavement Committee who provided such a wonderful dinner; to Betty Reister and our choir for the liturgical music, and to our servers and my staff who assisted in various ways behind the scenes.

Thank you to so many of you who provided care packages to me this past week as I was stricken with the flu. I am grateful for the fruit, water, tea, honey, Chicken Soup, etc. Your care and love expressed to me were greatly appreciated and very touching. THANK YOU.

I can't believe next weekend is LIONS SHARE WEEKEND combined with our Kentucky Derby Weekend. Please know that tickets are available for $10.00 which provide you a chance to win $10,000.00!! Also available are Jonas Brother VIP tickets and other wonderful silent and live auction items. Let us come together to support our ministry of St. Mark School. LOOKING AHEAD, I am considering the suggestions that have been given to me, and they are SUGGESTIONS ONLY, of combining the LIONS SHARE event with our 12 GRAND EVENT and together producing a spectacular event in which a GREATER CASH prize can be awarded and proceeds can benefit St. Mark and our School at one time. It would be a great way of combining past traditions into a NEW TRADITION! Let me know your thoughts.

Mother's Day Weekend (May 10) is FIRST COMMUNION SUNDAY here at St. Mark. Due to the large number of students making their First Communion we are "dividing" up the class so that we will have our St. Mark School children receiving their FIRST COMMUNION at the 8:30 a.m. Mass on May 10th and then our CCD children receiving their FIRST COMMUNION at the 11:00 a.m. Mass. This will be a joyful celebration for all of us, as together we remember that special day when we received Jesus for the first time in the HOLY EUCHARIST.

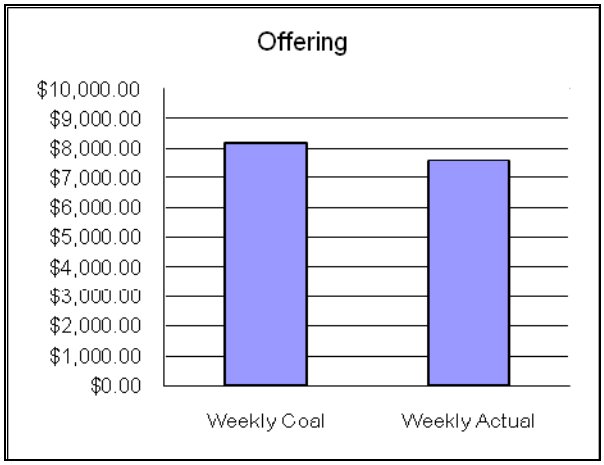
A summary of our parish survey is included in this bulletin and will be repeated next weekend as well for those members who are out of town or traveling. I thank you all for taking the time to read this survey as together we process the results and continue to follow God's Will as it comes to the ministry entrusted to us.

Finally, a special word of thanks to Sue Marz, Liane Hinch and the entire team of ladies who gathered together to minister to our women in our parish at our first ever Ladies Weekend Retreat. I want to also thank Carol Chuk who came to us from the Diocese of Allentown and is good friends of Bishop Gainer and myself. I trust she enjoyed her visit with both the people of St. Mark and our Bishop!

As usual, let me remind you that I am available to you in my office via email at FatherJim.Sichko@SaintMarkCatholicChurch.net or, in cases of an emergency (i.e., death or imminent need of the Sacraments), by phone at 859-623-2989, prompt #3.

See you in Church,
Fr. Jim

STEWARDSHIP



OUR WEEKLY GOAL:	**$ 8,200.00**
ENVELOPES:	**$6,026.50**
LOOSE CASH:	**$ 495.00**
LOOSE COIN:	**$ 17.94**
LOOSE CHECKS	**$1,037.00**
TOTAL	**$7,576.44**

Under for the week - $623.56

FINANCE COUNCIL UPDATES AND NOTES:

The St. Mark Finance Council meets on a monthly basis. During these meetings we discuss various aspects of the financial condition of the Parish. We want to share with the parishioners items of interest:

* **Collection revenues from July 1, 2008 through February 2009 are $20,000 under budget.**

* Fr. Jim's February preaching travels to Missouri brought in donations totaling an additional $7,000 which is a total of $15,394 so far this year!!

* Congratulations to Campus Minister Brian Walsh along with the EKU Newman students for their outstanding efforts at fund raising. They brought in $1,800---YEAAA!!!

PARISH ANNUAL APPEAL

Campaign Statistics as of 03/04/09

GOAL $50,000.00

Total # of Parishioners:	558
Total # Pledged:	198
% of Participation:	35.48%
Total Amount Pledged	$35,487.00
Total Amount Paid:	$27,566.30

Average Pledge:	$179.23
% of Pledges Collected:	77.68%

SECOND COLLECTIONS

July	Home Meals Delivery - $1,244.44
August	Families in Need - $1,326.12
September	St. Mark School - $1,105.55
October	Altar Society - $719.07
November	Home Meals Delivery - $1,379.23
December	Altar Society - $1,009.38
January	St. Mark School - $2,030.98

February	Families in Need - $1,473.82
March	Home Meals Delivery $1,212.95

MINISTRIES

Linens: Donna Fourre

	Ministry			
Mass	**Lectors**	**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**	**Altar Servers**	**Welcome Desk**
4:00PM Saturday May 2	Bob Geiger Jean Price	Karen Mayo Darren Norton Kathy Norton Jean Price Mary Lou Remaley Laure Schadler Jill Silver	George Nichols Haley Nash	Dottie Stipes
8:30AM Sunday, May 3	Pete Creighton Phil Mattingly	Mary Rose Bauer Barbara Cain Terry Culross Emma Esker Kathy Hall Patty Holly Pat Currans	Jack Miller Joseph Abney	Larry & Pam Palmisano
11:00am Sunday, May 3	Sandy Sullivan Kathy Palmer	Donna Meek Minh Nguyen Jenny Rieck Lois Scott Evelyn Spalding Bill Sullivan Erin Sullivan	Michael Price Patrick Sullivan Andrew Brockman Noah Beard	Kathryn Maynard

**A Reminder to all Ministers – Please be mindful of Dress Code. No Tennis shoes and Gentlemen must have shirt with collar.

Kevin Skendzel representing **Diocesan Publications** (our Bulletin Publisher) will be at the parish soon. He will be renewing present advertisements and seeking new ones. If interested, please call the parish office at 623-2989. We feel this is an excellent service and that the sponsors get good coverage with their ads. THANKS TO YOU and DIOCESAN PUBLICATIONS, the bulletin is published weekly at no cost to the parish.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CANDLES

THERE ARE MANY OPENINGS IN THE 2009 CALENDAR. CALL SOON TO GET THE DATE FOR 2009 YOU DESIRE.

WEEKLY READINGS

Sunday	**Third Sunday of Easter Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; Ps 4; 1 Jn 2:1-5a; Lk 24:35-48**
Monday	**Acts 6:8-15; Ps 119; Jn 6:22-29**
Tuesday	**Saints Peter Chanel, priest, martyr; Louis Mary de Montfort, priest Acts 7:51—8:1a; Ps 31; Jn 6:30-35**
Wednesday	**Saint Catherine of Siena, virgin, doctor Acts 8:1b-8; Ps 66; Jn 6:35-40**
Thursday	**Saint Pius V, pope Acts 8:26-40; Ps 66; Jn 6:44-51**
Friday	**Saint Joseph the Worker Acts 9:1-20; Ps 117; Jn 6:52-59**
Saturday	**Saint Athanasius, bishop, doctor Acts 9:31-42; Ps 116; Jn 6:60-69**
Sunday	**Fourth Sunday of Easter Acts 4:8-12; Ps 118; 1 Jn 3:1-2; Jn 10:11-18**

NOTE OF THANKS

Dear Jimmy,

Thank you for sharing your Christmas Gift with us! I guess you know the Parish of St. Mark's sent us a most generous gift – it was your X-mas gift from them. That was such a nice surprise. We so appreciate your thoughtfulness and generosity.

It is so good to get the bulletin. It makes us feel part of your parish. And, we also add extra prayers for you that God continues to bless you with strength and wisdom as you preach and lead others to God. Take time for yourself and time to smell the flowers!

Ever united in prayer,
Sister Maria Guadalupe

(**Note from Parish office** – The Parish Council at Christmas decided to provide a monetary gift in Fr. Jim's name to the organization that he wished.)

NEWMAN CENTER NOTES

Coffee and Doughnuts are back!
Come down and enjoy some fresh coffee and doughnuts and your fellow parishioners after the 8:30 Mass this weekend.

Spring Cleaning at the Newman Center this Saturday. Come on out and help the Newman Center Students spruce up our flowerbeds and clean out our kitchen. Any and all help is appreciated. We will be working from 10 till 3. To volunteer, or to volunteer to bring food contact Brian Walsh at the Newman Center

859-494-2901.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Information of Adults) For more information, contact Terry, 623-6847/ email: towen44@bellsouth.net; or Linda, 623-0925 /email: ljclcsw@yahoo.com.

KNIGHT'S CORNER

Parishioners are invited to attend a "Blue Mass" on Wednesday, April 29th at 10:30 AM, honoring our local firefighters, policemen and first responders. Following Mass a luncheon for the honorees will be held.

The annual K of C Golf Scramble at the "Bull at Boone's Trace" has been canceled; please, watch for the rescheduled date.

Fourth Degree: Reservations for our May 9th Spring Outing to Bardstown, KY are nearing a deadline. The day will begin with a tour and lunch at Maker's Mark Distillery followed by a tour of the grounds at the Abbey of Gethsemani Monastery. We'll then journey to the historic Basilica of St. Joseph Cathedral (a registered national landmark), where we'll attend Saturday Mass. Our outing will end with dinner at the well-known Talbott Tavern in downtown Bardstown. Remember, this is a spouse/guest event. Please call John Wright at 859 893-1123 for details and/or reservations.

Meeting Reminders:

-Monthly Third Degree meetings are held on the **First Thursday** of each month at the Newman Center.

-Monthly Fourth Degree meetings are held on the **Third Sunday** of each month, at St. Clare Community Building in Berea.

RCIA

Wednesday, April 29 6:30-8:00pm St. Mark Gym

Next High School Youth Group will meet Wednesday, April 29th

6:00 Mass
6:30 Dinner and Meeting

Any questions contact Mike Reister mbreister@att.com.

CHOIR NEWS

Choir practices for the 8:30 a.m. liturgies are held each Wednesday evening from 7-8:30 in the Church. Questions? Call Betty Reister at 623-2573. We look forward to seeing some new faces.

CCD NEWS

CCD Schedule:

April 29 - 6:30-7:30pm - This is the last regularly scheduled CCD class of the year

May 6 - 6:30pm until 8:00pm - 1st Communion Practice

May 10 - 11:00am Mass - 1st Communion

Every Wednesday evening from 6:30 - 7:30pm
cathy.cornett@saintmarkcatholicchurch.net

Catholic Daughters of the Americas (CDA):

APRIL MEETING: CDA's monthly meeting has been moved to Tuesday, April 28. Meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. (Why not join us for Mass beforehand?)

There is still time to memorialize a loved one, or have your family name a permanent part of St. Mark history by having a name inscribed on the new Chalice. Please call the Parish office for more information. Fifteen openings remaining.

St. Mark Women's Softball. If you are interested in playing, please contact Jen Steelmon at 859-623-1114. Season starts April 21.

SCHOOL NEWS

SAVE THE DATE!!

The Lions Share $10,000.00 drawing will be held on May 1st beginning at 6:30pm. We are extending an invitation to all of the St. Mark parish, our community and friends. We are in need of donated items for the auction. For more information call the school or Kella Miller at 859-661-0535.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Spring Events at LCHS!
There is a lot going on at Lexington Catholic this spring and we want you to be a part of it!

Spring Fling - **Saturday, May 9**, **2009, 8:00 PM – Midnight**, Join us for our annual thank you to the Lexington Catholic community. Alumni, Parents, Friends, and Supporters of LCHS (21 and over) are invited to dance the night away with the band, "Swing Street" in the LCHS Bueter Gymnasium. Tickets are $15.00 in advance, $20.00 at the door and include music, open bar and snacks.

The Principal's Cup Golf Tournament - **Monday, May 11, 2009, Lunch: Noon; Scramble Start: 1:00 PM,** The 9th annual golf outing to benefit the tuition assistance program at Lexington Catholic will be held at Spring Valley Golf Club. Sponsorships are available. $125.00 individual, $400.00 foursome. Hole-in-one provided by Glenn Auto Mall (Buick Enclave).

Contact Pam Schneider, Director of Alumni and Events at: (859) 277-7183 x 306 or pschneider@lexingtoncatholic.com for all events. You may also contact Todd Myers (859) 797-8796 or Mark Hinkel (859) 255-2424 x 279 for The Principal's Cup. Information available online: www.lexingtoncatholic.com

St. Mark Catholic School Survey Results

We have 557 actively enrolled households; 255 households responded to this survey. Therefore, our sample size comprises 46% of the total parish households, which provides a representative sample of parish opinion.

- Of these 255 families, nearly 3/4 rated the school either A (outstanding) or B (above average) as a "general impression." Of the remaining respondents, 18% felt they did not have enough information to rate the school, 7% felt the school was "average" and only 1.4% felt the school was below average or unsatisfactory. These ratings were based primarily on 1) personal experience with school as a former student or former/current parent; 2) information provided from parish/pastor (e.g., bulletin, homilies, parish mailings); and 3) information from others, rumors, or general reputation of Catholic schools as a whole.

- A plurality of parishioners (i.e., the highest marked answer for this question) had no opinion about the adequacy of the parish subsidy to support the school. Of the 60% who provided an opinion, 36% felt the parish provided adequate funding while 23% felt it was too low; only 1% of respondents felt the subsidy was too high.

- When asked to provide comments or suggestions about assisting St. Mark in becoming an even better school for the children of the parish and community, parishioners had the following top responses (in rank order):
    - The school needs to do better marketing - to the parish and to the community - to help build a stronger bond between the parish and the school as well as to highlight the school to potential students/parents in the parish and the wider community.
    - The cost of education at St. Mark needs to be made more accessible to parishioners and community members through better fundraising, more parish support, tuition assistance, scholarships, etc.
    - St. Mark School needs to expand the programming provided to students - extracurricular activities, more advanced classes for high achieving students, sports programs, after school programs, "classical" programs, etc.
    - St. Mark School or the Richmond area needs to provide Catholic education from pre-K-12 so that parents don't have to transport them to Lexington for high school, or provide some help to students to help them more effectively transition to high school (adapting to larger environment, social skills, etc.)
    - The facilities need to be updated - both the physical structures such as bathrooms, classroom furniture, and heating/cooling system - and the classroom resources such as technology (whiteboards), lab equipment, etc.
    - There is some "negative press" in our parish; some parishioners share a negative outlook of the school with new parishioners and others considering St. Mark School for their children.

- Approximately 1/3 of responding parish families have at least one child who is of pre-K through 8th grade school age (83 families). Many parishioners without eligible children suggested in open comments that they wanted to support the school in some way, or that their children had attended when of the appropriate age and that the school was an important ministry of the parish.
    - Of the 83 families with children, nearly half (46%) send their children to public school, 37% send their children to St. Mark, and 17% send their children to another private school (only 4% to another Catholic school).
    - These 83 families comprise 150 children eligible for enrollment at St. Mark; only 28 children of respondents are middle school age (grades 6-8). Our parish demographics are skewed toward younger children (pre-K through 5th), and several respondents indicated that their children were currently too young to attend school but they would consider St. Mark in the future when it became relevant to do so.
    - Of the 63% of parish families with children that do not send their children to St. Mark, they cited the top four reasons as 1) cost (59%), 2) OTHER (35%), 3) transportation (18%), and 4) lack of sports or other after-school program (16%). Note: respondents were allowed to select more than one reason.
    - Of those who rated OTHER as a reason, the top reasons were: 1) lack of resources for special needs children (e.g., speech therapy, dyslexia, gifted and talented program); 2) one or more parent employed by public school; 3) problems/issues with past or present school leadership; 4) lack of Catholic high school in Richmond (need to transition child to public school during middle school years).
    - Of the parish families who have children, 34% said they would consider sending their child to St. Mark School if financial assistance were available; 27% were not sure, and 39% said they would not consider St. Mark even with financial assistance available.

An Evening Among Friends Encore Series

St. Mark Catholic Church
608 West Main Street
Richmond, KY 40475
December 19, 2009
7:00 p.m.

- **Valet Parking**
- **Only 500 tickets available**
- **Reception with hors d'oeuvres prior to the performance**
- **Performance by Patti LaBelle**
- **Desserts and aperitifs after performance**

An Evening Among Friends: The Encore Series

Reservation Form

I would like to reserve _____ ticket (s) or_____ pew (s) to
Ring in Christmas with Patti LaBelle at the following level:

☐ **General Admission: $175 per person**

☐ **Meet and Greet with Patti LaBelle: $500 per person**
Limited to 50 tickets
Includes special pre-performance reception with Ms. LaBelle in the St. Mark Church gathering space, personalized photo with Ms. LaBelle and Preferred Reserved Seating

☐ **Group Seating: $2500 per pew for 8 guests**
Includes Preferred Reserved Seating and Patti LaBelle memorabilia for each guest (please list below)

_____ _____
_____ _____
_____ _____
_____ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Telephone: (____)_____

Email: _____

Tickets may be purchased by cash, check, or credit card in one payment or in installment payments at a minimum deposit of $50 per ticket, with the entire cost paid **prior to October 19, 2009**.
Checks should be made payable to St. Mark Catholic Church.

☐ Enclosed is my entire payment of $_____.

☐ Enclosed is my first installment of $_____.

For credit card orders, please complete the back of this form.

To submit your reservation, complete this form and then mail the form to the parish office, place it in the collection basket at Mass, or drop it by the parish office.