

DECEMBER 14, 2025

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

WELCOME

Church Staff

Rev. Paul S. Siebert, *Pastor*
 Sr. Frances Therese Matia, SSJ, *Pastoral Minister*
 Jennifer Abriatis, *Faith Formation Facilitator*
 Joseph DeSio, *Financial Council Moderator*
 Dan Martuccio, *Pastoral Council President*
 Don Fapore, *St. Mark Cemetery 486-1119*
 Kimberly McFall, *Office Manager*

Contact Information

Rectory Office: 814-486-0569
 Monday through Thurs. 9:00a.m. to 3:00p.m.
 Friday, 9 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
 Faith Formation Center: 814-486-0784
 St. Mark Community Day Care Center:
 814-486-2399

Sacrament of the Reconciliation

Wednesday at 6:00 pm, Saturday at 3:15 pm
 Anytime by appointment

Baptisms

At all Sunday liturgies and outside of Mass after
 9:00 am Mass. Parents and Sponsors must
 attend Baptismal Preparation Class. Call the
 rectory for arrangements.

Sacrament of Matrimony

Please call the rectory for arrangements six
 months prior to the wedding.

Prayer Requests

Margaret Burnside, 814-486-0344 or online @
www.stmarkemporium.org or
oursmprayers@gmail.com



Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, DEC. 15

8:15 AM CHRISTINE KNOUSE PETERS

(Her Children)
 (Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Mt 21:23-27)

TUESDAY, DEC. 16

NO MASS

(Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Mt 21:28-32)

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 17

8:15 AM MARY LOU FRAGALE
 (ANNIV.)

(Don & Deb Fapore)
 (Gb 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17)

THURSDAY, DEC. 18

8:15 AM TED PETERS

(His Children)
 (Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25)

FRIDAY, DEC. 19

8:15 AM IN HONOR OF PETE LION

(Lynn Lion)
 (Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lk 1:5-25)



SATURDAY, DEC. 20

4:00 PM LIVING AND DECEASED
 MEMBERS OF THE GRIMONE FAMILY

(Larry & Criss)

SUNDAY DEC. 21

9:00 AM PEOPLES OF THE PARISHES

(The Pastor)
 (Is 7:10-14; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24)

WWW.STMARKEMPORIUM.ORG | 235 EAST FOURTH STREET, EMPORIUM, PA

**EXTRAORDINARY
MINISTERS:****LECTORS:****ALTAR SERVERS:****SATURDAY, DEC. 13****VIGIL MASS**B. & J. Keller and
C. Malize**4:00 PM**

Mary Dixon

Mitchell Copp &
Phil Jones**SUNDAY, DEC. 14****9:00 AM**F. Manginell, A. DeLucia
& L. Pearsall

Don Fapore

Ruth Kane & Alana
Barnes**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

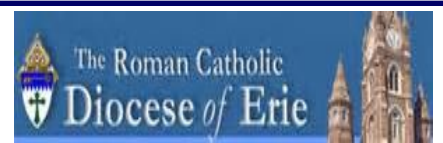
SUNDAY (14th) 9:00 AM - THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
10:00 AM - CONFESSION & COOKIES
10:00-11:15 AM-EDGE & CONFIRMATION SESSIONS

WEDNESDAY (17th) 3:30-5:00 PM - FAITH FORMATION Gr. 1-5
6:00 PM-HOLY HOUR *Adoration Intention:*
CONFESSIO *Return of All Catholics*
7:00 PM-BENEDICTION *to Sunday Mass*

THURSDAY (18th) 6:30 PM-Rosary

SATURDAY (20th) 4:00 PM - VIGIL MASS @ ST. MARK
5:00 PM - CONFESSION & COOKIES

SUNDAY (21st) 9:00 AM - FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
FAMILY MASS
No EDGE & CONFIRMATION SESSIONS

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 11:2-11**CHRIST'S WITNESS TO JOHN****Question of the week:****Adult:** How do you prepare yourself to meet Christ in those around you?**Youth:** What good thing have you done so far during Advent to be like Jesus?**Child Protection and
Creating Safe Environments**

Bullying is defined as any unwanted aggressive behavior by another youth or group of youths that involves an observed or perceived power imbalance and is repeated multiple times or is highly likely to be repeated. 20% of youth ages 12-18 experience bullying. When adults respond quickly to bullying behavior, they send the message that bullying is not acceptable. There are ways parents can make a positive difference. Parents can educate themselves on the signs that a child is being bullied or is a bully. Parents should keep the lines of communication open with their child and model for their child how to treat others. Encourage your child to be inclusive by welcoming others to join their activities and groups. For more information on how to prevent bullying in your community visit www.stopbullying.org.



We are in need of Eucharistic Minister volunteers (3) and one Altar Server volunteer for Christmas Mass at Night @10:00 PM.

If you can serve, please call the rectory @ 486-0569

2025**END-OF-YEAR GIVING
STATEMENTS**

All parishioners are encouraged to print their own end-of-year giving statements. Parishioners can access their giving history through the Diocese of Erie website using the Ministry Platform portal.

These self-service statements are secure, easy to use, and help reduce printing and mailing costs for the parish.

To link directly to the diocese portal, use:

www.eriecd.org/portal.html

If you've not already used this portal, it's easy to sign up and view your information.

As always, if you do not have access to the internet, we will happily print your giving report for you.

If you have any questions, please call Kim at the rectory, 814-486-0569.



Donations
Accepted

**COLLECTION FOR
HELP FOR THE HOMELESS**

Northern Tier Community Action is looking for supplies for homeless or those facing homelessness and their

needs. Some of the items include, *but not limited to*, are:

Blankets, hats, gloves, deodorant, feminine products, paper products, wipes, hand sanitizer, toilet paper, paper towels, toothbrushes, toothpaste, flavored water packets, backpacks, reusable water bottles, laundry pods, Ziploc bags, etc. Little medical items such as Band-Aids, Neosporin, etc. no oral medications please.

There is a table in the back of the church where items can be left.



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

The Gospel begins with John questioning who Jesus is and concludes with Jesus extolling who John is. What makes John great is that he recognizes in "the works of the Christ" the person and presence of the Messiah—"the one who is to come." This is exactly our Advent challenge: to see in the goodness around us the works of Jesus and the presence of "the Christ." Advent calls us to look deeper and then to trust what we see. Whom we discover depends upon what we see.



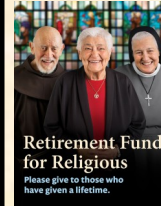
SPECIAL CONFESSION OPPORTUNITY

w/MSGR. KAZA at
St. Mark: Sat. Dec. 13th
following 4:00 PM Mass
Fr. Paul will have Confessions
on Sunday Dec. 14th after
9:00 am Mass



ST. MARK ADVENT CONFESSIONS

Every Wed. at 6:00 PM and
Every Sat. at 3:15 PM
OTHER AREA PENANCE
SERVICES:
Tues. Dec. 16th 6:00 PM:
Queen of the World, St. Marys
Thurs. Dec. 18th 6:00 PM
St. Leo, Ridgway
Sun. Dec. 21st 2:00 PM
St. Joseph, Force
Mon. Dec. 22nd 6:00 PM
Sacred Heart, St. Marys



THIS WEEKEND,
DEC. 13-14,
2025

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

*They gave their lives in service—
now they need your help.*

For decades, women and men religious have cared for others, teaching, praying, and serving those in need. Many now face retirement without sufficient savings. Your support ensures they receive the care they deserve. Let us now offer them the dignity they have so selflessly granted to others. Your generosity today is not just a donation—it's a way of thanking them for their lifelong service. Please consider giving to the **Retirement Fund for Religious.**



ST. MARK HOLIDAY COOKIE: Fundraiser

Sat., Dec. 13th AFTER
4:00 PM Mass; and
Sun., Dec. 14th
AFTER 9:00 AM Mass.
Cookies will be available in
O'Connell Hall
One Dozen cookies of your choice
for \$9.00!



ST. MARK CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

WED. DEC. 24TH:
4:00 PM VIGIL MASS w/
CHILDREN
St. Mark Folk Group
10:00 PM
MASS AT NIGHT
THURS. DEC. 25TH:
9:00 AM CHRISTMAS DAY
MASS
with St. Mark Choir



NEXT WEEKEND: CHRISTMAS PARISH FAMILY MASS SUNDAY DEC. 21st

Following 9:00 AM FAMILY MASS,
We will have an awesome family session
in O'Connell hall. This is a great way to
celebrate Advent with your family!
All are encouraged to attend.



ST. MARK ANNUAL CHILI & MAC-N-CHEESE COOK OFF

We are planning our
upcoming Chili & Mac-n-Cheese
Cook-off for **Sat. Feb. 7, 2026.**
We need your help.

If you could help us with
organizing and assisting on the day of
or help in any way, please let us know,
a.s.a.p. It seems like a long way off...but
it'll be here before you know it!
Please call the rectory at 486-0569 to
let us know how you can help.



EDUCATION GRANT AWARDED TO ST. MARK

The Catholic Foundation of
Northwest Pennsylvania has awarded
St. Mark Parish an Education Grant in
the amount of \$800.00! These funds
will be used for The Lending Library in
the front foyer of the church, and Faith
Formation Library books and DVD's.



IN YOUR CHARITY,
Please pray for the soul of
JEAN DUNKLEBERGER.
May her soul and the
souls of the faithful departed, rest
in peace. Amen



The Sanctuary Lamps burn
before the Blessed
Sacrament this week
IN LOVING MEMORY of:
Deceased Members of the Horvath
Family
BY: Rosalie Ives



~ 2025 CSA ~ WE'RE OVER THE GOAL!

Any monies collected now goes 100% to
St. Mark/St. James!
Thank you for your generosity!