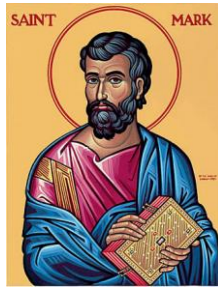


The Gospel of Mark



We have four Gospels: **Matthew, Mark, Luke** and **John**. MARK is used in “Liturgical Year B.” It is the earliest written Gospel; understanding it can help us to personally encounter Jesus in a profound way.

What is the Gospel of Mark? This Gospel is the Good News of Jesus Christ, written in a straightforward, right-to-the-point way. It is so direct that, at one time, some thought it was a collection of notes. It is believed that the disciple Mark, who followed Peter around and took notes on his preaching, wrote it. Several early fathers of the church make references to the man who wrote this Gospel, based on Peter’s preaching. However Mark must have put his own spin on Peter’s words or else this Gospel would have been called the Gospel of Peter rather than Mark! So what we have in this Gospel is the saving message that Peter preached, with Mark’s personal touch. This is a good reminder for us that the apostles preached concrete stories about their relationship with Jesus and what Jesus did.

Who was Mark? The author of the second Gospel is “John Mark.” His mother was named Mary, and she owned the house in Jerusalem where the early Church met (Acts 12:12). When Barnabas and Paul visited Jerusalem, they took John Mark with them to Antioch, but he left the trip early and returned home. The next time Barnabas and Paul went on a journey, Barnabas wanted to take John Mark. Paul did not want to take him, because he had abandoned the last trip. Paul and Barnabas disagreed so strongly that they split up in their missionary travels (Acts 15:36-41).

In his first letter, Peter writes that he is in Rome with “Mark,” an abbreviation of “John Mark.” The tradition of Mark in Rome is connected with the long-held belief that Mark took notes on Peter’s preaching and recorded them in what we have today as his Gospel. Eusebius recorded the tradition that Mark went on to bring the faith to Egypt and was the first bishop of Alexandria.

What does the Gospel of Mark tell us? This Gospel deals with the ministry in Galilee, and the events of the last week of Jesus’ life. Mark begins with the Baptism of Jesus at the Jordan River; his concern throughout is more the actions of Jesus than His words. The miracles occupy a quarter of the Gospel.

The *Catholic Encyclopedia* says, “There seems to be desire to impress the readers from the outset with Christ’s almighty power...” The first Chapter has 3 miracles; 15 of the 18 miracles occur in the first 8 Chapters. Mark emphasizes Jesus’ human feelings, and the effect of His miracles on the crowd. Mark focuses on the mission and the meaning of Jesus.

How would we use Mark’s Gospel in our daily life? The Gospel of Mark can be used as a powerful tool to draw us closer to Jesus. This of course is the original intent of the Gospel: to bring people to Jesus. Reading Mark’s Gospel is a great help for people who are depressed, feeling helpless or worried about something about which they really can’t do anything. Whenever we are in this state, we should read Mark, especially those first 8 Chapters with all the miracle stories. We can let those miracles, one by one, wash over us. Each miracle reminds us of God’s great power and how Jesus reached out to help those who were powerless.

In Chapter 2, men brought their friend to Jesus for a cure. They could even get near Jesus because of the crowd. They felt as helpless as we would feel if we brought a sick child into a crowded emergency room and the receptionist just told us take a seat and wait; but these men lowered their friend through the roof. Jesus rewarded them, despite their clumsy attempts to get His attention. We remind ourselves that He will notice us too when we are in these situations.

In Chapter 3, Jesus went to the synagogue and saw a man with a shriveled hand. The man did not even ask for a cure. Jesus just cured him. How many times has Jesus helped us before we even think about asking?

In Chapter 5, a possessed man, whom we would call “psychotic” today, rushed at Jesus. We can feel for this man. He was overwhelmed with anxiety. He did not know whether he was coming or going. He could not think straight. He was full of fear. He did not want to be hurting anymore. Does any of that sound familiar? Jesus cured him, even though he could not even ask for a cure. Jesus knew exactly what he needed, and He provided it for him with true compassion and love. These miracle stories in Mark are very consoling.

Mark’s Gospel reminds us that God sent His Son, Jesus Christ our Saviour, into the world to save us. The way we show our love and thanks is by the way we live our lives. To live according to Mark’s Gospel, we have to trust in God’s love for us. Even when times are tough, we can live in joy and peace.



Parish Week / Sunday, 2 August 2026

Saturday, 1 Aug. / St. Alphonsus Liguori, bishop & doctor

8.00 am Mass: Int. Thanksgiving (Antony)

5.00 pm Mass: † Moises Sardua (Chita)

SUNDAY, 2 AUG. / 18-A

■ Homilist: Deacon Ramon Villardo

9.00 am Mass: † Souls in Purgatory (Antony)

10.30 am Mass: † Olimpio Macabali (family)

12.00 pm Mass: Int. Thanksgiving 31st Wedding Anniversary, William & Maria

7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Monday, 3 August

8.00 am Mass: † Caroline Bastiampillai (family)

7.00 pm Mass: † Nunziato Sidoti (family)

Tuesday, 4 August / St. John Vianney, Priest

8.00 am Mass: Int. Thanksgiving Fr. Elias Birthday (CWL Council)

Wednesday, 5 August

8.00 am Mass: Int. Thanksgiving Fr. Elias Birthday

Thursday, 6 August / Transfiguration of the Lord

8.00 am Mass: † Senen Ortega (Christy & Danny Sabado)

Friday, 7 August

8.00 am Mass: † Barbara Gacusana (Evelyn, Mom)

6.00 pm Holy Hour

7.00 pm Mass: † Regina Dungan (Corine Maulion)

Saturday, 8 Aug. / St. Dominic, Priest

8.00 am Mass: † Corrado Vindigni (Edna & Carmelo)

5.00 pm Mass: † Nilo Mulla (family)

SUNDAY, 9 AUG. / 19-A

■ Homilist: Fr. Edwin Galea

9.00 am Mass: † Pasqualina Della Vista (family)

10.30 am Mass: † Rufino Gomez (family)

12.00 pm Mass: † Dermond Robert & Jerry Fleming (Mary)

7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

ShareLife 2026

Thank you for supporting our parish's *ShareLife* campaign this year.

So far, we have raised: \$ 37,780.00
toward our 2026 goal of: \$ 99,000.00

Please help us to reach our goal. Thank you for your support.



Upcoming Weddings

There is a promise of Marriage between:

Sonny Pineda and Genalyn Sambo 3 Aug.

Nagendiram and Antonguanaratnam 29 Aug.

Alan Davis and Santhana Anthonysamy 25 Sept.

Bradley Bonnevie Villareal and Paula Rayes
18 Sept., St. Barnabas Church

Villanueva and Joseph 17 Oct.

Senduran Kandasamy and Smiley Alphonsus 23 June



Focus on the Word

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

1 Kings 3.5-12; Romans 8.28-30; Matthew 13.44-52

O God, protector of those who hope in you, without whom nothing has firm foundation, nothing is holy, bestow in abundances your mercy upon us and grant that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may use the good things that pass in such a way as to hold fast even now to those that ever endure. Amen.

Catholic Cemetery Masses

7.00 pm, 12 August



The annual CATHOLIC CEMETERY MASSES this year will be offered at 7.00 pm on Wednesday, 12 August. For more details, see the posters on the Vestibule bulletin boards.

ST. JOSEPH CENTRE Visit at Masses, 2 August

Historically located next door to a late-term abortuary, St. Joseph Centre offers positive options to mothers in a crisis pregnancy. We have put in a chapel with stained glass windows, and do Post Abortion Counselling as well. On 2 August, we will visit St. Maria Goretti Church and explain our *Baby Bottles for Life* campaign. Pray for us and our ministry!

Parish Summer Fair 23 August, 9 am – 2 pm

Our Parish is holding a Bazaar on Sunday, 23 August, beginning after the 9.00 am Mass and continuing to 2.00 pm. **Krispy Kreme** donuts are on sale: \$15 a dozen. Proceeds will support *ShareLife*. *Vendors:* To reserve a table, call: **Lillian**, 647-909-6425; or: **Angela**, 416-699-8000. Table rental is \$30. Preorder your donuts in the Vestibule at all Masses this weekend.

Spiritual Thought

Your value doesn't decrease due to someone's inability to see your worth.



Rosary Sunday Midland, 13 September

The annual *Rosary Sunday* celebration at the Martyrs' Shrine in Midland will be held on Sunday, 13 Sept. The CWL has hired a coach for the day, leaving our Parish at 8.30 am and returning at 6.00 pm. Cost: \$50 per person. To reserve a seat, call: **Chita** (647-883-9138) or **Lillian** (647-909-6425).

COMING UP

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15 Aug.

Feast of the **Assumption of Mary**

16 Aug.

2nd Collection: *Canadian Missions*

23 Aug.

SUMMER FAIR

18 Aug.

St. Helen, mother of Emperor Constantine

28 Aug.

St. Augustine of Hippo

29 Aug.

Wedding: Nagendiram & Antongnanaratnam (10:00 am)

30 Aug.

2nd Collection: *Maintenance*

7 Sept.

Infant Baptism Parent-Godparent Meeting (7:40 pm)

13 Sept.

ROSARY SUNDAY at Martyrs' Shrine, Midland

Sunday School class resumes after Summer break (10.30 am)

24 Sept.

► Beatification of **Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen** (St. Louis, USA)
by **Cardinal Luis Antonio Gokim Tagle**, delegate of **Pope Leo XIV**



Above: Fr. Wilson and Fr. Thomas enjoy dinner on 16 July.



Below: Montreal police officer Mohamed Lamine Benredouane.



Below: The family of Roden Cortero remember him at Mass and in prayer on the 1st Anniversary of his passing, 21 July 2026.





Baptism of Celestine Simone Aquino Sarte, 8 March 2026.



18 June 2028 ☩ Seminarian David Valencia visits the Basilica of Our Lady of Graces on the Mediterranean

waterfront in Nettuno, Italy. The church contains the Shrine of St. Maria Goretti, 16 Oct. 1890 – 6 July 1902.







St. Aidan Church, Scarborough.



ANNUNCIATION mural, St. Paul Basilica, Toronto.

Back from Summer holidays in Italy.



