

St. Mark's Catholic Community

7960 Northview, Boise ID 83704

www.stmarksboise.org

208.375.6651

Pastor-Rev Steve Rukavina

Parochial Vicar -Rev. Bruno Mgaya

24 Hour Eucharistic Adoration

Linda Naugle Coordinator 954-7513

Parish Office

Monday through Friday 8:30 am-4 pm
Phone: 375-6651 Fax: 375-3211
www.stmarksboise.org

Parish Office Staff

Administrative Assistants Susan Wilkins
Lorrie Silsby
Jessica Haas
Bookkeeper Terri Schultz
Facilities Maintenance Sergio Gonzalez
Ken Rivas

Faith Formation Directors

Stephanie Craig Axiom
Ben Geile Catalyst
Wendy Sleisher Youth Sacramental Preparation
Nancy Brennan Pre-School Religious Education
Elementary Religious Education
Val Allen Stewardship and Evangelization

Music Director and Wedding Coordinator

Katie Pape 377-8985
katiesmusic@msn.com

Young Adult Ministry

Fellowship Inspired Emily Naugle
Young Adults 484-4399

Treasure Valley Bob Barros-Bailey
Young Adults 371-8289
(tvyamtalk@gmail.com)

E-mails Address

Parish Staff -first initial last name @stmarksboise.org

Deacons

Ralph Pierce pierce2@cableone.net
Jim Bowen jimterrybowen@aol.com
Joe Rodriguez deaconjoe05@yahoo.com
Mike Lowe dcnmikelowe@gmail.com

Prayer Chain

St. Mark's has a prayer chain that prays for the needs of all and would like to pray for you. If you need prayer for any reason please call Janet Clark at 377-4789, or the parish office at 375-6651, or email pray4ustoday@gmail.com

Rosary Devotions

Rosary for Peace and Evening with Mary
Monday at 7 pm (Adoration Chapel)

Parish Schools

St. Mark's Elementary 375-6654
7503 Northview Boise, 83704
Dan Maloney, Principal

Bishop Kelly High School Office 375-6010
Robert Wehde, Principal

Liturgical Ministries

Outreach Extraordinary Ministers

Deacon Mike Lowe 559-3752
(dcnmikelowe@gmail.com)

Extraordinary Ministers

Barry and Jeanne Fitzgerald 376-2624
(fiatz@spro.net)

Lectors

Vicki Lord (vickilord@gmail.com) 377-1332

Ushers

Pat Lind (plind315@cableone.net) 377-4368

Greeters

Christine Haener (tchaener@msn.com) 939-5266

Altar Servers

Jim Pasker (pasker@xroads-ins.com) 898-1476

Liturgical Ministry Scheduler

Gayle O'Donnell (godonnell@stmarksboise.org)

Knights of Columbus

Paul Darcy (clarinetduet@hotmail.com) 322-4675

Council of Catholic Women

Cathy Kirk 375-2349

Food Bank

Teresa Taylor 327-0345

December 25, 2011

Merry Christmas



*Wishing you and your families a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.
Fr. Steve, and Your Parish Staff*

Christmas and Adoration

Eucharistic

Christmas is here! Which for many of us means incoming relatives or perhaps outbound travel. Please make plans in advance if for any reason this

Adoration

Christmas season you are not able to support your dedicated adoration hour,

so that coverage is ensured. Not signed up? Christmastime is a wonderful time to start Eucharistic Adoration! We currently have a need for scheduled adorers on-

- Sundays at 8 am
- Tuesdays at 5 am or 11 am
- Wednesdays at 2 am (vacant, please help!)
- Fridays at 7 am
- Saturdays at 12 am
- Plus numerous nighttime adorers need a partner

As always, there are Holy Hours available to meet any type of schedule, so please call Linda at 954-7513 to discuss the time that is perfect for you!

Coming Home

If you have been away from the church for any reason we invite you to strongly consider "Coming Home" Ask our priests, any of our deacons or call the parish office at 375-6651.



Family Faith



The Feast of Epiphany, celebrated this year on January 8, is also known as "Little Christmas." Many families celebrate the feast of Epiphany, remembering the

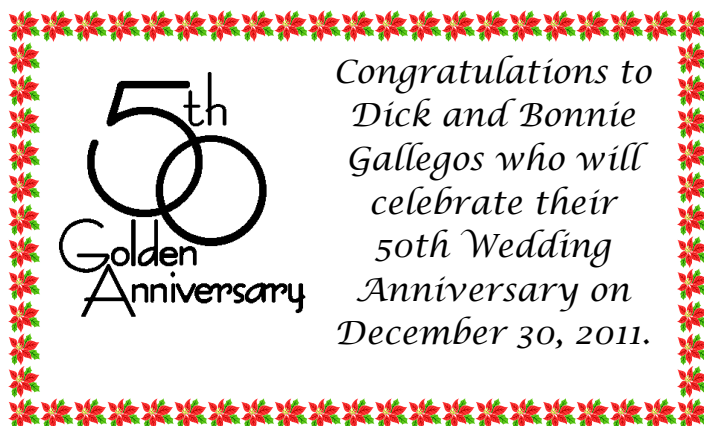
Wisemen who came to bring gifts to the Baby Jesus. We can bring gifts to others in "community outreach" as a way to celebrate. How about visiting a nursing home or hospital? Do something together as a family, like taking food to our food bank. The Wisemen represent people from all over the world- Jesus came to be Savior of EVERYONE!

Our Parish Holiday Office Hours

December 23 and 26	Closed
December 27-30	8:30am- Noon
January 2	Closed



Congratulations to Dick and Bonnie Gallegos who will celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary on December 30, 2011.



Sunday Liturgy Schedule

Saturday- 5pm

Sunday- 8:30 am, 11 am, and 6 pm

Weekday Mass Schedule

Monday -Communion Service-8 am

Tuesday-Thursday- 8 am

Friday- 8:30 am

Join us for FAMILY APOLOGETICS

1-2 pm Sundays

Jan 22, Jan 29, Feb 5, Feb 12

Resurrection Room

Easy question and answer format for ages 8-adult (younger kids are welcome with a parent).

Topics include: Scripture, Catholic Beliefs (from the Catechism) and Church History.

Learn quick, short answers to faith questions in an informal setting.

For more information call the Parish Office 375-6651



Remember Those in the Military

Fasting and Prayer On Fridays

This Friday please join us in fasting and prayer for World Peace and the Safety of Our Armed Forces.

On-Line Donations

Reminder that your donation must be received by the parish by December 31st to be included on your contribution statement.

If you would like to make an on-line donation, the Diocese is now able to accept these donations. The donor can select the parish or school's general or building fund donation. The following link will get you to the proper page: <https://www.catholicidaho.org/en/AboutUs/Giving/Pages/ParishSchools.aspx>. If you have any questions, please contact Diana or Terri at the parish office.

Family Praise and Worship



Do you enjoy praise and worship music and would like to pass the love of it on to your children? Join us for a fun filled-evening of praise music, prayer, reflection, children's activities and fellowship in a family setting. Single, married, and divorced adults are all welcome as well as teens and children of all ages. The "family setting" means that infants and toddlers may be roaming about so it won't be "church" quiet. Snacks will be served at the end of the evening. Friday, January 13th, 7:00 – 8:30pm at St. Mark's Church - Donoghue Hall
Sponsored by St. Mark's - "Cultivating Faith-Filled Families" small faith community.

COME AND GET TO KNOW US!

Are you familiar with FIYA? This ministry of St. Mark's helps young adults (18-39ish) connect more with their church community. Growing in one's faith through prayer, scripture study, and service to others is a personal journey, but it does not have to be taken alone. Generally, the last Saturday of the month we attend the 5pm mass together and then gather for dinner or other events. Bible studies and other programs are offered at various times throughout the year.

FIYA will have the "December" event after the 6 pm mass on Sunday, Jan 1st. It is always nice to reconnect with those back "home" for the holidays. We will attend mass and then meet up for food and fellowship at Old Chicago near the mall. For the month of January, we will meet once a week for a bible study, day and time TBA according to the interest of the group, please contact stmarksfiya@gmail.com for more information or to be added to the email distribution list. For January, we encourage everyone to attend the TVYAM sponsored retreat Jan 27 & 28. You can also mark Sat. Feb. 25th on your calendar for a "Date Night" dinner, babysitting, and a great speaker all provided after mass (date optional). Please RSVP to stmarks-fiya@gmail.com or on Facebook -Saint Marks Young Adults (FIYA). Lastly, in order to better serve our members and future members, please use the following web address to respond to a short interest survey: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ZWCW2NY>

St. Mark's School – Bus Driver Needed



Applications for driving the St. Mark's School bus for the afternoon bus route (approximately 3:00-4:15) are being taken. Applicants must have an exemplary driving record and possesses/be willing to obtain a DCL (commercial driver's license). Interested parties should contact the School Office @ 375-6654. Applications may be obtained at either the School or Parish Office.

St. Mark's Church Library



During Christmas week, spend some family time watching a VHS film from St. Mark's Church Library. There are several to choose from like "Martin the Cobbler" by Gateway Films, "The Life and Times of Jesus" by ABC/US News Production, "The Little Drummer Boy" by Golden Books, and "The Star of Christmas" by Veggie Tales! They are on the Christmas cart or on the desk near the window in the Library, Room 108. The library is open before and after Mass as well as during regular office hours Monday thru Friday 8:30 to 4. Most of all, Merry Christmas from the library folks!

Coming January 6th

"Friday Night at the Movies"!

St. Mark's invites you to our first monthly "family movie night" in Donoghue Hall. The January movie will be "**Joseph of Nazareth**"

- Doors open at 6:30, movie (105 min.) **begins at 7:00 pm.** For More information contact Val at the parish office.

Council of Catholic Women

January 2, 2012, CCW's first meeting of the year. Join us in Donoghue Hall at 6:30 pm for social time and 7:00 pm for the meeting and program. Three of St. Mark's Ministries will tell us what they do and answer our questions. For fun . . . it is also "Ugly Sweater (or sweatshirt) Day". You have that old, very old, Christmas or ski sweater or that ratty sweatshirt. Wear it and win a prize for the ugliest, oldest, most unique. See you on the second. PS - Treats - Don't start your diets until January 3.

Food Bank

The St. Mark's food bank volunteers assisted **2,270 individuals** with food and other essential items during November. This is an increase of over 100 individuals from November 2010!



Special Thanks to the parishioners of King of Glory Lutheran Church, for their Christmas food drive contributions! They brought two loads of food, over a two-week period, of canned fruit, soup, vegetables, cereal, baking mixes, etc., for those in need. We are grateful for their kindness and support!



Many Thanks to the children of St. Mark's School, for their donations from their Christmas food drive! The children, parents and teachers collected and delivered a great variety of canned food and other food items!! Great Job Everyone!! Thanks to all who continue to contribute to the St. Jude Fund and those who donate food each week. We are able to keep helping so many, with your generosity!!

Vacation Bible School

"It may seem early, but our VBS kit, "Sky" by Our Sunday Visitor has been ordered and will ship December 31st. An introductory meeting will be scheduled when the material arrives. Keep your eyes open for details."



More Father Robert Barron Opportunities at St. Mark's

Beginning Monday, January 9th at 7 PM
10 week DVD Series on CATHOLICISM

Beginning Wednesday, January 11th at 12 NOON
DVD Series on CONVERSION and FAITH

Due to the Holidays this bulletin will run next week, January 1, 2012.

What's the Hidden Meaning in the "12 Days of Christmas" song?



In England, during the Protestant Reformation of the 16th Century, Roman Catholics were not allowed to openly practice their faith. To teach their children basic doctrine, teachers used a nonsense song that would not arouse suspicions of the non-Catholics around them, but would remind the children of their faith.

The twelve days of the Christmas Season is counted from December 26, the day after Christmas, to January 6, the traditional day for celebrating the coming of the wise men to worship Jesus, also called the day of "Epiphany".

In the song, "Twelve Days of Christmas", the "True Love" that gives the extravagant gifts is God Himself. The recipient of the gifts is symbolic of every Baptized Christian.

Partridge in a Pear Tree: *Jesus Christ* The mother partridge risks her life to protect her children. Christ laid down his life for us (John 10:14-15) on the "tree" of the cross (Galatians 3:13)

Two Turtle Doves: *Old and New Testament* Turtle doves were temple sacrifices, symbolic of the Covenant with God (Lev.12:18; Luke 2:24, Heb. 10:1-10)

Three French Hens: *Faith, Hope, and Charity* (Corinthians 12:29-30)

Four Calling Birds: *Four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John)*

Five Golden Rings: *Torah (First five books of the Old Testament)* The Torah tells of man's fall into sin & reconciliation through the Messiah (Luke 24:25-27)

Six Geese A-Laying: *Six Days of Creation* (Gen. 1:31-2:2) Eggs are a universal symbol for new life.

Seven Swans A-Swimming: *Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit* (Corinthians 12:20-30)

Eight Maids A-Milking: *The Eight Beatitudes* (Matthew 5:1-9)

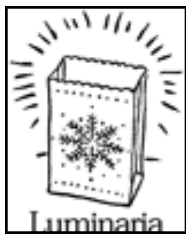
Nine Ladies Dancing: *Nine Fruits of the Holy Spirit* (Galatians 5:22-23)

Ten Lords A-Leaping: *The Ten Commandments* (Exodus 20:1-7) The Lords established the law in their jurisdictions.

Eleven Pipers Piping: *The Eleven Faithful Apostles* (Acts 1:13) The "Pipers" remind us of Christ's command to His Apostles to preach the good news to all the world. (Matt 28:10)

Twelve Drummers Drumming: *The Twelve Points of Faith in the Apostle's Creed* Drummers "set the pace" and remind us of what we believe by symbolizing the Creed. It is one of the earliest "confessions" of faith, summarizing the basic teachings of Catholic Faith. "I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth....."

Luminaries on Christmas Eve



Boy Scouts from Troop 94 (St. Marks) traditionally put out Luminaries on Christmas Eve as a service to our Church. The history of Christmas luminaries is long and quite old. Christmas luminaries are traditionally used to light homes and sidewalks during Christmas. The tradition of lighting candles in paper bag is part of American Southwest. These luminaries are in number of hundreds and thousands, which are lit on Christmas Eve. One can trace roots of traditional luminaries in form of candles placed in a mini, sand-filled, brown paper bags. This tradition of luminaries came into existence through Spain, where bonfires were lit on roadside and churchyard to help people find their way to reach midnight Mass held during winter festival of Las Posadas. In the 1800's. Small bonfires, like the current day bonfires on the corners of Canyon Road in Santa Fe, were used to guide people to Christmas Mass. Quite often they were set out during the final night of Las Posadas, the symbolic representation of Mary and Joseph seeking shelter in Bethlehem walking from home to home before Jesus was born.

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