



# ST. MARK UNIVERSITY PARISH

The Catholic Community of University of Alaska Fairbanks

1316 Peger Rd., Fairbanks, AK 99709-5168

Email: [stmark@cbna.org](mailto:stmark@cbna.org) Webpage: <https://stmarksuaf.org>

## MISSION STATEMENT

St. Mark's University Parish provides a *welcoming faith community* for students, families, and individuals that share a geographic, intellectual, or historic connection to the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF). We exist to *encourage, inform, and support the faith journey of all who have come to UAF* with a background in the Catholic tradition. St. Mark's also provides reliable information for non-Catholics inquiring about our faith and contributes to inter-faith discussion and ecumenical action.

### St. Mark Mass & Confession Schedules

**Sunday Vespers:** 4:45 pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral (SHC). **Sunday Mass:** 5:30 pm at SHC

*Unable to receive normal hosts? Please arrive early and ask the priest about the availability of low gluten hosts.*

**SHC Adoration:** Thursday 8AM-12Noon & Saturday 3-4PM

**SHC Confessions:** Saturday 3-4PM or by appointment.

**Anointing of the Sick.** Please let us know when you or others are sick, going into the hospital, or in assisted living home so they may be included in our prayers and receive a visit upon request.

## CALENDAR of EVENTS

**2/8:** 10AM-12noon **Altar Serving Training** @ SHC  
**2/7-8:** 7PM-7AM ICC First Friday Nocturnal Adoration  
**2/8:** 9-10:30 **Beloved Marriage Encounter** at SHC  
**2/10:** 6:30PM **Bible Study** in SHC Social Hall  
**2/14:** Saint Valentines Day  
**2/15:** 9:00-10:30AM **Marriage Prep Class** at SHC  
**2/15:** 7:00 PM Young Adult Game Night at SHC  
**2/28-3/2:** Diocesan **Spring Engaged Encounter**  
**3/5:** **ASH WEDNESDAY**

## PASTOR

Fr. Ross Tozzi: [rtozzi@cbna.org](mailto:rtozzi@cbna.org) Ph: 907-347-3005

## DEACON

Rev. Mr. Warren Lucero

## PARISH OFFICE:

**Office Hours:** 10am – 12noon

**Parish Admin:** Mary Pat Boger – Ph. 907-374-9564

**Bookkeeping:** Marilis Bennett - Ph. 907-590-9291

**Music Director:** George Stefan - Ph. 907-687-0077

**CSA Advisor:** Devan Larson: [UAF-catholic-Club@alasks.edu](mailto:UAF-catholic-Club@alasks.edu)

**Pastoral Council:** Marilis Bennett, Cynthia Klepaski, Ritchie Musick, Jen & Sean Tucker, Fr. Ross Tozzi.

**Finance Council:** Marilis Bennett, Jen Tucker, Fr. Ross Tozzi

### Catholic Definition: Encounter

An existentialist term, appropriated in religious language, to describe the human being's meeting with Christ in the sacraments. The sacramental encounter is an effective communication of grace from Christ as God, through Christ as man, to the believing recipient. <https://www.catholicculture.org>

**February 9, 2025**

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C



**First Reading: Isaiah 6:1-2a, 3-8**

Isaiah describes his vision and call from the Lord.

**Responsorial Psalm 138:1-5, 7-8**

A song of thanks to God who saves us.

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11**

Paul reminds the Corinthians of the gospel that he announced to them.

**Gospel Reading: Luke 5:1-11**

The fishermen (Simon, James, and John) leave their fishing boats and follow Jesus.

### MUSIC OF THE MASS

Heritage Mass parts #'s 890-897.

**215** Holy, Holy, Holy  
**393** Here I Am, Lord  
**391** The Summons  
**388** Servant Song  
**212** Praise to the Lord



**Funeral at Sacred Heart Cathedral for**

**John Fox**

Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM.

Reception will follow in the Social Hall at 6:30PM.

Private burial will be held at a later date for the family.

*Please offer your prayers for the repose of his soul, as well as for Sheila and their family and loved ones grieving.*



## MONDAY

**SHC Club Discussion Group** – Meets Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month) 12:30-2:30PM downstairs in the Community Room. **Surprised By Truth: 11 Converts give the Biblical and Historical Truth For Becoming Catholic** by Patrick Madrid (Part I) Contact: [43janetf@gmail.com](mailto:43janetf@gmail.com)

**Bible Study Monday Nite** – Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM (every other Monday) in the SHC Social Hall, hosted by Michael Olsta (Office of Faith & Family Formation).

## TUESDAY

**Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA):** 7–8:30 PM at SHC. **Voices of Hope Prayer Group:** 6:30-8:30PM downstairs at SHC every Tuesday. All are welcome!

## WEDNESDAY

**Marian Prayer Group:** 6 PM at St. Raphael Church, after the 5:30 PM Healing Mass. The group reflects on one of the recent messages from Our Blessed Mother in Medugorje after the Rosary is said.

## THURSDAY

**Confirmation/Youth Group** – Confirmation – 5:30 PM; Voces Teen Youth Group 6:30–8:00 PM. Questions—Contact M. Way of Salvation at [servidoras@cbna.org](mailto:servidoras@cbna.org) or call (907) 987-9595.

**Men's Group** – Adoration: 6 PM; studying St. Thomas Aquinas at 7 PM at ICC.

**Franciscan Community** - 6:30 PM on 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month at St. Raphael Church. For information contact Gloria Slagle [stclare4@gmail.com](mailto:stclare4@gmail.com)

## FRIDAY

**SHC Friday FOOD BOXES** - Calls taken from 10-11am. **Volunteers needed** to help distribute to clients in the parking lot 11 AM -1 PM. Please call SHC on 907-474-9032 for details.

**Voces Verbi** – Meets at 6 PM for Adoration, Pizza, and formation for Young Adults 18-35. Held at ICC.

**Nocturnal Adoration** 7AM–7PM Every Friday at ICC.

## SATURDAY

**Oratory** – 1:00 PM at SHC.

**Religious Education** - 3–4:15 PM at SHC.

**Religious of the Incarnate Word 3<sup>rd</sup> Order Meetings** – 6PM every other Saturday at Monroe School. Formations talks – Games for kids in the gym. All who are interested are welcome.

**Young Adults:** 7:00 pm Game Night at SHC meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every month. Contact Diocesan OFFF Director Michael Olsta at 907-374-9526 or [olsta@cbna.org](mailto:olsta@cbna.org).

## SATURDAY & SUNDAY

**Regional Soup Kitchen at Immaculate Conception** - Serving Hours are from 1-3pm. Volunteers and items are needed. Contact ICC at 907-423-3533 ext. 1003, or email [iccsoupkitchen@cbna.org](mailto:iccsoupkitchen@cbna.org)

## EVENTS & GROUPS OF INTEREST

**Spiritual Exercises** – Silent Ignatian Retreat for Women is coming Feb. 14-17. Contact [seridoras@cbna.org](mailto:seridoras@cbna.org)

**Catholic Engaged Encounter Retreat** for engaged couples - Feb. 28 to Mar. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025 at St. Nicholas Catholic Church. For more info go to: [Fairbanks.engagedencounter.com](http://Fairbanks.engagedencounter.com).

**Marriage Preparations** – Contact Fr. Ross six (6) months prior to wedding - [rtozzi@cbna.org](mailto:rtozzi@cbna.org) or call (907) 347-3005 .

**ICC Our Lady of Fatima** - Contact Shannon Christensen at (907) 388-1825.

**Seven Sisters Apostolate** – Everyday, three members of the Apostolate pray a holy hour for a specific clergy. For more information, contact Jan Fortune at [43janetf@gmail.com](mailto:43janetf@gmail.com).



**Justice Challenge:** This Sunday's Gospel has Jesus inviting Peter, James, and John to become fishers of people. God's Word tells us that they left everything to follow Jesus. Your challenge this week is to reflect on something which you haven't been able to leave, something which might stand between you and Jesus. It might be a possession; it might be an activity that consumes a lot of your time. Give it up and replace it with giving time or money to a cause which fights injustice and helps those in need. Have a conversation with Jesus about why and how you want to be closer to him. And listen for his response. <https://pastoral.center>

## Connecting the Gospel...

**...to the First Reading:** Both Isaiah and Peter declare themselves to be sinful people. But the call of God comes to sinful people and in diverse places (Temple, boats). The call depends not on the individual or the place, but on the graciousness of God.



**...to experience:** Too often we feel the burden of discipleship rests solely on our own shoulders. The gospel depicts Jesus initiating the call—he comes to Peter at his boat; he invites Peter to follow. Our discipleship rests upon Jesus long before we begin to follow. <https://liturgy.slu.edu>

## Stretching Our Limits

**Simon Peter fell down at Jesus' knee saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man." Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." (Luke 5:8, 10b)**

**Adults:** When have you felt inadequate to a task or role you were given? How did you respond?

**Kids:** When have you been asked to do something you felt might be too hard for you? What did you do?

<https://pastoral.center>

## How can we stay strong in our faith? Cultivate

**thankfulness.** Thank the Lord for three things each day. A spirit of thankfulness kills a bitter heart and helps us to see that truly everything is a gift from the Lord.



Whether the Lord gives or the Lord takes away we must bless His name. It also gives us the vision to see what God desires for us. <https://www.amadorcatholic.com/10-ways-to-grow-your-faith>

## CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: Where did three children witness six apparitions of Mary, Mother of God in 1917?





## Did you know some saints had a miraculous sweet scent.

*The “odor of sanctity” isn’t just a metaphor!*

There’s a sweet miracle that you should know about...

Did you know some saints had a miraculously sweet-smelling fragrance?

Yes! It’s sometimes called the “odor of sanctity” that emanates from them, often even after death. It’s almost as if their holiness and friendship with God radiates from them through a sweet fragrance.

Let’s meet some of these sweet-smelling saints...



**St. Therese of Lisieux:** After her death in 1897, many reported that her grave and relics emitted a beautiful floral scent, even before her body was exhumed during her beatification process. This fragrance was experienced by those who prayed for her intercession and has been noted in connection with her relics to this day.

**St. Padre Pio:** Witnesses reported that he exuded a perfume-like smell, often described as a blend of flowers and incense. This occurred even during his lifetime and was experienced by people in his presence or praying to him from afar.

**St. Rita of Cascia:** Her incorrupt body, preserved in a glass coffin in Italy, is said to emit a subtle, sweet aroma. Visitors to her shrine often comment on this unexpected fragrance, which has persisted for centuries.

The Church views the odor of sanctity as a sign, not proof, of sainthood. It’s never the sole reason for canonization. For those saints whose lives bore the fragrance of virtue, it seems fitting that their earthly remains would bear the fragrance of heaven.

Although we may not possess this miraculous fragrance, we can use a sweet scent to help cultivate a holy and prayerful space with a Catholic candle!

<https://catholiccompany.com/getfed/who-was-the-real-st-valentine/>

Love is the beauty of the soul! ~ St. Augustine

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY! – FEB 14<sup>TH</sup>

(Practicing) Catholic – Recognize God in your Ordinary Moment)  
**The Catch**



I love today’s Gospel passage, and not just because I love a good fish fry.

I love it because I am Peter. Over and over again, I am Peter, standing here exhausted because I relied on my own abilities, and it got me nowhere. I’m ready to call it quits. I’m ready to say it’s too hard. And here comes Jesus, asking me to lower my net. To keep trying.

And I try to talk sense into him. “It’s not going to work, God,” I insist. “I’ve been trying.”

“You’ve been trying,” Jesus agrees. “But you haven’t asked. for my help yet.”

What does it mean to lower your net? It sounds so simple and so easy, but it takes a great deal of humility and trust. I think I’m the expert on my own life, the captain of my own ship. Peter probably thought so, too — he was the fisherman, after all. Why would a fisherman listen to a carpenter on matters of fishing?

Lowering your net means giving God control and letting yourself be changed by what He chooses to show you.

It means to listen to God’s instructions, even when you don’t understand them, even when you find them frustrating. It means to keep trying the hard thing that you know is the right thing, even when it hasn’t born much fruit. It means to keep loving the person who is making life hard on you, even when all you want to do is give into feelings of bitterness and distrust.

If we would only lower our nets, the catch would astound us.

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman – February 6, 2025©Lpi

The month of February is dedicated to the Holy Family. Consecrate your family to the [Holy Family](#)

Check out the latest **Alaskan Shepherd Newsletter**, [Winter 2025](#) – the “**Transportation Issue**” on the Diocese of Fairbanks website - <https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/>



February 2: \$ 2,079.45  
Actual Collection YTD  
(7/24- 6/25): \$ 44,946.00  
Number of Parishioners: 120

Thank you for your continued support! Visit [WeShare](#) for online giving.

**Year End Giving Statements** have been mailed out. If you haven't received yours or have questions, please contact [mboger@cbna.org](mailto:mboger@cbna.org).

#### STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

*"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?' 'Here I am,' I said, 'send me!'" - ISAIAH 6:8*

Every day, in little ways and in big ways, God asks, "Whom shall I send?" Whether it is someone to take on a new ministry, to give a friendly smile to a stranger or to say a word of encouragement to a friend, God constantly provides opportunities to help someone in need. God is always talking to us; we just need to pay more attention. When you hear God calling have the courage to walk through the door and say, "Here I am, Lord."



#### POPE FRANCIS' FEBRUARY 2025 PRAYER INTENTION *For vocations to the priesthood and religious life.*

Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

**Please Pray for** Pope Francis; Bishop Steven Maekawa, O.P., Fr. Ross Tozzi, Rev. Dcn. Warren Lucero; and all priests, brothers, sisters, deacons, and volunteers serving in the Diocese of Fairbanks.

**Pray** for Jubilee of the Armed Forces, Police, and Security Personnel.

**Pray** for our sick and suffering - Ron (Carol) Johnson, Kerri Cerney, Ben Orr, Fr. Gerardus Hauwert, IVE, Dorothy & Frank McGilvary, Deborah Leabee, Fr. Sean Thomson, Cedric Grace, and the Galvin Family.

**Pray** for our recently deceased loved ones -John Fox. May he be welcomed into the eternal joy of God's presence.

#### **World Marriage Day & National Marriage Week**

*"They left everything and followed him."* (Luke 5:11)  
As we celebrate **World Marriage Day**, we honor the beauty and commitment of married couples who follow Christ together. Just as the apostles left behind their former lives to follow Jesus, couples are called to embrace their vocation of marriage with faith and trust, journeying together toward holiness. Take this opportunity to renew your marriage vows in your heart.

#### FOR YOUR MARRIAGE

Join us in celebrating National Marriage Week from February 7 to 14! National Marriage Week is a special time to reflect on the beautiful gift of the sacrament of matrimony. This year's theme from the USCCB is **Marriage: Source of Hope, Spring of Renewal**, inviting couples to strengthen their bond and deepen their lifelong commitment to each other.

The USCCB Secretariat on Laity, Marriage, Family Life, and Youth is offering a variety of resources for those discerning marriage, engaged couples, and those already living out the vocation of marriage. These include an at-home week-long retreat, a marriage-centered Lectio Divina, and social media graphics. For more information visit [foryourmarriage.org](http://foryourmarriage.org).

#### **Beloved Marriage Preparation Classes**

Winter Classes at Sacred Heart on Saturday Mornings 9:00 to 10:30 AM - Feb 8, 15, 22 - March 8, 15, 22 2025. The 6 sessions speak to the very heart of every man and woman, bringing sacramental truth and God-infused love into the everyday challenges of married life. Please register by email with Fr Ross [rtozzi@cbna.org](mailto:rtozzi@cbna.org)



LATIN RITE MASS – March 8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>  
6 PM at Sacred Heart

#### GET FREE CATHOLIC CONTENT ON FORMED.ORG

Our parish has access to a great online resource, FORMED. Check out what they have to offer this week at <https://watch.formed.org/this-week-on-formed>

- (1) Log onto: <https://formed.org/>
- (2) Find our Parish by Typing in Fairbanks and selecting **Sacred Heart Cathedral Mark**
- (3) Click Next, then fill in your name and email address.
- (4) Start accessing content!

**Mass Intentions** may be offered for friends or loved ones, living, or deceased. Just call the parish office on (907) 374-9564 or Sacred Heart Cathedral's Office on (907) 474-9032. Masses on Sunday are offered for all members of the St. Mark Community.

**SAFE ENVIRONMENT:** Our diocese is committed to creating a safe environment for everyone. If you are aware of abuse, you are encouraged to report the abuse to local law enforcement agencies and to contact our Victim Assistance coordinator, Jocelyn Niedziela by calling (907) 374-9553 or emailing [vac@cbna.org](mailto:vac@cbna.org). For more information access the Diocese Safe Environment: <https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/report-abuse>.

**Answer to Catholic Trivia Question:**  
Fatima, Portugal