



ST. MARK UNIVERSITY PARISH

The Catholic Community of University of Alaska Fairbanks

1316 Peger Rd., Fairbanks, AK 99709-5168

Email: 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.

PASTOR

Fr. Ross Tozzi: rtozzi@cbna.org Ph: 907-347-3005

DEACON

Rev. Mr. Warren Lucero

PARISH OFFICE: ph: 907-374-9544

Office Hours: 10:00 AM – 12noon

Parish Admin: Mary Pat Boger – stmark@cbna.org

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

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

CSA Advisor: Devan Larson: UAF-catholic-Club@alaska.edu

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

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

St. Mark Mass & Confession Schedules

Sunday Vespers: 4:45 PM at Sacred Heart Cathedral

Sunday Mass: 5:30 PM at SHC

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

SHC Confessions: Saturday 3-4 PM or by appt.



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday (4/13) – 8 AM, 11 AM, 1 PM (Spanish)
5:30 PM St. Mark Mass

4/14-16: (Mon-Wed) 5-8:00 PM Confessions,
Anointing of the Sick, and Adoration

4/14 & 15: (Mon & Tue) 5-8:00 PM a representative from the Office of the Tribunal will be available to assist individuals with questions of annulment and divorced persons seeking remarriage in the church. Contact Tribunal Office at 907-374-9504 or rfath@cbna.org if you have any questions.

Holy Thursday (4/17) – 7:00 PM

Good Friday (4/18) – 7:00 PM

(Stations at 3:00 PM - The devotion to The Way of the Cross, the 14 stations from the time of Christ's condemnation to His burial, is a time to pray and meditate on His sacrifice for us.

Easter Vigil (4/19) – 8:00 PM

Easter Sunday (4/20) – 8:00 AM, 11:00 AM & 1:00 PM (Spanish). *No St. Mark 5:30 PM Mass.*

April 6, 2025

5th Sunday in Lent, Year



First Reading: Isaiah 43:16-21

The Lord is doing something new for his people.

Responsorial Psalm 126:1-6

A song in praise of the Lord's marvelous deeds.

Second Reading: Philippians 3:8-14

Paul says that he counts all things as lot and focuses on one goal, Christ.

Gospel Reading: John 8:1-11

Jesus does not condemn the woman caught in adultery.

MUSIC OF THE MASS – April 6, 2025

Chant Mass Parts #840-846



143 From the Depths I Cry to Thee
416 Christ Before Us
355 I Receive the Living God
O Sacred Head now wounded
218 God, We Praise You

Choir Members for Easter Vigil -- If you would like to join the St. Mark University Parish Choir singing for the 8:00 PM Easter Vigil Sacred Heart Cathedral's, please contact St. Mark Parish at 907-374-9544 or email stmark@cbna.org . Practice times to be determined.

COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICES

4/7 (Mon): SHC 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

4/10 (Thu): St. Raphael 6:30PM

4/11 (Fri): St. Nicholas 7:00 PM

**** Please take advantage of the extra times made available between April 7-16. There will be no confessions heard at SHC on Saturday 4/18.**



Catholic Definition: Penance

The virtue or disposition of heart by which one repents of one's own sins and is converted to God. Also the punishment by which one atones for sins committed, either by oneself or by others. And finally the sacrament of penance, where confessed sins committed after baptism are absolved by a priest in the name of God. (Ety. Latin *paenitentia*, repentance, contrition.)

<https://www.catholicculture.org>



MONDAY

SHC Club Discussion Group – 4/7 A Journey Into the Land of the Coptic Christians by Martin Mosebach; 12:30-2:30 PM downstairs in the Community Room.

Contact: 43janetf@gmail.com

Bible Study Monday Nite – Rescheduled April 14th & 28th 6:30 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: 6:00–8:30 PM 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 Medjugorje 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 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 1st Thursday of the month at St. Raphael Church. For information contact Gloria Slagle stclare4@gmail.com

FRIDAY

SHC Friday FOOD BOXES - Calls taken from 10-11:30 AM. **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 7 AM–7 PM Every Friday at ICC.

SATURDAY

Oratory – 1:00 PM at SHC.

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

Religious of the Incarnate Word 3rd Order Meetings – 6 PM every other Saturday at Monroe School.

Young Adult Game Night: 7 PM at SHC meets on the 4th Saturday (4/26) for the next two months. Contact Diocesan OFFF Director Michael Olsta at 907-374-9526 or olsta@cbna.org.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY

Regional Soup Kitchen at Immaculate Conception - Serving Hours are from 1-3 PM. Volunteers and items are needed. Contact ICC at 907-423-3533 ext. 1003, or email iccsoupkitchen@cbna.org

EVENTS & GROUPS OF INTEREST

Summer Oratory – June 9th-13th (M-F) 9AM-3PM at Saint Nicholas Parish in North Pole for ages 6-17. **Register by May 1st** at <https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/summer-oratory>

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

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 information contact Jan Fortune at 43janetf@gmail.com.



Justice Challenge: What is the role of anger and rage in our lives? What purpose does it serve? We often think that when we feel anger, we need to express it... we need to get it out of our system. Perhaps anger has a different purpose as Jesus suggests to the angry crowd that is about to hurl stones at the guilty woman. Perhaps anger is a signal that there is something wrong inside of us, some pain that has surfaced because we have witnessed an injustice in the world and our consciences are feeling pricked. Anger can trick us into thinking that the injustice is outside of us or that we are above it. But Jesus suggests that when we seek justice with anger, rage, or revenge, we should use our anger to look within and hurl stones at our own sin. The challenge this week is to address the injustice that has root in our own souls.

<https://pastoral.center>

Connecting the Gospel...

... **to the First Reading**: Paul admonishes us not to be prisoners of our sinfulness but to strain forward to the new life that lies ahead. This new life is the “supreme good of knowing Christ Jesus” and remaining with him (“be found in him”).

... **to experience**: When we focus exclusively on our own sinfulness, we can easily lose sight of our goodness and God's mercy. Jesus responds even to profound sin with even more profound mercy. <https://liturgy.slu.edu>



False Pride

Jesus straightened up and said, “Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.” (Jn. 8:7)

Adults: Have you ever been too willing to “cast the first stone” when you disapproved of someone’s behavior? How can you resist these feelings?

Kids: When have you criticized or made fun of Someone? What could help you act differently?

<https://pastoral.center>



FIFTH WEEK OF LENT
UNITED IN GENEROSITY AS ONE
GLOBAL FAMILY

Amid the harsh conditions of the Sahel region's 1976 drought, millions faced hunger. That same year, Catholics worldwide gathered at the 41st International Eucharistic Congress in Philadelphia, focusing on “The Eucharist and the Hungers of the Human Family.” As Lent draws to a close, let's reflect on how our prayers, fasting and almsgiving can help ensure no one goes hungry in the middle of today's global food crisis. Visit www.crsricebowl.org/week-5 to learn more.

“Holy Mary Mother of God, pray for me, a poor sinner.”
~ St. Bernadette

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: : How many items does the Vatican Secret Library supposedly hold? (Answer on back page)



5 Ideas for Lenten Penances

It's time to move beyond just giving up chocolate!

Lent is a long season coming to an end. How did “giving up for Lent” go? Will this positive practice last?

It's the question we are all asking each other right about now. And yes, giving up something we enjoy such as sweets, coffee, or our favorite TV show was a great start. These external penances are a necessary part of the season—and should be a part of our lives in some way throughout the year.

But what else can we do to actively cultivate virtue and really target our faults this Lent? How can we take our penances to the next level by following through the rest of the year?

Here are 5 ideas that might prove a bit challenging—but try ‘em out and you’ll be enjoying some sweet spiritual fruit soon!

1. Mortify your will through the practice of obedience. Obedience takes different forms depending on our state in life. Those in religious life must obey their religious superiors, and children their parents. As lay adults, we can do it by cheerfully serving our spouse and children, fulfilling our assigned tasks at work, or simply allowing others to go first in the buffet line!

2. Attend especially to the tasks you don't like doing. Padre Pio was once visited by the soul of a young friar who had worked in the sacristy. The soul revealed that he suffered in purgatory because he'd been careless and negligent with his work. Complete every task meticulously, no matter how small and insignificant.

3. Embrace annoyances. Annoyances abound in this life. Little flaws in other people especially provoke us to fixate on our aggravation. Very often the flaws are faults that we also are guilty of, but which we tolerate in ourselves. When something in another person annoys you, examine yourself and discern how you, too, act or feel or think in that way.

4. Impose a strict watch on your tongue. Innumerable, mundane complaints escape our mouths daily, fostering ingratitude—so guard your tongue and inspect what you want to say before speaking.

5. Check impulsive actions. Be intentional in all that you do, asking yourself, “Do I really need to shoot off this text? Will this comment help anyone? Will I benefit from thoughtlessly popping snacks in my mouth?”

<https://catholiccompany.com/getfed/>

(Practicing) Catholic – Recognize God in your Ordinary Moment)

The Allure of Being Right



It wasn't a real question.

“The law of Moses says we should stone her. What do you say?” the Pharisees asked Jesus as they brought the adulterous woman before him. But they weren't *really* asking. They didn't care what Jesus' answer was. They didn't ask his opinion because they wanted to know. They asked because they wanted to use his words against him.

Righteousness, truth — that wasn't the goal. The goal was being right.

And in the middle of the whole scene, dragged before Jesus, used as a literal prop in this staged drama, is a woman. A real flesh-and-blood woman.

I find myself wanting to know more about her. She had been “caught in the act,” they claimed, but I wonder what that even means. With whom was this act committed, and what were the reasons for her participation in it? Was she coerced? Was she scared? Was she confused? Was it really a cut-and-dry, black-and-white situation of adultery, of lust, of making the wrong decision?

We will never know the answers to these questions, and it doesn't matter — it's not our business. God knows the answers. God knows the truth of the matter: what she did, what she chose, what she felt. Because she wasn't a prop to Him. She was a person.

When God looks at us, he sees more than the worst decisions we've ever made.

I worry that we use one another as props even today, when we try like the Pharisees to illustrate “What is Right.” We have a terrible tendency to see only decisions, and in doing so we dehumanize the people behind them.

Too often, we don't care about righteousness or truth. We just care about being right.

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman – March 27, 2025©Lpi.

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Answer: 150,000 @Lpi

31 Biblical Virtues to pray for your kids.

12. Purity. “Create in them a pure heart, O God, and let that purity of heart be shown in their actions” (Ps. 51:10)



March 30, 2025: \$ 1,093.05
Actual Collection YTD
(7/24- 6/25): \$ 54,613.10
Number of Parishioners: 103

Thank you for your continued support! Consider online giving with [WeShare](#) on our website.

\$156.09 (3% of our March collections) was donated to the *National Collections for Catholic Relief Services*, which support international immigration and justice.

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

"...For his sake I have accepted the loss of all things, and I consider them so much rubbish, that I may gain Christ..." (PHILIPPIANS 3:8)

The first commandment says that we should not put other gods before the Lord. Sharing all of our gifts. Living Stewardship by sharing our time in prayer, our talent in charitable works, and our treasure to support the Church helps us keep God first in everything. It helps us from putting other gods before God. It helps us from becoming a slave to our possessions. It helps us to use our gifts for the glory of God and not for the glory of ourselves.

POPE FRANCIS' APRIL 2025 PRAYER INTENTION



For the use of the new technologies

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.

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.

...our human family being torn apart by violent conflict, war, and extreme weather; may relief find those who are suffering.

...our religious brothers and sisters dedicated to serving the Church in the Diocese of Fairbanks.

...Jitlada Duangpakpheng who is preparing to enter into the Catholic Church; Piper Peters preparing for 1st Communion.

...members and friends of St. Mark parish.

...respect for life from conception to natural death.

...Reagan Smith, Kerri Cerney, Ron Johnson, Fr. Gerardus Hauwert, IVE, Dorothy & Frank McGilvary, Ben Orr, Deborah Leabee, Fr Sean Thomson, Cedric Grace, the Galvin family.

... Mary Beth Perreault (wife of Deacon Paul Perreault) and our brothers and sisters who have gone to their rest in the hope of rising again.

Mass Intentions may be offered for friends or loved ones, living, or deceased. Call Sacred Heart Cathedral parish office at (907) 474-9032. Masses on Sunday are offered for members of the St. Mark Community.



Memorial Easter Lilies - We can all help beautify the Sacred Heart Cathedral Sanctuary for Easter Masses? You can remember a deceased loved one at the same time. A plant is \$25 – money/ check can be put in an envelope found in the vestibule between the office doors. *1 name per plant*. If you include the names of your deceased loved ones with the money (\$25.00 *per name or a single family name*) it will go in the Easter Memorial Bulletin. You may order as many plants as you would like. Please have Easter Flowers envelopes and names in by noon on Sunday, April 12th. If you have any questions, please call the parish office on (907)474-9032



Keep current of what is happening in our diocese by visiting the Diocese of Fairbanks www.dioceseoffairbanks.org. Read Diocesan news, publications (the newest edition of the Alaska Shepherd), contact information for other parishes this large diocese, as well as ministries available to Catholics in Alaska.



For more information on the Year of Hope scan the QR code or go to the Diocesan website at <https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/the-year-of-hope>

The Diocese of Fairbanks is now hiring: Chief Financial Officer (CFO).

This is a full-time, exempt position with benefits. To apply, submit a cover letter, résumé, and three references to humanresources@cbna.org. For a detailed list of job duties and other information, please visit <https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/job-postings>.



"...Although we may be able to do but little, the enemy nevertheless stands more in awe of those whom he now can fast." ~ St. Francis de Sales

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. stmarks@cbna.org

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. For more information access the Diocese Safe Environment: <https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/report-abuse>