



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.

July 6, 2025

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C

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@alasks.edu

[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



St. Mark Mass & Confession Schedules

Sunday Mass: 5:30 PM at Sacred Heart Cathedral

Confessions: Saturday at 3pm at SHC or before 5:30pm Mass

CALENDAR of EVENTS

7/6-8: Catholic Youth Conference in Anchorage

7/11-12: Catholic Schools Super Sale 8am–3pm. (Fri/Sat)

7/25-8/2: Tanana Valley State Fair

8/4-20: Beloved Beloved Series held at ICC (M & W)

8/19: FNSBSD First Day of School

8/20: Fairbanks Catholic Schools First Day of School
(8/20-22 – Early Dismissal, 12:50 PM)

8/21-24: UAF Orientation for New Students

8/25: First Day of Instructions.

Catholic Definitions: Sacred Heart

The physical Heart of Christ as the principal sign and symbol of the threefold love with which he loves his eternal Father and all mankind. It is, therefore, a symbol of the divine love he shares with the Father and the Holy Spirit but that he, the Word made flesh, alone manifests through a weak and perishable body, since "in Him dwells the fullness of the Godhead bodily" (Colossians 2:9). It is, besides, the symbol of that burning love which, infused into his soul, enriches the human will of Christ and enlightens and governs its acts by the most perfect knowledge derived both from the beatific vision and that which is directly infused. And finally, it is the symbol also of sensible love, since the body of Christ possesses full powers of feeling and perception, in fact more so than any other human body (Pope Pius XII, *Haurietis Aquas*, II, 55-57).

<https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/library/dictionary/>

First Reading: *Isaiah 66:10-14c*

I will spread prosperity over Jerusalem like a river.

Responsorial: *Psalms 123:1-4*

Our eyes are fixed on the Lord.

Second Reading: *Galatians 6:14-18*

May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Reading: *Luke 10:1-12,17-20*

Jesus sends out 72 people to announce the coming kingdom.

Have You Joined Flocknote?

Join so you can keep in touch with & be in the "know" of St. Marks' happenings by signing up for FlockNote emails and be informed members of our parish family. Simply text: "SMDOF" to 84576 or connect with us online through our website at www.stmarksuaf.org Registration allows Fr. Ross Tozzi and his staff to get to know you better, to welcome you, and to minister to you. It is also an opportunity to enjoy a sense of belonging and identity.

Interested in learning more about the history of the Catholic Church in Fairbanks? K FAR had Joanie Skilbred giving a presentation of Fr. Francis Monroe, S.J. and his impact on Fairbanks, July 2nd. Go to K FAR's website and check out the archives for *Problem Corner* at <https://kfarradio.com/>. He arrived in Fairbanks in 1904.



FATHER ALPHONSUS AFINA

Prayers are called for Father Afina and all held captive and for their captors. After serving in Alaska, he returned home to serve in Nigeria and abducted by the Boko Haram on June 1st along with others. In Bishop Steve Maekawa's words "Let us call upon the Spirit of God to strengthen, protect and deliver Fr. Alphonsus and all who are in captivity". Pray morning, afternoon, and evening.

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus and our Mother Mary soften the hearts of their captors and bring them home safely!

"There is No Cry God Does Not Hear"

-- Pope Leo XIV (General Audience 6/11/25)



Youth Group, Catechism, & Oratory return in September. For more info contact servidoras@cbna.org.

MONDAY

SHC Book Club: Returns in the Fall. For more info on book titles, contact Jan Fortune at: 43janetf@gmail.com
Bible Study Monday Nite – On break until Fall.

TUESDAY

Voices of Hope Prayer Group: 6:00-8:30PM downstairs in SHC Community Room every Tuesday. All are welcome!

FRIDAY

To request Food Boxes - people may call in orders at (907) 374-0572 from 10:00 – 11:30 AM and pick up their food boxes from 12:15 – 1:00 PM.

SATURDAY

Confessions & Adorations of the Blessed Sacrament – 3:00 – 4:00 PM at SHC.

Young Adult Summer Programs – 4th of July Float & Feast! contact Michael Olsta for more information. <https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/young-adult-summer-outings>

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

Baptism Classes: The three-part Baptism class is for parents of infants and children under the age of 7. For more info, email Fr. Peter Bang at pbang@cbna.org.
Marriage Preparations – Contact Fr. Ross at rtozzi@cbna.org or call (907) 347-3005 *six (6 prior to wedding)*.

32 Biblical Virtues to pray for your kids.

26. Willingness and ability to work. "Teach my children, Lord, to value work and to work at it with all their heart, as working for the Lord, not for men" (Col. 3:23).

The Chancery, St. Mark, and Sacred Heart Cathedral Offices will be closed July 4th.

SHC will have their normally scheduled daily masses.

Fairbanks Catholic Schools and Monroe Foundation Offices will be closed July 3rd & 4th.



Justice Challenge: This Sunday's Gospel tells of Jesus sending out the 72 disciples. The message they were to give people was one of peace: "Peace to this household!" Jesus embodied peace, and he challenged his disciples to be bearers of his peace. Yet in our world today, there are so many examples of violence, tension, war, and conflict. Your challenge this week is to look at your own lives—as individuals and as families. How are you sowing peace at home, in your parish or school, in your neighborhood and community? What is one action you can take this week—be it prayer, a kind gesture, asking forgiveness, seeking reconciliation, or building bridges between people—to bring peace into the hearts of individuals or a group in conflict? <https://pastoral.center>

Accepting the Christian Message

Jesus said to the disciples, "Whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.'" (Lk. 10:10-11)

Adults: Where do you see the message of Christian faith being rejected in the world today? What is your response to that?

Kids: What can you do when you are generous with others, and they do not want what you give them? <https://pastoral.center>



Summer Beloved Marriage Prep Series

Recently engaged, talking about marriage, or wanting your marriage blessed in the Church? Classes will be hosted by Immaculate Conception Church on Mondays and Tuesdays in August. If you miss a session you can catch it in the Fall. To register or volunteer contact ICC Parish Office at (907)- 452-3533 or online at

<https://fairbanks.engagedencounter.com/>

Dates: Aug. 4th & 6th ...Sessions 1 & 2

Aug. 11th & 13th ...Sessions 3 & 4

Aug. 18th & 20th ...Sessions 5 & 6

*Engaged Encounter weekend will be held at St. Nick's in October.

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: Where is St. Peter buried?
(Answer found on last page.)



Why is July the Month of the Precious Blood?

This monthly devotional stems from a pope's response to revolution.

Italy was in political turmoil for the first half of the 19th century. At that time, Austria ruled over some parts of Italy, and Italian revolutionaries were trying to throw off that rule. Petty skirmishes eventually led to a declaration of war on Austria in 1848—and the Holy Father was caught in the middle.

Early in his pontificate, Blessed Pope Pius IX had extended political pardon to Italian revolutionaries who were exiled or imprisoned. His liberality, however, was greeted with demands to make further political concessions to the revolutionaries. Finally, revolutionaries attacked the pope's rule in the Vatican State itself. Some of the pope's ministers were even murdered.



Blessed Pope Pius IX

By 1848, Pius IX found himself besieged in his own papal palace because he refused to sanction the war on Catholic Austria. Foreign ambassadors staying with the pope helped him disguise himself and flee the Vatican. He went to Gaeta, accompanied by a superior general of the Fathers of the

Precious Blood.

Inspired by the superior general, Pius IX decided to institute an official feast for the Most Precious Blood, praying for the end of the war and bloodshed in Italy.

Soon after he announced this decision—at the end of June, 1849—the war subsided. The first Sunday of July was set aside for the Most Precious Blood, and later Pope St. Pius X fixed the feast on July 1st. (In the current calendar, this feast is no longer fixed, but is a moveable votive Mass.) <https://catholiccompany.com/getfed/>

"The promotion of the culture of life should be the highest priority in our societies. If the right to life is not defended decisively as a condition for all other rights of the person, all other references to human rights remain deceitful and illusory."

– Pope John Paul II

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



Before I embarked on my trip to the National Eucharistic Congress last summer with a group from my archdiocese, we had an orientation meeting. At that meeting, the coordinator of the trip shared with us “The Five Rules of Pilgrimage.”

If you're not familiar with them (I wasn't), here they are:

1. Don't complain.
2. Don't complain. (It's so important, it's listed twice.)
3. When you see a bathroom, use it.
4. When someone offers you something, receive it.
5. When someone asks you for something, give it.

It's great advice for a pilgrimage, but more than that, I think it's great advice in general. So, when I read today's Gospel and I hear Jesus say essentially the same thing to his disciples as they set out to evangelize (well, minus the bathroom tip, but those weren't as much of a thing in biblical Judea), I come to an important realization.

The whole Christian life is a pilgrimage.

Too often, life falls short of my expectations. An opportunity didn't work out. A day didn't go the way I planned (like, at all). A person didn't accept me. And I ball up my fists and stomp my feet like a full-grown Veruca Salt, and I yell: I cannot work in these conditions!

And then, I imagine God, on his celestial throne, sighs and opens the Book of the Gospels (surely he keeps it handy, don't you think?) to Luke, Chapter 10. And he whispers in my heart what he said to his disciples 2,000 years ago.

Don't complain. Be open and give of yourself, and in turn, receive what comes your way, whatever it is. If it's good, rejoice. If it's not good, move on. And in the end, remember where you're headed — the place you're trying to go.

Oh, and again: don't complain.

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman – July 3, 2025©Lpi.

Soup Kitchen has been serving the needy from Immaculate Conception Church for over 30 years. They serve from 1-3 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. With this extended heat and increase in meals served in the summer (500-650) they can use all our help. Food Items: Bottles of water, grocery bags, fruit, protein bars, peanut butter, jelly. Contact iccsoupkitchen@cbna.org or 907-452-3533 for more information.



Stewardship Report

June 29: \$ 1,518.00
Actual Collection YTD
(7/24- 6/25): \$ 70,121.60
Parishioner Count: 117

Thank you for your continued support!

June 29th 2^d Collection for Peter's Pence: \$221. These funds provide the Holy Father with the financial means to respond with emergency assistance as a result of war, oppression, natural disaster, and disease. Thank You!

Stewardship Moment

"He said to them, 'The harvest is abundant, but the laborers are few..." Luke 10:2

As Catholics we are all called to serve. Each of us has been given "charisms" otherwise known as gifts from the Holy Spirit to help build God's Church. Our charisms can only be used for good. We know that we are using them in the right ministry when we are filled with joy and we want to share stories about our charitable works. Discern how God is calling you to use your charisms. Say "yes" to what God is calling you to do and then do it! Share your joy and invite others to do the same.

JULY 2025 PRAYER INTENTION

For formation in discernment.

Let us pray that we might again learn how to discern, to know how to choose paths of life, and reject everything that leads us away from Christ and the Gospel.

Pray for... Pope Leo XIV, Bishop Steven Maekawa, OP. Fr. Ross Tozzi, priests, and religious in our diocese.

...Fr. Alphonsus Afina's safety in captivity, that our prayers may give him strength and help in his release; and all who are being persecuted for their faith.

...protection from wildland fires and safety of all the firefighters working to contain them.

...the safety of all who defend our freedom.

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

...all who are sick, hospitalized, or facing medical treatment.

...all in our parish who lost loved ones. May our prayers bring them comfort in their sadness.

...eternal rest for all our faithfully departed relatives and friends.

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - July 6, 2025

"The harvest is abundant, but the laborers are few."

(Luke 10:2)

God's vineyard is overflowing with opportunities, and there's a heartfelt need for dedicated laborers. Could Christ be inviting you to join this vital work? Take a moment to consider a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life. Your unique gifts could make a profound difference! Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at 907-374-9504 or email: rfath@cbna.org.

Prayer for Protection Against Fires

Almighty and eternal God, we ask Your protection against destroying fire. Fire is so very necessary for our existence, and yet, when it gets out of control, it can be more damaging than anything else. Keep our homes and buildings and woods and fields safe from this scourge. Help us always to be most careful in our use of it. Help us especially in the winter time when need and use it most. For then, if our homes are destroyed by fire, we suffer more than ever.

Give us, too, we humbly pray You, a saving fear of the fires of passion, and the help of Your grace to control them. Help us also to fear the fires of hell, that we may always keep away from serious sin, and live lives of goodness and virtue, through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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The laity are active in bringing the Body and Blood of Christ to the community and homebound. When properly trained one can minister at the table of the Lord at Mass. Must be 18years of age. If you feel called to

this Ministry, please reach out to the office for more information at the Parish Office at 907-374-9544 or email: mboger@cbna.org; or see Mary Pat Boger at Mass.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Diocese of Fairbanks Job Opening - **Chief Financial Officer (CFO)**. This is a full-time, exempt position with benefits for the Diocese of Fairbanks. To apply, submit a cover letter, résumé, and three references to humanresources@cbna.org. If you know anyone that may be interested, please direct them for description of position to <https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/job-postings> or have them email. humanresources@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 emailing vac@cbna.org. For more information access the Diocese Safe Environment site at <https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/report-abu>

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Answer: The current location of St. Peter's Basilica.