



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-](mailto: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

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

8/4-20: Beloved Marriage Prep Series held on Mondays and **Wednesday** evenings at ICC.

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.

Look for the first week of September for the return of many of the regular youth and young adult activities.

Catholic Definitions: Moral Law

The norm of human conduct, whether revealed or known by reason. The term is used to distinguish the law as binding in conscience, from mere statutes or directives intended to ensure good order.

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

Article 1 The Moral Law – (1950) The moral law is the work of divine Wisdom. Its biblical meaning can be defined as fatherly instruction, God's pedagogy. It prescribes for man the ways, the rules of conduct that lead to the promised beatitude; it proscribes the ways of evil which turn him away from God and his love. It is at once firm in its precepts and, in its promises, worthy of love. (1950-1953 found on The Holy See Vatican website – www.vatican.va)

July 13, 2025

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C



First Reading: *Deuteronomy 30:10-14*

Moses reminds the people that God's commandments are not remote but are already in their hearts.

Responsorial: *Psalms 69:14,17,30-31,36-37*

Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.

Second Reading: *Colossians 1:15-20*

Jesus is the head of the body, the Church.

Gospel Reading: *Luke 10:25-37*

The parable of the Good Samaritan

Music of the Mass – July 13, 2025

212 Praise to the Lord

631 God of Day and God of Darkness

323 Eat this Bread

621 Cantic of the Turning

593 Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory

FATHER ALPHONSUS AFINA

Prayers are called for Father Afina and all held captive and for their captors. 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!

Have you signed up to Flocknote? 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.



Look for the First Week of September for Youth Group, Catechism, Oratory, Voces Verbi Teens, and Voces Verbi Young Adults to return (or start registering). 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

TUESDAY

Voices of Hope Prayer Group: Every Tuesday from 6 – 8 PM in the Community Room at SHC.

THURSDAY

Adoration: 8 AM – 12 Noon at Sacred Heart Cathedral.

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 – July 19th Angel Rocks Hike. 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.

27. Passion for God. “Lord, please instill in my children a soul that ‘followeth hard after thee’ (Ps. 63:8, KJV), one that clings passionately to you.”

“Truly, matters in the world are in a bad state; but if you and I begin in earnest to reform ourselves, a really good beginning will have been made.”
~ St. Peter of Alcantara

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

Thank you to all who helped the Fairbanks Catholic Schools by purchasing items from their SUPER SALE this past week (July 10–12). Lots of work went on behind the scenes to make this happen!

Young Adult Hike to Angel Rocks

Saturday, July 19th - 12pm

Come and join us on a hike out to Angel Rocks in the Chena River State Recreation Area next Saturday, July 19th at noon! We will be meeting at the Angel Rocks Trailhead.

[Maps.app.goo.gl/1xtAuG](https://maps.app.goo.gl/1xtAuG)

Parking will be paid for by the Diocese. Make sure to bring good hiking clothes, shoes, sunscreen, and plenty of water! Must be 18-35 to join.



Justice Challenge: What is happening around the world today? Have you watched the news or learned from internet stories or Facebook posts? Are there things in the news that trouble you? Things that make you feel good? God knows your heart. He may be asking you to pray for those who are suffering around the world or to do something to ease their pain. What might God be asking of you today to be in solidarity with those who are in need? Ask in prayer, write it down, share it with someone and make a plan to act! <https://pastoral.center>

Connecting the Gospel ...

... to the First Reading: Isaiah’s vision uses different images to describe the same reality presented in the Gospel. The fruit of the disciples’ labors (peace, healing, and God’s kingdom at hand) are described in Isaiah as comfort, abundance, and prosperity. Both readings envision God’s power and presence now and a future when our “heart[s] shall rejoice.”



... to experience: Many people live in fear of a future marked by destruction and chaos; they have abandoned hope. These readings invite us to hope in the future God has in store for us, one of blessing and joy. At the same time, because God’s kingdom is already at hand, we live in this blessing and joy now. www.liturgy.slu.edu

Acting With Mercy

But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him.

(Lk. 10:33–34)

Adults: When have you gone out of your way to help a stranger in need?

Kids: Would you help a new student who needed help? Why or why not? <https://pastoral.center>

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

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



Which child-saint had the fortitude of an adult?

Where did Maria Goretti get the strength of a martyr?.

The story of Maria Goretti leaves a deep impression in the hearts of those who hear it. We are all astonished at the fortitude of the 11-year-old saint who accepted death rather than give in to sin.

We all wonder: how did such a young girl master this difficult virtue?

The answer lies in Maria's deep spiritual life, a life which was nurtured—rather than crushed—by the extreme poverty and deprivation of her earthly life.

Maria was nine years old when her father died. This forced Signora Goretti to work, so Maria took over the upbringing of her five younger siblings, her family's household chores, and the chores of the Serenellis, with whom the Gorettis lived.

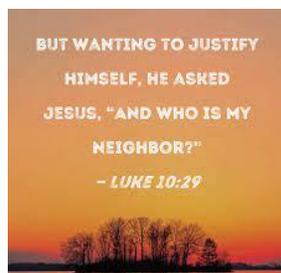
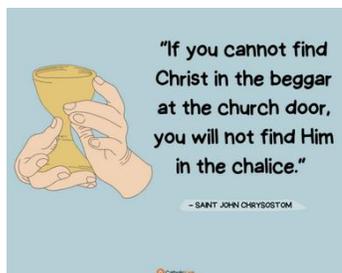


With all this work for the child to accomplish daily, one might think that Maria wouldn't have had time for anything else. Maria, however, found time every day for silence and prayer.

She had been confirmed at age six and her greatest desire was to receive Our Lord in the Eucharist (a desire fulfilled the year before her death). She walked to Mass every Sunday, although the church was far away. She prayed the Rosary for her father's repose every night.

Through her deep prayer life and profound love for Our Lord, Maria quickly acquired the heroic virtues which marked her final agony and death.

Want to learn more about—and from—this beautiful saint? The classic biography *In Garments All Red* tells the moving story of Maria's life, death, and canonization. In this book, you'll find out why Maria Goretti inspires so many people of all ages and why she is a powerful saint for our day. <https://catholiccompany.com/getfed/>



(Practicing) Catholic – Recognize God in your Ordinary Moment)
Crossing the Street



It takes a cold, hard, godless heart to step over a wounded man on the street.

But in the parable of the Good Samaritan, the priest and the Levite didn't step over the half-dead traveler. I think we picture them doing so, in our collective imagining of this well-known story, but the words of the Gospel are quite clear. "When he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side," Jesus says of both.

So, they saw him. They saw his need. It made them uncomfortable; it confused them — many scholars have said that Judaic law concerning the touching of dead bodies might have made them reluctant to approach — and so they decided the simplest way to file this situation in the Not My Problem category was to cross the street.

But that still leaves a half-dead guy on the road. And we all, 2,000 years later, still think of the priest and the Levite as cold and hard and godless — even if they didn't want to be, even if they didn't think of themselves that way — because the bottom line is, they didn't see the half-dead guy as their problem.

As Christians we know that everyone is our neighbor. It's drilled into us from the first time we hear this reading.

Well, I don't know about you, but I find myself crossing the street a lot more than I should.

There is so much pain and suffering in the world. We certainly can't begin to alleviate it all. But we have to start with the pain and the suffering that we see, that's right in front of us — even if it's something we really, really want to ignore. Even if we find it inconvenient or confusing or scary or weird.

The heroism of the Good Samaritan wasn't in his selfless actions, although those were certainly commendable. It was in his courage. "He approached the victim," Jesus said.

Can we approach the victims we see? Do we have that courage? 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. Contact iccsoupkitchen@cbna.org or 907-452-3533 for more information.



Stewardship Report

July 6: \$ 875.50
Actual Collection YTD
7/25- 6/26: \$ 875.50
Parishioner Count: 112

Thank you for your continued support!

We begin our new fiscal year in July. Thank you to everyone for giving generously this past year with your donations, both monetary & volunteer time!

For all who have contributed to the Chancery/Sacred Heart Cathedral pavement project – Thank You! All using the parking area can see the results coming to fruition!

Stewardship Moment

“But because he wished to justify himself, he said to Jesus, ‘And who is my neighbor?’” Luke 10:29

Jesus answers this question by telling the story of the Good Samaritan. His answer was, “the one who treated him with mercy.” A steward makes every effort to feel what one in need is feeling and then acts accordingly. Like the Good Samaritan, a steward must act on his compassion.

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 who have died, may they dwell secure with the Lord forever.

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - July 13, 2025

“You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.”

(Luke 10:27)

Is God calling you to love Him through a life of service to others in the Church? Pray about how you can fulfill this greatest commandment through a vocation. Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at 907-374-9504 or email: rfath@cbna.org.

SUMMER ORATORY 2025 was held at St. Nicholas for area Catholic kids. It was a week filled with games, catechism, workshops, moments of prayer, Adoration, Mass and confessions for over 100 kids of our diocese. *Thank you to all who have supported and helped in this great apostolate for the youth of Fairbanks!*



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.*

“NO ONE SHOULD FOLLOW WHAT HE CONSIDERS TO BE GOOD FOR HIMSELF, BUT RATHER WHAT SEEMS GOOD FOR ANOTHER. LET THEM PUT CHRIST BEFORE ALL ELSE; AND MAY HE LEAD US ALL TO EVERLASTING LIFE.” - ST. BENEDICT

The laity are active in bringing the Body and Blood of



Christ to the community and homebound. When 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 our office for more information at the Parish Office at 907-374-9544 or email: mboger@cbna.org; or see Mary Pat Boger at Mass.

NOW HIRING – Job Opening with the Diocese of Fairbanks - 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.

...Please share this job announcement with others you know who might be interested in this wonderful opportunity!

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.