



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@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.

10/17-19: Engaged Encounter weekend at St. Nicholas, NP

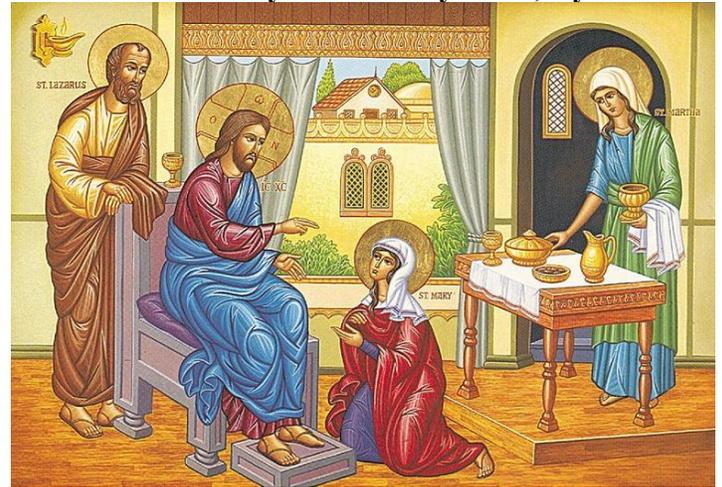
Catholic Definitions: Justice

As a virtue, it is the constant and permanent determination to give everyone his or her rightful due. It is a habitual inclination of the will and therefore always recognizes each one's rights, under any and all circumstances. The rights in question are whatever belongs to a person as an individual who is distinct from the one who practices justice. The essence of justice, then, as compared with charity, consists in the distinction between a person and his or her neighbor; whereas charity is based on the union existing between the one who loves and the person loved so that the practice of charity regards the neighbor as another self.

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

July 20, 2025

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C



First Reading: *Genesis 18:1-10a*

Abraham entertains three strangers and is promised a son.

Responsorial: *Psalm 15:2-5*

Those who do justice will live in the presence of the Lord.

Second Reading: *Colossians 1:24-28*

The mystery hidden from ages past has now been revealed in Christ.

Gospel Reading: *Luke 10:38-42*

Jesus visits the house of Martha and Mary.

Music of the Mass – July 20

471 – I Sing the Mighty Power of God

416 – Christ Before Us

663 – Be Still, My Soul

410 – Be Thou My Vision

550 – O Bless the Lord My Soul



FATHER ALPHONSUS AFINA

Prayers are called for Father Afina and all held captive and for their captors. As reported last week and recovering from his injuries. 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!

32 Biblical Virtues to pray for your kids.

28. Self-discipline. “Father, I pray that my children may acquire a disciplined and prudent life, doing what is right and just and fair” (Prov.1:3).



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

Please contact our office or let Fr. Ross Tozzi know, if you are interested in receiving Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, or Marriage so we can make sure you are signed up for the right instruction and have the necessary paperwork filled out.

Baptism: There is a three-part Baptism class is for parents of infants and children under the age of 7 offered at SHC. For more information contact email Fr. Peter Bang at pbang@cbna.org.

First Communion & Confirmation: We work with SHC and classes are offered during the school year. For more info contact servidoras@cbna.org.

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

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.

Weekly Prayer of the Faithful

That we have the courage to share our faith with those closest to us.

Dcn Paul Perreault celebrates 39 years as a permanent deacon for the Diocese on Sunday, July 20th for Sacred Heart Cathedral. He has been with us over the years at our masses and with the Catholic Student Association. Please keep him in your prayers on this special day as he celebrates with SHC at their 11 a.m. mass. He was ordained on July 20, 1986. Thank you Dcn. Paul for all your work within the diocese!



Justice Challenge: There was an old priest who had been ordained right after the Second Vatican Council. He shared with his parish that he was so excited to hear of all the ways the Church could make a difference in the world! He started a little justice group in his parish and encouraged people to go out to see what was happening in their community, to observe and ask questions to understand things better, and then to come back together to share what they learned and decide what to do about all they learned. His parishioners loved it—they couldn’t wait to get out there and bring their faith to the community and make a difference. Through this very first group a homeless shelter was built, a thrift store, a soup kitchen, and a food bank started, and a literacy program launched. What a difference faith can make! Your challenge this week is to reflect on what God might be asking of you today. Go out to observe and reflect, and then gather your family, neighbors, and/or some friends and do something!
<https://pastoral.center>

Connecting the Gospel ...

... to the First Reading: Abraham exhibited true hospitality. All of his efforts and busyness were directed toward the presence of his guests and their comfort and needs. This is what Martha in the gospel failed to do: keep persons at the heart of hospitality.



... to experience: How uncomfortable we feel when our presence takes second place in the attention of a host who is busy about the details of our being there! On the other hand, how welcome we feel when we are the host’s center of concern and attention. www.liturgy.slu.edu

Holy Visitors

Jesus said to Martha, “There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.” (Lk. 10:42)

Adults: Which response to God’s call is more natural to you—prayer or action? Why?

Kids: In the past week, when have you prayed and when have you done good things for others? Which could you do better?

<https://pastoral.center>

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: What is the name given to the Chalice used by Christ at the last supper?

(Answer found on last page.



Is Carlo Acutis the First Influencer Saint?

The Church is about to canonize a coder!

His stated mission: “To get as many people as possible to fall in love with the Eucharist.” With a few clicks he was doing just that—years before “digital evangelization” was a buzzword.

Yet his life and legacy was far more than just Java Script and Halo...

Diagnosed with acute promyelocytic leukemia at 15, Carlo offered every needle-stick for the pope and the Church, telling his mom, “I’m happy to die because I’ve lived my life without wasting even a minute on things that don’t please God.” Fourteen years after his death, crowds packed Assisi’s piazzas on Oct. 12, 2020, for his beatification—watching on giant LED screens he would’ve loved to configure.



Now he is on the pathhood to sainthood.

On June 13, 2025, Pope Leo XIV announced that Carlo Acutis and fellow young Catholic powerhouse Pier Giorgio Frassati will be canonized together on Sunday, Sept. 7, 2025, in St. Peter’s Square. The joint ceremony, part of the Jubilee celebrations, will spotlight two very different but equally contagious styles of evangelization—Frassati’s mountaintop charity and Carlo’s Wi-Fi apostolate.

Carlo’s example is important because he showed that the internet can promote faith rather than undermine it. At a time when many online platforms profit from conflict, Carlo showed how code, good design, and digital reach can instead lead people toward truth and hope.

Let us all be more like Carlo and begin to use technology like a saint. Carlo’s digital catalog of Eucharistic miracles proved technology can serve the Gospel. Truthfully carries Carlo’s vision forward as a ground-breaking Catholic AI action app that puts the faith at your fingertips, delivering instant, reliable answers from trusted Church sources along with short lessons and daily goals to help you live and share what you learn.

<https://getfed.catholiccompany.com>

“I DO NOT KNOW YOU, GOD,
BECAUSE I AM IN THE WAY.
PLEASE HELP ME TO PUSH MYSELF ASIDE.”
— Flannery O’Connor

(Practicing) Catholic – Recognize God in your Ordinary Moment) Martha’s Burdens



It’s time to admit it: I’ve been unfair to Mary in the past. Been a little catty about her. *Oooh, Mary, she’s so holy.* Well, do you like to eat, Mary? Who made your lunch? Yeah, that’s right: it was Martha. Because you know what? It’s the Marthas who get things done in the world while the Marys lounge around reading Aquinas and attending silent retreats and going to Eucharistic Adoration whenever they want.

And there you have it, folks: my bitterness on full display! I tend to identify with Martha, not with Mary, and I need to stop doing that.

Because I am not Martha instead of Mary. I am both. We are all both.

Mary was a woman; she was expected to do the serving, too. She shared that burden; she wasn’t abandoning it, heaping her portion on Martha. And it’s so wrong to assume that Mary didn’t have the same cares and anxieties as Martha — perhaps she even had more!

Here’s the difference: Mary, unlike Martha (and me, I guess) knew where to go with them.

We typically see our burdens as an impediment to a relationship with Christ. *I’m so busy. I’m so overwhelmed. There are so many demands on me, on my time, on my person, on my finances. Take a number, Jesus. Get in line.* But we’re thinking the wrong way. Burdens aren’t an obstacle that stands between us and Christ. Burdens are the straightest path to his feet.

God knows about burdens, okay? Aside from being all-wise and all-knowing, he basically completed a doctorate in suffering, taking on a human form (itself kind of a burden, if you think about it) and for 33 years lived among the hardest and heaviest burdens this world has to offer.

Why did he do this? Well, part of the reason was so that we could finally understand that our burdens aren’t a barrier between us and God. On the contrary, they connect us to him.

Are you anxious about many things? Then you need to be right where Mary is: at the feet of Jesus, with all your burdens.

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman – July 17, 2025©Lpi.



The Seven Sisters Apostolate

What is it that we do? Well, everyday one to three members of the Apostolate pray a holy hour for a specific clergy member. Each Seven Sisters member chooses a day to offer their Holy Hour and then continues on that day for the whole year.

This year, our Holy Hours are devoted to prayers of support and for the intentions of Father Ross Tozzi. If you love Intercessory Prayer, please consider joining the Apostolate. It is a very rewarding ministry as it is both beneficial to Father Ross' intentions and is also edifying to your prayer life. For more information, Contact Jan Fortune at 43janetf@gmail.com.

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 13: \$ 10,886.16
Actual Collection YTD
7/25- 6/26: \$ 11,686.66
Parishioner Count: 110

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!

Stewards Evangelize

“Martha, burdened with much serving, came to him and said, ‘...tell her to help me.’ The Lord said to her in reply: ‘Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken from her.’” Luke 10:40-42

Few stories in Scripture better portray the fact that stewardship is an attitude, not an activity. Martha was busy, but Mary had the right attitude. Prayer and time spent with Christ are essential.

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - July 20, 2025

“Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, and it will not be taken from her.” (Luke 10:41-42)

Consider prioritizing time with God, following Mary's example. Are you being called to dedicate your life to prayer and service in the Church as a consecrated religious? Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at 907-374-9504 or email: rfath@cbna.org.



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, and all priests, religious, deacons, and volunteers working in our diocese.

...Fr. Alphonsus Afina's continued safety while 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.

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

...all who are sick, homebound, or hospitalized; especially those dealing with addictions or mental health issues,

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

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: Holy Grail. Lpi

