



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)

Finance Council: Marilis Bennett, Jen Tucker, &

Fr. Ross Tozzi

September 28, 2025

26th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year C

PRIESTHOOD SUNDAY

First Reading: *Amos 6:1,4-7*

God will judge the complacency of the people and their leaders.

Responsorial: *Psalm 146:7-10*

Happy are those who find solace in God, the help of the poor.

Second Reading: *1 Timothy 6:11-16*

Paul exhorts Timothy to stay faithful to God in all things.

Gospel Reading: *Luke 16:19-31*

Jesus tells the parable of the reversal of fortunes between the rich man and the poor man, Lazarus.

St. Mark Sunday Mass Schedule

Sunday Mass: 5:30 PM at Sacred Heart Cathedral

CSA Weekday Mass: 7:00 PM at UAF Lola Tilly Commons

Low Gluten Host – If you need a low-gluten at Mass, please contact the priest before mass.

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

Eucharistic Adoration at SHC: Thursday 8 AM – 12 Noon

Music of the Mass – Sept 28

448 – Church of God

523 – I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

422 – What Wondrous Love is This

587 – I Know that My Redeemer Lives

Heritage Mass 872-879



CALENDAR of EVENTS

9/27: Oratory at SHC 10 AM – 12 Noon

9/28: Religious Education 9:30-10:30 AM at SHC

9/28: Religious Education 11 – 11:45 AM at ICC

10/1: Feast of St. Therese 6PM Mass & 7PM Potluck at ICC

10/2: First Thursday Holy Hour Adoration at SHC at 7 PM

10/3: **Jubilee Mass at Sacred Heart Cathedral – 5:30 PM**

10/2-5: Men's Spiritual Exercises [ICC Silent Ignatius Retreat]

10/4: **St. Francis Blessing of Pets**-SHC Parking Lot at 2 PM

10/5: Respect Life Sunday

10/11: HIPOW Auction & Dinner

10/17-19: Diocesan Fall Engaged Encounter at St. Nicholas



WITHOUT PRIESTS,
THERE IS NO EUCHARIST,
WITHOUT THE EUCHARIST,
THERE IS NO CHURCH!

Priesthood Sunday gives people a chance to slow down and say something they might not say often enough: *thank you*. These men show up in the moments big and small—hospital bedsides, behind the altar, and even in a long line with tired parishioners who need to talk.

On this special day we pray for all priests and especially Fr. Ross. We praise God for his presence in our parish and our lives. May God bless and protect him always.

Jubilee Year of Hope!

Join Bishop Steve for a Jubilee Mass followed by barbecue food and bonfires at Sacred Heart Cathedral.

Friday, October 3rd at 5:30 PM.

For more information go the Diocesan site at:

<https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/diocesan-calendar>

This event will supersede other activities at SHC, ICC, St. Raphael, & St. Nick's on October 3rd allowing to join in this sacred and rare celebration to promote spiritual renewal and hope!

Food will be catered, but this is a massive undertaking and needs help from all parishes! *Please contact the SHC Office on 907-474-9032 to sign up to serve!* The Diocese will have the food catered.

The Rosary Congress will be kicked off after the Jubilee Mass with overnight Eucharistic Adoration. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed at the end of Mass with Benediction on Saturday, Oct 4th at 8:45 PM.



The fall diocesan Engaged Encounter retreat is scheduled for 17-19 October 2025 at St. Nicholas Parish in North Pole. Couples can register online at <https://fairbanks.engagedencounter.com/>. Registration deadline is October 10th. Contact fairbanks@engagedencounter.com with any questions.

SUNDAY

Religious Education (SHC): Starting Sept 28th from 9:30-10:30am downstairs in the classrooms. *Families of St. Mark are encouraged to register with SHC* at <https://sacredheartak.org/re-registration>.

MONDAY

SHC Book Club: 1st of the month from 12:30-2:30pm in SHC Community Room. Contact Jan Fortune for info at: 43janetf@gmail.com

Diocesan Bible Study: The Gospel of Matthew will be studied. Open to all at 7:00pm in the Mary Chapel of SHC

TUESDAY

Voices of Hope Prayer Group: Every Tuesday from 6 – 8:30pm in the Community Room at SHC.

OCA Classes: Begin Sept 23rd at 7:00pm at SHC

Young Adult Feast and Faith: Monthly event for young adults. Food & beverages provided, alcohol not included. Meet at Miquel's next to Shopper's Forum at 5:30pm.

THURSDAY

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

Voces Verbi Teens: 6-7:30pm (ages 13-17).

SHC Holy Hour: 7 PM on 1st Thursday every month.

FRIDAY

Voces Verbi: 6:00-8:00pm Friday at Immaculate Conception Church. (Young Adults ages 18-35).

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

SATURDAY

Oratory & Third Order – Held at SHC from 10am-12noon.

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Spiritual Exercises Silent Ignatian Retreat –

Men's – Oct 2-5, 2025; Women's – Oct 9-12, 2025
Sign up at: <https://www.iccfairbanks.org/se>

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

New policies for sacramental preparation in our diocese can be found at: <https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/sacramental-preparation-guidelines>.

Contact St. Mark office if you are interested in Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, or Marriage. Proper paperwork, instructions, and planning are necessary.
Baptism: Three-part Baptism class for parents of infants and children under the age of 7 offered at SHC. Contact email Fr. Peter Bang at pbang@cbna.org.

First Communion & Confirmation: SHC 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 date or call the parish office at 907-374-9544*

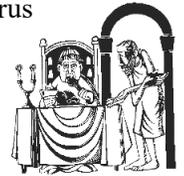


Justice Challenge: Sunday's Gospel tells the story of the rich man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31). Ironically, we don't see the rich man doing anything bad—he didn't hit Lazarus or make him leave or even yell at

him. So why did he end up in eternal damnation? It was because he didn't even notice his suffering brother. The rich man was totally oblivious to the needs of Lazarus. Your challenge this week is to increase your awareness. Look at your community, your country, and even your world with new eyes. Who are the invisible poor who need your help? Discuss every evening who you have noticed for the first time. Then, at the end of the week, as a family or an individual choose one action you can do to help a person or a group whom you identified. The help could be a financial donation, direct service, or a form of advocacy on their behalf (e.g., emailing your state legislators to change laws to provide more aid to the homeless or single-parent families or the mentally ill).
<https://pastoral.center>

Connecting the Gospel ...

... **to the First Reading:** The rich man's problem is not his wealth but his complacency. Like the "complacent in Zion" who "are not made ill by the collapse of Joseph," the rich man is unconcerned for Lazarus because he has not listened well to "Moses and the prophets" nor acting according to their dictates to be concerned for one's neighbor.



... **to experience:** We tend not to listen to those who challenge us to hear the truth about ourselves and how we should live. But we have also learned that when we take to heart the challenge to listen, we grow toward fullness of life.

www.liturgy.slu.edu

The Rich and the Poor

There was a rich man and at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table. (Luke 16:19-21)

Adults: What are the "rewards" of caring for the needs of the poor?

Kids: What is one thing you and your family could do this week to help those who are poor or sick?

<https://pastoral.center>

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: Apart from the Resurrection, what is the only miracle mentioned by all four Gospels?
(Answer found on last page.)

Catholic Definition: Parable

The word parable (*Heb. MSLH, mashal; Syr. Mathl, Gr. parabole*) signifies in general a comparison, or a parallel, by which one thing is used to illustrate another.
www.catholic.com

*The closer one approaches God,
the simpler one becomes. ~St. Thérèse*

Question:

Why did Jesus teach in parables?



Answer:

Jesus taught using parables because they were relatable, vivid, and thought-provoking. His audience was primarily composed of common people – farmers, fishermen, and laborers – who understood the agricultural and economic metaphors.

For instance, in the Parable of the Sower ([Matthew 13:1-23](#)), Jesus likens the reception of God’s word to seeds falling on different types of soil. The parable illustrates how faith thrives or withers depending on the heart’s condition.

Likewise, the Parable of the Good Samaritan ([Luke 10:29-37](#)) uses a real-world scenario to challenge prejudices and teach about neighborly love.

Both parables are not just stories but windows into divine truth, crafted to be memorable and transformative.

Unlike the scribes and Pharisees, who relied on rigid legalism, Jesus engaged the people with narratives that required reflection. His parables were open-ended, inviting listeners to explore deeper meanings. By using storytelling rather than abstract theological discourse, Jesus ensured His teachings resonated across generations, cultures, and levels of education. www.Catholic.com

A Prayer for Priests

Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of our priests.
Through them, we experience your presence in the sacraments.

Help our priests to be strong in their vocation.
Set their souls on fire with love for your people.

Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength they need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus.
Inspire them with the vision of your Kingdom.

Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel.
Allow them to experience joy in their ministry.

Help them to become instruments of your divine grace.

We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest.

Amen.

“He made them, the vicars of his love.” ~St. Ambrose



Yesterday morning, my kids were playing outside in the snow, and I decided to take advantage of the quiet house to make a few important phone calls.

Fool. I forgot Murphy’s Law of Parenting, which dictates that as soon as you dial a phone number, a bomb of irritation and neediness explodes within the heart of your loudest child. Sure enough, as soon as the person on the other end of the line picked up, my son was at the back door, whimpering loudly. Horror of horrors, he had snow in his boot.

I gestured to the phone. He whimpered more loudly. I mouthed and mimed threats. He threw his boot at me. I gave him The Look. He started to scream.

Well, needless to say, the phone call didn’t go well, and my son’s snow day was cut short. He begged for a second chance, but I explained to him that life doesn’t always give you second chances. The phone call was over. Ruined. I couldn’t get it back.

But that’s when I remembered that moms have a superpower: creating second chances where none had existed before. So I told him that if he could be quiet while I made the rest of my calls, he could go back outside.

My son is young right now. I give him lots of second chances because second chances help him learn. Second chances are the training wheels of life.

I dread the day when the training wheels come off, and I can’t save him from his bad decisions. I think every parent does.

The parable of the rich man and Lazarus highlights a reality that we often wish to ignore: at some point, we will run out of chances, and it’s not because God tires of giving them to us. It’s because a truly endless supply of chances would strip us of our free will. It would deny us the right of being taken at our word — and God respects us too much to do that.

My son saved his snow day. It’s a good reminder: take the second (and third and fourth) chance. Don’t wait for the next one. Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman – September 25, 2025©Lpi.

“Oh! How good our Jesus is!
How Sweet it is to confide in him.”
~ St. Therese of Lisieux



Stewardship Report

September 21: \$ 503.00
Actual Collection YTD
7/25- 6/26: \$ 22,424.07
Parishioner Count: 96

Your financial stewardship is a blessing. Thank You!
Visit WeShare for online giving at:
<http://www.stmarksuaf.org>.

Stewardship Bridge

“My child, remember that you received what was good during your lifetime while Lazarus likewise received what was bad; but now he is comforted here, whereas you are tormented. Moreover, between us and you a great chasm is established...” LUKE 16:25-26

When God created the world, He declared that it was good and He gave it to all mankind for us to enjoy. However, over the years we have created a chasm between those who have great gifts and those who do not. In today’s Gospel we see that with our own Stewardship we must bridge that gap between those who have much and those who have little, or we may find ourselves on the wrong side of the chasm in the next life.



OCTOBER 2025 PRAYER INTENTION

For collaboration between different religious traditions.

Let us pray that believers in different religious traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice, and human fraternity.

October: Month of the Rosary

The month of October each year is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary. This is primarily because the liturgical feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated annually on October 7. It was instituted to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary in gratitude for the protection that she gives the Church in answer to the praying of the Rosary by the faithful.



26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Priesthood Sunday

“If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead.” (Luke 16:31)

This Priesthood Sunday, pray for vocations and for those who have answered the call to be witnesses of the Gospel. Write a letter or send a message to a priest who has inspired you, letting them know that you are praying for them, and ask them to pray for you as you discern your vocation. Talk to a priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at 907-374-9504 or email: rfath@cbna.org.

Mass Intention Requests –for friends or loved ones, living or deceased can be made by calling the Sacred Heart Cathedral Office at (907) 474-9032.

Fairbanks Diocese is Hiring

The Diocese is hiring for a Chief Financial Officer (CFO). 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.

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. As temperatures are changing, so are the needs of the people they serve. Contact the Soup Kitchen to see how you can help this mission at iccsoupkitchen@cbna.org or 907-452-3533. Please keep those in need and those who serve in your prayers!

*October is Respect Life Month. Join Catholics nationwide praying a special **novena** for the protection of human life from conception to natural death.*

CATHOLIC RESOURCES: Check out our other [parishes](#) have to offer by going to their on their websites. Join **Formed** for more content in movies, books, and talks at <https://formed.org/>. The **Diocese of Fairbanks** website is working on bringing us a Diocesan Religious Library <https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/religious-education>

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 miracle of the loaves and fishes.



Michael, Michael of the morning, Fresh chord of Heaven adorning, Keep me safe today, And in time of temptation Drive the devil away. Amen.	May the offering of our service and the prayer of the Blessed Archangel Gabriel be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord; that he whom we venerate on earth, may be our advocate before Thee in heaven. Through Our Lord. Amen.	O God who to Tobias, Thy servant, when on his journey, didst give Blessed Raphael the Archangel, as a companion; grant to us Thy servants, that we may be ever protected by his custody and strengthened by his help. Through Christ our Lord. Amen
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(29th September - Feast of the Archangels)