



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

Finance Council: Marilis Bennett, Jen Tucker, &

Fr. Ross Tozzi

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

CALENDAR of EVENTS

10/11: HIPOW Auction & Dinner at Boileau Hall

More information for online bidding at

www.catholic-schools.org/hipow.html

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

10/18: Monroe Catholic Schools Holiday Bazaar 10am-4pm

10/19: World Mission Sunday

10/20: 6:30 PM Bible Study on Matthew at SHC

10/21: 5:30 PM Young Adult Feast & Faith at Miguel's.

10/25: 6 PM Diocesan Movie Night at ICC

10/25-26: Associates of the Sisters of St. Joseph Bake Sale after all weekend Masses at SHC.

11/4-6: Priestly Formation Days

12/6: Diocesan Women's Retreat

Catholic Definition: Deacon

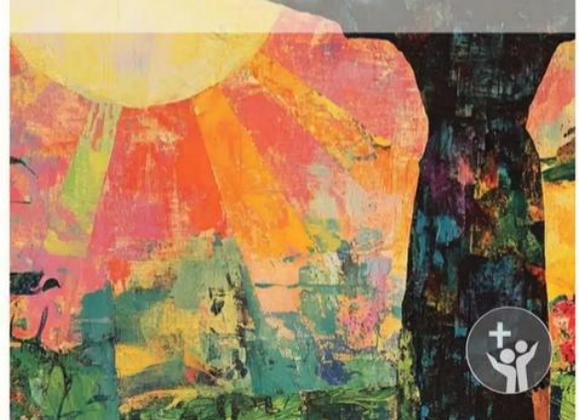
A man specially ordained to the service of the Church's ministry. In the ordination of deacons the "matter" is the imposition of a bishop's hands on individual candidates, which is done before the consecratory prayer; the "form" consists of the words of the consecratory prayer, of which the following pertain to the essence of the order and therefore are required for the validity of the act: "Lord, we pray, send forth upon them the Holy Spirit so that by the grace of your seven gifts they may be strengthened by Him to carry out faithfully the work of the ministry." The role of deacons is to assist priests in preaching, the conferral of baptism, performance of marriage, the administration of parishes, and similar duties. (Etym. Latin diaconus; from Greek diakonos, a servant, a deacon.) <https://www.catholicculture.org/>

October 12, 2025

DEACON SUNDAY

28TH SUNDAY

IN ORDINARY TIME
YEAR C



First Reading: 2 Kings 5:14-17

Naaman is cleansed of his leprosy and chooses to serve the God of Israel.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 98:1,2-3,3-4

Rejoice! The salvation of God is made known to all.

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 2:8-13

Those who remain faithful to Christ will share Christ's glory.

Gospel Reading: Luke 17:11-19

Jesus heals 10 lepers, and one, the Samaritan, returns to give thanks.

Music of the Mass – October 12

454 – There Is a Balm of Gilead

660 – Precious Lord, Take My Hand

611 – Come to The Water

571 – Amazing Grace

431 – There's A Wideness in God's Mercy

Heritage Mass 872-879



Deacon Warren Lucero was ordained December 8, 2020, and serves under the bishop at St. Mark University Parish. This special day is set aside to honor and thank those who have said YES to serve the Church.

Keep Dcn. Warren and his family in your prayers!



SUNDAY

Religious Education (SHC): 9:30-10:30am downstairs in the classrooms. *Families of St. Mark are encouraged to attend SHC or ICC religious instruction.*

Young Adult Game Night (SHC): 6:30 PM TBA at SHC.

MONDAY

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

Diocesan Bible Study: Study Matthew at 6:30 pm in the Mary Chapel of SHC on October 20th.

TUESDAY

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

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

Young Adult Feast and Faith: 3rd Tues of the month. Next gathering is 5:30 pm on Oct 21st at Miguel's Authentic Mexican Cuisine. Food & beverages provided, alcohol not included.

WEDNESDAY

Mother's Group: 10AM-Noon. Held at St. Nicholas Parish Great Room in North Pole. Child Care provided. Call or Text April at 907-347-1357.

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.

Diocesan Movie Night – Oct 25th at 6:00 pm held at Immaculate Conception Church.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Diocesan Women's Retreat –Saturday, Dec 6th starting at 9am. Contact molsta@cbna.org for more information.

Catholic Engaged Encounter Retreat – Oct 17-19, 2025 & Feb 6-8, 2026, at St. Nicholas Catholic Church. For more info and to register online, visit <https://fairbanks.engagedencounter.com/>

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 sacramental training. 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) months prior to wedding date or call the parish office at 907-374-9544*



Justice Challenge: Sunday's Gospel tells the story of the ten lepers (Luke 17:11-19), only one of whom returned to thank Jesus for being healed. Lepers were considered outcasts in Jewish society, sometimes

being forced to wear bells around their necks to warn others of their approach so people could avoid them completely. How starved for human contact they must have been! Jesus' healing of the lepers was more than a cure for a skin disease. He gave back to them the precious gift of interaction, of connection, of touch. Your challenge this week is to reach out to someone who has been rejected by others. It might be the kid at school whom everyone picks on, or the co-worker who messes up all the time, or the family on the block who doesn't keep their yard as tidy as the neighbors think they should. It might be a whole immigrant community. Whoever you choose, spend some time with this person or group, learning something about them which reminds you that they, too, are created in God's own image and likeness. They, too, deserve respect and dignity. Keep them in your prayers.

<https://pastoral.center>

Connecting the Gospel ...

... **to the First Reading:** The [First Reading](#) and Gospel both present foreigners (Naaman is a Syrian, the grateful leper is a Samaritan) who are healed of leprosy and who return to their healers to give thanks. Further, their response to being healed is in "glorifying God": the Samaritan leper when he fell at Jesus' feet, Naaman when he takes home with him "two mule-loads of earth" so that he can worship the God of Israel.



... **to experience:** The sense of entitlement often leaves a person neglecting even such common social gestures as saying thanks. The ungrateful nine lepers were the original "entitlement crowd"! We are moved beyond taking for granted that what is given to us is owed to us when we grow in the kind of mutual sharing that deepens relationships. www.liturgy.slu.edu

Saying Thank You

Then one of the lepers, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. (Luke 17:15-16)

Adults: Whose generosity do you tend to take for granted? How will you change this?

Kids: When have you failed to say thank you? Why does this matter? <https://pastoral.center>

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: What is the flat metal container used to carry communion to the sick?
(Answer found on last page.)

Weekly Prayer of the Faithful

That we regularly take time to thank God for all the blessings He bestows us.



Catholic Answers

Question:

Why does Jesus speak in Parables?

Answer:

Jesus spoke in parables to make the Kingdom of God more easily understood by the people. Often times when trying to explain something using a story to illustrate the point is the most effective way to communicate the information.

Parables were a common method of teaching used by Rabbis and prophets in the ancient world (see 2 Sam. 12:1-9). It was a teaching style well known and accepted.

Parables invite the listener into the story. Which character do we identify with and why? www.Catholic.com

“An old Irish proverb says, ‘It is in the shelter of each other that the people live.’ Indeed, we are created to depend upon one another and walk together in suffering. But when family members or friends approach life’s end, we may not know how best to ‘shelter’ them. Here are some concrete ways we can compassionately care for them: usccb.org/end-of-life-care.”



USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
Caring for Loved Ones at Life’s End

thank you

HIPOW
56

WITH YOUR SUPPORT, IT TRULY WAS
A Masquerade to Remember

HIPOW is made possible through the efforts of our tireless volunteers, our CSF community, our sponsors, donors, bidders, guests, and of course, our faculty, staff, families, and students.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOLS!

Deacon Sunday
St. Laurence,
Pray for Deacons!



(Practicing) Catholic – Recognize God in your Ordinary Moment)
YOUR FAITH HAS SAVED YOU



Your faith has saved you. These are the words I pray I will hear when my heart stops beating, when the last breath has left my lungs.

We hear Jesus say these words, or words like them, several times in the Gospels: to the woman bold enough to grasp for his cloak in a crowd, to the men who testify to their belief that he can restore their sight, to the leper kneeling before him in thanks.

These are some of my favorite passages in all of Scripture, because they illustrate so beautifully what salvific faith is — and what it is not.

It’s so easy to think that I have done all the necessary work by simply *believing*. Yes, Christ is my Savior. Yes, the Church is his bride. Yes, this doctrine is true, that dogma is infallible, so on and so forth.

I believe!

Well, so what? Satan believes, too. It doesn’t do him any good.

The lepers had faith — so they begged Jesus to heal them. They had faith — so they followed his instructions and went to the priests. Their faith was sufficient to motivate these actions, which led to their physical healing. But only one had faith strong enough to understand that physical healing doesn’t mean anything without spiritual results. Only one had enough faith to go back to the source of his healing and say, “Thank you. Now what?”

I have enough faith to know that God can heal me. But do I have enough faith to embrace the purpose for which He heals me?

If Jesus tells you that your faith has saved you, he isn’t talking about faith as merely an internally held belief. In each of these Gospel passages, he’s talking about faith as a conviction that is making itself seen. Heard. Felt. He’s talking about an arm that is reaching for the hem of a garment, a voice that says “I believe” or a knee that is bent in gratitude.

He’s talking about faith that is so strong it becomes action. This is the faith I hope I can have.

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman – October 9, 2025©Lpi.



October 5: \$1,302.56
 Actual Collection YTD
 7/25-6/26: \$23,277.07
 Parishioner Count: 105

Thank you for your generosity! Visit WeShare for online giving at: <http://www.stmarksuaf.org>. 3% of our October Collection will go to the annual World Mission Collection. Catholics around the world unite to support the missionary work of the Church. A second collection will be taken to support the missionary work of the Church.

Grateful Stewards

Has none but this foreigner returned to give thanks to God?" LUKE 17:18

Most of us live relatively "easy" lives. We have food, shelter, clothing, and money. We go on vacation every year and own a car or two. Most of us take this all for granted. Did you ever notice that people with the least amount of possessions are usually the most grateful? Shouldn't this be the other way around? Take time every day and thank God for all He has given you and discern how He is calling you to live Stewardship by sharing your gifts.



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. *Please include in your prayers...*

- + Western Alaska coastal villages dealing with coastal high winds.
- + Harlee & Alex Harvey family and new baby girl.
- + Our parishioners who are sick, homebound and those confined to nursing facilities and hospitals.
- + Deceased members of our parish.
- + All who serve our country in the Armed Forces and civil servants who serve to protect the public interest of its citizens.
- + For the unborn children.

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Deacon Sunday

"And one of them, realizing he had been healed, returned, glorifying God in a loud voice;" (Luke 17:15)

Just as the healed man returned to glorify God, deacons are called to bring Christ's healing love to others through their dedicated service to the Church. Today, let us show our gratitude for the deacons that serve our Church. If you are called to the diaconate, consider how you can bring Christ's healing love to others through service. Talk to a priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at 907-374-9504 or email: rfath@cbna.org.

Always be grateful for the days that the Lord gives you.
 ~ St. Bruno of Cologne (Oct 6)

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!

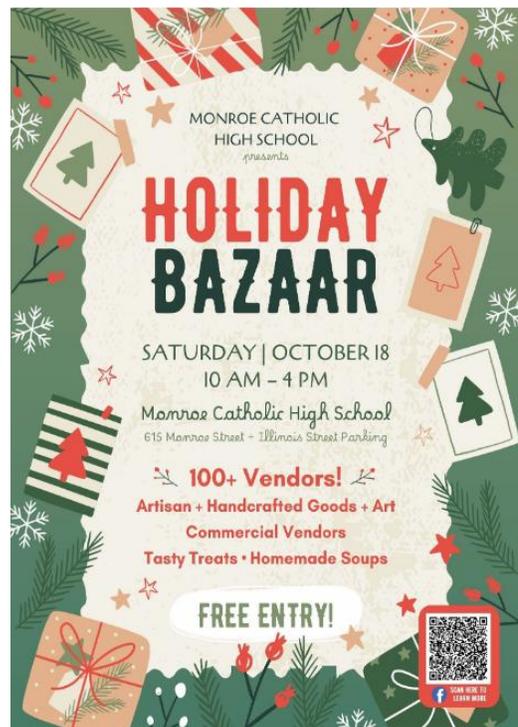
October is Respect Life Month.

Join Catholics nationwide praying a special [novena](#) for the protection of human life from conception to natural death.

CATHOLIC RESOURCES: Check out other Fairbanks and North Pole Catholic Church [websites](#) to see if they have events that interest you.

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>

Newest Doctor of the Church is Saint John Henry Newman! A 19th century English saint from England which recognizes his writings as *'true expression of the faith of the Church.'* - *"To live is to change, and to be perfect is to have changed often."* Quote from St. John Henry Newman



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: Pyx www.funtrivia.com