



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

10/17-19: 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.

10/22: [Respect Life Novena](#)

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 (Clergy Days)

11/27: Thanksgiving [*Chancery & Church Offices Closed*]

12/6: Diocesan Women's Retreat

Catholic Definition: Mystery

A divinely revealed truth whose very possibility cannot be rationally conceived before it is revealed and, after revelation, whose inner essence cannot be fully understood by the finite mind. The incomprehensibility of revealed mysteries derives from the fact that they are manifestations of God, who is infinite and therefore beyond the complete grasp of a created intellect. Nevertheless, though incomprehensible, mysteries are intelligible. One of the primary duties of a believer is, through prayer, study, and experience, to grow in faith, i.e., to develop an understanding of what God has revealed. (Etym. Greek *mysterion*, something closed, a secret.)

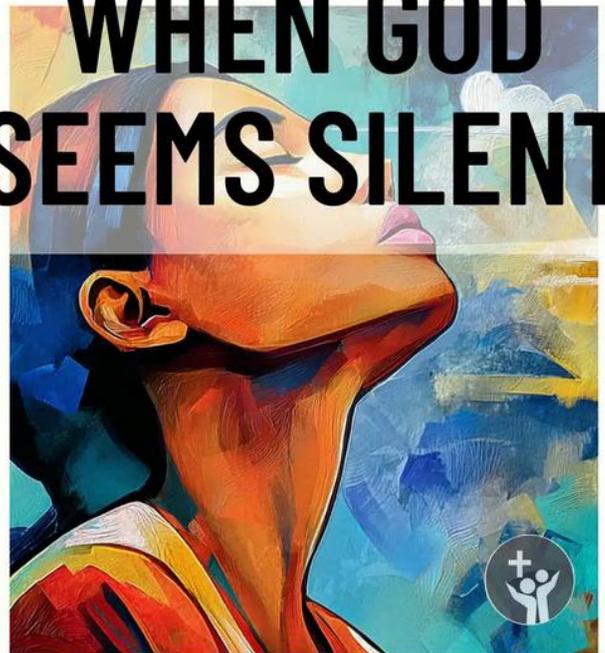
<https://www.catholicculture.org/>

October 19, 2025

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

29TH Week in Ordinary Time

WHEN GOD SEEMS SILENT



First Reading: Exodus 17:8-13

Joshua and the Israelites defeat Amalek with the help of God and his servant, Moses.

Responsorial: Psalm 121:1-2,3-4,5-6,7-8

The Lord is the Guardian of Israel.

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14—4:2

Paul exhorts Timothy to continue to preach the word Timothy received from his teachers.

Gospel Reading: Luke 18:1-8

Jesus urges his disciples to pray and not lose heart, for God hears and answers prayers.

Music of the Mass – October 19

206 – Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

562 – For You Are My God

572 – You Are Near

574 – Seek Ye First

575 – Though the Mountains May Fall

* *Mass of Creation 867-871*



“They shall not appear before the LORD empty-handed...”

Remember to bring a heart to the Catholic Mass that desires to listen attentively and willing to participate in the Mass.



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: On October 18, we celebrate the feast of Saint Luke, one of the four evangelists. The Gospel of Luke is sometimes nicknamed the “Justice Gospel” because Luke has so many stories of Jesus reaching out to those who were victims of injustice in their society. Perhaps this was partially due to Luke’s own experience as a healer. Luke wrote his Gospel to help us understand that Jesus was and is a universal savior—for everyone, everywhere. Your challenge this week is to spend time each day with Luke’s Gospel. Find a chapter (or at least a story or teaching in a chapter) which deals with justice, then reflect on and discuss as a family how you can apply the message which the passage teaches in your life today. <https://pastoral.center>

Connecting the Gospel ...

... to the First Reading: The obvious connection between the [First Reading](#) and [Gospel](#) is that both Moses and the widow persist in their petitions. But there are other connections as well: the widow and Moses are God’s “chosen ones”; the petitions are in line with God’s will; prayer petitions, when just, are always answered by our just and caring God.

... to experience: We tend to be most persistent about what is most important to us. For example, we are persistent in exercise routines, athletic training, musical practice. So it is with prayer: we remain faithful and persistent in prayer when God is at the center of our life and that for which we ask flows from deep faith that God always hears our prayers and answers them. liturgy.slu.edu



Taking Responsibility

For a while the judge refused; but later he said to himself, “Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out...” (Luke 18:4-5)

Adults: Whose needs might you be failing to listen to right now?

Kids: How often do you put off chores until you are forced to do them? Who is hurt by such a decision?

<https://pastoral.center>

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: How many mysteries are recognized in the Rosary?

(Answer found on last page.)

Weekly Prayer of the Faithful

That we may be persistent in our stewardship, even when it is not convenient or comfortable.



The Feast of All Saints falls on Saturday, Nov 1st, and is therefore not observed as a holy day of obligation this year according to the liturgical calendar issued by the Committee on the Liturgy, USCCB.



World Mission Sunday is the day when Catholics around the world unite to support the missionary work of the Church. Established by Pope Pius XI in 1926, it remains the only annual global collection that directly supports the 1,124 mission territories of the Church. Please give generously as 3% of our monthly collection goes towards Mission Sunday.

Catholic Answers

Question:

Are we Supposed to Bow During These Words of the Creed?



Answer:

According to the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, the faithful make a profound bow [*bow from the waist*] at the words of the Creed “by the power of the Holy Spirit he was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man”:

The Creed is sung or recited by the priest together with the people with everyone standing. At the words *et incarnatus est* (“by the power of the Holy Spirit . . . became man”) all make a profound bow, but on the Solemnities of the Annunciation and of the Nativity of the Lord, all genuflect. . A bow signifies reverence and honor shown to the persons themselves or to the signs that represent them. There are two kinds of bows: a bow of the head and a bow of the body.

- A bow of the head is made when the three Divine Persons are named together and at the names of Jesus, of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and of the saint in whose honor Mass is being celebrated.
- A bow of the body, that is to say a profound bow, is made to the altar . . . in the Creed at the words *Et incarnatus est* . . . (GIRM 137, 275)
www.Catholic.com

“I would now like to say a special word to women who have had an abortion. The Church is aware



of the many factors which may have influenced your decision, and she does not doubt that in many cases it was a painful and even shattering decision. The wound in your heart may not yet have healed. ...But do not give in to discouragement and do not lose hope. ...The Father of mercies is ready to give you his forgiveness and his peace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.”

Pope Saint John Paul II, *Evangelium vitae*, no. 99. © 1995, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved

(Practicing) Catholic – Recognize God in your Ordinary Moment)
THE PRAYERS WE DON'T SAY



It has always confused me: why a judge?

Jesus could have compared prayer to the subject who requests a gift of his king. He could have compared it to the child who asks a favor of a parent. But in the parable of the widow and the judge, Jesus compares prayer — specifically constant, unwearied prayer — with the marginalized person who doggedly pursues her claim through an unforgiving legal system.

It’s not a rosy or reassuring picture. So, what is he trying to tell us?

Unlike a king or a parent, a judge has strictly drawn lines which he cannot, under any circumstances, cross. He can only help people who bring their case to court. Even good, earnest judges cannot render justice if charges are not brought.

God is all-powerful. But that doesn’t make Him a meddler. He will not force his way into our problems. What would be the point? What is our life on earth for, if it is not to teach us how to turn willingly to God, in every instance — adoration, gratitude, need?

Today, I sat down and made a list of problems I don’t pray about. When I was done, I looked at the list and asked myself: why not? Why don’t I pray about these things? Some are huge issues over which I have absolutely no control, and prayer feels futile. Some are small grievances I never even considered mentioning to God.

If I prayed about them all, my life would be totally consumed by prayer. Constant, unwearied prayer. The kind of prayer Jesus calls me to in the parable of the widow and the judge: continual surrender of myself to the mysterious, limitless power of God.

Praying that way could make me tired. The widow was tired, too — but she kept bringing her charges. She got justice. And her judge wasn’t even a nice guy.

So, say the prayer. Bring the charges. Our judge is one who wants to help, but He won’t overstep His bounds.
Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman – October 16, 2025©Lpi.

I WILL NOT FEAR, FOR YOU ARE EVER WITH ME,
AND YOU WILL NEVER LEAVE ME TO FACE MY PERILS ALONE.”
- THOMAS MERTON



October 12: \$1,000.00
 Actual Collection YTD
 7/25-6/26: \$25,579.03
 Parishioner Count: 119

Thank you for your generosity and continued support!
 3% of our October Collection will go to the annual World Mission Collection. Visit WeShare for online giving at: <http://www.stmarksuaf.org>.

Persistent Stewardship

"...proclaim the word, be persistent whether it is convenient or inconvenient..." 2 TIMOTHY 4:2

It is not always convenient to be a good Steward, especially when all the temptations of our busy and materialistic world get in the way. Now add our own pride and ego into the equation and living a stewardship lifestyle may be downright uncomfortable! Remember, God didn't call us to be comfortable. He never said that we would have an easy life. Rather, He called us to be faithful!



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 aftereffects coastal storms.
- + 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.

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?" (Luke 18:8)

Priests and religious brothers and sisters help to keep faith alive in the world. Could God be calling you to be one of these dedicated servants? Talk to a priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at 907-374-9504 *or* email:

rfath@cbna.org.

"GOD IS OUR REFUGE AND STRENGTH, AN EVER-PRESENT HELP IN DISTRESS."

Almighty God, Creator, and preserver of our world. We ask you to hear our humble prayers for all those affected by our recent storms and flooding in western Alaska. Protect those in need of your mercy and bring relief to all affected by the destruction. Heal those broken in body and spirit and protect the most vulnerable.

AMEN.



DIOCESE OF FAIRBANKS

1316 PEGER ROAD · FAIRBANKS, ALASKA · 99709 · 907-374-9500 · FAX: 907-374-9580

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

October 14, 2025

Dear Parishioners,

I ask that you pray for the people of western Alaska who were affected by the typhoon and storms this past week. For those who lost their lives and for their families and friends. For those whose homes and businesses were destroyed or damaged. For those communities that are without power, heat, and water. For the people working in the rescue and relief efforts.

May all who were affected by the typhoon and storms be encouraged and strengthened by our Lord Jesus. Let us direct our prayers and efforts to support them in their time of need.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Steven J. Maekawa, O.P.
 Bishop of Fairbanks

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!

Respect Life Month Novena

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>

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: 20 (including the Luminous Mysteries added by St. John Paul II in 2002) ©LPi.