



ST. MARK UNIVERSITY PARISH

The Catholic Community of University of Alaska Fairbanks

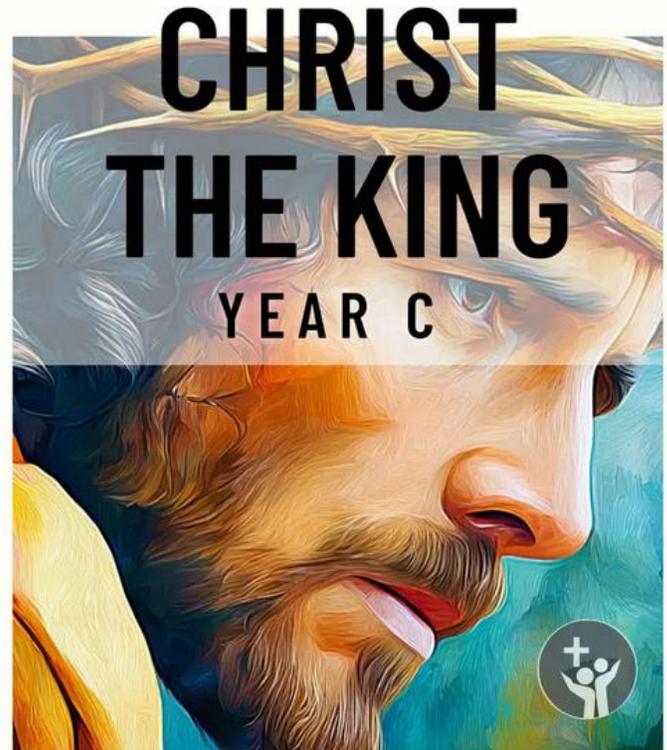
1316 Peger Rd., Fairbanks, AK 99709-5168

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

NOVEMBER 23, 2025



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@alaska.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

WELCOME - Fr. Paul Emmanuel Nnaji, IVE - is new to our Diocese this past week. He will be with us at our Sunday Mass this weekend. (11/23). Thursday (11/20) we also welcome **Fr. Simtong Raymond Dayang**, from Diocese of Pankshin – the same diocese as Fr. Simon Jingve. Please give them a warm welcome and take a moment to introduce yourself when you see them.

CALENDAR of EVENTS

11/22: SHC A Women's Advent – 10am-1pm in Social Hall

11/22: Annual Family Day – N.P. Middle School 10am-5pm

11/23: Christ the King Sunday

11/23: Advent Material available at 5:30pm Mass

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

11/29: Diocesan Movie Night at ICC – 6pm On the Waterfront

12/6: Altar Server Training at SHC – 10am – Noon

12/7: 1st Sunday in Advent

12/8: Immaculate Conception at SHC – 7:30am, 12:10 & 6pm

12/10: Advent Communal SHC/ICC Penance – 6pm

Catholic Definition: CHRIST THE KING

A feast originally established by Pope Pius XI in 1925, to be celebrated with special solemnity on the last Sunday of October. It is now observed on the last Sunday of the liturgical year. Its object is to worship Christ's Lordship of the Universe, both as God and Man, and it was instituted to meet the crisis of faith in the Savior's authority, exercised by the Church, of which he is the invisible head. <https://www.catholicculture.org/>

First Reading: 2 Samuel 5:1-3

David is anointed king.

Responsorial: Psalm 122:1-2,3-4,4-5

Enter the house of the Lord rejoicing.

Second Reading: Colossians 1:12-20

Hymn to Jesus as the first-born of all creation.

Gospel Reading: Luke 23:35-43

Jesus is crucified under the title King of the Jews.

Music of the Mass – November 23

721 — All Hail the Power of Jesus Name

723 — Crown Him with Many Crowns

714 — Alleluia, Sing to Jesus

519 — The King of Love

724 — Rejoice, the Lord is King

**Mass of Creation #867-871*



Votive candles at the back of the church are meant as an opportunity for prayer and devotion to our Lord for the souls in purgatory who can't pray for themselves, but we can pray for them.

“Walk in the way of the Lord with simplicity and do not torment our spirit.”



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): Next event TBA.

MONDAY

SHC Book Club: 1st of the month from 12:30-2:30 pm in SHC Community Room. Dec 1st - Christmas Party. January book – *He Leadeth Me: An Extraordinary Testament of Faith* by Fr. Walter Ciszek, S.J. c.1973. Contact Jan Fortune for info at: 43janetf@gmail.com

Diocesan Bible Study: Study Matthew at 6:30 pm in the Mary Chapel of SHC Nov. 24. (*Every Monday*)

TUESDAY

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

OCIA Classes: Every Tuesday at 7:00pm at SHC

Young Adult Feast and Faith: *December Event TBA*

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 – Nov 29th at 6 pm held at Immaculate Conception Church. **On the Waterfront**

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Catholic Engaged Encounter Retreat –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.

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: This Sunday the Catholic parishes of the United States take up a collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, the domestic anti-poverty, social justice program of the U.S. Catholic Bishops. Based in Washington, D.C., the Catholic Campaign, or CCHD, describes its mission on the www.usccb.org website: “to address the root causes of poverty in America through promotion and support of community-controlled, self-help organizations and through transformative education.” Your challenge this week is to learn something about CCHD and to discuss as a family what contribution you can make financially to support the work of CCHD across the country. If there is a CCHD project in your local community (and you can find that out by going to www.usccb.org/cchd), consider a visit to learn what CCHD is doing and how you might get involved [.https://pastoral.center](https://pastoral.center)

... **to the First Reading:** Paul expresses in the Second Reading what we have been saved for: the inheritance of holiness, membership in the kingdom of the beloved Son, a share in Christ's fullness, reconciliation with all things, and peace.

Connecting the Gospel ...

... **to experience:** What we are celebrating with this solemnity is not a style of government (earthly kings and kingdoms), but the victory of Christ over all things—even death. Christ the King makes possible among us a reign of goodness, mercy, forgiveness, justice, reconciliation, peace. liturgy.slu.edu



A King Above All
The soldiers also mocked him, ...saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”
(Luke 23:36-38)

A King Above All

Adults: In what ways is Jesus the ruler of your life?
Kids: How can you show that you honor Jesus as the king of your life? <https://pastoral.center>

During the month of November PLEASE PRAY for all who have died; especially those among our parish family.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

John Fox, Kerri Garcia (the daughter of Jim & Mary Cerney), Ron Johnson, John Hebard, Fr. Kasparaj Mallavarapu, Mary Beth Perreault, George Kakara (Fr. Francis' father) and friends and family who have gone before us.

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: What is the term for the purification of the souls of the just?

(Answer on last page.)

Catholic Answers

Question:

What is the proper crucifix to have or to wear? I was told that a cross is not the same as a crucifix. I was told also that a cross represents that Jesus has risen and is proper to wear.



Answer:

Some Protestants suggest that because Catholics often depict Jesus on the cross it means that they believe he has not risen. This is, of course, nonsense. Catholics are adamant about the [Resurrection of Christ](#). That's why it is written into the creed that we say every Sunday.

Depicting the cross bare is not an especially good symbol of the resurrection since the cross probably never stood bare. When Jesus was taken down from it, the crossbeam that his arms were nailed to was probably removed. It is doubtful that after he rose from the dead anyone bothered putting the crossbeam back up.

From a Catholic perspective there is little theological significance for items of personal jewelry whether or not the cross is bare. In a wide variety of art forms, Christians throughout the ages have depicted both Jesus on the cross and the bare cross depending not on theological considerations but on other factors, such as whether the medium they were working in could accommodate the human form easily and whether they had the artistic skill or craftsmanship to fashion a corpus.

Traditionally there has been a preference for showing the corpus, when possible, as this is a more vivid reminder of the crucifixion (the crucifixion is the whole point of a cross, after all). However, this is not a theological mandate.

Bottom line: Wear whichever one you prefer. (Though know that most people will identify you as a Catholic if you wear one with a corpus.)

For more on this topic, see our article, "[Cross or Crucifix?](#)" www.Catholic.com

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.

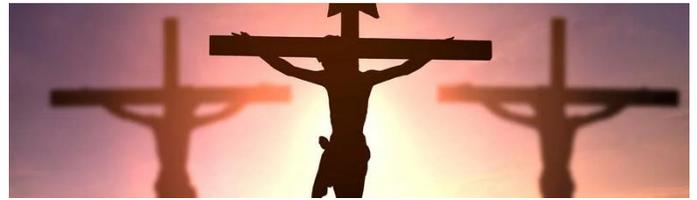
Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel.

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. www.uscb.org

(Practicing) Catholic – Recognize God in your Ordinary Moment
THE KING WHO HANGS BESIDE US



We love to hate the bad thief.

Ancient Christian tradition has called him by the name "Gestas." In contrast to Dismas, "the good thief" who recognized and repented of his own sins, Gestas goes down bitter and swinging. With his last breaths he taunts Jesus, poking fun at the absurdity of a deity who allows himself to be crucified by mortals. "Are you not the Christ?" he sneers.

But his final words betray an undercurrent of desperation. Of terror. In the end, Gestas just wants Jesus to save him.

It's taken me a few hundred read-throughs of this Gospel passage to finally understand a painful truth: I am Gestas. I hang from my own cross — we all do, in this life. But I'm lucky enough that my cross is right beside Jesus, because the sacraments bring him as close to me as he was to Gestas — closer, even. How unfathomable is the mercy of God.

And yet, I am not grateful. I don't rejoice at my proximity to my Lord, to the flesh and blood that have bought my salvation. I don't do what I should do, and what Dismas does. I don't say, "Wherever you are King, please, let me be your subject. Wherever you are going, please, take me with you."

"Are you not the Christ?" I say instead. And what I mean is exactly what Gestas meant: "Get me down. Take this cross away. I don't want it. I can't take it."

What a tragedy it would be, if all Christ had to offer us was an easier life.

None of this looks like anyone thought it would. The long-foretold Messiah, whose majesty and might would eradicate violence and establish peace. The guy who was going to make everything okay again. The King of the Jews. And here he hangs: bleeding and dying and doing what looks like nothing. Staring at Gestas. Staring at me. Staring at you.

What will you say to him?

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman – November 20, 2025©Lpi.

"This month, let us offer all our prayers, Masses, and acts of charity on behalf of all the souls in purgatory, that they may be led to Heaven and have eternal life with God."



November 16: \$ 1,054.00
 Actual Collection YTD
 7/25-6/26: \$ 30,700.63
 Parishioner Count: 119

Thank you for your generous contributions!

In November, a national collection is taken up to help the Archdiocese for the Military Services, U.S.S. (AMS) accomplish its mission of "Serving those who Serve." 3% or our November collection will be given for this collection. Over the years St. Mark has been covered by our military priests. Visit WeShare for online giving at: <http://www.stmarksuaaf.org>.

Stewards Grateful

"...giving thanks to the Father, who has made you fit to share in the inheritance of the holy ones in light."

Colossians 1:12

God wants us to be happy! Instead of looking at the Ten Commandments as being restrictive and telling us what we can't do, look at them as guides for living a joy-filled and peaceful life. Most of our problems arise when we put our own needs first or we spend most of our time trying to acquire more stuff. Instead, try putting God through Stewardship first in all things. We were made for God. Open your heart and let Him in!

NOVEMBER 2025 PRAYER INTENTION



For the prevention of suicide. Let us pray that those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts might find the support, care, and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.

Pray for:

- ... that we remember the less fortunate at Thanksgiving and the blessings we have been given.
- ... all may find peace in their lives and encourage others to grow in their faith by example.
- ...leaders may have the wisdom and justice, to administer with integrity.
- ...recovery of all suffering from illness or loneliness.
- ...respect for life from conception to death.

Solemnity of Christ the King – November 23rd

"Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." (Luke 21:19)

On this Feast of Christ the King, reflect on His reign over your life. Is He calling you to serve His kingdom as a priest or religious brother or sister? Talk to a priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at 907-374-9504 or email: rfath@cbna.org.

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>



A limited number of advent wreath candle sets and advent calendars are available for a small donation November 23rd and 30th. *The First Sunday of Advent is Nov. 30th.*

St. Mark's Choir is providing the music for the 7:30pm Christmas Eve Mass. If you would like to join us on this joyous occasion, please contact George Stefan or Edward Yew after 5:30pm Mass or email: stmark@cbna.org with your name and contact information and we keep you up to date on planning and practices.



.... Christ's kingship is rooted in the Church's teaching



on the Incarnation. Jesus is fully God and fully man. He is both the divine Lord and the man who suffered and died on the Cross. One person of the Trinity unites himself to human nature and reigns over all creation as the Incarnate Son of God. "From this it follows not only that Christ is to be adored by angels and men, but that to him as man angels and men are subject and must recognize his empire; by reason of the hypostatic union Christ has power over all creatures" (*Quas primas*, 13). www.usccb.org/



CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Answer: Purgatory.
www.catholicculture.org

"He died not for men, but for each man. If each man had been the only man made, He would have done no less."

~ C.S. Lewis

"Remember the past with gratitude. Live the present with enthusiasm. Look forward to the future with confidence."

~ St. John Paul II