



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 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. Dcn. 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 (SHC)
Easter & Christmas Masses are celebrated with SHC – please check their schedules at sacredheartak.org

Campus Mass for Catholic Student Association (CSA):
- 7 PM at Upper Lola Tilly Bldg., 7:30 PM Meeting

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



ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE – Feb. 18

Sacred Heart Cathedral: 7:30 AM, 12:10 PM, 7:00 PM

Immaculate Conception: 12:10 PM, 7:00 PM

St. Raphael: 9:30 A, 7:00 PM

St. Nicholas, North Pole: 9:00 AM, 7:00 PM

Ft. Wainwright: Contact: 907-361-4261

CALENDAR of EVENTS

2/17, 24, 3/3: 7 PM Chrism Mass Choir Practice at SHC

2/19-22: Men's Spiritual Exercise - <https://iccfairbanks.org/se>

2/19: Memento Mori Seminar – 7 PM at St. Nick's, North Pole

2/22: Rite of Elections 4:00 PM

2/22: Young Adult Game Night – 6:30 PM at SHC

2/24: An Examination of Conscience with Dante 7 PM at ICC

2/26: Memento Mori Seminar – 7 PM at St. Nick's, North Pole

2/26-3/1: Women's Spiritual Exercise - <https://iccfairbanks.org/se>

3/3: An Examination of Conscience with Dante-
7 PM at St. Nick's, North Pole

3/5: Memento Mori Seminar – 7 PM at St. Nick's

3/5-8: Men Spanish Spiritual Exercise <https://iccfairbanks.org/se>

3/6: Knights of Columbus FISH FRY – Monroe HS 5 – 8 PM
5:30 PM Stations of the Cross at Monroe

3/9-12: Priest Convocation in Anchorage

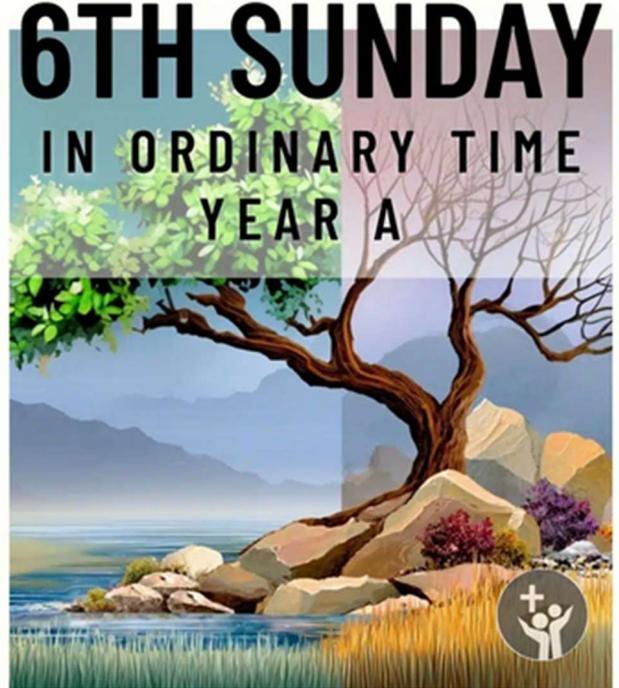
3/12: Chrism Mass – 7 PM at SHC

3/17: An Examination of Conscience with Dante – 7 PM at ICC

3/29-4/5: Holy Week

February 15, 2026

6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A



First Reading: Sirach 15:15–20

The eyes of God see all he has made.

Responsorial: Psalm 119:1–2,4–5, 17–18,33–34

Happy are those who walk in the way of the Lord.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:6–10

God has revealed this wisdom to us through the Spirit.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:17–37

I have not come to abolish the law and the prophets but to fulfill them.

Music of the Mass – February 15, 2026



576 Glory and Praise to Our God

593 Isaiah 49

208 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence
Come All Ye Holy

482 We Walk By Faith

Mass Part: Mass of Creation #867-871

Sacred Heart Lenten Fridays

Join the faithful during Lent for

5:30 PM Mass – 6 PM Stations

- followed by simple potluck dinner in social room downstairs at Sacred Heart.





SUNDAY

Religious Education (SHC): 9:30-10:30 AM downstairs in the classrooms. Questions—contact Mother, Way of Salvation at: servidoras@cbna.org

Young Adult Game Night Meet in Community Room, Feb. 22nd at 6:30 PM downstairs at Sacred Heart Cathedral after 5:30 PM St. Mark University Parish Mass.

MONDAY

SHC Book Club: Meets 12:30 – 2PM 1st Monday of the month. List of books found at sacredheartak.org/parish-groups. Contact Jan Fortune for info at: 43janetf@gmail.com

Diocesan Bible Study: Study Matthew on Monday, Feb 9th to April 13th, *except for April 6th*, at 6:30 pm will continue in the Mary Chapel of SHC.

TUESDAY

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

Faith Formation (OCIA): 7 PM every Tuesday at SHC. Email Fr. Peter Bang at: pbang@cbna.org

Young Adult Feast and Faith: Meets February 17th for Mardi Gras at 5:30 PM at Miguel's Authentic Mexican Restaurant. Learn about the history of fasting in scripture and tradition. For Young Adults ages 18-35.

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. There will be no 1st Thursday of the Month Adoration in Jan.

Voces Verbi Teens: 6-7:30pm (ages 13-17). Contact: servidoras@cbna.org

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.

SHC Confessions/Adorations of the Blessed Sacrament 3-4pm

Diocesan Movie Night – Next showing TBA.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Baptism, First Communion & Confirmation: Contact the Parish Office at 907-374-9544 if interested in receiving instructions or Fr. Ross Tozzi at rtozzi@cbna.org or call (907) 347-3005
Marriage Preparations: Contact Fr. Ross *six (6) months prior to wedding date or call the parish office at 907-374-9544.*

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



Justice Challenge: The Gospel for Sunday is part of the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus is focusing on keeping the commandments. He emphasizes that the Fifth Commandment, “Thou shalt not kill,” means more than not taking someone’s life. It also means not being angry or destroying someone’s self-esteem by calling them names. Your challenge this week is to look at your life and examine where you might have hurt someone—physically, emotionally through negative gossip, cyber criticism, or derogatory words, or even spiritually by giving bad example. Make a commitment to changing that hurtful behavior, say a prayer for the person you have hurt, and try to have the courage to ask forgiveness in person. <https://pastoral.center>

Focusing the Gospel...

Key words and phrases: law ... fulfill, until all things have taken place, kingdom of heaven, righteousness surpasses.

To the point: What does it mean for Jesus to fulfill the law? Jesus sees in the law the means to the fulfillment of time (“until all things have taken place”), when the law will be replaced by righteous relationships within the kingdom of heaven. The fundamental law is gift of self to others. When self-giving is lacking in any act of keeping the law, the law in fact is not kept. We are to keep the law as the way to enter a manner of caring for and relating to others that leads to fullness of Life. Our model for so doing is Jesus.



www.liturgy.slu.edu

Implications of The New Law:

Jesus said, "So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift."

(Matthew 6:17-37)

Adult Question: How do you reconcile with those who have offended or hurt you?

Child Question: When have you taken the first step to make up with someone who has hurt you or whom you have offended?

<https://pastoral.center>

CHRISM MASS CITY-WIDE CHOIR CALL

The annual **Chrism Mass** is right around the corner on Thursday, March 12 at Sacred Heart Cathedral at 7:00 pm. **The diocese is putting together a city-wide choir for this important liturgy and we want you involved.** Practices will take place at Sacred Heart Cathedral on Tuesdays (Feb. 17, 24 and March 3) at 7:00 pm in the cathedral sanctuary. The practices will be led by Therese Yew and Dominic Dosch, two of our young adults, who have graciously stepped forward to organize and assist. Questions can be directed to Fr. Robert Fath at rfath@cbna.org or by calling 907-374-9504.



Catholic Answers

Question:

Who was Saint Valentine, and how did his feast day of February 14 come to be regarded as a day for romance?

Answer:

Two Valentines are listed in the Roman Martyrology for February 14. The first Saint Valentine was a Roman priest who reportedly was martyred on the Flaminian Way during the reign of the Emperor Claudius. The other Saint Valentine was a third-century bishop of Terni who was martyred in Rome, but whose relics were sent back to his home see. Some claim that there has been a confusion and that the two Valentines are really one.

The reason the feast day has come to be associated with romance has nothing to do with the two saints, neither of whom had a clear connection to lovers or courtship. The association has to do with a belief, dating at least from the time of Chaucer, that birds pair up on February 14. This belief about biology became associated with the feast of the day, and eventually the thought of courtship and romance came to dominate. In any event, the Church certainly does not teach that Valentine's Day should be celebrated in connection with romance.

<https://www.catholic.com/>



(Practicing Catholic – Recognize God in your Ordinary Moment) THE CARPENTER AND THE LAW



My husband and I couldn't believe our luck: our new house had a deck. It was more than a couple of broke millennials had ever dared to dream. Lounging in our patio furniture drinking coffee and watching the cars drive past, we felt like Kennedys at Hyannis Port. We had arrived.

Well, until it started falling apart.

To be fair, my husband knew this was going to happen all along, because he's a person who uses words like "joist" and "weight-bearing" correctly. He took one look at the deck at the open house and knew it wasn't up to code. "We're going to have to reinforce this at some point," he told me. "Whatever!" I replied, daydreaming about twinkle lights and porch parties.

Sure enough, our second summer in the house, he had to rip the rotting surface boards off. The biggest issue was that the joists were too far apart; when we stepped on the boards, they bowed and almost cracked, lacking adequate support beneath. But we weren't going to redo the whole deck — we're not actually *Kennedys*. We (okay, *he*) simply ripped the surface boards off, added the necessary joists, and replaced the decking with newer, better, stronger wood.

Simply put, my husband did not come to abolish the deck, but to fulfill it.

The law of Moses was like a good deck, admirably built. You could say "*Raga*," your heart filled with anger, and the law didn't break. But that anger treads heavily on boards not adequately supported. Over time, the anger becomes too much to bear. And that board — that law, that heart — it'll break. Just you wait.

And when it does, you'll see why: there wasn't anything beneath, holding it up.

So, God sent a Carpenter to reinforce the law. The Carpenter crafted joists from prudence, fortitude, justice, and temperance — strong virtues that can withstand a lifetime of battery, if properly maintained.

And the law still holds.

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman – February 12, 2026©Lpi.

Lenten Norms of Fasting and Abstinence

–Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence.

For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.

Members of the Eastern Catholic Churches are to observe the particular law of their own *sui iuris* Church. www.usccb.org

The SPIRITUAL Exercises

Location | Chena Camp
Cost | \$200

SIGN UP AT
iccfairbanks.org/se

SPRING DATES
February 19-22 (Men)
Feb 26-Mar 1 (Women)
Mar 5-8 (Men Spanish)

The day before **Ash Wednesday** is a celebration marking the start of the penitential season of **Lent**. Before **Lent** — a time of prayer, fasting and penance through a period of 40 days until **Easter** — Catholics and others celebrate with festivities know by several names — called **Mardi Gras** or **Fat Tuesday**. During **Lent** we are called to fast, pray and confess sins during this penitential season.

www.catholicculture.org



Stewardship Report
 February 8: \$ 532.00
 Actual Collection :
 7/25-6/26: \$ 44,127.18
 Parishioner Count: 86

Thank you for your continued support and prayers!
 Our 3% of February Collection total will go toward the *Black & Indian Missions*. *Operation Rice Bowl* bowls will be available on Ash Wednesday (Feb 18th). Feed the bowl until Easter (April 5th) and return by April 12.

Righteous Stewardship

“For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.” MATTHEW 5:20

The Pharisees lived according to the letter of the law, not *Stewardship*. They used this to elevate themselves above the other people. Jesus is clear – it’s the love that you have in your heart, for God and others, that will get you to heaven. Simply following church rules to the letter and not out of love, does not necessarily put you on the path to heaven. Attending Sunday Mass and then gossiping about a fellow parishioner on the parking lot is an example of being a modern-day Pharisee.



FEBRUARY 2026 PRAYER INTENTION
For children with incurable diseases.

Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

Pray for the Church – Pope Leo XIV, Bishop Steven Maekawa, OP, Rev. Ross Tozzi, Deacon Warren Lucero, and all pastors, deacons, and religious in our diocese). As we begin our Lenten journey with Ash Wednesday this week, remember in your prayers all who are sick or struggling; our homebound and elderly; all who have died, that eternal rest may be granted to them and peace to the families they leave behind.

Vocations

“I did not come to abolish but to fulfill.” (Matthew 5:17)

Jesus calls us to live with integrity, love, and holiness, going beyond the letter of the Law to embrace its full meaning. Priests participate in this mission by bringing His grace to the world through the sacraments, helping others encounter God’s love. Could God be inviting you to this ministry of service? Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at (907) 374-9504 or via email: vocations@cbna.org .

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Answer: Pyc <https://aleteia.org/>

MEMENTO MORI SEMINAR



Location: St. Nicholas Church, North Pole

WILLS, TRUSTS, AND BEQUESTS

Heidi Holmes, J.D., Thursday February 19th @ 7pm

PLANNING FOR YOUR FUNERAL

Fr. Robert and Jennica Worland, Thursday, February 26th @ 7pm

HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE CARE

Chaplain Jim Rigsbee, Thursday, March 5th @ 7pm



For more information, please contact:
 Leigh Scarboro lascarboro@gmail.com
 Anna Fath annamfath@gmail.com



Office of Faith and Family Formation

Ending Hunger With CRS Rice Bowl

This Lent, our community will participate in CRS Rice Bowl—connecting our prayers, fasting and almsgiving to encounter God through our global family. We’ll meet, pray for and learn from families in Ghana, Guatemala and Timor-Leste who are rising above the challenges of hunger and malnutrition. Pick up your rice bowl at church, then visit crsricebowl.org/join to share your Lenten prayer intention



Former pastor Fr. Jim Kolb, CSP celebrates his 50th anniversary in the priesthood this year. If you would like to send good wishes or photos for a scrapbook to Fr. Jim, please send to FrJim50th@gmail.com by April 12. (Fr. Jim does not monitor this email.)

The Paulist fathers will be celebrating Mass in honor of his golden jubilee on May 2 at 11 Am at St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Portland, OR.

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>

“Where there is no prayer and fasting, there are demons.” ~ St. Theophan the Recluse