



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.

CALENDAR of EVENTS

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

3/15: **Young Adult Game Night 6:30 PM at SHC**

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

3/18: 6 PM Sacred Heart Cathedral **Communal Penance**

3/29-4/5: **Holy Week**

Sacred Heart Cathedral Lenten Fridays

Join the faithful during Lent for 5:30 PM Mass & 6 PM Stations followed by 7 pm Simple Meal Potluck.

THE TRANSFIGURATION IS A SIGN OF HOPE

When Jesus was transfigured before His disciples, they had a glimpse of the glorified future that awaits the faithful. Through the power of Jesus Christ, we can be transformed, leading the holy lives to which He call us. Filled with His light and goodness, we will shine with His glory in this life and in the world to come. ©2025 FAITH Catholic-Lansing Michigan

March 1, 2026 TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY 2nd Sunday of Lent



First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4a

God promises Abram a great blessing.

Responsorial: Psalm 33:4-5,18-20,22

God's mercy is upon those who trust in God.

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:8b-10

Through God's grace we are called to holiness.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 17:1-9

Jesus is transfigured on the mountain in the presence of Peter, James, and John.

Music of the Mass – March 1



126 'Tis Good, Lord, To Be Here

664 Hosea

127 Transfiguration

651 I Breath On Me, O Breath of God

407 There's A Wideness In God's Mercy

Mass Part: Mass of Creation #867-871



SPRING FORWARD: A little reminder to set your clocks ahead one hour **next Saturday** night, **March 7th**, when you go to bed so you make it to mass at the right time.

“Fasting is directed to two things, the deletion of sin, and the raising of the mind to heavenly things.” —St. Thomas Aquinas



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 5:30PM St. Mark University Parish Mass.

MONDAY

SHC Book Club: Meets 12:30 – 2PM 1st Monday of the month. *Respecting the Body and Blood of the Lord: When Holy Communion Should be Denied* by Raymond Leo Cardinal Burke. Contact Jan Fortune for info at: 43janetf@gmail.com

Diocesan Bible Study: Study Matthew on Monday, now until 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: Next meeting TBA. 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

Check front page “Calendar of Events.”

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 are the names of the three theological virtues of the Catholic Church?

(Answer on last page)



Justice Challenge: Sometimes we think about making big plans for Lenten sacrificing, only to fall behind with work, family, and other responsibilities. We find ourselves in the Second Week of

Lent with no commitment to better prayer lives, doing good deeds, or practicing acts of self-denial. But it is never too late. Catholic Relief Services offers a great resource to parishes and families for praying, fasting and charitable giving—all in one simple project. What is so great about this project, known as Operation Rice Bowl (ORB), is that it makes all the right connections. When you put the money you would have spent on a CD or that mocha latte you crave into your Rice Bowl box, you participate in Jesus’ sacrifice. CRS provides prayers to accompany your giving. And it uses the money you would have spent on yourself to help people in need across the world. Participating in ORB is an act of solidarity—standing with your brothers and sisters as one human family. Your challenge this week is to adopt Operation Rice Bowl (go to CRSR_iceBowl.org if your parish doesn’t do ORB). Give up the extra energy drink, candy bar, movie, or trip to the mall. Put the money in your Rice Bowl, knowing it will be sent to CRS. You will be walking with Jesus while making a difference in the lives of others. <https://pastoral.center>

Connecting the Gospel...

... **to the Second Reading:** God commanded Abram to leave the homeland he knew and to seek an unknown homeland that God would show him. “Abram went as the Lord directed him,” and for this he was greatly blessed. Jesus’ transfiguration bids us to let go of where we are (the “homeland” we know) to climb a high mountain (an unknown “homeland”) that leads to new, risen, transfigured, Easter Life.



... **to experience:** No matter how insightful or imaginative, all human vision is limited by the boundaries of human experience. The vision of Jesus’ transfiguration explodes the boundaries of human experience yet is very real and attainable. Jesus shows us the glory that is ours to come, a glory attainable because it is God’s gift to those who are faithful. www.liturgy.slu.edu

“Our fast at any other time is voluntary; but during Lent, we sin if we do not fast.” ~St. Augustine

Call To Faithfulness

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. (Matthew 17:1-2)

Adult Question: What difference does your faith in Jesus Christ make in your life?

Child Question: What does it mean to you to be a holy person? <https://pastoral.center>

Question:

Is fasting on Sundays prohibited by some Church law or is it just not recommended generally?

**Answer:**

The reason fasting on Sundays is not usually done is that fasting is generally considered a penitential exercise, and penitential exercises are normally lifted on a solemnity (which Sunday always is). This is why every Lent many people ask if whatever they gave up for Lent can be partaken of on the Sundays of Lent. Each Sunday is also a miniature celebration of Easter Sunday, which therefore is considered a day of celebration and rejoicing rather than penance.

However, that being said, personal spiritual fasting is not prohibited on Sundays. Catholics are free to fast in various ways in their personal spiritual journey, though it is recommended that they do so in consultation with a spiritual director. <https://www.catholic.com/>



You guys, I was *such* a good Catholic at the National Eucharistic Congress.

Mass every day? Check. Rosary every day? Check (and check — we said a lot of rosaries). Deep thoughts and deep conversations about God with total strangers? Check. Hours in adoration reflecting on the state of my soul? Check.

When I went to Indianapolis in the summer of 2024 to cover the NEC for our archdiocesan newspaper, I knew it would be a fun and spiritually rich experience. But I didn't expect that it would make me think differently about my whole life (and afterlife). And when people ask me why — “What happened in Indianapolis that changed you?” — I can only tell them this: I spent time with God.

Of course, I do all these things in my regular life at home, too. I try to be a good Catholic here. But good grief, it's a lot harder. In Indianapolis, I didn't have a calendar full of appointments and to-do lists that filled me with dread. I didn't have the world crowding around me, grasping at my attention and my will.

Indianapolis was the mountain, and if I could have, I would have built three tents.

So, I understand Peter's feelings at the Transfiguration. He's thrilled — he sees it all clearly now. Here is the fullness of Truth, revealed in all its glory, and he's ready to start bringing groups of tourists up to see it. He's ready to bring people to Christ. But in the blood-soaked, fear-filled days to come, Peter will realize that it's not his job to bring the world to the Truth. His job is to bring the Truth into the world.

What a tragedy it would be, if Truth only lived on the mountaintop.

So, build three tents, strong and durable shelters for the Truth to dwell. But build them in your heart. And then, the Transfiguration won't be just an event, something that happened at a certain time and a certain place. It'll be a reality that lives within us all. And we will bear it with us wherever we go.

Today, we enter the desert. Because the desert is where decisions are made.

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman – February 26, 2026©Lp

FROM THE OFFICE OF FAITH AND FAMILY FORMATION:



The website for signing up for World Youth Day is live, and we will be having a diocese-wide “World Youth Day Sneak Peak” offered by Verso Ministries, the organization helping coordinate our travel, on a Sunday in March (*date to be announced*) for those who would like to learn more.

Those interested will need to register.

There is also a new registration deadline of April 1st. Go to the Diocesan webpage

<https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/world-youth-day-seoul-2027>

If you have questions contact Director of Faith and Family Formation – Michael Olsta,

S.T.L. at olsta@cbna.org or 907-374-9526.



Meatless Recipes from Around the World – try 2026 Lenten Recipes featured from CRS Rice Bowl during Lent:

[https://www.crsricebowl.org/recipes?sort by=search api relevance](https://www.crsricebowl.org/recipes?sort%20by=search%20api%20relevance)



Ending Hunger with CRS Rice Bowl

Empowering Growth in Ghana

By supporting CRS Rice Bowl, you help parents and caregivers in Ghana to receive training in health, nutrition, and early childhood development. That means, young children in these communities are better able to thrive and meet critical milestones in their growth. Visit crsricebowl.org/week-2 to read this week's story of Hope.

The Transfiguration appears in the Rosary as the 4th Luminous Myster. This Lent, take up praying the Rosary as a daily spiritual practice. You will be happy you did!



Stewardship Report
 February 22: \$ 780.00
 Actual Collection:
 7/25-6/26: \$ 47,184.18
 Parishioner Count: 92

Thank you for your continued and generous support and prayers!

\$105.48 (3% of February Collections) has been donated to *Black & Indian Missions*.
Operation Rice Bowl bowls can be picked up at the entrance of the church. Feed the bowl until Easter (April 5th) and return by April 12.

Stewardship Service

"It is written: 'The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve.'" MATTHEW 4:10

Tempted between the riches and power of this world and service to God, Jesus chose service to His Father. If we wish to truly follow Jesus, we, too, must decide to turn away from worldly power and riches and put God at the center of our lives. Lent is our time to prune ourselves of earthly things and develop and nurture heavenly things. Lent is time to repent living Stewardship and letting go of the other "gods" we have put before God. www.camdendiocese.org

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.
 Pray for the health and well-being of all in our community, and those who have died.
 May we learn the difference between what we want and what we need, trusting that God will provide all that we need.

Vocations

**"This is my beloved Son... listen to him."
 (Matthew 17:5)**

God's voice calls us to follow His Son closely. Could priesthood be your path to proclaiming Christ's message, leading others to listen to Him? Trust His guidance. Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at (907) 374-9504 or via email: vocations@cbna.org or check out www.facebook.com/FairbanksVocations. vocations@cbna.org.

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Answer: Faith, Hope, and Love. <https://aleteia.org/>

WEEK 2: RATION CONTROL (THE WEAPON OF FASTING)

Conquering Appetite & Pride
 "The devil's assault consists in appeals to pride, appetite, and greed."

SUNDAY: FEAST ON THE WORD
 Read the Sunday readings before going to Mass.

MONDAY: DIGITAL FAST
 Eliminate one app or source of entertainment that wastes your time.

TUESDAY: THE BREAD OF LIFE
 If possible, visit a church for Adoration or simply sit in the quiet of an empty sanctuary.

WEDNESDAY: STRICT RATIONS
 Abstain from a favorite comfort food or drink (coffee, sweets, alcohol) entirely today.

THURSDAY: SILENCE THE EGO
 Do not voice a complaint today. When tempted to complain, offer a prayer of thanksgiving instead.

FRIDAY: PHYSICAL FAST
 Eat simple meals today. Feel the hunger and let it remind you of your dependence on God.

SATURDAY: FAST FROM NOISE
 Drive or commute in silence. No radio or podcasts.

BATTLE READY: LENTEN CAMPAIGN
 STAY FOCUSED. STAY FAITHFUL. THE BATTLE CONTINUES.

May the upcoming holy season offer you an opportunity for prayer, reflection, and growth in God's grace. Some have inquired about the practice of fast and abstinence.

PRAYER BEFORE HOLY COMMUNION

Lord, I believe and profess that You are truly Christ, Son of the Living God, who came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the first. Accept me this day as I partake of your mystical supper, O Son of God. May the partaking of your holy mysteries, O Lord be not for judgment of condemnation, but for the healing of body and soul. I also believe and profess that this, which I am about to receive, is truly your most precious Body and Blood, which, I pray, make me worthy to receive for the remission of all my sins and life everlasting. Amen.



ALTAR SERVERS: We are looking for those who have already received their First Communion to step forward and volunteer to become a server at our 5:30 PM Mass. Training is provided. Age is not a factor...8-80...just the willingness to deepen your faith and become more involved in the community!



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>