



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

Music Director: George Stefan

CSA Advisor: Devan Larson

Finance Council: Marilis Bennett, Jen Tucker,

Fr. Ross Tozzi

St. Mark Sunday Mass Schedule

Sunday Mass: 5:30 PM at Sacred Heart Cathedral (SHC)

No St. Mark 5:30 PM Easter Mass. We join Sacred Heart Cathedral at the Vigil Mass.

Campus Mass for Catholic Student Association (CSA):

7:15 PM Mass on Tuesdays in Upper Lola Tilly

7:45 PM Meeting after Mass

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

CARE OF THE SICK: Please notify the Parish Office or priest when someone is seriously ill so that we can provide spiritual care.

CALENDAR of EVENTS

3/21: Altar Server Training at SHC 10-Noon

3/29: 4PM Palm Sunday “The Passion of Christ” Movie at Immaculate Conception Church.

4/2: Holy Thursday

4/3: 12pm “The Passion of Christ” movie at ICC

4/3: Good Friday at SHC: 3 PM Stations; 7 PM Services

4/4: 8 PM Easter Vigil Mass at SHC

4/12: Divine Mercy Sunday

4/18: 9am-5pm Men’s Retreat at Monroe High School

5th Sunday in Lent – Year A

MARCH 22, 2026



First Reading: Ezekiel 37:12-14

God will open the graves and restore the people of Israel.

Responsorial: Psalm 130:1-8

With the Lord is forgiveness and mercy.

Second Reading: Romans 8:8-11

The Spirit of God dwells in you.

Gospel Reading: John 11:1-45

Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead.

Music of the Mass – March 22



143 From the Depths We Cry to Thee

130 Led by the Spirit

355 I Am the Bread of Life

138 Attende Domine

(Have Mercy on Us, Lord)

712 Lift High the Cross



Would you like to help decorate the altar at Easter? *Donate in memory of a deceased loved one.* Include \$25.00 per name or a single-family name in an envelope and drop in the collection basket or leave at the front office at Sacred Heart Cathedral. Include your name

and the name of those you wish to remember – please print clearly. Any donation to help defray the expense of beautification of the church for Easter is appreciated. If you have questions, please contact SHC Office at (907) 474-9032.

Next Sunday is Palm Sunday. Lent has been preparing us for the Sacred Triduum, celebrating the sacrifice, death, and resurrection of our Savior.

Palms blessed next Sunday are *sacramentals*. Under no circumstance should blessed palms – or any blessed article – be thrown in the garbage or treated with irreverence.





SUNDAY

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

Young Adult Game Night: April. Meets in Community Room 6:30 PM downstairs at Sacred Heart Cathedral after 5:30PM St. Mark University Parish Mass.

MONDAY

SHC Book Club: April 6th at 12:30pm in the Community Room. 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: Tuesdays 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.

UAF Catholic Student Association (CSA): 7:15 PM Mass/7:45 PM Meeting in Lola Tilly Building on UAF Campus

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 of the Blessed Sacrament: 8AM-12PM at SHC.

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/Adoration: 3:00-4:00 PM at SHC.

Altar Server Training - at Sacred Heart Cathedral: March 21st from 3-4pm 10am in the Sanctuary.

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.* **On**

Becoming Catholic: Those seeking information about the Catholic Faith are invited to contact the Parish Office at 907-374-9544.



Palm Sunday (3/28) – 4:30PM

Palm Sunday (3/29) – 8:00 & 11:00 AM

1:00 PM (Spanish)

5:30 PM St. Mark Parish at SHC

Holy Thursday (4/2) – 7:00 PM

Good Friday (4/3) – 7:00 PM (Stations at 3:00 PM)

Easter Vigil (4/4) – 8:00 PM

Easter Sunday (4/5) – 8:00 & 11:00 AM

1:00 PM (Spanish)

No 5:30 PM St. Mark Easter Mass



Justice Challenge: The Gospel Sunday recounts the story of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead. It is eloquent to read that Jesus wept when he saw how devastated Lazarus' friends and relatives were about his friend's death. Jesus showed such compassion and human emotion. The word compassion is from the Latin word's *com* (meaning with) and *pati* (to suffer). Compassion, then, is suffering with others who are hurting. Your challenge this week is to show compassion to someone who is suffering. You might donate money to CRS or another organization helping hurting people. Or you might give a sandwich to a homeless person in your community. Whatever you do, remember that compassion means entering into that person's human condition, not with condescension, but with a genuine sense of walking with them in their experience.

<https://pastoral.center>

Connecting the Gospel

... **to First Reading:** Ezekiel describes God's desire to untie Israel from the grave of their captivity and lead them back to the freedom of their land where they can renew their covenantal relationship with God. In the gospel Jesus commands the bystanders concerning the raised Lazarus to "Untie him and let him go [free]."



... **to experience:** Our experiences of living can sometimes limit us. For example, when a friend has hurt us, we can become leery of deep relationships. In other words, "once bitten, twice shy." But if we never allow Jesus to break open the limits of our human experiences, we can never receive the unexpected gifts of freedom and Life he offers. www.liturgy.slu.edu

Life Everlasting

Jesus said to Martha, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" (John 11:25–26)

Adult Question: Christ calls us from death to new life. To what new life are you being called during this Lent?

Child Question: How does Jesus help you do what is good and avoid what is not? <http://pastoralcenter>

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: What does the name "Lazarus" mean? In the New Testament, how many times does Jesus tell us we need to forgive our enemies? (Answer on back page.)

Catholic Answer

Question:

Is it right for laypersons to be eucharistic ministers?



Answer:

Yes, laypersons may serve as extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion. This is a matter of changeable Church discipline, not unchangeable doctrine, and thus falls under the Church's God-given disciplinary power to bind and loose, with the pope having "full, supreme, and universal authority" in such matters (CCC 882; see Matthew 16:18-19, 18:15-18). Priests and deacons are ordinary ministers of the Eucharist. Despite the term "extraordinary minister," laypersons can serve in this role at their parishes regularly if there is legitimate liturgical need.

For guidelines on the use of extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, see [this presentation by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops](#) (USCCB). In addition, for information on the origins of this practice, [see our previous answer](#) on the subject. <https://www.catholic.com/>



Embracing God's Love, United in Generosity:

God created man and woman in his image, reminding us that every person is sacred and reflects God's love. Each of us has

a purpose, woven into God's plan. Our support of CRS Rice Bowl provides hope and opportunity to families around the world. Let's reflect on how our prayers, fasting, and almsgiving can help our sisters and brothers fulfill their potential. Visit crsricebowl.org/week-5 to read this week's Story of Hope.



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.

THINK ABOUT JOINING OUR ST. MARK MINISTRIES AS – ALTAR SERVER, READER, EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER OF THE CUP, COUNTER, OR CHOIR. TRAINING PROVIDED. CONTACT OUR PARISH OFFICE AT 907-374-9544 OR EMAIL: stmark@cbna.org



3rd Annual "Way of the Cross for Victims of Abortion" will be held

Tuesday, March 31st, from 5:00 – 6:00 PM in front of Planned Parenthood on the sidewalk. Booklets provided. Dress for the weather and bring a friend.

For more information contact Susan at 907-450-9855 or Jodi at 907-322-0227.

(Practicing Catholic – Recognize God in your Ordinary Moment)
WHAT LAZARUS WANTED



What Lazarus Wanted

"It must be so crazy, being God," one of my friends said in high school. "Does it feel like playing The Sims all day? Just making people do stuff because you want to see what happens?"

I think we all sometimes fall into this warped manner of thinking about God's omnipotence. It's understandable, to a degree. The flimsiness of our own agency in this world, our real ability to impact or change anything ... well, it all feels especially puny when you put it next to the power of the Creator. "Oh God, thy sea is so great," goes the old fisherman's prayer. "And my boat is so small."

But today, in the raising of Lazarus from the dead, we are reminded that God is all about giving us agency.

Jesus could have raised any random person from the dead on this, the Fifth Sunday of Lent. His intention was clear: to foreshadow his own passion, death, and resurrection, and to exhibit the closeness of God to those who mourn. "This illness is not to end in death," he tells his companions. "But is for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it." (John 11:4)

So, if it could have been anyone, why was it Lazarus?

I think the answer has to be that this was something Lazarus agreed to. Perhaps not in an explicit way, for he didn't know the mind or the plans of God. But in his friendship with Jesus, in the strength of his faith and the depth of his devotion to God, in every prayer he ever uttered — "Lord, let your will be done" — he was agreeing to it. Over and over, in what he said and what he did, Lazarus, beloved friend of Christ, said, "Lord, I love you. Lord, use me."

In this last full week of Lent, let us say it with him: "Lord, I love you. Lord, use me."

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman – March 19 2026©Lpi

"The Lord measures out perfection neither by the multitude nor the magnitude of our deeds, but by the manner in which we perform them." ~St. John of the Cross





Stewardship Report
 March 8: \$1,092.00
 Actual Collection:
 7/25-6/26: \$48,800.18
 Parishioner Count: 103

Thank you for your continued prayers and donations!

During Lent you will find Operation Rice Bowl bowls on a table at the church entrance. Please feed the bowl until Easter (April 5th) and return by April 12th.

Stewards Believe

“Jesus said to her, ‘Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?’” JOHN 11:40

Many of us say that we believe in God. We attend Sunday Mass and participate in parish events. But when life gets hard and the pressure is on, when things aren't going our way, do we really believe? Do we really put our trust in the Lord? When we live a life of gratitude, recognizing all that we have been given, we really do see that God is providing for our needs. Living a grateful and generous **Stewardship** life allows us to see God's active presence in our daily lives and we become “partakers of the divine nature.” www.camdendiocese.org



MARCH 2026 PRAYER INTENTION
For disarmament and peace:

Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

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 safety of all who are traveling.

...for the health and well-being of all in our community and protect them from harm.

Remember all who have gone before us in death.

...for all who protect us here and abroad.

Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of our priests who have answered your call and through them bring the sacraments to your people. Please protect them as they travel to cover Holy Week in villages with churches who do not have the gift of weekly services during the year.

VOCATIONS

"I am the resurrection and the life." (John 11:25)
 Jesus' promise of new life inspires all vocations. Could He be calling you to the priesthood, to bring His Word to others through the sacraments? Open your heart to His plan. 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.

In order to help enter deeper into Holy Week, the Office of Faith and Family Formation will be having two showings of the acclaimed film,

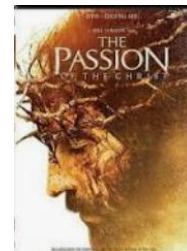
“The Passion of the Christ”:

Palm Sunday (3/29) at 4pm

Good Friday (4/3) at 12pm

Both showings will take place at **Immaculate Conception Church.**

Popcorn and seltzers will be provided!



“The ultimate goal of fasting is to help each one of us to make a complete gift of self to God.” -- Pope Benedict XVI

LENTEN IDEAS

Detachment: Letting Go to Make More Room for God.

+ Sacrifice things that distract you from Christ: 1) No social media before noon; 2) Fast from unnecessary phone us; 3) Delete one app that distracts you; 4) No YouTube or Netflix binges; and 5) Spend one hour in Eucharistic Adoration.

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/bishop-abuse-reporting>

CATHOLIC TRIVIA—JUST FOR FUN
Answer: “God is my help” (or “God has helped”).
 Seventy times seven times.