



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

March 29, 2026 Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion



Gospel at the Procession with Palms *Matthew 21:1-11*

Jesus enters Jerusalem as the crowd waves palm branches and shouts, "Hosanna!"

First Reading: *Isaiah 50:4-7*

The Lord's Servant will stand firm, even when persecuted.

Responsorial Psalm: *Psalm 22:8-9,17-20,23-24*

A cry for help to the Lord in the face of evildoers.

Second Reading: *Philippians 2:6-11*

Christ was obedient even to death, and God has exalted him.

Gospel Reading: *Matthew 26:14—27:66*

Jesus is crucified, and his body is placed in the tomb. (shorter form: Matthew 27:11-54)

St. Mark Sunday Mass Schedule

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

No April 5th 5:30 PM Mass on Easter.

Please join Sacred Heart for Holy Week Triduum Services.

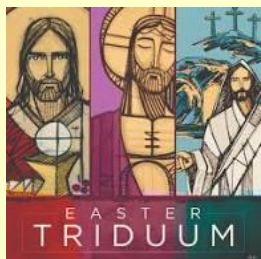
Campus Mass for Catholic Student Association (CSA):

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.



SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL

Holy Thursday (4/2) – 7:00 PM

Good Friday (4/3)

3:00 PM Stations

7:00 PM Services

Easter Vigil (4/5) 8:00 PM

Easter Sunday (4/6)

8:00 & 11:00 AM

1:00 PM Spanish Mass

The **Divine Mercy Novena** at Sacred Heart Cathedral *begins on Good Friday, April 3* following the Stations of the Cross. The chaplet will be prayed at 3pm in the Cathedral every day and *conclude on April 11, Divine Mercy Sunday*, at 3pm with a Holy Hour led by the Bishop. All are invited to join the Church around the world in this annual novena of grace.



Music of the Mass – March 29

21 Hosanna to the Son of David

59 Hosanna Shout Unto the King/Lift Up Your Heads

147 All Glory, Laud, and Honor

710 Who is Crucified

155 Sing, My Tongue the Savior's
Glory

709 Take Up Your Cross



Confessions will be heard March 31st and April 1st at Sacred Heart Cathedral from 5 – 7 PM. Last Chance before Triduum!



DUE TO HOLY WEEK, PLEASE CHECK IN ADVANCE TO CHECK TO SEE IF THE EVENT IS CANCELLED.

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: 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 12:30 PM 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: 8 AM-12 PM at SHC.

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

SHC Holy Hour: 7 PM on 1st Thursday every month.

FRIDAY

Voces Verbi: 6 -8 PM Friday at Immaculate Conception Church. (Young Adults ages 18-35).

To request Food Boxes - people may call in orders at (907) 374-0572 from 10:00–11:30 AM and pick up their food boxes from 12:15–1:00 PM.

SATURDAY

Oratory & Third Order: Held at SHC from 10am-12noon.

SHC Confessions/Adoration: 3-4 PM (None on April 4th).

Altar Server Training – TBA at Sacred Heart Cathedral.

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.



The First Reading for Palm Sunday is from Isaiah (50:4-7) and contains one of several powerful images of the Suffering Servant found in this book of the Bible. While the author was describing the nation of Israel when he wrote, the passages about the suffering servant took on new meaning after the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus. It is easy to see how Jesus embodied the traits of Isaiah's suffering servant, one of which was his peaceful approach to conflict. Jesus exemplified non-violence, even when he was attacked, spat upon, mocked, and scourged. He met violence by turning the other cheek. And he asks us to do the same. Your challenge this week is to examine your conscience for any signs of violence in your life—in your actions, but also in your words. Make a commitment to responding to violence against your person, be it bullying or being yelled at or being physically attacked, with a strong but peaceful response. <https://pastoral.center>

Connecting the Gospel ...

... **to First Reading:** The selection from the third Suffering Servant song in Isaiah poignantly underscores Jesus' conscious and active choice to remain faithful to his saving mission no matter what the cost: "I have not ... turned back" and "I gave my back to those who beat me."



... **to experience:** The more something costs us, the greater the demand on our resources and personal commitment. The cost of our salvation was Jesus' very life; he did not shy away from the demands or cost or personal commitment. And remains even now so committed to us.

www.liturgy.slu.edu

Love and Betrayal

The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times." (Luke 22:61)

Adult Question: When have you felt that you betrayed the confidence of another, as Peter did when he denied Jesus?

Child Question: When have you let someone down who trusted you? How did you feel? <https://pastoral.center>

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: How many times are Palms mentioned in the Bible?

Question: Who had a dream about Jesus during his trial and before his crucifixion?

(Answer on last page of bulletin.)



Catholic Answer

Question:

At Mass we proclaim, “Hosanna in the highest.” What does Hosanna mean?

Answer:

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!” (Matt. 21:9) was shouted by the crowds as Jesus entered Jerusalem. The word *hosanna* is associated with rejoicing. According to the *Catholic Encyclopedia*:

The general opinion is that of St. Jerome, that the word originated from two Hebrew words of Psalm cxvii (cxviii), 25. This psalm, “*Confitemini Domino quoniam bonus,*” was recited by one of the priests every day during the procession round the altar, during the Feast of Tabernacles, when the people were commanded to “rejoice before the Lord” (Lev. 23:40); and on the seventh day it was recited each time during the seven processions. When the priest reached verses 25–26, the trumpet sounded, all the people, including boys, waved their branches of palms, myrtles, willows, etc., and shouted with the priest the words: *O Domine, salvum (me) fac; o Domine, bene prosperare. Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini!* The Hebrew for *salvum fac* or *serva nunc* was *hoshi'a na*. This was repeated so frequently that it became abbreviated into “hosanna.”

www.catholic.com

FROM THE OFFICE OF FAITH AND FAMILY FORMATION:



Michael Olsta, trip leader for the Diocese of Fairbanks, will be running an online World Youth Day Info Session for those interested on Sunday, March 29th at 2pm. Here’s the zoom link:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/74855681274?pwd=DTMfWu2dGlfyfPcA8GkDeBwJeb8Zuv.1>

The website for signing up for World Youth Day is live, 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.



IF YOU NEED A PRIEST WHILE FR. ROSS TOZZI IS AWAY (3/27-4/6) CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE AT 907-374-9544.

(Practicing Catholic – Recognize God in your Ordinary Moment)
THE HUMANITY OF HOLY WEEK – PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION



We have all sold Jesus out, at one point or another. Some of us have done it more than once, and we’ve done it for a lot less than 30 pieces of silver.

We have all denied Christ, and we have done it more than three times and under much less pressure than Peter, who feared for his life when he shouted, “I do not know the man!”

We have all struck the face of God — out of anger? Fear? Confusion? All of the above? — screaming, in agony, “Prophesy for me!”

At one point or another, we have all looked at our Lord beaten and betrayed, and we have all said, as Pilate did: “What shall I do with Jesus called Christ?”

And we have all hung on the cross chosen for us, crying out in bewilderment: “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

Holy Week is a week where we see humanity, in all its vulnerability and ignorance. We see it in the “villains” of the piece, like Judas, and in the morally neutral characters like Pilate and the Jews who have been misled about Jesus. We even see it in the “good guys” like Peter.

In this, the holiest week of the year, we see ourselves at our very worst. The chasm between man and his Creator is an ancient one, and it is driven deep and wide — by the pridefulness of Adam and Eve, yes, but also by every poor choice you and I have ever made.

Every “I don’t know the man!”

Every “Prophesy!”

Every “What shall I do with Jesus?”

These cries echo forth from the depths of this chasm.

But this week — this Holy Week — a bridge is built across the chasm. And God reaches out His hand.

www.4lpi.com/blog

HOLY WEEK OFFICE CLOSURES

Due to the busy Holy Week – Sacred Heart Cathedral Offices will be closed April 2nd-6th, open on Tuesday. The Chancery will be closed Friday and Saturday.



STEWARDSHIP REPORT

March 22: \$ 1258.35

Total Collection (7/2025-6/2026): \$ 51,415.53

Parishioner Count: 83

Thank you for your support!

Operation Rice Bowl Donations can be returned on April 12th. There will be a basket on the entrance table to put them in, or place coins in a baggie with CRS or RICE BOWL on it and drop in the collection basket.

Stewardship Opportunities

“As they were marching out, they came upon a man of Cyrene, Simon by name; this man they pressed into service to carry his cross.” MATTHEW 27:32

The Lord calls us to love God and to love our neighbor. Every day we are presented with *Stewardship* opportunities to love our neighbor and help him “carry his cross.” These opportunities aren’t usually big events; they are usually ordinary occurrences like helping someone carry their groceries or holding the door open for them. The key is putting the other person’s needs before our own and not expecting anything in return.

www.camdendiocese.org

MARCH 2026 PRAYER INTENTIONS

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, Dcn. Warren Lucero, and all pastors, deacons, and religious in our diocese.

Please keep all our priests in your prayers as they travel throughout rural Alaska to ensure that those who go without the sacrament for weeks at a time may receive the ministering of priests with the sacrament during Holy Week. Pray for the return of fallen away Catholics; our sick, homebound, hospitalized, caretakers, young adults, and members of our parish family. Remember our dearly departed and the loved ones they leave behind.

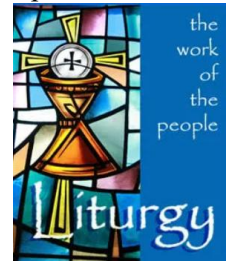
CATHOLIC TRIVIA—JUST FOR FUN

Answer: 5 times—*Nehemiah 8:13-15, 1 Maccabees 13:51, Psalm 92:12-14, John 12:12-13, & Revelation 7:9.*

Answer: *The wife of Pontius Pilate.*

CHURCH SUNDAY MINISTRY

We invite you to take a moment to sign up in advance to help Sunday Mass. The following is needed each Sunday: Altar Server (2 or more), Lector (1), Extraordinary Minister (2-3), Sunday Collection & Bringing up the Gifts (4), and Collection Counters (2) for Sunday Mass. Contact Mary Pat Boger at the Parish Office 907-374-9544 to make sure you have the required training and paperwork for helping.



Called to Share Bread for Life

Holy Week, the heart of the liturgical year, invites us to journey with Christ through his Passion, Death, and Jesus’ gift of the Eucharist, we are reminded of our call to be bread broken for others. Let us draw strength from the Bread of Life and dedicate ourselves to serving our sisters and brothers who bear heavy crosses, bringing hope and resurrection to the world.



Visit www.crsricebowl.org/holy-week to learn more.

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.



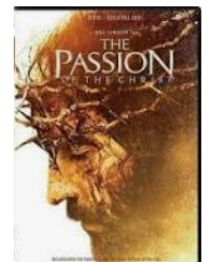
In order to help enter deeper into Holy Week, the Office of Faith and Family Formation will be having two showings of the acclaimed film—

“The Passion of 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 Cross is the way of Paradise, but only when it’s borne willingly.” ~ St. Paul of the Cross

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>