



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.

St. Mark Mass Schedule

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

Campus Mass for Catholic Student Association (CSA):

Held in Upper Lola Tilly Building on UAF campus

Fall & Spring Semester

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

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

Pastoral Council: Marilis Bennett, Cynthia Klepaski, Ritchie Musick, Sean & Jen Tucker, Mary Pat Boger

UPCOMING EVENTS

7/11: World Youth Day Fundraiser Bake Sale after weekend masses at Sacred Heart Cathedral.

7/12: 9:30 AM St. Raphael Mass 35th Anniversary Mass followed by celebration with food and games!

7/14: 25th Ordination Anniversary for Fr. Ross Tozzi!

7/14: 1:30 PM Immaculate Conception Picnic at Pioneer Park

Register for the following iccfairbanks.org/summer2026

7/14-17: Summer Oratory (ages 7-17)

7/20-23: Girls & Boys Camp (ages 10-17)

7/26-31: Popular Mission (All ages)

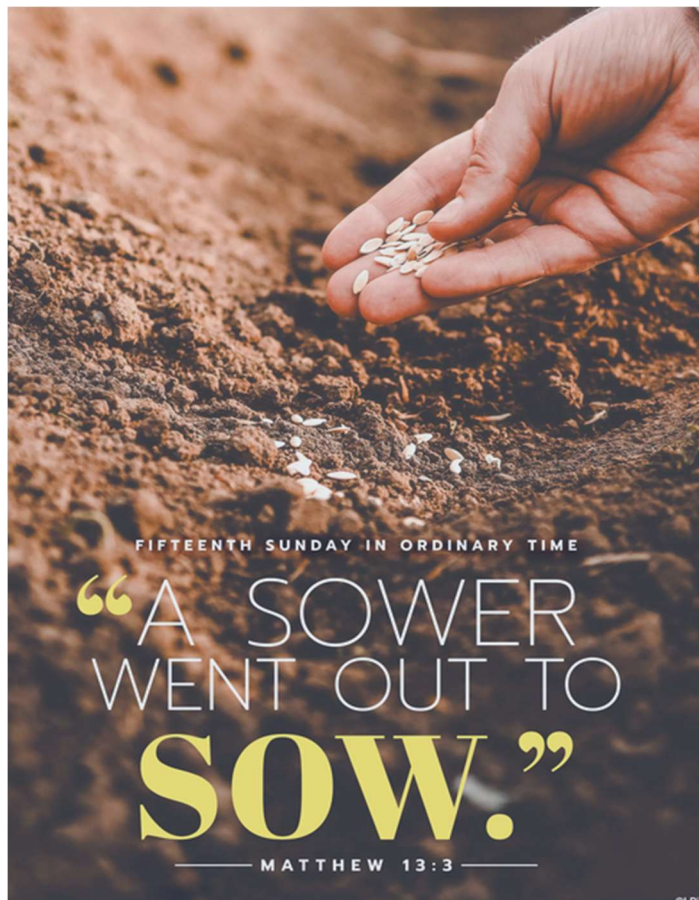
7/18: Young Adult Murphy Dome Hike.

Gather at Sacred Heart Cathedral at 10AM.



VIRTUES, EXPLAINED! –
Forgiveness

Mini Explanation – Forgiveness is love in action. It is mercy extended for no other reason than a desire to be like God, who forgives us out of sheer goodness. The Catechism says that forgiveness proves that “love is stronger than sin.”



First Reading: Isaiah 55:10-11

The Word of the Lord shall achieve its purpose.

Responsorial: Psalm 65:10-14

A prayer of praise to God for his abundance.

Second Reading: Romans 8:18-23

Together with all of creation, we await God's redemption.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 13:1-23

Jesus teaches that the kingdom of heaven is like seed that has been sown on good soil.

Music of the Mass July 12

344 Seed, Scattered And Sown

307 Come To The Feast

(Bilingual Refrain and English Verses)

373 Panis Angelicus (Latin Verses)

547 Earthen Vessels

558 For The Beauty Of The Earth

Mass Parts – Heritage Mass 869-876





SUNDAY

Summer Park-A-Palooza: 10 AM – 12:30 PM sponsored by St. Nicholas Catholic Church Catholic Moms Group. Contact April at 907-347-1357 for more information.

MONDAY

SHC Book Club: 1st Monday of the Month from Sept-June. Contact Jan Fortune for info at: 43janetf@gmail.com

TUESDAY

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

Young Adult Feast and Faith: 3rd Thursday of the month September – May.

FRIDAY

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 at Sacred Heart Cathedral.

SATURDAY

SHC Confessions/Adoration: 3-4 PM

Young Adult Summer Activities: July 18th – Murphy Dome Hike. Meet at the parking lot of Sacred Heart Cathedral at 10am. Email faith@cbna.org for more info!

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, & Marriage:

Contact the Parish Office at 907-374-9544 for information on instructions or Fr. Ross Tozzi at rtozzi@cbna.org or call (907) 347-3005. Contact Fr. Ross *six*

(6) months prior to wedding date or call the parish office at 907-374-9544 regarding Marriage prep.

On Becoming Catholic: Contact the Parish Office at 907-374-9544 or Fr. Ross Tozzi at (907) 347-3005.

This month is the new beginning for our church fiscal year. It is a time to take the opportunity to think about ministries or activities you would like to be involved in. **We are short of volunteers to help** with EOM – Extraordinary Minister of the Cup; Lecture – reading of the word; Altar Server; and Musicians or singers in the choir. Training will be provided. Thank you in advance for stepping forward to the call. Contact our office at stmark@cbna.org



Young Adult Summer Activity will be hiking at Murphy Dome on Saturday, July 18th! We will meet at Sacred Heart Cathedral at 10am and then drive up to the Murphy Dome parking lot to start the hike. Make sure to bring durable clothes and shoes, water, sunscreen, and bug spray! Don't miss the opportunity to join this group hike with others!

CATHOLIC TRIVA JUST FOR FUN:

Question: July 12th is the joint feast day of Blessed Louis and Zelig Martin. What saint was their youngest daughter?
(Answers on back page.)



July 14th is the feast day of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, the patron of the environment and ecology. She was from an Algonquin tribe that had been hit with a smallpox epidemic which took the lives of her family. As a teenager, she was introduced to Scripture by missionaries and she was baptized. She led a very prayerful life devoted to the Eucharist and to serving others. Some in her tribe ridiculed her and she endured great suffering for her faith. Yet she never wavered in her beliefs. Your challenge this week is to take a step out in faith like Kateri, talk with a friend or someone in your family about your faith. Share what is important to you about it and then encourage those you talk with to do the same. You may be laughed at or ridiculed, or even surprised by a warm reception. Whatever the response, thank God in prayer for the opportunities you have to bring the good news to others and continue to be a living witness of your faith.

<https://pastoral.center>

Seeds Of Faith

Jesus said, *"Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty."* (Matthew 13:7-8)

Adult Question: How do you provide "good soil" for the faith of others to grow?

Child Question: What are you doing to help the seeds of your faith grow each day?

<https://pastoral.center>

St. Raphael Church would like to invite everyone to join us on July 12th to celebrate our **35th anniversary as a parish family**. A special Anniversary Mass at 9:30am followed by a Pork BBQ Cookoff contest, flag raising, music, games and fun for kids and adults, and a bouncy house for kids.

S U M M E R 2 0 2 6

Summer ORATORY **Popular MISSION**

Girls & Boys

CAMP

 July 14-17 2026	 July 20-23 2026	 July 26-31 2026
📍 Sacred Heart Cathedral 🕒 9:00am-3:00pm 💰 \$40 (child #1-3) \$20 (child #4+) Age 7-17	📍 Camps near Fairbanks 🕒 Drop off: Monday Pick up: Thursday Overnight 💰 \$75 Age 10-17	📍 Immaculate Conception 🕒 Sunday-Friday 💰 FREE ALL ages (Adults and Children)

REGISTER NOW ➔ iccfairbanks.org/summer2026

Contact Immaculate Conception Director of Religious Education - M. Way of Salvation, SSVM at servidoras@cbna.org for more information.

(Practicing Catholic – Recognize God in your Ordinary Moment)

THE GARDENER AND THE SOIL



My children attend Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) for their faith formation. Because of its Montessori basis, CGS atriums, which are something like classrooms, contain lots of objects made from real materials — authentic glass, wood, and ceramic.

This is a polite way of saying there are lots of breakable things in there.

So, when my four-year-old entered the atrium on her first day of CGS, my whole body tensed, wondering what she would shatter first. I had to restrain myself from crying out, “Don’t touch anything!” She spotted the prayer table — the low, wooden stand which holds an open Bible, candles, a vase with flowers and a statue of the Good Shepherd. It’s the centerpiece of every atrium.

She knelt before the table. She made the sign of the cross. And she sat there, still and silent.

I stopped dead in my tracks. How had she known to come here? And where did she learn to make the sign of the cross? (Obviously we’ve tried to teach her, but she does it wrong every time!) And why was she sitting there so quietly, so expectantly, in front of a book she can’t read?

A thought came to me so clearly: *Well, Colleen, you can read that book. But can you understand it?*

It is so easy for us to forget that great faith does not require great intelligence. It does not require great knowledge of the world and its workings. Great faith does not require the believer to possess any answers.

Great faith only requires the believer to know his own smallness.

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman – July 8, 2026 ©Lpi



From Diocese of Fairbanks Vocations:

Please pray for Mr. Solomon Youngbird as he deepens his discernment and along with fellow class members as they answer the call to diocesan priesthood at Mount Angel Seminary. Continue to pray that the Lord of the harvest will send more workers into His vineyard. Please keep them in your prayers during this first stage – known as “propaedeutic stage.”

Program for Priestly Formation describes the stages of Seminary formation as propaedeutic discipleship, configuration, and vocational synthesis. The Propaedeutic stage of seminary formation at Mount Angel Seminary helps lay a foundation for a new way of life by developing prayer, study, fraternity, and appropriate docility to formation.

Fr. Ross Tozzi will celebration 25 years of priesthood on July 14th (Tuesday). He has chosen to return to Nome to celebrate this special occasion where he was ordained!



It was on July 14, 2011, in the new St. Joseph’s Church in Nome that retired Archbishop of Anchorage, Francis T. Hurley, ordained Fr. Ross for the Diocese of Fairbanks. The [Alaskan Shepherd Summer 2016](#) Edition (*Volume 54 Number 3*) has an article on why he chose this date.

1 – He shares it with the 30th anniversary of Radio KNOM going on the air (55 years in 2026).

2 – It is the Feast Day of St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Native American and patroness of ministries to Native Americans.

3 – In 1947, Fr. Bellarmine Lafortune, S.J., missionary for over 40 years to the people of Nome and to the Inuits of the surrounding area and of King Island, collapsed at the altar in the old St. Joseph’s Church while offering Mass.

4 – This ordination was the first time a man was ordained a Catholic priest in Nome.

Fr. Ross first came to Alaska in 1989 as a Jesuit Volunteer to support KNOM Radio Station, serving for three years and he continued to volunteer his time returning in the summer to help.

Let us all pray in Thanksgiving for Fr. Ross Tozzi’s many years of generous service to the people of God!

The original St. Joseph church was built in 1901 of early Gothic architecture in wood during the Gold Rush era lighting the way for travelers. It became too expensive to heat when the population shrank after the Gold Rush. A smaller church was built on Steadman Avenue and dedicated on Easter, 1946 when the original building became unsafe. The current church was built and dedicated in March 1994.



Diocesan Employment Opportunities!

Safe Environment/Victim Assistance

Coordinator: full-time with benefits or part-time (minimum 20 hours/week.)

Maintenance Technician – full-time with benefits

Data Processing Clerk: full-time with benefits.

Go to <https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/job-postings> for more details or email humanresources@cbna.org. If you know anyone who might be interested, please pass along this information.



After nearly 29 years of service, Dale Chapman is retiring from the Diocesan Maintenance Team. We wish him restful retirement after his many years of dedicated service!

SOUP KITCHEN NEEDS YOUR HELP

Consider helping the Immaculate Conception Church Soup Kitchen. They need volunteers for their weekend meal service – Saturday and Sunday. Prep begins at 12Noon and walk-up meal service goes from 1-3PM. Consider giving your time,



material, or monetary donations. For more information or to sign up, please contact Samantha Reynolds at: Samantha-reynolds@outlook.com Pray for the work they do in their ministry.



STEWARDSHIP REPORT

July 5: \$ 618.00

Parishioner Count: 114

Total Collection as of June 14: (7/2025-6/2026): \$ 618.00

Thank you for your generous support & prayers!



Pope Leo XIV's Monthly Prayer Intention for July 2026

For respect for human. Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.

Pray for all lives lost in the earthquakes in Venezuela.

Pray for wisdom and courage to leaders, rescuers, and families as they work on recovering from the devastation in Venezuela.

Pray for protection from destructive fires and weather.

Pray for all traveling that they may stay safe.

Pray for the sick – especially Debbie Leibe and Fr. Gerald Ornowski, MIC.

Pray for the Dead - Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord and let Your perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

VOCATIONS

"The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest." (Matthew 13:23)

God's Word bears fruit in hearts that are open and receptive. Pray that more hearts will be opened generously to however God may be calling them. Gently encourage young people to consider priesthood, consecrated life, or sacramental marriage as ways to respond with a joyful "yes" to God's plan.

"Be not afraid to tell Jesus that you love him."

~ St. Therese of Lisieux

Please pray and fast for these intentions for our families in July.

- ~ Our parish families and the growth of our church.
- ~ The sacred gift of life from God.
- ~ Healing of the sick in our community.
- ~ Peace and freedom – may we never take either for granted and work diligently towards both for all people.
- ~ The safety of all traveling and enjoying vacations.

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:

Saint Therese of Lisieux



Saint Kateri Tekakwitha -

"I will willingly abandon this miserable body to hunger and suffering, provided that my soul may have its ordinary nourishment."

St. Kateri Tekakwitha's feast day if July 14th in USA (April 17th in Canada).

The Saint Kateri Tekakwitha National Shrine & Historic Site is a Sacred Place of Peace and Healing, History and Holiness, celebrating Kateri's 350th Baptismal Anniversary (1676-2026)

Learn more about it at www.katerishrine.org/st-kateri



Neighboring Parish Mass Times

Sacred Heart Cathedral ~ Ph. (907) 474-9032

1300 Peger Rd (Corner of Peger Rd & Airport Way)

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 PM

Sunday 8:00 & 11:00 AM

Spanish Mass at 1:00 PM

(Moving to 1:30 beginning July 1st.)

***Weekday:** Mon-Fri: 7:30 AM

Saturday 9:00 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday from 3:00 to 4:00 PM



Immaculate Conception

Ph. (907) 452-3533

2 Doyon Place

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM

Latin Rite Mass 6 PM – TBA

Sunday: 7:30 & 9:30 AM, 12:00 PM

***Weekday:** Mon – 8:30 AM

Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri: 12:10 PM



Saint Raphael

Ph. (907) 457-6603

1125 Old Steese Highway (Intersection

Hagelbarger & McGrath Rds.

Saturday Vigil: 6:00 PM

Sunday: 9:30 AM

***Weekday:** Tue, Th: 9:30 AM,

Wed 5:30 PM/Fri: 6:00 PM



Saint Nicholas, North Pole

707 Nicholas Dr. (off the Richardson Hwy)

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 PM

Sunday: 9:00 & 12:00 PM

***Weekdays:** Mon, T, Th, Fri: 9:00 AM, Wed 7 PM



St. Mary's of the Lake Mass at Harding Lake - (located on the south side of the lake) Sunday, at 3:00 PM until September 6, 2026
Covered by Saint Nicholas, North Pole.



masstimes.org
MASS TIMES FOR TRAVEL

MassTimes Ministry is an app available to help find churches while traveling. Find a Catholic Church at your destination. www.masstimes.org/location

FYNDout Free Center is having a YARD SALE FUNDRAISER!

When: 9 am Saturday July 18th

Where: FYNDout Free, 4474 Pikes Landing Rd

You can drop off donations on Friday, July 17th between 10 AM- 5 PM. Located across the road from the Princess Hotel.

