



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: 907-374-9564

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

8/18: First Day of School for FNSB

8/19: First Day of School for Fairbanks Catholic Schools

8/20: Voces Teens 6-7:30PM at ICC for ages 13-17 at ICC.

8/21: Voces Verbi 6-8PM at ICC for ages 18-30 at ICC.

8/22: Legion of Mary Summer Outdoor Function
at 3pm at ICC Grotto

8/22: 800th Jubilee Year of St. Francis Nature Walk. Meet at
Creamer's Field Trailhead at 3 PM. All are welcome!

8/24: UAF First Day of Instruction

8/27: UAF Party in the Park 12-3pm. Explore what UAF has
to offer! Stop by the CSA Booth!

8/28: Oratory 1-3pm at ICC. (2nd & 4th Fridays)



VIRTUES, EXPLAINED! Twelve Fruits of the Holy Spirit

Mini Explanation – The 12 Fruits of the Holy Spirit are listed by St. Paul: Charity, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, Self-Control, Generosity, Modesty, and Chastity (see Galatians 5:22-23). The fruits of the Holy Spirit flow from the theological virtues and the gifts of the Holy Spirit. They help us put God's grace into action.

(See back page for definitions.) ascensionpress.com

AUGUST 16, 2026.

20th
Sunday

ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A



First Reading: Isaiah 56:1,6-7

The Lord reveals his salvation to all.

Responsorial: Psalm 67:2-3,5-6,8

All the nations will praise God.

Second Reading: Romans 11:13-15,29-32

God's favor to Israel is irrevocable.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 15:21-28

Jesus heals the daughter of the Canaanite woman because of her great faith.



Music of the Mass August 16

576 Glory and Praise to Our God

327 One Bread, One Body

457 We Are Many Parts

210 Hail, Holy Queen

568 All Creatures of Our God and King

Mass Parts – *Heritage Mass* 869-876



Prayer for School: "May God Bless, guide, and protect those in our community returning to school this season. May He grant students peaceful spaces to study, learn, and grow. May He teachers joy, patience, and inspiration. May He grant all who support education grace, peace, and blessing. In your name we pray. Amen"

Pray for our Priest: "God, help them to navigate whatever challenges they encounter. Be their comfort and my rock. Guide them to do Your will and be an instrument of your peace today and each day. Amen."



CATHOLIC TRIVA JUST FOR FUN:

Question: Who was the first person to use the exact phrase "Catholic Church" around 110 AD?
(Answers on back page.)



SUNDAY

Religious Education: 9:15-10:15AM Begins Sept. 20th.
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.

THURSDAY

Voces Teens: Starts 8/20 – 6-7:30pm. Youth ages 13-17.

Adoration of Our Lord, Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament: 8AM – 12Noon at Sacred Heart Cathedral. Drop in and spend time keeping Jesus company.

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.

Voces Verbi: Starts 8/21 – 6-8pm Young Adults ages 18-30.

Oratory: Starts 8/28. 2nd and 4th -1-3pm at ICC. Ages 6-17.

SATURDAY

SHC Confessions/Adoration: 3-4 PM

Young Adult Activity: TBA

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.

Are You Feeling Called to Serve Our Parish?

Your parish needs you to assist the ministries on our Sunday evening at 5:30pm Mass. When we gather to celebrate Mass, we gather in a variety of ministries and roles. Baptism is our rebirth into the life of grace and into the life of the Church. First Communion qualifies members to serve at the altar during Mass by assisting the priest. There is a possibility that there will be training in the next week or two. If inter-



ALTAR SERVER



LECTORS



EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER

ested contact the SHC office (Cheryl) and give her your name and contact number.

After Confirmation you can assist as Lectors or Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.

Join the Choir and help enhance the Mass experience by supporting the congregation in singing – “praying twice.”

Should you wish to give more time and become active in the service – please Email your name to stmark@cbna.org or talk to Mary Pat Boger after Mass.



MUSIC MINISTRY



Sunday's Gospel is a tough one. Jesus seems to be calling the Canaanite woman a dog. But she persists, challenging Jesus to see her human need. Jesus is persuaded to cure her daughter because of the woman's enduring faith. This Gospel event illustrates that Jesus' mission was not just to the Chosen People, but to the whole world. Your challenge this week is to follow in Jesus' footsteps. Reach out to someone of a different faith, defend a Muslim who is persecuted for his/her religion, learn something about Judaism, or invite someone who struggles with faith to join you for Sunday worship. How can you model our Catholic belief that Jesus is a universal Savior—for everyone, everywhere, all the time?

<https://pastoral.center>

All Are Welcome

For my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. (Isaiah 56:7)

Adult Question: The woman in this story was persistent in prayer. For what do you pray insistently?

Child Question: For what do you ask God to give you most often?

<https://pastoral.center>

Religious Education at Sacred Heart Cathedral

Classes for ages 7-17 – Communion through Confirmation

Registration is now open for this year's religious education program. Classes will be on Sundays from 9:15 AM – 10:15 AM at Sacred Heart Cathedral. *The first day of classes will be September 20th.* They are looking for catechists to help teach. If you are interested, please contact the sisters or email servidoras@cbna.org for more information! Register now – sacredheartak.org/registration or scan the QR code.



SOUP KITCHEN DONATIONS NEEDED

Consider helping the Immaculate Conception Church Soup Kitchen by donating or volunteering. Contact Samantha Reynolds at: Samantha-reynolds@outlook.com. Pray for the work they do in their ministry.



Food items needed: bottles of water, coffee, sugar, grocery bags, fruit, protein bars, mayonnaise, peanut butter, jelly, and apple cider packets.

Other items needed: Men and women's warm socks, long Johns and Janes, knitted Hats, scarves, mittens, knit liner gloves, backpacks, travel sized soap, shampoo, conditioner, and tissues.

THE ASSUMPTION (AUGUST 15th)

The Assumption refers to the Blessed Virgin Mary being assumed – body and soul – into heaven at the end of her earthly life. “Assumption” is different than “ascension” because one is passive (i.e., one is assumed) and the other is active (i.e., one ascends). It is by the power of God Mary was assumed.



The Legion of Mary

Requests the Honor of Your Presence

at their **Summer Outdoor Function**

Sunday, August 22, 2026 3:00 pm

The Grotto at Immaculate Conception Church
 2 Doyon Place, Fairbanks, Alaska

Cookies & Punch to Follow

Come as You are!



FULTON SHEEN CATHOLIC BOOKSTORE is at Immaculate Conception Church. Contact the ICC Parish Office for details at iccreceptionist@cbna.org or 907-452-3533.

(Practicing Catholic – Recognize God in your Ordinary Moment)
CHESS, NOT CHECKERS



There's a saying that good leaders have to play chess, not checkers.

It will surprise no one who knows me well that I am terrible at chess. It's not so much a lack of skill (although that's part of it) as a lack of effort. I find chess exhausting. To succeed at this complex game of strategy, you have to see not just the board in front of you, but the person in front of you — and more than that, you have to consider not just what is, but what could be.

I prefer checkers.

When I read a Gospel passage like today's, I think of what Jesus would be like as a chess player. It's so easy to see this account of the Canaanite woman and her tenacity and take it at face value, as a reminder to pray without ceasing, to never stop asking God for what we need. And certainly, it is that.

But it's not only that.

We see a woman begging God for help, and we see God refuse — at first. We see her persist, and we see him capitulate. At least, that's what it looks like to us.

What does it look like to Jesus?

Jesus sees this woman's face and hears her words, just as his disciples do — but he also sees her heart. He sees her whole life. He sees every moment that leads up to this one. He sees her belief, but he also sees her unbelief. He sees her wounds. He sees her daughter.

He sees the game board not just for what it is, but for what it could be.

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman – August 13, 2026 ©LPi

Diocese of Fairbanks Employment Opportunities

+ Director of Faith and Family Formation - full-time with benefits.

If you know anyone that may be interested, have them go to <https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/job-postings> for more details or email humanresources@cbna.org.



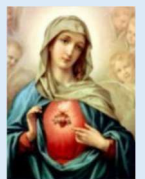
+Safe Environment/Victim Assistance Coordinator has been filled. Melissa Welsh will begin August 18th. She can be reached at mwelsh@cbna.org or 907-374-9500 ext.111.

Michael Olsta will enter the Canonical Novitiate on 18 August 2026. *If you would like to send encouragement, snail mail can be sent to St. Dominic Priory 2390 Bush Street, San Francisco, CA 94115.*



Letters to **Fr. Gerald Ornowski** can be sent to PO Box 951, Stockbridge, MA 01262. If you are sending a package, send it to 2 Prospector Hill Rd, Stockbridge, MA 01262,

Novena to the Immaculate Heart of Mary – O Most Blessed Mother, heart of love, heart of mercy, every listening, caring, consoling, hear our prayer. As your children, we implore your intercession with Jesus your Son. Receive with understanding and compassion the petitions we place before you today, especially... (special intention).



CAMPUS MINISTRY: The word “*ministry*” can be traced back to the Latin word for service. Our priests and parishioners try to find ways in which they can be “*at the service*” of Jesus Christ and of the UAF campus students. We recognize the busy schedules of students and try to find ways to meet their needs. A priest offers Mass and attends student meetings during the week to encourage community and spiritual growth as students pursue their academic goals. St. Mark's Sunday Mass is off campus at 5:30pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral. If a ride is needed, you should contact stmark@cbna.org 24 hours in advance so we can arrange a ride.

Nature Walk and Reflection

The Secular Franciscans of Fairbanks are offering a special event to honor the 800th anniversary of St Francis of Assisi. We will gather for a nature walk at Creamer's Field Trail from 3 to 4 PM on Saturday, August 22nd. We will meet by the White Barn. We will read and reflect on prayers written by Saint Francis as we walk the Wetlands Trail. Afterwards all are invited to attend the 4:30 PM Mass at Sacred Heart Cathedral followed by food and fellowship in the Social Hall downstairs. For further information please contact Gloria Slagle at stclare4@gmail.com.

SAINTS FOR BACK TO SCHOOL



Saint Scholastica: the name says it all. The sister (possibly twin) of the great St. Benedict and the foundress of Benedictine nuns, she is considered a patron saint of education, reading, and tests.

READINGS OF THE DAY

For readings of the day please go to: www.usccb.org



2026-2027

NOW ENROLLING

PRE-K THROUGH 12TH GRADE

There's a place for your child at Catholic Schools of Fairbanks!
We're here for you - and your child's future.

- SMALL CLASS SIZES
- FAITH - FILLED ENVIRONMENT
- FINANCIAL AID OPPORTUNITIES
- ART, MUSIC, AND PE
- ATHLETIC OPPORTUNITIES
- AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Visit our website and schedule a tour today!
catholic-schools.org
(907) 313-3062





STEWARDSHIP REPORT

August: \$ 564.65

Parishioner Count: 103

Total Yearly Collection (7/2025-6/2026): \$ 16,468.90

Thank you for your generous support & prayers!



Pope Leo XIV's Monthly Prayer Intention for August 2026

For evangelization in the city

Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

Pray for the Church – Pope Leo XIV, Bishop Steven Maekawa, OP, Rev. Ross Tozzi, and all pastors, deacons, and religious in our diocese.

† ...for all who are suffering from devastating wildfires.

† ...for the unborn child.

† ...our teachers, students, and support staff as the new school year begins.

† ...those living with physical illness, mental anxiety, and fear – may they never feel abandoned.

† ...for Dcn. Paul Perreault as he recovers; and Josie Wooding, and others needing our prayers.

† ...safety of all travelers.

† ...the souls of all the faithful departed that they may rest in peace.

Understanding the 12 fruits of the Holy Spirit and what they mean:

1. **Charity** (or Love) encompasses our love for God and of our neighbor. It is an unconditional kind of love that expects nothing in return.
2. **Joy** is a lasting kind of happiness that can only be realized when we put God at the center of our lives, not circumstances.
3. **Peace** is the calm confidence that God is with you and for you.
4. **Patience** is the strength to endure delay, misunderstanding, and imperfection without resentment.
5. **Kindness** is compassion and thoughtful action towards others above and beyond what we owe to them.
6. **Goodness** is integrity and desire to do what is right.
7. **Generosity** is the readiness to give oneself love and service.
8. **Gentleness** is not weakness. It is strength governed by love, a firm kindness that mirrors the heart of Jesus.
9. **Faithfulness** is reliability rooted in God's fidelity—keeping promises, showing up, praying steadily, persevering in vocation.
10. **Modesty** is believing that any of our successes, blessings and talents are gifts from God. Being content with what we have and not harbor any selfish ambitions.
11. **Continence or self-control** is the restraint over desires and impulses in favor of virtue.
12. **Chastity** is purity in mind and body. It protects freedom to love, honors the body, and seeks the good of others.

VOCATIONS

"Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid." (Matthew 14:27)

In the midst of uncertainty and challenge, Jesus calls us to trust in His presence. Vocations invite us to step out in faith, whether to priesthood, consecrated life, or sacramental marriage, placing our lives in His hands and allowing Him to guide us. How is He calling you? Talk to the Vocation Office at (907) 374-9504 or via email: vocations@cbna.org or check out www.facebook.com/FairbanksVocations.

"How happy is that guardian angel who accompanies a soul to Holy Mass!" ~ St. John Marie Vianney

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, 9:00 & 11:30 AM

***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 ~ Ph. (907) 488-2595

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 Ministry is an app available to help find churches while traveling. Find a Catholic Church at your destination.

www.masstimes.org/location

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>

"The best advice is to do as well as we can and then not expect the reward from the world but from God alone."

~ St. John Bosco

CATHOLIC TRIVIA —JUST FOR FUN

Answer: St. Ignatius of Antioch in his Letter to the Smyrnaeans.