



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

9/7: Chancery and Church Offices closed for Labor Day

9/14: Feast of Exaltation of the Cross

9/19: 6 PM Catholicism in America talk at SHC

9/20: 9:15-10:15 AM Religious Education at SHC

9/24: Catechetical Sunday

10/1: Feast of St. Therese, patroness of our diocese"

10/10: Annual Catholic Schools HIPOW Fundraiser

10/16-18: Catholic Engaged Encounter Retreat

11/21: Family Day 2026 held at Monroe Catholic Schools.

Religious Education

Classes for ages 7-17 – Communion through Confirmation

Religious Education will be held on Sunday from 9:15-10:15 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 Sr. Humilde at servidoras@cbna.org if you have questions. for more information! Register now – sacredheartak.org/re-registration or scan the QR code.



HAVE A BLESSED LABOR DAY!

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord..." – Colossians 3:23

In the Catholic tradition, work is more than a way to make a living; it is a form of continued participation in God's creative action.



Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time September 6, 2026.

For where two or three are
gathered together in my
name, there am I in the midst
of them.
Matthew 18:20

First Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-9

The Son of Man is appointed as guardian of Israel.

Responsorial: Psalm 95:1-2,6-9

Song of praise to God, our salvation.

Second Reading: Romans 13:8-10

The Law is summarized in the commandment to love your neighbor as yourself.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus teaches his disciples how to settle disputes in the Church.

Music of the Mass September 6

320 Gather Us In

524 I Heard the Voice of Jesus

490 Psalm 42 (As the Deer Longs)

701 O Sanctissima

382 City of God

Mass Parts – Heritage Mass 869-876



CATHOLIC TRIVA JUST FOR FUN:

Question: How many books are in the Catholic Bible? (Answers on back page.)

September is dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrows



SUNDAY

Religious Education: 9:15-10:15AM Begins Sept. 14th.

Young Adult Game Night: TBD

MONDAY

SHC Book Club: Meets **September 7th due to Labor Day.**

Discussion will be on Joan of Arc. Contact Jan Fortune for info at: 43janetf@gmail.com

TUESDAY

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

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

Catholic Student Association (CSA): Mass – Adoration-6:45pm; 7:15pm Mass held at UAF Upper Lola Tilly Commons.

Order of Christian Initiation (OCIA): Classes begin 9/22, at 7pm in basement of Sacred Heart Cathedral – Classroom 8.

THURSDAY

Voces Teens: 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.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: 1st Thursday of the month from 7-8 PM.

Fairbanks Catholic Engaged Encounter Team: Monthly meeting on 1st Thursday of the month; 6-8pm in SHC Community Room. Open to all couples. Marriage enrichment starts at 6:30pm.

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: 6-8pm Young Adults ages 18-30.

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

SATURDAY

Altar Server Training: TBA.

SHC Confessions/Adoration: 3-4 PM

Young Adult Activity: TBA

SPECIAL EVENTS COMING UP

Catholic Engaged Encounter Retreat: 10/16-18 at St. Nick's.

Silent Ignatian Retreats: Oct. 1-4 for Men; Nov. 5-8 for Women.

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, & Marriage: Contact the Parish Office at 907-374-9544 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.*

WHAT ARE EMBER DAYS?

Three days set apart for fasting, abstinence, and prayer during each of the four seasons of the year. They were the Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday after St. Lucy (or Lucia, d. 304) (December 13), the First Sunday of Lent, Pentecost, and the feast of the Holy Cross (September 14). Since the revision of the Roman calendar in 1969, Ember Days are to be observed at the discretion of the National Conference of Bishops. Moreover, their observance may be extended beyond three days and even repeated during the year. Possibly occasioned by the agricultural feasts of ancient Rome, they came to be observed by Christians for the sanctification of the different seasons of the year, and for obtaining God's blessing on the clergy to be ordained during the Embertides. (Etym. Anglo-Saxon *oemerge*, ashes.) — *Modern Catholic Dictionary* by John A. Hardon, SJ, Doubleday, 1980.

UAF CATHOLIC STUDENT ASSOCIATION (CSA)

**A community of faith and caring;
interested in growing and practicing our Catholic faith.**

Our mission is to support students on campus who are Catholic and those wanting to learn more about the Catholic Faith. Mass will be offered on campus at Lola Tilly once a week to encourage community and spiritual growth while pursuing academic goals.

Join individuals like yourself at Lola Tilly every Tuesday who embrace their faith in Adoration and Mass. Enjoy activities afterwards and learn about events available for you adults available offered in our Diocese.

SCHEDULED EVENTS ON CAMPUS

Tuesday 6:45 pm Adoration/7:15pm Mass

9/8 (Tue): Learn about faith formation

Week of Sept 12-13th CSA plans on seeing ***The Passion of Christ*** at the theater!

9/15: Activity will be Dancing!

9/22: Danika Talk on Gregorian Chants!

9/29: Group Dinner

10/6: Faith Formation Talk – Speaker TBD

Voces Verbi: 6:00 – 8:00 pm on Fridays

For University students and Young Adults
at Immaculate Conception Church.

Adoration – Formation Talk – Pizza Dinner – Games

Check out Hallow's new series for college students: "The Good Life"

St. Mark University Sunday Mass is held at Sacred Heart Cathedral – 1300 Peger Rd (Peger and Airport Rd intersection). If you need a ride, talk to fellow CSA members or contact stmark@cbna.org 24 hours in advance so we can arrange a ride. Consider participating in our Mass Ministry as an Altar Server, Lector/Reader, Extraordinary Minister, or Choir member! Training will be provided.

SAINTS FOR BACK TO SCHOOL - Saint Carlo Acutis

(1991-2006): He is not traditionally associated with education, but he died while a teenaged student. We see many pictures of him with his friends and in recreational activities, living the life of a normal kid. I always think of that common image of him on a hilltop wearing a backpack.

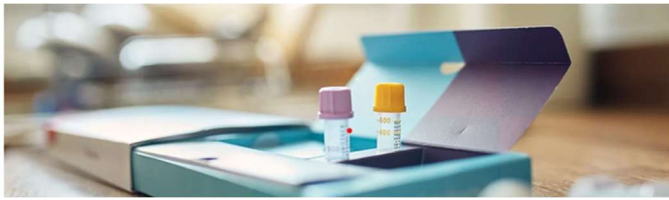


September 9th is the feast day of St. Peter Claver

He exemplified the preferential option for the poor and vulnerable by reaching out to the black slaves in Cartagena, one of the major entry points for slave ships on their way to the Americas. Peter Claver once said of the frightened Africans who had been kidnapped for slavery, "We must speak to them with our hands, before we try to speak to them with our lips." He worked tirelessly on their behalf, baptizing and healing, sleeping in the slave quarters with them, always treating them with dignity. Your challenge this week is to reach out with *your* hands to a group in need in your community. Identify one action you can do as a family or household to help this group. Think of serving a meal at a shelter or going door-to-door in your neighborhood to collect items which are needed by a local helping agency. Perhaps your challenge will be to give a hug and have a conversation with someone in desperate need. Reach out with your hands while honoring the dignity and giftedness of whomever you encounter .

<https://pastoral.center>

(Practicing Catholic – Recognize God in your Ordinary Moment)
TREAT HIM LIKE A GENTILE



In today's Gospel, Jesus gives instructions for ministering to those persisting in error. Here's the CliffsNotes version: If all else fails, "treat him as you would a Gentile or a tax collector."

In other words? Don't give up. Tell him the truth. Wash, rinse and repeat.

Technically speaking, I'm a Gentile. I've done those mail-in DNA tests, and none of my ancestors were Jewish. So, whoever told my family about the God of Abraham, it wasn't Moses, and it probably wasn't Jesus himself, unless he spent some time in northwestern Europe that the Gospels fail to mention.

Nope, my ancestors were big old Gentiles living in a big old Gentile world. Lucky for me, someone evangelized them. At first, my ancestors probably didn't listen. But the evangelist, whoever he or she was, didn't give up.

I say "lucky for me" because this all means that I was born and raised Catholic. It makes it easier, I think — but it doesn't make it easy. I'm not an automaton, and I still have to accept the truth of the faith I choose to live. So do you. So do we all.

Inevitably, we falter. What then?

Who are the tax collectors? Zaccheus was one. Matthew was another. Maybe you recognize his name — he's the guy who wrote this Gospel. And who are the Gentiles? Me. You, maybe. Everyone the disciples decided not to give up on. Everyone the Church is called not to forget about, not to dismiss, and not to take for granted.

So, treat them all like Gentiles, and remember that God sees the future, not just the past.

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman – September 3, 2026, ©LPi.

HELPING OTHERS GROW

Jesus said, "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone." (Matthew 18:15)

Adult Question: How have you been able to follow Christ more closely because others patiently loved you?

Child Question: How can you help another person do the right thing? <https://pastoral.center>

The Diocese of Fairbanks would like to invite you to:

Catholicism in America: Minority to Mainstream -

Saturday, September 19th at 6:00pm (Following 4:30pm Mass) at Sacred Heart Cathedral.

As the United States continues to celebrate its 250th birthday, learn how Catholicism has helped to shape the American landscape. Join Dr. Cheryl H. White as she offers a fascinating look at how our Catholic faith has been incorporated into the fabric of the nation's history—from discriminated religious minority to mainstream society. A light meal will be provided for those attending.

The Seven Sisters Apostolate: Three members

of the Apostolate pray a holy hour for a specific clergy member. Each Seven Sisters member chooses a day of the week to offer her Holy Hour and then continues on that day for the whole year. This year, our Holy Hours are offered for the intentions, support, and health of Father Gerardus Hauwert, IVE. Consider joining this ministry Each June a new clergy is chosen to pray for the year. For more information, Contact Jan Fortune at: 43janetf@gmail.com.



Spiritual Exercises
SILENT IGNATIAN RETREAT



Upcoming dates

FALL DATES

Oct 1-4 for MEN
 Nov 5-8 for WOMEN

SPRING DATES

Feb 25-28 for MEN
 Mar 4-7 for WOMEN

The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola help to grow more deeply in the spiritual life by showing how to overcome oneself and to conform to the will of God.

iccfairbanks.org/se

COST: \$250

REGISTER NOW

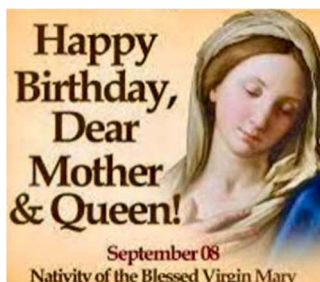
Questions/Contact

Jesse Vorves (for Men's retreat) 907-482-0098
 Sydney Larson (for Women's retreat) 651-414-1822



**Mission Alaska:
 To the Ends of the Earth**

Coming in December is a new Dominican documentary giving a glimpse into the Catholic Church in the Last Frontier. You can check out a trailer on the Dominican Friars website: opwest.org.



Run for the Roses
HIPOW
 57TH ANNUAL AUCTION & DINNER
RAFFLES
 BOILEAU HALL, FAIRBANKS, ALASKA
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2026

LOTTO ALASKA
 STATEWIDE LOTTERY
 50/50

Utility Services of Alaska
 200,000 MILES

TICKETS ON SALE NOW
 RAFFLE TICKETS & SEATING ON SALE NOW: HIPOWAUCTION.COM OR 907-313-3291

PURCHASE TICKETS

National Day of Service and Remembrance.

Take a moment to remember the victims, survivors, and responders of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. We pray for all who lost lives that day at the

World Trade Center, Pentagon and Hijacked planes; for those who heroically responded; for those who suffered long-term health conditions due to rescue efforts; and for loved ones left behind.

Christ is the Light no darkness can overcome.



STEWARDSHIP REPORT



August 30: \$ 856.00

Parishioner Count: 108

Total Yearly Collection (7/2025-6/2026): \$ 19,021.00

Thank you for your generous support & prayers!



Pope Leo XIV's Monthly Prayer Intention for September 2026

For the care of water

Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

PRAY FOR

- † ...the Church – Pope Leo XIV, Bishop Steven Maekawa, OP, Rev. Ross Tozzi, and all pastors, deacons, and religious in our diocese.
- † ...the recovery of villages in Alaska devastated by fires and storms.
- † ...the sanctity of life of all and the unborn children.
- † ...all who died in the 9/11 attacks and those who died while laboring to end terrorism.
- † ...all who labor tirelessly in various jobs, may they find a new sense of dignity in their lives and in their work.
- † ...those who are sick, homebound, or lonely.
- † ...for the souls of the faithfully departed.

VOCATIONS

"If he listens to you, you have won over your brother."
(Matthew 18:15)

Jesus calls us to reconciliation, guiding us to bring peace and healing into the lives of others. Every vocation is an invitation to embody His love and forgiveness. How might God be calling you to share His peace in your life? If you feel God is stirring a holy desire for the priesthood or consecrated life, 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.

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."



Feast Days for the week of September 6th:

Sept. 9: St. Peter Claver (c.1581-1654).

"We must speak to them with our hands by giving, before we try to speak to them with our lips."

Sept. 11: Blessed Joan Roig I Diggle (1917-1936).

"God is with me."

Sept. 13: St. John Chrysostom (c.347-407)

"Everywhere, wherever you may find yourself, you can set up an altar to God in your mind by means of prayer."

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>

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

***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 mass at your destination. www.mass-times.org/location



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.

If you would like to send encouragement to **Michael Olsta** - 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,

CATHOLIC TRIVIA —JUST FOR FUN

Answer: 73 Books. The Catholic Bible contains a total of 73 books, including the Old Testament and New Testament. This number is higher than the Protestant Bible, which has 66 books, as the Catholic Bible includes additional books known as the deuterocanonical books. These books are considered canonical by the Catholic Church but not included in the Protestant Bible.