



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):

Mon, Wed, Thu, Fri – 8:30 AM;

Tue at 6:45 PM Adoration – 7:15 PM Mass.

Discussion or activity following mass.

Held in Upper Lola Tilly Building on UAF campus

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, Sean & Jen Tucker, Mary Pat Boger

UPCOMING EVENTS

10/10: 10:00 AM Altar Server Training at SHC

10/10: Annual Catholic Schools HIPOW Fundraiser

10/10: 6:00 PM Traditional Latin Mass at ICC

10/13: 7:00 PM Chiara Petrillo Women's Group at ICC

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

10/18: World Mission Sunday 100th Anniversary

MOVIE PREMIERE:

Mission Alaska: To the Ends of the Earth

Tickets are now on sale! An Exclusive Premiere with Bishop Steve and the filmmakers at the 8-Star Events Center will be held on Thursday, November 5th at 7:00 PM, with a social hour beginning at 5:30 PM. The evening will include refreshments, time to meet the cast and the crew, and take photos. Get tickets and sneak preview at <http://MissionAlaskaFilm.com> or [Diocese of Fairbanks Facebook](#) ! Seating is limited, so get your ticket now and bring a friend!

OCTOBER 11, 2026

DEACON SUNDAY

28TH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
YEAR A



First Reading: Isaiah 25:6-10a

The Lord will provide richly for his people.

Responsorial: Psalm 23:1-6

The Lord is our shepherd.

Second Reading: Philippians 4:12-14,19-20

Paul tells the Philippians that God provides whatever he needs.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 22:1-14

Jesus compares the kingdom of heaven to a wedding feast.

Music of the Mass for October 11th



312 Table of Plenty

510 The King of Love My Shepherd Is

520 Shepherd Me, O God

701 O Santissima

467 I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light

Mass Parts – Heritage Mass 869-876

CATHOLIC TRIVIA JUST FOR FUN:

Question: What is the name of the Catholic religious order that was founded to combat heresy and preach the Gospel? (Answers on back page.)



SUNDAY

Religious Education: 9:15-10:15AM. Contact Sr. Humilde at servidoras@cbna.org.

Young Adult Game Night: TBD

MONDAY

SHC Book Club: Meets 1st Monday of the month at 12:30-2PM in SHC Community Room. 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): Adoration-6:45 PM; 7:15 PM. Mass held at UAF Upper Lola Tilly Commons.

Order of Christian Initiation (OCIA): 7 PM in basement of Sacred Heart Cathedral – Classroom 8.

Saint Joseph Men's Group: 7 PM on 4th Tuesday of the month at ICC. Bring a refreshment to share!

Chiara Petrillo Women's Group: 7 PM on 2nd Tuesday of the month at ICC. Bring a refreshment to share!

THURSDAY

Voces Teens: 6-7:30 PM. Youth ages 13-17.

Adoration of Our Lord, Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament: 8 AM – 12 Noon 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; 6-8 PM in SHC Community Room. Open to all couples. Marriage enrichment starts at 6:30 PM.

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

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

Family Formation Night & Third Order: 6:00 PM 3rd Friday of the month at Monroe Catholic School. (10/16, 12/18)

SATURDAY

Altar Server Training: October 10th at SHC – 10AM-12Noon.

SHC Confessions/Adoration: 3-4 PM

Young Adult Activity: TBA

SPECIAL EVENTS COMING UP

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

Silent Ignatian Retreats: 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 on 907-374-9544 regarding Marriage preparation.*



To schedule a mass intention, contact Fr. Ross Tozzi in person, by email: rtozzi@cbna.org, or reach him at Ph: 907-347-3005. A suggested donation is \$10 or what you can afford. You are not buying a Mass – the offering supports the Church and priest.

READINGS OF THE DAY

<https://bible.usccb.org/daily-bible-reading>

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 who embrace their faith at Lola Tilly Commons every Tuesday for Adoration and Mass. Enjoy activities afterwards and learn about events available for young adults offered in neighboring parishes in our Diocese.

CATHOLIC MASS SCHEDULE ON UAF

Held at Upper Lola Tilly Building

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

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday at 8:30 AM

10/13: Scholarship Night

**Students need a phone or computer device to participate.*

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

at Immaculate Conception Church.

Adoration – Formation Talk – Pizza Dinner – Games

"Start by doing what is necessary, then do what is possible; suddenly you are doing the impossible." ~ St. Francis of Assisi

Consider participating in our Mass Ministry as an Altar Serve (upcoming training 10am at SHC on Saturday, Oct. 10th), Lector/Reader, Extraordinary Minister, or Choir member! Training will be provided.



The Sunday Gospel describes the wedding banquet to which the groom's father invited his family and friends. But the invited guests chose not to come. In frustration, the father welcomed people beyond his immediate circle, even reaching out to people on the fringes of society. And they came! Jesus' message is clear: through him, God has given us a new understanding of who the Chosen People are. They are not only people born into the Jewish community. The chosen people include anyone who says yes to God's call. Your challenge this week is to look at someone who is not Catholic. It might be a neighbor, someone you pass on the street or in the grocery store, a co-worker, or perhaps a person whom you consider different or wrong. Can you view the person through God's eyes, seeing them as part of God's chosen people? Can you name one way in which the person has said yes to God? In the coming week, commit yourself to a change of attitude or heart about this person.

<https://pastoral.center>

FYNDout Pregnancy 2026 Fall Banquet "Legacy" Fundraiser is Friday, October 16th from 6-8:00 PM at 8 Star Event Center, 1485 30th Ave, Fairbanks. To register go to <https://fyndoutfree.com/2026-fall-banquet-fundraiser>.

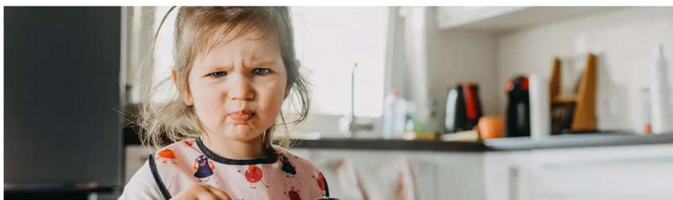
"What must I do to inherit eternal life?"

Pray for those men who serve us as deacons, as well as their spouses and family members. We are blessed to have them ministering and be a source of inspiration. By answering a call to the diaconate, a man seeks to follow Jesus' path by serving and enriching the lives of others. If you are called to serve as a deacon, speak with your pastor or contact the Office of the Diaconate at 907-374-9504 or email: vocationscbna.org.



(Practicing Catholic – Recognize God in your Ordinary Moment)

THE KING OF REJECTED MEALS



In this Sunday's Gospel reading, Jesus shares the Parable of the Wedding Feast, which tells of God's abundant generosity in opening salvation to all those who will accept it.

"She was the Queen of Rejected Meals."

That's what I want it to say on my tombstone. Etched in marble, deeply, so the wind and rain of a thousand years can never erase it.

Humor, you see, masks my despair. I'm sure many of you know the feeling of sweating over a hot stove for an hour to create a dish that a small, picky eater will push away, lips curled with disgust.

We've all made a feast no one wanted to come to.

It strikes me that "King of Rejected Meals" is an epithet which could likewise be scrawled on the empty tomb. Don't mistake me — I'm not comparing myself to Christ! (And I'm definitely not comparing my sub-par beef-and-zucchini casserole to the Eucharist, the food of life.)

I'm just saying that a lot of evenings, when I'm clearing plates from the table, I wonder why I even bother. I wonder why I don't just give in and let the kids eat potato chips and KitKats for every meal like they want.

Why don't I? Well, mom guilt, for starters. But it's more than that, really. It's the certainty I have, underneath the resentment, that my efforts aren't in vain, despite all evidence to the contrary.

Hope springs eternal, you see. How can we Christians help but be optimistic? We have been welcomed to a feast laid for others. We find our salvation in the ultimate rejected meal, in recognizing what true nourishment looks and feels and tastes like, even — *especially!* — when the rest of the world does not.

Maybe one day my kids will eat grilled chicken willingly. Who knows? Miracles happen every day.

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman – October 8, 2026, ©Lpi

LIVING OUR FAITH

Jesus said, "Many are invited, but few are chosen." (Matthew 22:14)

Adult Question: How do you translate your faith into the work of the Reign of God?

Child Question: What three things can you do this week to show that you are a follower of Jesus? <https://pastoral.center>

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 ENGAGED ENCOUNTER

WHAT: Retreats led by local Catholic couples and priests sharing their experiences of living out the values of a sacramental marriage to help couples prepare for a marriage that can last.

WHEN: 16-18 October 2026

5-7 February 2027

15-17 October 2027

WHERE: Saint Nicholas Catholic Church

COST: \$260 per couple

REGISTER: fairbanks@engagedencounter.com



Feast Days for the week of October 4th:

Oct 12th: Pope Saint John XXIII (1881-1963) – "Prayer is the raising of the mind to God. We must always remember this. The actual words matter less."

Oct 12th: St. Carlo Acutis (1991-2006) – "The more Eucharist we receive, the more we will become like Jesus."

Oct 14th: St. Callistus I (died 222) – "If offences abound, then, let mercy also abound; for with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous, redemption. In the Lord's hand there is abundance of all things, because He is the Lord of powers, and the King of glory."

Oct 15th: St. Teresa of Avila (1515-1582) – "Trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be."

Oct 16th: St. Hedwig (1174-1243) – "We must adore the decrees of the Almighty not only in happy days, but also in those times of sorrow and bereavement."

Oct 17th: St. Ignatius of Antioch (50-107) – "He who is devout to the Mother of God will certainly never be lost."

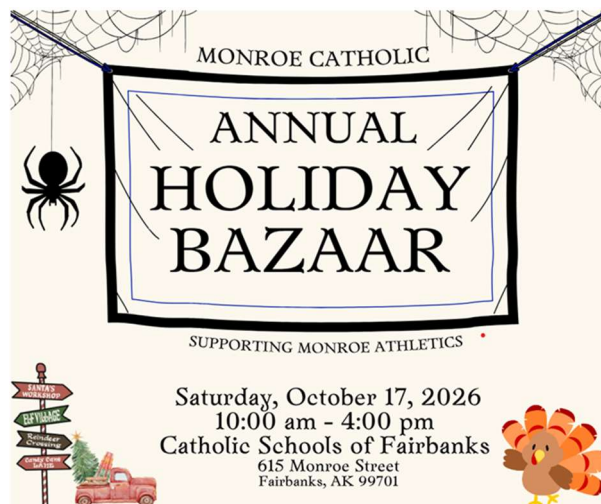


Run for the Roses
HIPOW

Thank You!

WHAT AN INCREDIBLE HIPOW 57!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT



STEWARDSHIP REPORT



October 4: \$ 1,293.00

Parishioner Count: 108

Total Yearly Collection (7/2025-6/2026): \$ 24,926.50

Thank you for your generous support & prayers!



Pope Leo XIV's Monthly Prayer Intention for October 2026

For mental health ministry.

Let us pray that mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- † ...the Church – Pope Leo XIV, Bishop Steven Maekawa, OP, Rev. Ross Tozzi, and all pastors, deacons, and religious in our diocese.
- † ...Deacon Warren Lucero and his family as we give thanks for taking on the ministry of a deacon to the church.
- † ...the strengthening of our resolve to protect the gift of every human life.
- † ...that we are not afraid of living our Faith.
- † ...parishioners who are sick, homebound, or lonely.
- † ...for the souls of the faithfully departed.

VOCATIONS

"Many are invited, but few are chosen." (Matthew 22:14)

On Deacon Sunday, we celebrate permanent deacons who respond to God's call to serve His people. Take time to thank a deacon, pray for all who serve the Church in this meaningful way, and encourage men to consider answering God's invitation to the diaconate.

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.



+Finance Manage Position at St. Nicholas Parish. Part-time, 15 hours a week position. If you have finance experience and would like to apply, please contact Fr. Aiden directly at 907-488-2595.

FOOD ITEMS DONATIONS NEEDED FOR SOUP

KITCHEN: Bottles of water, coffee, sugar, grocery bags, fruit, protein bars, mayonnaise, peanut butter, jelly, trail mix, chips, carrots, celery, tea, cocoa, spoons, napkins, apple cider packets. ICC kitchen can be reached via e-mail at iccsoupkitchen@cbna.org, or by phone at 907-452-3533.

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>

FEAST OF FAITH

Agnus Dei

After the sign of peace, the priest breaks the host into pieces, and prepares the patens or plates of hosts for the assembly. In the early church, "the breaking of the bread" was the name given to the entire Eucharistic liturgy, so central was this action to the meaning of the Christian life. For just as the one bread is broken and given to many people, the many are made one in receiving it.



During this ritual action, we sing an ancient litany, calling on Jesus as the "Lamb of God"—the words used by John the Baptist when he pointed to Jesus walking beside the Jordan River (John 1:29, 36). In calling Jesus "the Lamb of God," John was already pointing to the death that Jesus would die in giving his life, Jesus would become the Paschal Lamb of the new covenant. During the Mass, when we call on the Lamb of God, we call to mind his self-sacrificing love, his blood poured out for us, and we ask this compassionate Lord for mercy and peace. *Corinna Laughlin, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.*

October is also National Catholic Mental Health Month.

The USCCB is encouraging us to become more aware of the issues, eliminate the stigmas around mental illness, and seek creative ways to journey with those who struggle with mental health concerns. Pope Leo XIV, in his prayer intention for this month, invites us to pray for mental health ministry, so that we may know how to welcome those who suffer in silence, support those who care for them, and learn to integrate mental health care into our community life as a living sign of mercy.

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 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

CATHOLIC TRIVIA —JUST FOR FUN

Answer: Dominicans

The Dominicans were founded by Saint Dominic in the early 13th century with the purpose of combating heresy and preaching the Gospel. They were known for their dedication to study and intellectual pursuits, as well as their commitment to spreading the teachings of the Catholic Church. The Dominicans played a significant role in the Inquisition and were instrumental in defending the faith against heretical beliefs during the Middle Ages.