

ST. MARK UNIVERSITY PARISH The Catholic Community of the University of Alaska, Fairbanks

1316 Peger Rd, Fairbanks, AK 99709-5199 Email: <u>stmark@cbna.org</u> Webpage: stmarksuaf.org

32nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



<u>November 7th - Hymns for 5:30PM Mass</u>: 591 We Are the Light of the World 492 We Walk By Faith 496 Psalm 42 (As the Deer Longs) 548 Glory and Praise to Our God Reading 1: 1 Kings 17:10-16

Through Elijah, a widow and her sone are blest with enough flour and oil to supply them for a year.

Psalm 146:7, 8-9, 9-10

A prayer of praise to God who raises up the lowly.

Reading II: Hebrew 9:24-28

Christ died once to take away sin; he will return again to bring salvation.

Gospel: Mark 12:38-44

Jesus notices a poor widow's offering and commends her great sacrifice.

St. Mark Parish: Ph. 907-374-9564

Email: stmark@cbna.org Website: http://www.stmarksuaf.org Office Hours: Tues-Fri: 10am - 12noon. **Pastor**: Fr. Robert Fath Ph. 907-374-9504 Email: rfath@cbna.org Podcast: https://frrobertfath.podbean.com/ **Deacon:** Warren Lucero Parish Admin.: Mary Pat Boger Ph. 907-374-9564 Bookkeeper: Marilis Bennett Ph. 907-590-9291 Music Director: George Stefan Ph. 907-978-6953 Sacraments & Becoming Catholic: Contact Mary Pat Boger at stmark@cbna.org Vocations: See Fr. Robert Fath Parish Council: Marilis Bennett, John Fox, Cynthia Klepaski, Ritchie Musick, Jen & Sean Tucker

National Vocation Awareness Week November 7-13, 2021

National Vocation Awareness week is an annual week-long celebration of the Catholic Church in the United States dedicated to promoting vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life. Through the sacrament of baptism, each person receives a "call" or vocation. All are asked to serve the other and to strive for holiness. This call can be lived out in a variety of ways: as a married or single person, or as a priest, brother, or sister. If you know of a young person in the parish called to the priesthood or religious life, please speak with Fr. Fath for more information. https://usccb.NationalVocationAwarenesweek

+Pray +Talk + Spiritual Direction + Come See + Get Involved + Rest

St. Andrew Discernment Dinner for young men ages 14-35 at the <u>St. Ignatius Residence on Tuesday</u>, <u>Avovember 9th from 6:00-8:00 pm</u>. If you know any young men who you think might have a vocation to the priesthood or religious life, encourage them to attend the dinner. This is an opportunity for them to listen to the discernment stories of our local priests and ask questions about seminary, the priesthood and religious life. Any questions can be directed to me

Dates to Remember

- Nov 6-7: UWA Holiday Bazaar (52nd) 10am-4pm @ Pioneer Park
- **With the second second**
- Nov 8: SHC Book Club meets at 12:30pm in Community Room downstairs.
- **When the set of the s**
- **Nov 9: Voices of Hope** 6-8:30pm SHC
- **With the set of the s**
- Nov 11: Veterans Day Blue Mass – 7PM honoring veterans, Fire Fighters, First Responders, and Law Enforcement personnel



Available after 5:30pm Mass - Nov 21: Advent calendar cards; Nov 28: Advent Candles, Calendars, & other items to prepare your house.



Adjust your clocks Saturday night! The official time change comes at 2am on Sunday, Nov 7. Currently, clocks "fall back" one hour, giving us more daylight in the dark autumn and winter mornings. Set

your clock back before going to bed!

Catholic Student Association & Catholic Young Adults We are a community of faith and caring.

Need a ride to Sacred Heart Cathedral for5:30pm Sunday Mass or willing to provide a ride? Contact Mary Pat Boger at 907-374-9564.

CSA/Young Adults is a ministry where Mass, the sacraments, and church teachings remain the mission. Help us define the needs of Catholic students at UAF. Stop by Arctic Java and enjoy a drink (our treat) on Thursday's 11:30AM - 1:30PM!

Interested in assisting at the liturgy as an Altar Server, or in the Liturgical Ministry - Lector, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, or Choir? Contact Fr. Robert Fath, Mary Pat Boger, or George Stefan.

Graduating this semester? Please let us know so we can share and celebrate in your accomplishment!

SUPPORT UAF! Students, if you have information on events happening that you care to share, contact Mary Pat Boger at <u>stmark@cbna.org</u>.

Connecting the Gospel

... *to the First Reading*: The First Reading is really about more than a widow who risks the last bit of her

flour and oil to respond to Elijah's need. The story depicts the hundredfold God returns to those who are so exceptionally generous.



... *to experience*: The law of survival tells us to watch out for ourselves first. Jesus

condemns those who live by this law ("receive a very severe condemnation") and praises those who choose to give even out of their little. <u>https://liturgy.slu.edu</u>

The month of November should be a time that we remember our deceased loved ones **who** have passed away but are still remembered by families and friends. Keep them and their loved ones in your prayers.

Diocese of Fairbanks Synodal Nature of the Church



Sign on to the diocesan webpage at <u>https://dioceseoffairbanks.org</u> and go to "What's Happening" tab and then to "Current News" to fill out the Synodal Nature of the Church questionnaire. Bishop

Chad's letter on this can be found at www.stmarksuaf.org/letters.

Commentary on the Readings for the Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

"'Sir, didst thou not sow good seed in thy field?' He said to them, 'An enemy

has done this'" (Gospel). The problem of evil

is indeed a mystery. But the problem of good would indeed be a



greater mystery, did not the good seed of *the word of Christ dwell* amongst us unto a *harvest* of *mercy*, *kindness, humility, meekness, patience* (Epistle); did not Jesus offer up today's *sacrifice of reparation* (Secret) and give us a Sacrament *of salvation* (PostCommunion).

During the week, the *enemy* will try to *sow weeds* in the *field* of our daily life; but in our Mass today, the Divine Sower *sows* His *good seed*, that it may *grow* and ripen until *gathered* by the Divine *Reaper* into the heavenly *barns*. Excerpted from *My Sunday Missal*.



32nd Sunday Justice Challenge: November 13 is World Kindness Day. We know our society has become less caring and more indifferent over the years. Your challenge this week is to

perform a random act of kindness sometime between now and Saturday. Don't plan it ahead of time. Just keep alert for the right opportunity to show kindness. If you are open to it, the Holy Spirit will let you know when the time is right to show extra kindness to someone who really needs it. (By the way, this doesn't mean you shouldn't be kind all of the time—because you should!!!)





THE DAILY EXAMEN OF STEWARDSHIP

"Stewardship" can get a bum rap these days. When folks hear the term "stewardship" from the pulpit, their eyes tend to kind of glaze over. "Here's Father asking for more money," they groan inwardly, "Get ready for the passing of the pledge cards."

Christ refutes this idea when he gives us what he calls the greatest commandments — instructing us to love God and to love our neighbor. Now, Christ is a man who chose his words carefully. He meant exactly what he said — and he didn't say that the greatest commandments were to tithe and to give money to charity. If he had wanted stewardship to be only about money, he would have said so.

Sometimes we are indeed called to show our love for God and neighbor in the form of a financial gift. But the concept of Everyday Stewardship — living mindfully in prayer, grateful for our blessings, and gracious to our neighbors, committed to God, and accountable to each other — is about so much more.

I propose a twist on the long-held practice of the "Daily Examen" — a pious devotion wherein, at day's end, we go over the events of the last 24 hours and discern God's will. A Daily Examen of Stewardship might contain questions like this:

How did I love God today? In whom did I love Him? What did God give me today? With whom did I share it? What did I give to Him? To whom did I reach out today? Who reached out to me? Where was God on my list of priorities today? First? Second? Third, fourth? - Tracy Earl Welliver, MT

MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION St.

t. Mark

University Parish is in the process of updating our membership records. We are asking everyone to fill out the form found on the table as you enter the church at the 5:30pm Sunday Mass. Fill it out and drop it in the offertory basket. You can also look on the website homepage for a link to a printable form. If you have questions, contact Mary Pat at stmark@cbna.org.

Nov. 9: Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica in Rome is the oldest of Basilicas in Rome and the Cathedral of Rome. Called "*mother and head of all the churches of the city and the world*."



Why do we have an obligation to attend Mass? "Does it *really* matter if you miss Mass just once?" a non-Catholic might ask.

Yes, it does matter.

Through His Church, God commands us to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. It is a **mortal sin** to miss Mass without a grave reason (such as illness, being housebound, a first responder rushing to a call, etc).

You may wonder why the Church *commands* weekly Mass attendance under pain of sin, rather than simply *suggesting* it. It's important to know why—not only to strengthen our own faith, but also in case any curious non-Catholics ask about it.

The reason for the Sunday obligation is that **we owe God worship as His creatures**. It's not just a nice spiritual ritual or an outward show of being Catholic. God is our Creator. He made us out of *nothing* and keeps us in existence through His own power and will. We owe everything to Him, and our regular worship of Him is how we express our innate desire—and our natural obligation—to offer our Creator homage and gratitude.

Furthermore, without His grace and presence in our lives, our souls and therefore our salvation are in danger. He doesn't *need* our worship—but we *do* need Him.



If we ignore God's command to worship on Sundays, we are putting other things before God, as though He were of secondary importance. And we are destroying our relationship with Him and walking away from the spiritual graces our soul needs to stay alive. As one priest said, skipping Sunday Mass

"is somewhat analogous to a deep-sea diver's putting a crimp in his air line so that no air can come through to keep him alive. By a decision to miss Sunday Mass or a holy day of obligation we suspend the operation of sanctifying grace in our lives."

-Fr. Ray Ryland, "Why Is It a Mortal Sin to Miss Mass?" at Catholic Answers

God knows that, due to our fallen nature, we struggle to do what we should, feel confused about it, and are *even tempted not to*. That's why He gives us clear commandments. The Third Commandment prescribes weekly worship of God: "**Thou shalt keep holy the Lord's day**." And Jesus commanded: "**Do this in memory of me**" (Luke 22:19).

If Mass on Sunday were just an option—and skipping it were not a sin—can any of us honestly say we would never, *ever* miss a Sunday Mass?

We—and the Church—know the answer. https://www.catholiccomany.om/getfed <u>32nd Sunday in Ordinary</u> Time Nov. 7, 2021 I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the other contributors to the treasury. For they all contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, her whole living." (Mark 12:43-44)

Jesus gets right to the point – we are all called to give money to support the mission of the Church, regardless of our circumstance. No gift is too small or insignificant! Giving money to support the mission of our local parish is a matter of our faith, just like praying and participating in parish ministries. When you make a financial offering, is it from your "first fruits" or from what is "left over"?



Holy Father's Prayer Intentions – Nov. 2021 *People Who Suffer from Depression*. We pray that people who suffer from depression or burn-out will find

support and a light that opens them up to life.

<u>Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time</u> -- Oct 31, 2021 "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Will you share in Christ's saving mission as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life? Contact the Vocation Office at (907) 374-9504 or email: <u>vocations@cbna.org</u>.



 Weekly
 Collections
 will
 be

 updated at the end of the month.
 October 17, 2021, Total:
 \$ 180.00

 Total
 (7/1/21-6/30/22):
 \$18,107.50

Thank you for your generosity and continued support!

Immaculate Conception Soup Kitchen: Your gifts of time, talent, and treasure are greatly appreciated not just by the soup kitchen, but especially by the people we serve. Your donations are making a great difference in their lives! The kitchen can be reached via e-mail at *iccsoupkitchen@cbna.org*, by phone at 907-452-3533, ext. 22, or in person at ICC between the hours of 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM



We Welcome One another as Christ welcomed you.

AREA WEEKEND MASSES

Sacred Heart Cathedral 474-9032

Saturday Vigil: 4:30pm Saturday Latin Mass: 6:30pm – 10/23, 11/20, 12/18 Sunday: 8:00 & *11:00am (*Live-Streamed) Sunday Spanish Mass: 1:00pm St. Mark Sunday Mass: 5:30pm https://www.sacredheartak.org/

Immaculate Conception 452-3533

Saturday Vigil: 4:00pm; Sunday: 7:30am, 10:00am https://www.iccfairbanks.org/ https://www.facebook.com/ICCFairbanks

Saint Raphael 457-6603

Saturday Vigil: 6:00pm; Sunday: 9:30am https://www.straphaelfairbanks.org/

Saint Nicholas, North Pole 488-2595

Saturday Vigil: *5:00pm; Sunday: 9:00am, 12:00pm http://www.stnicholasnp.org/

Good Shepherd, Ft. Wainwright

Sunday: 9:00am, SLC Adoration: Thursday 6:00 – 7:00 pm, SLC Catholic Women of the Chapel: Wed - 9am, SLC

Our Lady of Snows, Eielson Air Force Base

Sunday: 10:30am Daily Mass: Tuesday-Friday – 11:30am

Let Us Pray For: Pope Francis; Bishop Chad Zielinski, Fr. Robert Fath & all our Priests, Deacons, and Seminarians in the Diocese of Fairbanks; an increase of individuals looking into the priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life. Remember our family and friends; the elderly, sick, and residents of retirement and nursing homes; and those that are homebound. Remember our fellow parishioners, families, friends, and caretakers. Grant our dearly departed eternal rest and bring peace to their families.

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, cast into Hell Satan and all the evil



spirits who prowl throughout the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.