



ST. MARK UNIVERSITY PARISH

The Catholic Community of the University of Alaska,

Fairbanks

1316 Peger Rd, Fairbanks, AK 99709-5199

Email: stmark@cbna.org Webpage: stmarksuaf.org

January 9, 2022

The Baptism of the Lord

SUNDAY READINGS:



Reading 1: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Isaiah tells the people to prepare the way of the Lord.

Psalm 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30

A prayer praising God's greatness.

Reading II: Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7

Jesus Christ saved us and renewed us with his Holy Spirit

Gospel: Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

Jesus is baptized by John.

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: Contact St. Mark's at stmark@cbna.org

Vocations: See Fr. Robert Fath

Parish Council: Marilis Bennett, John Fox, Cynthia Klepaski, Ritchie Musick, Jen & Sean Tucker

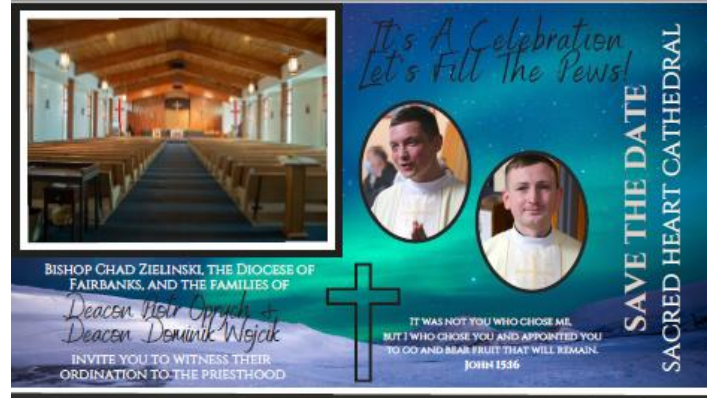
St. Mark Membership Registration:

If you do not have a church home, we would be honored to have you joined our parish family. Please go to our Website <http://www.stmarksuaf.org> and fill out the paperwork or update your existing records. Drop finished paper form in donation basket at church. If you have questions, contact Mary Pat at stmark@cbna.org

Seminarian Joshua Miller started recording some of his spiritual reflections given during Eucharist Adoration. You can find them at:

<https://www.podbean.com/pu/pbblog-n5ghw-4074fb>

He welcomes all critical feedback as he is learning how to preach as well as learning to use the podcase software.



JANUARY 12, 2022

10AM



Ordination Live-Stream

On Wednesday, Jan 12th at 10 AM Bishop Chad Zielinski will be ordaining to the priesthood Piotr Oprych and Dominik Wojcik at Sacred Heart Cathedral. For those who are not able to attend, the Diocese will be live streaming the event on Youtube.com at <https://youtu.be/nViOm8yJbxo>. This is the first time the Diocese will be ordaining to the priesthood two men at the same time.

Dates to Remember

- ✚ **Jan 4 – Feb 8:** Beloved's Living Marriage Series at St. Nicholas Catholic Church 7:00-8:30PM
- ✚ **Jan 11: Solemn Vespers – 5:30pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral to pray for our two ordinands the night before their ordination.**
- ✚ **Jan 12, 2022: Ordination of Piotr Oprych & Dominik Wojcik at Sacred Heart Cathedral 10am. Reception to follow in the social hall.**
- ✚ **Jan 14:** Youth Group 7:30 – 9PM in the SHC Social Hall.
- ✚ **Jan 15:** Latin Mass at SHC 6:30PM
- ✚ **Jan 21:** Fairbanks Right to Life annual outdoor event on the Cushman St and Barnette St Bridges. Rally-Potluck-Candlelight Vigil @ ICC-Murphy Hall 5:30 – 7:00 PM.

We joyfully congratulate Piotr and Dominik as they approach their ordination on January 12th. There will be a basket at the entrance of SHC where you can drop a card for Piotr & Dominik. They will be heading home to Poland after ordination to celebrate with family and friends before beginning their ministry in our Diocese.

Fairbanks Catholic Engaged Encounter

“A Wedding is a Day; a Marriage is a Lifetime”

Comprehensive Marriage Preparation Weekends

The marriage preparation program explores the spiritual and eternal reality behind “I Do.” Beautifully filmed and featuring acclaimed marriage experts, the video classes speak to the very heart of every man and woman, bringing sacramental truth and God-infused love into the everyday challenges of married life.

To register or volunteer - Contact: text 907-322-0227 or fairbanks@engagedencounter.com . Watch for our new website! For marriage support services Natural Family Planning information contact Marc & Ann Lee at denaliprints@gmail.com

February is Marriage and Family Month, and Sacred Heart Cathedral announces a city-wide marriage preparation program open to all engaged couples.

Beloved – Mystery and Meaning of Marriage includes six inspiring and informative sessions. February 5, 12, 19, and March 5, 12, 19. Saturday mornings from 9:00 to 10:30 AM at Sacred Heart Cathedral, 1300 Peger Road, Fairbanks, AK 99709.

The marriage preparation program explores the spiritual and eternal reality behind “I Do.” Beautifully filmed and featuring acclaimed marriage experts, the video classes speak to the very heart of every man and woman, bringing sacramental truth and God-infused love into the everyday challenges of married life.

Couples planning on attending should register with Sacred Heart Cathedral (call (907) 474-9032 extension 7). Also please register to attend the Engaged Encounter Weekend at Saint Nicholas Church February 25-27 (Call 488-2462 and see your pastor for an Engaged Encounter Registration Form).

Beloved’s Living Marriage Series is held on six Tuesday evenings at St. Nicks’ conference room on the second floor of the pastoral center beginning Jan. 4th. All married couples are invited to participate. For more information contact: Fr. Welcome at wchapiro@cbna.org or 907-488-2595, Deacon Ron Jones 907-978-4018 or Betsy Jones 907-347-6618.

ICC Soup Kitchen: Sign up to be a volunteer. Looking for snacks, socks, glove, and snow gear in this cold weather. Nick Shamrell



January 9, 2022 – Baptism of the Lord Justice Challenge: This is National Migration Week. The observance began over 25 years ago by the U.S. Catholic Bishops as a way for Catholics to appreciate the

Church’s diversity and become aware of all the ways the Church serves migrants and refugees. Your challenge this week is to pray the prayer which the USCCB wrote for this special:

Lord Jesus, when you multiplied the loaves and fishes, you provided more than food for the body, you offered us the gift of yourself, the gift which satisfies every hunger and quenches every thirst! Your disciples were filled with fear and doubt, but you poured out your love and compassion on the migrant crowd, welcoming them as brothers and sisters.

Lord Jesus, today you call us to welcome the members of God’s family who come to our land to escape oppression, poverty, persecution, violence, and war. Like your disciples, we too are filled with fear and doubt and even suspicion. We build barriers in our hearts and in our minds.

Lord Jesus, help us by your grace,

- To banish fear from our hearts, that we may embrace each of your children as our own brother and sister;
- To welcome migrants and refugees with joy and generosity, while responding to their many needs;
- To realize that you call all people to your holy mountain to learn the ways of peace and justice;
- To share of our abundance as you spread a banquet before us;
- To give witness to your love for all people, as we celebrate the many gifts they bring.

We praise you and give you thanks for the family you have called together from so many people. We see in this human family a reflection of the divine unity of the one Most Holy Trinity in whom we make our prayer: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Pastoral Center 2022 Year C eResource Bundle



SYNOD REFLECTION

QUESTIONS: We live a busy life and tend to let things slide. (*I’m guilty of it too!*) The Diocese needs to hear from all of us on our thoughts

regarding the questions they have given us to pray on. You’ll find them on website under the “Ordinary Tab” and also on the Diocesan website

<https://www.diocesoffairbnkas.org> Please make it a priority to participate by taking the time to go online or sending in a hard copy to: Ben Colwell at 1316 Peger Road, Fairbanks, AK 99709. **Thank you!**



Why should I use holy water?

Holy water is such a common aspect of Catholic life that it's easy to forget why it exists—and why it's important.

Holy water is, in fact, so important that we should use it daily—even multiple times a day.

But why?

As a bit of background, the use of holy water goes all the way back to the Old Testament. The priests used water to purify themselves before and after offering sacrifice. They also used it in rites of purification for the people. The use of water symbolized the cleansing of sin and impurities. In the New Testament, St. John the Baptist used water to baptize, calling the devout to repent in preparation for the coming of Christ.

Similarly, when we bless ourselves with holy water, we are reminded to **truly repent of our sins** and strive after a sinless and virtuous life.

We also use holy water as **protection from evil**. Demons *hate* holy water. God's blessing is upon it and His power works through it—therefore evil spirits fear it as a weapon which God has given us against their workings.

As St. Teresa of Ávila says in her autobiography: *"From long experience I have learned that there is nothing like holy water to put devils to flight and prevent them from coming back again."*

Another reason to use holy water is that **it reminds us of our own Baptism** when we were purified from sin and received into the Church. We recall the sinlessness of our newly baptized souls, the promises we made to reject Satan and sin, and the Faith that we accepted and professed. It reminds us of who we are and what we are called to be.

This is a short rundown of the myriad benefits of holy water and why it is such a powerful sacramental.

<https://www.catholiccompany.com/getfed>

Connecting the Gospel

... **to the Second Reading**: The Second Reading spells out what baptismal living looks like: "reject godless ways and worldly desires and to live temperately, justly, and devoutly."

This is the rebirth to which God calls us.

... **to experience**: Over time and experience we grow to maturity as human beings, appreciating more and more fully both our roots and our potential. So, too, with baptism. We grow over time into understanding its meaning and its power. <https://liturgy.slu.edu>



"He made them, the vicars of his love."—St. Ambrose

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

I Hope I Am Like Him

"Who is this Christ? Is he like you?"

Perhaps you've heard this story, often attributed to the life of St. Teresa of Calcutta. A sick man asked her this question, as he marveled at her tireless service to himself and others in the name of someone named Jesus Christ.

"He is nothing like me," the saint is said to have answered. "But I hope I am like him."

Though the authenticity of this exchange cannot be verified, its message rings perfectly true: all the value of our stewardship lies in its relativity to the one in whose name we perform it.

Consider the figure of John the Baptist — a magnificent, towering character even purely from a literary or historical perspective. A martyr who fed on wild locusts and boldly spoke truth to power — a man so great some mistook him for the Messiah.

But why is he great? Because he prepared the way. All his accomplishments and escapades mean nothing if they are taken out of the context of salvation history. He only makes sense relative to Christ — and this is exactly as he wanted it. "One worthier than I is coming," he insists. And because of that humility and that total embrace of God's will, he is given one of the greatest honors in the New Testament — he baptizes the Son of God.

Let's examine our lives in the light of their relativity to Christ. How do we prepare the way? When Christ comes to us, what do we do? How do we leave ourselves open to be actors in God's plan? — Tracy Earl Welliver

Baptism of Our Lord -- January 9, 2022

"This is My beloved Son in whom I am well pleased."

Are you considering making known the love of our Heavenly Father as a priest, deacon, sister or brother? Contact the Vocation Office at (907) 374-9504 or email:

rfath@cbna.org .

The Baptism of Our Lord

"John answered them all, 'I baptize you with water; but he who is mightier than I is coming...he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit...'" (LUKE 3:16)

The Catholic Catechism states that "Jesus' immersion in the water is a sign for all human beings of the need to die to themselves to do God's will." In other words, as baptized Catholics there is only one gift that we need to give to Jesus – the gift of ourselves. Surrender yourself to God, place your trust in Him and allow the Holy Spirit to work through you for the greater glory of God.

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

Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions for January 2022

For true human fraternity:

We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

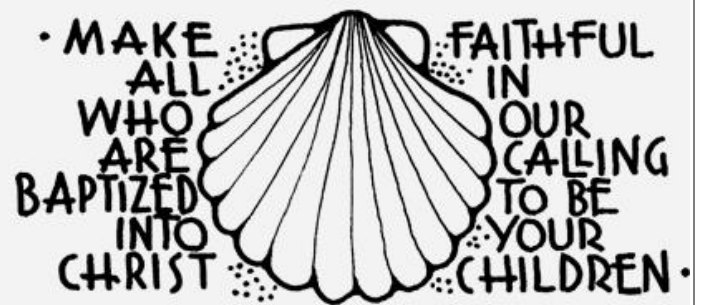


Pray For: Pope Francis; Bishop Chad Zielinski, Fr. Robert Fath & all our Priests, Religious, Deacons, and Seminarians; an increase in vocations into the priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life. Remember to keep in your prayers those individuals who are sick, homeless, and the elderly in need of care. Remember Piotr Oprych and Dominik Wojcik this week as they make their ordination of priesthood on January 12th. Grant our dearly departed eternal rest and bring peace to their families.

"There are two ways to get enough:
one is to continue to accumulate more and more.
The other is to desire less."

Sacred Heart Cathedral Employment Opportunity

Sacred Heart Cathedral is seeking a part time bookkeeper. The position is 10-15 hours per week with a flexible work schedule. Requirements include high school diploma or GED, three years' work experience in an office or customer service setting involving financial record keeping and database management. Experience using Quickbooks, Microsoft Office and database software. Salary dependent on education and experience. To apply please submit cover letter and resume listing three professional references to Rev. Ross Tozzi, Sacred Heart Cathedral, 1300 Peger Road, Fairbanks, AK. 99709 or via email to rector@cbna.org.



Celebrate Baptism in your home:

- ✚ Use the Christian symbol for Baptism to create a dinner with pasta shells.
- ✚ Use your family Baptismal candles and light them for dinner. Share with your children about the Baptism of the Lord and talk about their Baptism days!
- ✚ Renew your baptismal vows!
- ✚ Start a tradition by celebrating baptism anniversaries (as well as confirmation)!
- ✚ Finally, if you have access to a pool, take a winter plunge to imitate Jesus' baptism in the Jordan!

PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Sunday Collections:

December 25, 2021: \$ 420.00
December 26, 2021: \$ 1,150.00
January 2, 2022: \$ 1,656.65

Total Sunday Collection for the new fiscal year

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022: \$30,374.65

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

We are working on preparing you donation letters for taxes and will have them out by the 21st.

