



# ST. MARK UNIVERSITY PARISH

The Catholic Community of University of Alaska Fairbanks

1316 Peger Rd., Fairbanks, AK 99709-5199

Email: [stmark@cbna.org](mailto:stmark@cbna.org) Webpage: <https://stmarksuaf.org>

## **Sunday Mass Schedule:**

**Vespers:** 4:45 pm @ Sacred Heart Cathedral (SHC)

**Mass:** 5:30 pm @ Sacred Heart Cathedral

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** at Sacred Heart Cathedral  
Saturday from 3:00 to 4:00 PM or by Appointment

## **EUCCHARISTIC HOLY HOUR-11AM & MASS-NOON**

Join our priests *every Wednesday* as we pray for the next  
Bishop of Fairbanks at Sacred Heart Cathedral.

### **Clergy**

Fr. Ross Tozzi: [rtozzi@cbna.org](mailto:rtozzi@cbna.org) Ph:907-347-3005

Fr. Piotr Oprych: [poprych@cbna.org](mailto:poprych@cbna.org)

Deacon Warren Lucero

### **Administration**

Mary Pat Boger, Parish Admin. Ph.907-374-9564

[stmark@cbna.org](mailto:stmark@cbna.org)

Office hours: 10am – 12noon

Marilis Bennett, Bookkeeper: Ph. 907-590-9291

George Stefan, Music Director: Ph. 907-687-0077

Devan Larson, Catholic Student Assn Advisor: [UAF-catholic-Club@alasks.edu](mailto:UAF-catholic-Club@alasks.edu)

### **Pastoral Council**

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

### **Sacraments**

Confession- Saturday 3:00-4:00pm at SHC  
or arrange a time with a priest.

Baptism, Marriage, Anointing of Sick – contact our office at  
907-374-9564.

Sacraments of Initiation/Vocations– contact Fr. Robert Fath at  
[rfath@cbna.org](mailto:rfath@cbna.org) or Ph. 907-374-9504

### **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's also provides reliable information for non-Catholics inquiring about our faith and contributes to inter-faith discussion and ecumenical action.

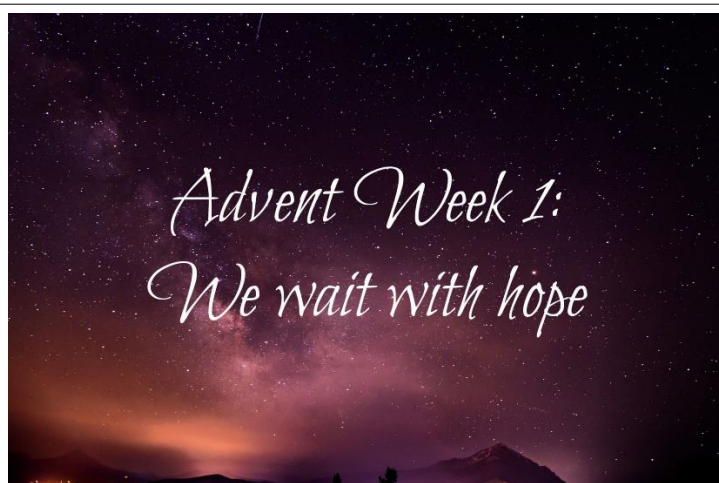
### **Latin Phrases Every Catholic Should Know:**

#### **Crux Ave**

O crux ave, spes unica; quae salus et vita hominum! Salve, crux ave, mater misericordiae! (Hail O Cross of Mercy / Salvation of man, that art/art thou who are our only hope!) This is an exclamation done at Benediction during Holy Week.

The 1st Sunday of Advent symbolizes HOPE with the "Prophet's Candle" reminding us that Jesus is coming.

## **First Sunday of Advent, Cycle A November 27, 2022**



### **First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5**

Isaiah describes his vision in which all nations are gathered together by God in peace.

### **Responsorial: Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9**

Rejoicing, let us enter the house of the Lord.

### **Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14**

Be prepared, salvation is near.

### **Gospel Reading: Matthew 24:37-44**

Jesus tells his disciples that the coming of the Son of Man will catch many people unprepared. Jesus tells his disciples that they are to always be ready for the day of the Lord.

### **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

**Nov 27:** Advent Items available for homes.

**Nov 27: 1st Sunday in Advent**

**Dec 1:** 6:45pm Adoration/8pm St. Louis Martin Men's Group meets @ ICC

**Dec 3: 9am-6pm SHC Christmas Bazaar**

**Dec 7:** Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary – *Holy Day of Obligation*

**Dec 10:** UAF Last Day of Instructions

**Dec 11:** *Oplatki Wafers* available after 5:30pm Mass

**Dec 12-17:** UAF Final Examinations

### **Sacred Heart Sunday Masses**

Saturday Vigil Mass 4:30 PM

Latin Rite Mass 6:30 PM (Dec 3, 17)

Sunday 8 & 11 AM; Spanish Mass 1 PM

### **Anointing of the Sick**

Please let us know when you or others are sick, going into the hospital, or in assisted living so that they may be included in our prayers and receive a visit upon request.



**Sacraments**

**Reconciliation** - Saturday 3:00-4:00pm at SHC or by arrangement with Fr. Ross Tozzi or Fr. Piotr Oprych by calling SHC – 907-474-9032

**Sacraments of Vocations** – contact Fr. Robert Fath at [rfath@cbna.org](mailto:rfath@cbna.org) or Ph. 907-374-9504

**Oratory Religious Education Classes** meet at SHC on Saturday afternoons – downstairs.

- 1:30 PM – ORATORY
- 2:45 pm - Good afternoon talk by a priest or sister
- 3:00 PM – Break with snacks.
- 3:15 PM – Catechism Class.
- 4:15 PM – Parents pick children up to either take them to the 4:30 PM Vigil Mass or return home.

**Confirmation** – **Thursdays** 6:00 - 7:00 PM at SHC downstairs followed by **Youth Group** 7:00 to 8:45 PM

**Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)** meets 7:30 – 8:45 PM – **Wednesday evenings** at Sacred Heart Cathedral.

**Catholic Student Association – Thursday Meetings** at 7pm in Lathrop Building Room 112 (subject to change) when UAF is in session. Topics of interest regarding the Church (sacraments, teachings, etc.) Contact [UAF-catholic-Club@alaska.edu](mailto:UAF-catholic-Club@alaska.edu) for more information.

**Marriage Preparations** – Please contact Fr. Ross six (6 mo) prior to wedding. In preparation of marriage, engaged couples are invited and asked to attend Beloved Classes (once a week for 6 weeks), and Engaged Encounter weekend.

**Funerals** – Contact parish office at SHC – 907-474-9032



**Justice Challenge:** The first reading for this Sunday is one with which we are familiar. It is the passage from the Book of Isaiah (2:1-5) describing what the world will be like when the Messiah comes. The image of people beating swords into plowshares—taking instruments used to kill people and changing them into instruments which help grow food to feed people—is a powerful one. Your challenge in this first week of Advent is to spend some time reflecting on how you are peacemakers (as a family and as individuals). Do you bring people together by your words and actions or do you create conflict? Then decide on one action you can take to make the world a more peace-filled place. Do you want to pray for peace in our world, our country, and our families? Do you want to write to government leaders to advocate for a more peaceful approach to a particular issue? Do you want to take a stand for more gun control? How do you want to bring peace?

**REGIONAL SOUP KITCHEN**

For more information or to help out, visit the webpage at <https://iccfairbanks.org/soup-kitchen> or you can call Soup Kitchen Coordinator, Nick Shamrell at (907) 452-3533.

**November 27<sup>th</sup>** St. Mark's will have Advent items available for a small donation. Advent Calendars, Jesse Tree Calendars, Liturgical Calendars (for Cycle A), bookmarks, Diocesan ornaments, and cards. A basket will be put out for a small donation to help in providing items for your home for Advent in 2023!



**Sacred Heart Cathedral's Hospitality Committee** is holding their **Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM** at the Cathedral, 1300 Peger Road, Fairbanks. Proceeds from bazaar's items (all donated by SHC parishioners) support SHC. Come to find a gift, buy delicious baked goods, or have some homemade soup.



**STEWARDSHIP MOMENT**

**“Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come.” Matthew 24:42**

People who have had health issues or near-death experiences generally have a greater appreciation for each day being a gift from God. The rest of us usually take for granted that we will be around tomorrow. But when you start to look at each day as a gift, you realize all the little miracles that happen daily, and you begin to see God's active presence in your life. You grow in gratitude, each day, for all that we have been given.

**Connecting the Gospel**

**... to the First Reading:** Isaiah describes the day when all the nations will “climb the Lord's mountain.” “Mountain” is a metaphor for God's Presence. Our Advent journey, as in the days of old, is to climb the mountain of the Lord, to come to God.



**... to experience:** Advent itself is a metaphor for Christian living. As Advent is a progression toward celebration of the Nativity, so is our daily life a journey toward the fullness of Life to come. We need only to “stay awake.”

**First Sunday of Advent:**

*“They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks....”* If you think that God is calling you to serve the Lord of the harvest as a priest, deacon, sister, or brother, contact the Vocation Office. Contact the Vocation Office at (907) 374-9504 or email: [rfath@cbna.org](mailto:rfath@cbna.org)

**WHEN YOU HEAR GOD'S VOICE TODAY, HARDEN NOT YOUR HEART!**  
Vocations Are Everybody's Business

“Come, let us climb the LORD's mountain, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may instruct us in his ways, and we may walk in his paths.”





**HAPPY NEW YEAR!** The liturgical year does not match New Year's Day or a fiscal new year (July 1<sup>st</sup>). The Church year is distinctive and always begins on the first Sunday of Advent. We shift to a new cycle of readings (A, B, and C). We begin cycle on this day – November 27, 2022.

Advent is derived from the Latin word *adventus* which means “coming.” Advent is not a version of Lent. Advent stresses hope and joy, Lent stresses penance and sorrow. Advent empathizes the need to add to our lives (grace, light, joy), while Lent empathizes what we need to remove (sin). Advent lasts four Sundays (28 days), Lent lasts six Sundays (40 days). Advent is a liturgical season, Lent is an ascetical season (i.e. fasting, almsgiving, prayer, acts of charity). Advent stresses preparation with festivity, Lent stresses preparation with sackcloth and ashes. Advent features the prophet Isaiah, Lent features the prophet Jeremiah.

Let's make this season of spiritual preparation one that counts. Strive to take time in your day to focus on the meaning of the symbolism of the advent wreath you light each night at dinner and light the first candle with this prayer:

*Father in Heaven, ... increase our longing for Christ our Savior and give us the strength to grow in love, that the dawn of His coming may find us rejoicing in His presence and welcoming the light of His truth.*

*“So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.”*

Matthew 24:37-44

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent: Putting on the Light of Christ**

Adults: What will you do during Advent so that others can see that you have put on the light of Jesus Christ?

Children: What will you do during Advent so that others can see the light of Jesus in you?

**Blessing of the Advent Wreath:**

**Adult:** Our help is in the name of the Lord.

**All:** Who made heaven and earth.

**Adult:** Let us pray. O God, by whose word all things are sanctified, pour forth Thy blessing upon this wreath, and grant that we who use it may prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ and may receive from Thee abundant graces. Through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.

*Holy water is then sprinkled on the wreath.*

**Check out the following 2022 Advent Calendars**

2022 Advent Calendar resources at

<http://www.stmarksuaf.org/advent-christmas/>

<https://advent.bustedhalo.com>

**The symbolism of the Advent wreath is beautiful.**

Various evergreens used in making the wreath signifying continuous life. The *laurel* signifies victory over persecution and suffering; *pine*, *holly*, and *yew*, immortality; and *cedar*, strength, and healing. The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the *eternity of God*, *the immortality of the soul*, and *the everlasting life found in Christ*. Any *pinecones*, *nuts*, or *seedpods* used to decorate the wreath also symbolize life and resurrection. Altogether, the wreath of evergreens depicts the immortality of our soul and the new, everlasting life promised to us through Christ, the eternal Word of the Father, who entered our world becoming true man and who was victorious over sin and death through His own passion, death, and resurrection.



The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent. A tradition is that each week represents one thousand years, to sum to the 4,000 years from Adam and Eve until the Birth of the Savior. Three candles are purple, and one is rose. The purple candles in particular symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and goods works undertaken at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, a day of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent. The progressive lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord's first coming into the world and the anticipation of His second coming to judge the living and the dead.

The light again signifies Christ, the Light of the world.

[www.catholiceducation.org](http://www.catholiceducation.org) [www.catholiccompany.com](http://www.catholiccompany.com)

*Advent*

*= Hope + Peace + Joy + Love*



**ADORATION TIMES**

**Sacred Heart Cathedral**

Thursday 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
Saturday 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Immaculate Conception Church**

Tuesday 7:00 – 8:00 PM  
Wednesday 6:00 – 7:00 PM  
Saturday 3:00 – 4:00 PM

**St. Raphael Catholic Church**

Tues & Thurs 8:30 – 9:30 AM  
Wed 4:30 AM – 5:30 PM  
Fri. 7:00 AM – 6:00 PM

**St. Nicholas Catholic Church**

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri. 8:00 AM

## PARISH STEWARDSHIP

We are grateful to all those who are making sacrifices to support our Church financially!



Our deposit for 11/21 collection will be reported next Sunday.

\$250 will go toward the Diocese of Fairbanks Special Collection. (November 3%) Funds collected in the Diocese will be split between the Diocese of Pankshin and Maiduguri in Nigeria and Mutare in Zimbabwe. We have priests serving us in Northern AK who call these Dioceses' home. Donations can be made in person or website:

<https://www.stmarksuaaf.org>



### Pope Francis' November Intentions:

**Children Who Suffer** - We pray for children who are suffering, especially those who are homeless, orphans, and victims of war; may they be guaranteed access to education and the opportunity to experience family affection.

**Please Pray For....** Pope Francis; Diocese of Fairbanks Apostolic Administrator – Archbishop Andrew Bellisario; Fr. Ross Tozzi, Fr. Piotr Oprych, and Deacon Warren Lucero; priests and religious in our Diocese. St. Mark Parishioners. . For our children who have fallen away from their faith. For our elderly and those who are sick. All who live in areas of unrest. Pray for our loved ones who have died.



### Prayer for a New Bishop

Almighty God, who by the Holy Spirit moves the hearts of Your people, Direct the counsels of those who are appointed to choose a bishop for the Diocese of Fairbanks, That we may be given a pastor who, in faithfulness and wisdom, Shall lead Your people in the way of holiness. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Mary, Mother of the Church, Pray for us.*

### Diocesan Employment Opportunities NOW HIRING!

The Diocese of Fairbanks is hiring for the following positions.

- Director of Annual Giving (Full-time)
- Payroll Technician (15-20 hrs./month)
- Project Manager (Full-time)
- Safe Environment/Victim Assistance Coordinator (15-30 hrs./week)

Learn more at [dioceseoffairbanks.org/job-postings](http://dioceseoffairbanks.org/job-postings)! To apply, submit a résumé and cover letter to [humanresources@cbna.org](mailto:humanresources@cbna.org).

### 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 Coordinator, Alicia Menard, by calling (907) 374-9553 or emailing [amenard@cbna.org](mailto:amenard@cbna.org). For more information, access the Diocese safe environment link through <https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/bishop-abuse-reporting>.



## SIX REASONS TO START ADVENT WITH A GOOD CONFESSION!

1. **NEW YEAR, NEW START:** +Advent opens the Church's liturgical calendar. The First Sunday of Advent sets the cycle in motion, beginning a new year. Pope Benedict XVI writes, "The first Sunday of Advent, the Church begins a new Liturgical Year, a new journey of faith that on the one hand commemorates the event of Jesus Christ and, on the other, opens to its ultimate fulfillment." +Every confession is a fresh beginning, a new start. As the prophet Isaiah puts it, "Though your sins be like scarlet, they may become white as snow." +In confession Christ wipes away our sins, opening the door to new life with him.
2. **PREPARATION:** +Pope John Paul II says, "Preparing ourselves to receive him requires first and foremost an attitude of intense and trusting prayer. Making room for him in our hearts demands a serious commitment to convert to his love." +The sacrament of penance is a powerful prayer, a very great prayer which drives out sin. Casting out the shadows of darkness, we give our hearts over to Christ's light and love.
3. **MEDITATION ON THE LAST DAY:** +Pope Francis writes, "During Advent we do not just live in anticipation of Christmas; we are also called to rekindle the anticipation of the glorious return of Christ, when he will return at the end of time, preparing ourselves, with consistent and courageous choices, for the final encounter with him. We remember Christmas, we await the glorious return of Christ, and also our personal encounter: the day in which the Lord will call." +For Christians thinking of Jesus "coming" has a double meaning, a double perspective. We think of Christ's first coming in Bethlehem. Traditionally, too, we also think of his "coming again in glory" as we say in the Creed. +Confession readies us to meet Christ, who will come again as our judge. Will we be ready to stand before Jesus and make an account of our lives?
4. **PENITENTIAL:** +For many Catholics, confession is a purely penitential exercise. In many places it's difficult to find convenient, available confessors. Confession demands an [examination of conscience](#), an honest look into the dusty corners of the soul. The priest might not offer any helpful advice, or worse yet, he might be distant or dismissive. +And yet we believe that God works through the sacrament anyway. In Advent all of these aspects of confession can be offered up, given over to God as penance. It suits the character of the season!
5. **JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM:** +How do we walk with Jesus and Mary again to the manger? The most important way is by imitating their closeness to God. In confession, God draws us very near, pouring out his merciful love. +In confession we are brought close to God, we might even say, as if we were standing in the midst of the Holy Family in Bethlehem!
6. **DON'T WAIT!** + The best reason to begin Advent with a confession is that you won't be scrambling in the mad rush before Christmas!!! You too can avoid long lines by taking the time to confess today. <https://aleteia.org>