



# ST. MARK UNIVERSITY PARISH

The Catholic Community of University of Alaska Fairbanks

1316 Peger Rd., Fairbanks, AK 99709-5168

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@alaska.edu](mailto:UAF-catholic-Club@alaska.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:

**prex** ~ prayer or request

.... one of the means through which we receive grace. And, like grace, it's a word most of us would not suspect of being Latinate: prayer. But dictionaries tell us that our verb to pray originates with the Latin verb *precari*, meaning, *beg, implore, entreat, supplicate*. That Latin word in turn comes from the Latin noun *prex*.

"When the heart is open to the sun of grace, we see flowers blossom in their fragrance; these are seen to have profited by the word of God. ~ St. Marguerite Bourgeoys

## **The Epiphany of the Lord, Cycle A January 8, 2023**



### **First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6**

Jerusalem shall be a light to all nations.

### **Responsorial: Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13**

Every nation on earth shall worship the Lord.

### **Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6**

Gentiles are coheirs in the promise of Christ.

### **Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:1-12**

The Magi seek out Jesus and do him homage.

### **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

**Jan 7:** Epiphany of the Lord

**Jan 12:** St. Louis Martin Men's Group *every other Thursday* - 6:45 Adoration, 8:00 PM fellowship downstairs in hall at ICC.

**Jan 17:** UAF First Day of Class (*CSA Mass & Meeting time TBA*)

**Jan 18:** St. Zelig Martin Women's Group- *every other Wednesday*. 5:30 PM Holy Mass - 6 - 7 PM Adoration. 7:15 PM fellowship downstairs in hall at ICC.

**Jan 21:** Family Formation Night- 6-7:30 PM at ICC

6PM Rosary, 6:30 PM Formation Talk, 7 PM Potluck

**Jan 28 – Mar 11, 2023:** Marriage Class Winter '23 at SHC ~ 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM



**Sacrament of Reconciliation** - Saturday 3-4:00pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral (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** – Thursday 6 - 7 PM at SHC downstairs followed by **Youth Group** 7 to 8:45 PM

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

**SHC Book Club** – 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month. February Book - Contact Janet Fortune – [43janetf@gmail.com](mailto:43janetf@gmail.com) .

**Catholic Student Association** – Meeting and Mass Times Lathrop Building Room. Times will be announced when UAF resumes 1/17/23. For more information contact [UAF-catholic-Club@alaska.edu](mailto:UAF-catholic-Club@alaska.edu) .

**Homeschool Group** – 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in Murphy Hall at ICC after 12:10pm Mass.

**ICC Faith-Film-Food** – Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday +Bring a meatless dish to share for the 6:30pm potluck ~ 7:00 movie. All held at ICC, downstairs in Murphy Hall.

**Marriage Preparations** – Please contact Fr. Ross six (6) months 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

### INSIDE OUR SACRED SPACE

*Entering our parish church is like walking into our home. We are comfortable with our surroundings, but do we remember what each of the objects, the surroundings history, and purpose is?*

**Nave** – comes from the Latin “navis,” meaning ship. The part of the church where the laity prays and worships. The congregation is not an audience but participants in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. This space is filled with pews. <https://www.oursundayvisitor.com/inside-our-sacred-space/>

## Marriage Class-Winter '23



**Sacred Heart Cathedral**  
**January 28 – March 11, 2023**  
**9:00 am – 10:30 am**

The Cathedral is offering a city-wide marriage preparation course using the Beloved Series on six Saturday Mornings this winter. We invite all those interested - engaged or thinking about marriage - to learn the ABC's of how to have a healthy, happy, and holy relationship.

Sessions will take place in the Cathedral Social Hall on Jan 28, Feb 4, 11, 25, Mar 4, and 11. (There will not be a session on the weekend of the Catholic Engaged Encounter 17-19 February)



**Contact:** Fr. Ross Tozzi at [rtozzi@cbna.org](mailto:rtozzi@cbna.org) to register or call (907) 347-3005.



**Justice Challenge:** This week we commemorate the Epiphany, the story of the wise men from the east paying homage and bringing gifts to the Infant Jesus. Their presence in the stable reveals that Jesus came for all people, not just the Jewish community. But the faith of the wise men was almost thwarted by Herod, who sought to destroy the baby he had heard was born. Your challenge this week is to reflect on how often you turn to violence—violent words, violent actions, violent feelings—when you feel threatened by someone. Make a personal commitment to respond to other people’s anger or hate or meanness with nonviolence. Pledge to make love the underlying motive and foundation on which you resolve your conflicts.

### STEWARDSHIP MOMENT ~Epiphany of the Lord

**“Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.”**  
**Matthew 2:11**

The image of the Magi kneeling before the infant Jesus and opening their treasure chests for Him is an image that we should all try to follow each day. In gratitude for all that we have been given, we are called to generously share all of our gifts, not just the ones we pick and choose. God wants us to be generous with everything, but especially that one thing that means the most to you.

### Connecting the Gospel...

... **to the Second Reading:** The Second Reading makes explicit that Christ came for all peoples: the “Gentiles are coheirs” and “copartners in the promise” of Christ for salvation.

... **to experience:** Expectations shape our attitudes and actions more than we realize. If we expect failure, we will probably fail. If we expect happiness, we have a better chance of finding it. If we limit where and how we expect to encounter Christ, we will miss so many opportunities to find him.







## What is the “Epiphany blessing” and how is it given?

*This special blessing asks for God’s protection over our homes.*

You may have seen it before over the doorway of a Catholic friend: **20+C+M+B+22** chalked on the lintel.

This means that your friend’s house has been blessed with a very special, very old custom. The custom echoes the Passover, wherein the Jewish people would sprinkle lamb’s blood over their doorways as an invocation of God’s blessing for their household.



The Epiphany Blessing is performed near the feast of the Epiphany, which commemorates the visit of the Three Wise Men.

Blessed chalk is now used to mark the doorways for this Catholic blessing.

It’s a tradition that began in Eastern Europe. After Epiphany, the village priest went to every home in his parish

with specially blessed Epiphany water and chalk. Upon entering the home, he prayed special prayers and blessed every room in the house.

*From the east came the Magi to Bethlehem to adore the Lord; and opening their treasures they offered precious gifts...*

*Bless, O Lord God almighty, this home, that in it there may be health, purity, the strength of victory, humility, goodness and mercy, the fulfillment of Thy law...*

After this the numbers of the year, enclosing the initials of the Magi (Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar) are written with the blessed chalk over the door. The Magi’s initials also stand for a Latin house blessing: *Christus mansionem benedicat* (May Christ bless this house).

Now that parishes have increased in size and priests are no longer able to visit every home, the head of the household is permitted to perform a basic Epiphany house blessing himself. Parishes often provide the materials needed, including Epiphany water—holy water specially blessed with a powerful blessing for this feast day.



*(Replacing Everyday Stewardship)*



## Faith and Fear

When I was little, you could tell I believed in the destructive power of the monsters who lived beneath my bed because I would never let my ankles anywhere near the bottom of the mattress. (It’s common knowledge that bare ankles are premium monster bait — ask any child you know).

You can often tell what a person believes by what they fear.

But here’s the thing: belief isn’t always enough. It’s obvious that Herod believed in Christ’s power because of how terrified he was by it and by the room he made in his life for the possible impact of the Messiah. In fact, if belief was the only measure of orthodoxy, you could stand most modern Christians next to Herod and he would tower above them.

Remember, there’s something just as bad as disobeying God: discounting Him. I know I am guilty of that in a thousand small ways each day. In the person I ignore or the opinion I sneer at. In the unkind words I let roll from my tongue. In the prayers of thanksgiving that I don’t say because I am “too busy.”

I believe in God, but I do not fear Him — mostly because my very modern understanding of the concept of “fear” would lump God in with those monsters beneath my bed.

But what if we understood fear in a more traditional sense — awe, reverence, and wonder? *“All kings shall pay him homage, all nations shall serve him.” — Psalm 72:11*

When Herod heard the news of the coming of the Messiah, it compelled him to do something. Not the right thing, mind you, but something. It moved him into action.

So, then, it should move us all.

*We saw his star at its rising, and have come to do him homage. — Matthew 2:2* ©LPi

**Prayer of the Faithful:** That we are generous with all of our gifts, especially the one thing that means the most to us.



**Solemnity of The Epiphany of the Lord –  
January 8, 2023**

“And after they came into the house, they saw the Child with His mother Mary; and they fell down and worshiped Him.” God has chosen each person in Christ for a particular vocation. If He may be calling you to be holy and worship Him through a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life, contact the Vocation Office at 374-9504 or email: [rfath@cbna.org](mailto:rfath@cbna.org)

**2023 Basic Starter Resolutions**

from Fr. Ignatius Kuziemski:

**Every day, make time for prayer.**

**Every week, make time for Mass.**

**Every month, make time for Confession.**

<https://www.ncregister.com>

**PARISH STEWARDSHIP**

January 1 - \$ 1,580.00

Collection for Fiscal Year

7/1/2022 – 6/30/2023: \$ 26,414.09

**Thank you for your generosity  
and continued support!**

**2022 Tax Statements**

The 2022 Tax Statements will be available at the end of January. Please make sure your address is up to date with the Parish Office.



**Pope Francis' January Intentions:**

**For Educators:**

“We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.”

**Remember:** Pope Francis; Archbishop Andrew Bellisario - Apostolic Administrator; Fr. Ross Tozzi, Fr. Piotr Oprych, and Deacon Warren Lucero; all serving in our Diocese; St. Mark Parishioners; Fallen away Catholics; for all who volunteer in our community; the homebound and those under medical care; the unborn; for our deceased loved ones and their families.

**Please Pray For Those** who serve our country in the Armed Forces that they may be kept safe as the world strives for more peaceful solutions to world conflicts.

**DIOCESAN EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES  
NOW HIRING!**

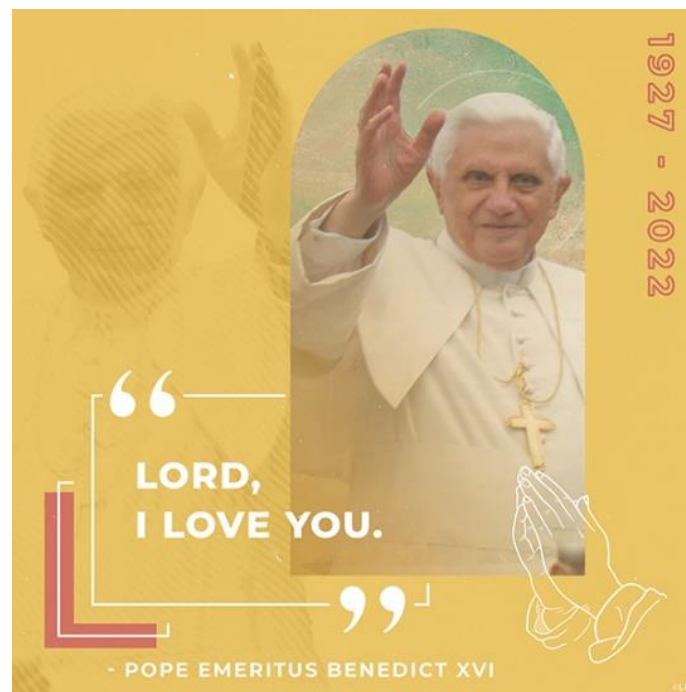
The Diocese of Fairbanks is hiring for the following positions.

- Director of Annual Giving (Full-time)
- Safe Environment/Victim Assistance Coordinator (15-30 hrs./week)

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

Looking for ways to help this New Year?

Contact SHC (907-374-0572) to help with food box distribution on Friday's or check out ICC soup kitchen's needs <https://iccfairbanks.org/soup-kitchen>.



**PRAYER FOR POPE BENEDICT XVI**

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

**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*

**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, Jenny Michaelson by calling (907) 374-9553 or emailing [vac@cbna.org](mailto:vac@cbna.org). For more information, access the Diocese safe environment link through <https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/report-abuse>.