



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>

Sunday Mass Schedule:

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

Mass: 5:30 pm @ Sacred Heart Cathedral

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 Ph:907-347-3005

Fr. Piotr Oprych: poprych@cbna.org

Deacon Warren Lucero

Administration

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

stmark@cbna.org

Office hours: 10am – 12noon

Bookkeeping: Marilis Bennett: Ph. 907-590-9291

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

CSA Advisor: Devan Larson: UAF-catholic-Club@alasks.edu

St. Mark Parish News: **Parish meeting** - April 15 after Sunday 5:30 PM Mass downstairs in SHC Social Hall. All are encouraged to attend.

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.

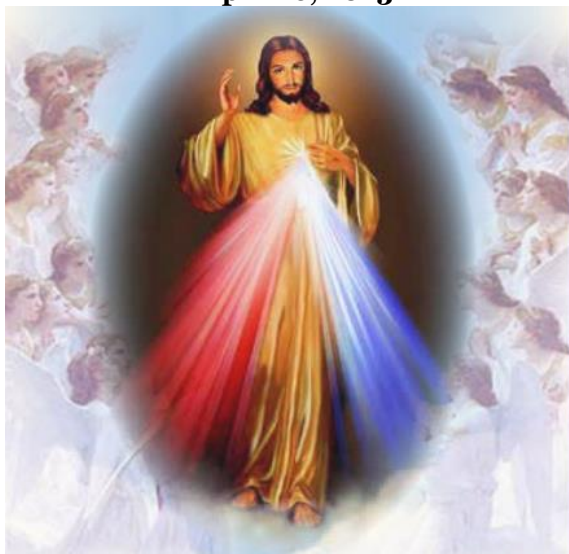
Common Catholic Latin Phrases:

Pax Vobiscum: Pax vobiscum is a Catholic Latin phrase meaning peace (be) with you. It is used as a greeting or farewell in formal circumstances. **Pax Tecum** is the form used when speaking to only one person. <https://www.universal-translation-services.com/catholic-latin-phrases-and-their-meanings/>



Our Catholic priests work tirelessly for us. They deserve to be celebrated and uplifted for any number of reasons. Pray, fast, and offer sacrifices for them. Send a "thank you" note. Children please participate. Send spiritual bouquets. Pray for more vocations. Check out Vocation Ministry <https://vocationministry.com> for more ideas.

Second Sunday of Easter or Sunday of Divine Mercy April 16, 2023



First Reading: Acts 2:42-47

The first community of Christians grows as its members meet to pray and break bread.

Responsorial: Psalm 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24

God's love is everlasting.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9

We have new hope because of Jesus' Resurrection.

Gospel Reading: John 20:19-31

Thomas believes because he sees Jesus.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

The Greatest Day of Grace is the weekend after Easter! Celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Sunday, April 16, 2023, from 3:00 – 4:00 PM. Divine Mercy Sunday was initiated by St. Pope John Paul II in April 2000. It is based on the private relations of St. Faustina Kowalska. For more see - <https://www.ncregister.com/blog/9-things-you-need-to-know-about-divine-mercy-sunday>

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Apr 16: St. Mark Parish Meeting after Mass.

Apr 17: *Uplift your Priest Week*

Apr 21-23: Diocese of Fairbanks Woman's Retreat

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

This year marks the 21st Anniversary of the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. We continue our commitment to Promise to Protect and Pledge to Heal and offer this special prayer "A Prayer for Healing Victims of Abuse":

Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts, heal your people's wounds and transform brokenness into wholeness. Grant us the courage and wisdom, humility and grace to act with justice. Breath wisdom into our prayers and labors. Grant that all harmed by abuse may find peace and justice. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.





UPCOMING PARISH MEETING – Divine Mercy Sunday – April 15 – after St. Mark’s 5:30pm Mass. Summary of meetings can be found at <https://www.stmarks@uaf.org> under “Ordinary Time” tab.

Sacrament of Reconciliation - Saturday 3-4:00pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral (SHC).

Altar Serving Training –Open to anyone, male or female, who has made his or her First Communion – both children and adults. Next training TBA.

Baptism Instruction: Apr 16 & 23 after 11AM SHC Mass (about 12:15 PM). Show up after Mass and meet with Fr. Piotr Oprych. Paperwork at www.sacredheartak.org

Oratory Religious Education Classes 1:30 – 4:15 PM Saturday downstairs at SHC.

Confirmation Class: Thursday 6-7 PM/Youth Group 7:00 to 8:45 PM at SHC. *Alternate between **SHC (4/20)** & **ICC (4/27)**. In Social Hall at SHC.

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

Catholic Student Association (CSA) – 12Noon Thursday Mass/7 PM Meeting at Lathrop Hall Room 112. Topic to be announced. Contact Ben Colwell @ bcowell@cbna.org or UAF-catholic-Club@alaska.edu for information.

Voces Verbi Young Adult Group – 6:00 PM at ICC on Fridays ~ Ages 18-35.

Homeschool Group – After 12:10 PM Mass at ICC **1st & 3rd Friday** in Murphy Hall.

Marriage Preparations – Please contact Fr. Ross **six (6) months prior to wedding**. Contact rtozzi@cbna.org to register or call (907) 347-3005 to register or talk.

Marriage Class (Spring '23): At St. Raphael’s - **Apr 26-Jun 7** from 6:00 -7:30 PM. Call St. Raphael Catholic Church to register at (907) 457-6603. Open to all engaged couples.

SHC Book Club –**1st Monday** of the month - For more info contact Janet Fortune – 43janetf@gmail.com .

Knights of Columbus –**2nd Thursday** of the month 6:30 – 8:00 PM.

Saint Louis Martin Men’s Group – 6:45 PM at ICC every other Thursday for men of All ages!

Saint Zelig Martin Women’s Group –7:15 PM at ICC every other Wednesday for women of All ages!

Sacraments of Vocations– contact Fr. Robert Fath at rfath@cbna.org or Ph. 907-374-9504

Funerals – Contact Parish Office at SHC – 907-474-9032

WOMEN'S RETREAT

April 21-23 the Diocese of Fairbanks will be hosting a women’s retreat. The retreat is titled “Embracing Authentic Femininity” will explore the topic of Catholic womanhood. The retreat will feature guest national speaker, Lisa Cotter. The \$40 cost to attend includes meals and housing. For more information contact Benjamin Colwell at 907-374-9526 or you can reach him via email at bcowell@cbna.org.

Read release of North American Final Document to Conclude Continental Stage of 2021-2024 Synod: <https://bit.ly/41myL6t>



Justice Challenge: Sunday’s Gospel recounts the appearance of Jesus to the apostles after the Resurrection. Fear ruled the day until Jesus came back with his message, “Peace be with you.”

Fear can paralyze us, just as it did the apostles until Jesus breathed his Spirit and his peace into them. Your challenge this week is to examine how much fear rules your life. When does it stop you from speaking the prophetic word, challenging injustice, or living an ethical life? Pray for the peace of Christ to enter your own heart, and find the courage to fight injustice wherever you see it.

AFTER-EASTER MESSAGING THANK YOU! Our community changed lives this Lent through CRS Rice Bowl, and we want to say THANK YOU! Don’t forget to turn in your CRS Rice Bowl at St. Mark Mass on April 16th or donate online at www.crsricebowl.org/donate .

INSIDE OUR SACRED SPACE ~ Stations of the Cross

In every Catholic Church, 14 Stations of the Cross ring the walls of the nave. We can walk along with Jesus as he makes the agonizing journey from Pilate’s house to his crucifixion on Calvary that first Good Friday. We halt at each station meditating on the actual or traditional events that took place at that particular spot. This most popular devotion evolved over several centuries. While many Catholics participate in this devotion every Friday of Lent, the stations are available for us to “walk” any time.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ document “Built on Living Stones” states: “Traditionally the stations have been arranged around the walls of the nave of the church, or, in some instances around the gathering space or even the exterior of the church making the devotion as a true journey.”

* *The Stations of the Cross varied in number until Pope Clement XII (r. 1730-40) settled on 14 and identified the events associated with each station.*

<https://www.oursundayvisitor.com/inside-our-sacred-space/>

Focusing the Gospel ...

Key words and phrases: Jesus came, Receive the Holy Spirit, Unless I see ... I will not believe, Jesus came, have not seen and have believed

To the point: The basic issue in this gospel story is coming to believe that Jesus is risen and alive. What is made clear is that believing is not dependent on physical contact with Jesus (Thomas makes his profession of faith without touching Jesus) but coming to believe does depend on personal encounter. Authentic encounter between persons only happens through mutual self-giving: Jesus’ self-giving is shown through his gift of the Holy Spirit to us; our self-giving is shown when we open ourselves to receive that Spirit. Coming to believe more deeply that Jesus is risen and alive is the work of the Spirit within and among us. What a Gift! <https://liturgy.slu.edu>





Why is Divine Mercy Sunday a big deal?

Divine Mercy Sunday is a relatively new feast, and has only been celebrated since 2000. How did it come to be a major feast day?

Divine Mercy Sunday is the Second Sunday of Easter. This feast day is highly regarded in the Catholic Church, even though it has only been celebrated for twenty years—a short time compared to other feasts that have been a long part of our Catholic tradition.

Why is Divine Mercy Sunday so important?

Most of us recognize the Divine Mercy image, which is based on St. Faustina’s visions of Jesus. In this picture, Jesus is wearing a white garment, His left hand is touching His heart, and His right hand is raised in blessing. Red and pale blue rays pour out of Jesus’ heart. At the bottom of the image are the words, “Jesus, I Trust In You.”

In the 1930s, when Faustina’s vision occurred, the world was facing the rise of fascism, communism, and a major World War. Devotion to Divine Mercy was desperately needed to restore a proper understanding of the sanctity and dignity of the human person.

Not only was St. Faustina asked to have an image made of her vision of Jesus, she also recorded her encounters with Christ in her diary, now known as *The Diary of St. Faustina*. According to her entries, in one appearance, Jesus said:

My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the Fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. (Diary, no. 699)

Jesus then requested that His mercy be celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Five days after St. Faustina was canonized, the Vatican decreed that the Second Sunday of Easter would be known as Divine Mercy Sunday.

The image of Divine Mercy reminds us of Christ’s infinite love and His desire for all of us to be close to Him. In times of trouble and despair, we remember that Christ’s Divine Mercy will lead us to heaven. <https://www.catholiccompany/getfed>

Prayer of the Faithful: That we help our parish create a welcoming environment where people feel included.



The Doors We Lock



As a child, and even for a while as a teenager, I experienced an enormous amount of anxiety whenever I went to confession. For so many years I feared it. For so many years I waited in the confession line trembling, feeling sick to my stomach.

In the upper room after Christ's Passion and death, the anxiety of the disciples was so strong that they locked themselves away. But still Christ found a way into their midst. He would not be prevented from bringing mercy and hope to a place shrouded in despair. No door barred in a moment of fear could keep him out.

This is the genius of the sacrament of Reconciliation — and of all sacraments, really. Here we are, restricted in so many ways by an existence that is woefully physical. We feel fear, and our body reacts, just as we feel anger and our body reacts.

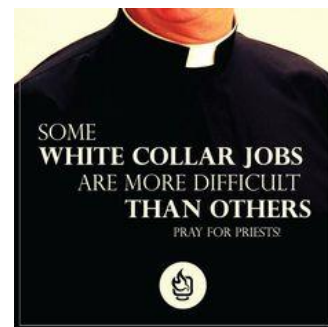
How can God deliver mercy to us in this flesh-bound state? Through that very flesh which can feel so confining. Through confession, which requires a physical action, and the physical participation not just of the penitent but of the priest.

I don't know how or why my anxiety around the sacrament has lessened over the years. Sometimes, I still feel it come roaring back unexpectedly, and maybe one day it will come back to stay. It doesn't surprise me: after all, I am in the flesh, and I will, as Peter says today, “suffer through various trials.” But in all of them Christ will find me. He will not be kept away.

Let the house of Aaron say, “His mercy endures forever.”
— Psalm 118:3

Colleen Jurkiewicz ~April 14, 2023©LPi

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. For more information, access the Diocese safe environment link through <https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/report-abuse>



Check out [Missionary Disciples to the People of Northern and Western Alaska](https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/joomla) April 2023 Edition
<https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/joomla>

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

“Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’” John 20:19

Are you good at making people feel welcome? When you meet someone new, like a new neighbor, a new work colleague or a new parishioner, do you make them feel at home? When we make people feel welcome, we make them feel like they are included instead of being excluded. We are made for relationships – with God and each other. When you see yourself as a beloved son or daughter of God, you tend to see others the same way, too – just as God, Our Father, sees us.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

April 9, 2023 - \$ 7,289.40

Total for Fiscal Year -

7/1/2022 – 6/30/2023: \$ 41,735.18

Thank You for Your Generosity!

You can give online at <https://www.stmarksuaf.org/donations>



SOUP KITCHEN NEWS - If you would like to help out in the Soup Kitchen, please contact us by phone or email at 907-452-3533 ext. 1003 or at iccsoupkitchen@cbna.org. Help others by donating food items and clothing on a website list. *Prayers are always needed for this important work!*

Pope Francis' April Intentions:

For a culture of peace and non-violence:

We pray for the spread of peace and non-violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens.

Pray For: Pope Francis; Archbishop Andrew Bellisario - Apostolic Administrator; Fr. Ross Tozzi, Fr. Piotr Oprych, and Deacon Warren Lucero; those serving in our Diocese; UAF Catholic students; St. Mark's parishioners. For Fallen away Catholics. Pray for our newest member – Leonard Kennedy (CSA) who came into the church fully at Easter Vigil. Congratulations to Devan (CSA Advisor) & Stephanie Larson who were married in Minnesota this weekend.

Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends Who Are Sick:

For our Parish family members who are facing surgery, undergoing treatment for chronic illnesses, or are hospitalized. Pray for our dearly departed.

Pray for Vocations:

“Go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature.” Is God inviting you to live the gift and mystery of being sent as priest, sister or brother to proclaim the truth of Jesus Christ? If you think God may be inviting you to such a vocation, contact the Vocation Office at 374-9504 or email: rfath@cbna.org.



Please sign up for the following: **Ministers of the Cup** at Mass. With trained ministers, we can add distribution of the cup at

Communion. Background check and training is necessary per Diocesan guidelines.

Lectors. A list of readers would help in sharing the readings.

Choir: Voices and instruments welcome ~ *“he who sings, prays twice”*. With students (high school & college) graduating and moving on we need to plan ahead to keep the music at mass!

“The existence of each individual is deeply tied to that of others: life is not simply time that passes; life is a time for interactions.” (Pope Francis, *Brothers and Sisters to Us* [[Fratelli Tutti](#)], no. 66)

The parish community has a special role in promoting participation in the life, mission, and work of the faith community.

“The parish is where the Church lives. Parishes are communities of faith, of action, and of hope. They are where the Gospel is proclaimed and celebrated, where believers are formed and sent to renew the earth. Parishes are the home of the Christian community; they are the heart of our Church. Parishes are the place where God’s people meet Jesus in word and sacrament and come in touch with the source of the Church’s life.” www.usccb.org <https://WeAreSaltandLight.org>



DIOCESAN EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES NOW HIRING!

The **Diocese of Fairbanks** is hiring for the following position.

• Construction Project Manager

The Project Manager provides oversight and management of the planning and construction process for facility changes, major repairs, and new construction within the Diocese of Fairbanks. For more information, to request a formal job description, or to submit your cover letter and résumé please contact: humanresources@cbna.org:

Sacred Heart Cathedral is seeking a **part-time book-keeper**. The position is 7-10 hours per week with flexible work schedule. Requirements include a 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 a 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

St. Raphael Parish has immediate opening for two positions:

- **Office Manager** ~ Tues-Fri, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM with additional hours as needed (up to 25 hrs./wk.). *Duties includes office responsibilities, bulletin, scheduling, parishioner needs, volunteer recruitment and coordination, coordination with pastor and parish, some book-keeping duties, and other parish responsibilities.*
- **Lay Pastoral Minister** ~ Part-time position is 15-20 hrs./wk. and involves liturgy collaboration with Fr. Jingbe to include on Sunday and occasionally Saturday masses, holy days, and holy seasons; volunteer recruit-ment and coordination; communication with parishioners; facilitating ongoing religious education for all in the parish; pastoral care, and administration.

If interested, contact Fr. Jingbe at (907) 328-9424 or email sjingbe@cbna.org or Camille Connelly-Terhune via email secretary@straphaelfairbanks.org

Catholic Schools is hiring full and part-time.

- **Child Care Specialists** for their After School Program 2:00-6:00 pm M-F* (**Specific days of the week can be accommodated.*)

Contact: Ms. Beach Child Coordinator at 907-519-6316; email cshabram-beachcsf@catholic-schools.org or check website <https://www.catholic-schools.org/employment.html>

April 22, 2023 ~ EARTH DAY:

“Care for the earth is not just an Earth Day slogan, it is a requirement of our faith. We are called to protect people and the planet.”

~ US Conference of Catholic Bishops
www.usccb.com “Care for Creation.”