



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>

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.

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE:

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

MASS: 5:30 pm @ Sacred Heart Cathedral

RECONCILIATION: Saturday from 3 to 4 PM at Sacred Heart Cathedral or by Appointment
WEDNESDAY 11:00AM EUCHARISTIC HOLY HOUR at SHC followed by 12Noon Mass. Join our priests as we pray for the next Bishop of Fairbanks
ADORATION of the Blessed Sacrament at SHC on Thursday 8 -11 AM .

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 (*Marilis is out during July. Contact Mary Pat or Fr. Ross if you have any questions.*)

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

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

Interested in serving in a ministry?

Liturgical Ministry-If you feel called to serve as an Extra-Ordinary Minister or Lector for our Sunday liturgy, please contact Mary Pat Boger to learn more about training. mboger@cbna.org

Music Ministry -We could use more members in our choir to help fill out our numbers. Please see George Stefan after Mass to learn more or text him at 907-687-0077.

SAVE THE DATES!!

Bishop-elect Steven Maekawa, O.P. will be ordained as the 7th bishop of Diocese of Fairbanks on **October 12th**. Preparations are currently being made for the liturgies and more detailed information will be provided at a later date, but *please save these dates and times.*

Oct. 11th: 7pm Solemn Vespers at SHC.

Oct. 12th: 10am Mass of Ordination and Installation of Bishop-elect Maekawa. Place TBD. Reception following.



July 23, 2023

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



First Reading: Wisdom 12:13, 16-19 .

God has shown himself to be a God of justice and mercy.

Responsorial Psalm 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16

A prayer to God for mercy.

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-27

The Spirit intercedes for us with God.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 13:24-43

Jesus offers parables about the Kingdom of Heaven and explains them to his disciples.

COMING EVENTS:

July 23-29: National NFP Awareness Week
(Natural Family Planning)

July 28-29: Catholic Schools Super Sale 9am-3pm

July 28-Aug 6: Tanana Valley State Fair

Aug 15: Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Aug 16: First day of Instruction of Catholic Schools.

Aug 25-27: Summer Youth Festival at Camp Bingle (ages 11-17)

Aug 28: UAF First Day of Instruction



Altar Serving Training – Open to anyone, male or female, who has made his or her First Communion – both children and adults. Next training TBA. Contact SHC at 907-474-9032 or St. Mark's office at 907-374-9564.

Volunteers Need to Support Pro-Life Fair Booth – July 28-August 6 during the Tanana Valley State Fair. Sign up online <https://signup.com/go/dwxOuUN> – 2 persons per time slot please. If you have questions call/text Jodi Stack 907-322-0227.

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.

Oratory: Starting Saturday, September 24th at Sacred Heart Cathedral. 1:30 – 3:15 pm for ages 4-17. For all children in the Diocese. Contact servidoras@cbna.org for more info.

Voces Verbi Young Adult Group meets at 6pm on Fridays starting up in September.

Voice of Hope Prayer Group – Meets on Tuesday evenings downstairs at SHC 6-8:30PM. Meeting begins with light potluck, followed by contemplative prayer meeting.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at SHC – In the church daily between 3:00 to 4:00 PM.

SHC Book Club –Summer novel: The Quiet Light: A Novel about St. Thomas Aquinas by Louis de Wohl c. 1950. Meetings will begin in September. Contact: Janet Fortune – 43janetf@gmail.com.

ICC Our Lady of Fatima: For more information, contact Shannon Christensen at (907) 388-1825.

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

Legion of Mary– Meets on Tuesdays at 6 PM @ ICC.

Associates of the Sisters of St. Joseph – Contact Patty Walter at pattywalter@hotmail.com for more information. Meetings are currently quarterly. They have been active since 1987.

Women's Group every other Wednesday at 7:15 pm & **Men's Group** at 6:45 pm every other Thursday *starts again at ICC in September*.

Little Flower Ministries – **Radio KQHE 92.7 FM**. For more information contact: Robin Barrett at 479-5283 or Cherie Kelly at 378-7047. KQHE Studio - 451-4868. Check out their scheduled programming at <https://kqhe.org/schedule>

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.



Justice Challenge: On July 26 we celebrate the feast day of Joachim and Anne, the parents of Mary. Anne is the patron saint of grandmothers since she herself was Jesus' grandma. While many cultures around the world honor the elderly and give them the highest respect, in our own country we have witnessed the neglect and sometimes even the abuse of our elders. Your challenge this week is to be an advocate for the "wisdom people" in your life. How can you show respect for the older people in your own family, or on your block, or in a nursing home in your community? How can you support the needs of the elderly through legislation? Can you offer a smile, a greeting, and perhaps even a visit with an elder who is lonely and gets few visitors?

Connecting the Gospel...

... **to the First Reading:** God's presence and reign is visible in the slow but steady process of God's "mastery over all things" (**First Reading**). Our own discernment of God's will for our lives, our growth in goodness, and our transformation into who God calls us to be is dependent upon God's care, justice, leniency, kindness, forgiveness.



... **to experience:** Our cultural expectation of "mastery" includes power over others, control, domination, force, manipulation. In contrast God's "might is the source of justice." And so God's mastery unfolds in the strikingly different ways described in the first reading. <https://Liturgy.slu.edu>

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

"The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field...He who sows good seed is the Son of Man, the field is the world, the good seed the children of the kingdom."

MATTHEW 13:24, 37-38

As children of God, we are all "good seeds". We are blessed by God with the potential to accomplish much good in the world. We fulfill God's plan when we spend time in prayer every day, use our skills to help others and share our financial gifts to help build God's kingdom on earth. Through our example of gratitude and generosity we sow "good seeds" on earth and ultimately help each other get to Heaven!



Meet the Apostle who was Jesus' extended family...

What do we know of this quiet man?

St. James and his brother Jude were the only Apostles related to Jesus by blood; their mother was a relative of Our Lady. Jesus called James to be His Apostle in the second year of His public ministry, but after that James fades into the background of the gospels.

St. Paul tells us that Our Lord appeared to James alone after the Resurrection. Before Our Lord's Ascension, He commended the Church in Jerusalem to James's care, while the rest of the Apostles traveled the world to spread the Faith.



St. James the Less as depicted by El Greco

James became well-beloved in Jerusalem, gaining the name "James the Just" from the faithful. Jews and Gentiles alike respected him and revered his great holiness. He was very strict with himself and spent so much time in prayer that his knees grew very hard.

From his place in Jerusalem, James supported and defended the other Apostles and disciples. The early Church relied heavily on his wisdom and example, calling him—along with Peter and John—a pillar of the Church. He wrote the Epistle that bears his name in the New Testament.

In 62 A.D., hostile Jews attempted to make him apostatize before a huge crowd during the Pasch. James instead proclaimed his faith in Jesus Christ so that all could hear. He quoted Our Lord's words from the cross—"Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do"—as the crowd martyred him.

Although James was a great man in the early Church, he is still known to us by the non-flashy name of James "the Less," making him a good saint to look to for humility. You can ask St. James to help you grow in this virtue as you follow the pithy advice of Humility Rules: Saint Benedict's 12-Step Guide to Genuine Self-Esteem. With beguiling humor and refreshing candor, these twelve simple steps will smooth your way to growing in one of the hardest virtues. www.catholiccompany.com/getfed/

NATIONAL NFP AWARENESS WEEK July 23 – 29, 2023
Marriage: one flesh, given and received
...supporting God's gifts of love and life in marriage.

Not sure what NFP is? Already a pro? Either way, check out the NFP resources on the USCCB website and on <https://www.foryourmarriage.org>. The Catholic Church teaches that marriage is an original gift from God to humanity. NFP reflects the dignity of the human person within the context of marriage and family life, promotes openness to life, and recognizes the value of the child.

THE CATHOLIC BUBBLE



There's a dangerous myth that exists among pockets of faithful, observant Catholic families. I call it the Legend of the Catholic Bubble.

Here's how the legend goes: you find a devout Catholic parish and a devout Catholic community filled with devout Catholic people who care about devout Catholic things, and you stay away from everything and everyone else, you and your children will be safe from the influence of the evil one. Your children will never fall away from the faith, or even be tempted, and your own faith will stay steel-strong amidst the many tempests and trials of this earthly life.

But like the Loch Ness Monster and the Abominable Snowman, it's all made up.

Don't misunderstand me: I *love* a good devout Catholic parish. I *live for* a supportive, devout Catholic community. It's one of the biggest blessings in the Christian life, and I cannot overstate how helpful it is to raise children in an environment that upholds your Catholic faith and does not denigrate it.

But. *But.*

Make no mistake: the Catholic Bubble will not save you. The trials and the temptations will find you there, too: on the parish council, at Catholic school, in your Catholic moms' group. No community on earth is so supportive that it mimics Heaven. The weeds have been sown with the good seed, and the harvest time is not yet upon us.

Cherish your community, certainly — but beware of the lure of the Catholic Bubble. We are called to be yeast in the loaf of bread, and yeast is nothing on its own. *"And the one who searches hearts knows what is the intention of the Spirit, because he intercedes for the holy ones according to God's will."* — Romans 8:27
Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman July 15, 2023 ©Lpi

Prayer for Our New Bishop

God, eternal shepherd,
You tend your Church in many ways,
And rule us with love.
You have chosen your servant, Fr. Steven,
To be a shepherd of your flock.
Give him a spirit of courage and right judgement,
A spirit of knowledge and love.
By governing with fidelity those entrusted to his care.
May he build your Church
As a sign of salvation for the world.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Collection for July 16 - \$ 782.00

Total for Fiscal Year: 7/1/23-6/30/24: \$ 3,436.72

Thank you for your continued prayers and support!

Visit WeShare for donating online at: www.stmarksuaf.org

Prayer of the Faithful:

That we may allow stewardship to blossom in our hearts and joyfully share our gifts.

Pope Francis' July Prayer Intentions:

~For a Eucharistic Life~

“We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.”

Pray for: Pope Francis; Bishop-elect Fr. Steven Maekawa, O.P.; Fr. Ross Tozzi & Fr. Piotr Oprych; Priests, Brothers, Sisters, Deacons, Religious, and Laity working to support Catholic churches and education throughout our Diocese.

Special Prayers For: those who suffer from long term illness or injury; members of our armed forces; and all those traveling during the summer and those visiting Alaska.

Pray for St. Mark will have a continued presence on the UAF campus and support the Catholic Student Association . All traveling to participate in World Youth Day in Lisbon.

Remember the souls of all the deceased who have gone before us.

Pray for Vocations:

“The Spirit too helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought.” Do you approach the Lord in prayers with the confident strength given by the Holy Spirit asking that He make known your unique vocation? If God may be inviting you to consider the priesthood or consecrated life, contact the Vocation Office on (907) 374-9504 or email: rfath@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, 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>

From the St. Mark Office – Campus Move

The University of Fairbanks will be prepping the lower four dorms to become residential dorms for students this coming school year. We have vacated our space and are working with the University to find new space for the upcoming school year. Please keep St. Mark's Campus Ministry in your prayers as we strive to keep a presence on campus to build connections with students to enhance their faith through Mass, Faith Formation, gatherings, and prayer. We support student led Catholic Student Association (CSA) as they build relationships and have fun during their time on and off campus as a college student!



The **International World Youth Day** celebration will take place in Lisbon, Portugal from August 1st (Tues) to Aug 6th (Sun). This is an international Catholic festival for pilgrims from around the world that come together from every continent to pray, worship, and celebrate the Catholic faith. Pray for all who will be traveling overseas to attend this event, including Therese Yew of St. Marks Parish.

DIOCESAN EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Know someone who would be a good fit, then please pass on the following information.

The Diocese of Fairbanks Construction Project Manager is Ryan Wood . He will be coordinating the planning and construction for facility changes, major repairs, and new construction within the diocese.

NOW HIRING!

Sacred Heart Cathedral is hiring a **part time Outreach Coordinator**. Responsibilities include:

- Stephen Ministry
- Outreach
- Safe Environment
- Emergency contact for citywide callout of priests to respond to people in danger of death or in special need of pastoral visits.

Please submit a letter of interest, a resume, and 3 references along with any questions to Rev Ross Tozzi, Sacred Heart Cathedral, rector@cbna.org.

The **Diocese of Fairbanks** is hiring for the following position: **Director of Schools – Catholic Schools of Fairbank, Fundraising Development Officer, and Maintenance Technician**. For more information on these and other positions contact

humanresources@cbna.org. Listings are posted at <https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/job-postings>

Catholic Schools of Fairbanks is hiring teachers for the following positions: **Full-time Religion Teacher** (grades 7-12); **Chemistry; Math-Computer Science; English;** and **Substitute Teachers, and High School After School Attendant**. For more information, contact Patrick Riggs at priggscsf@catholic-schools.org or call the school office at (907)-313-3062.

St. Raphael Parish has immediate opening for two positions: **Office Manager** and **Lay Pastoral Minister** For more information contact Fr. Jingbe at (907) 328-9424 or email sjingbe@cbna.org or Camille Connelly-Terhune via email secretary@straphaelfairbanks.org



CAN YOU HELP US FILL OUR SHELVES?

HIPOW is accepting (new or like new) auction items, gift cards, certificates & Experiences. Offices open 9-4 Monday-Thursday. Call their office at 907-313-3291 for more information.

“You cannot put straight in others what is warped in yourself.
~ St. Athanasius of Alexandria