



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.

PASTOR

Fr. Ross Tozzi: rtozzi@cbna.org Ph: 907-347-3005

**While Fr. Ross is out of town, if you need a priest contact*

Fr. Piotr or SHC Office (907-474-9032) office.

Fr. Piotr Opyrch: poprych@cbna.org Ph: 907-347-9805

DEACON: Warren Lucero

ST. MARK MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday Vespers: 4:45 PM @ Sacred Heart Cathedral (SHC)

Confessions: Saturdays 3-4 PM at SHC
or by appointment

Sunday: 5:30 PM @ SHC

If you can't receive normal hosts, please arrive early and see the priest or sacristan (Jennifer Chown) before Mass to ask to have low gluten hosts available.

Catholic Student Association

Mass & Meeting – 6:30 PM at UAF Upper Lola Tilly

LATIN MASS SCHEDULE:

Held at 6:00pm at SHC- 10/21, 11/4

PARISH OFFICE

Office Hours: 10am – 12noon

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

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

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

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

Pastoral Council

Marilis Bennett, Cynthia Klepaski, Ritchie Musick,
Jen & Sean Tucker, Fr. Ross Tozzi.

Finance Council

Marilis Bennett, Jen Tucker, Fr. Ross Tozzi

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time November 12, 2023



First Reading: Wisdom 6:12-16.

Wisdom will come to those who seek it.

Responsorial: Psalm 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8

Our souls are thirsting for God.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14

God will raise all those who have died.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish virgins, teaching his disciples the importance of being prepared to receive the Kingdom of Heaven.

COMING EVENTS:

11/14: 2023 Christmas Concert Rehearsals at SHC 6–7 PM

11/18: UAF Service Days for Students

11/18: 6:00 PM Latin Mass at Sacred Heart Cathedral

11/23-26: UAF Fall Break – NO CLASSES

11/24: THANKSGIVING

11/26: Advent Candles & Calendars available at 5:30pm Mass. Free Christmas exchange – cards, gift tags, books.



LATIN MASS SCHEDULE

Nov. 18 – Dec. 2 & 16 –
Jan. 13 & 20 – Feb. 3 & 17 –
Mar. 2 & 16 – Apr. 6 & 20

Scheduling subject to change depending on priest travel. Check Sacred Heart Cathedral website & bulletins for updates.



Songs for 5:30pm Sunday Mass

481 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

623 Isaiah 49

643 God of Day and God of Darkness

341 One Bread, One Body

302 City of God

***Join us in the choir and share God's gift of music!*

Please help by signing up in advance to be an Extraordinary minister, reader, passing the basket for collections, or help in bringing up the gifts for communion. With our regulars traveling during the months of November and December, it will make our job easier and allow you to familiarize yourself with the church hymns and readings. Consider joining our Parish Ministry!

be a volunteer





THESE EVENTS ARE OPEN TO ALL IN THE DIOCESE:

Oratory: 1:30 – 2:45 pm every Saturdays at SHC. Open for ages 5-17 for all children in the Diocese. For more info contact servidoras@cbna.org . Catechism Class at 3:00 PM.

Confirmation/Youth Group – Thursday, Oct 26 at SHC

Voces Verbi Young Adult Group – 6:00pm Friday Adoration, Pizza, and formation! For young adults 18-35. 1st Fridays at ICC; All other Fridays – at the sister’s convent. For more info contact : servidoras@cbna.org .

Voice of Hope Prayer Group – 6PM Tues evenings at SHC .

2023 Christmas Concert –Rehearsals begin Nov. 7th at SHC from 6:00-7:00 PM. *All Ages Welcome!*

Women’s Group – 7:00 pm - 1st & 3rd Tuesday at the sister’s convent. Contact the sisters for more info: servidoras@cbna.org

Men’s Group at ICC – Every Thursday at 7:30 pm starting with Adoration, the fellowship downstairs.

30-day preparation to make a consecration for Our Lady at ICC. Daily videos will be sent out by email and will meet once a week on Saturdays at 10AM at ICC. Saturday, **Nov 4th is the first meeting.**

Voices in the Wilderness: 6:30 pm Fridays at ICC. Contact Joe Malen 388-2550 or Annie Dobbs 479-8567.

Regional Soup Kitchen – 1:00 pm on Sat. and Sun. Help by donating food or time. Visit <https://iccfairbanks.org/soup-kitchen>.

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.

SHC Book Club –12:30 pm **1st Monday of the month.** Contact: Janet Fortune – 43janetf@gmail.com .

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

Knights of Columbus –6:30 pm **2nd Thursday of the month** downstairs @ SHC. Contact ICC for KoC meetings there.

Legion of Mary: 6pm Tuesday Legion of Mary Meetings ~ ICC.

Franciscan Community – 6:30 pm on **1st Thursday of the month** at St. Raphael Church. For information contact Gloria Slagle stclare4@gmail.com

Associates of the sisters of St. Joseph – Contact Patty Walter at pattywalter@hotmail.com for more info. **Quarterly meetings.** They have been active since 1987.

Sacrament 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: November 13 is the feast day of St. Frances Cabrini, the Patron Saint of Immigrants and the first U.S. citizen ever canonized. She herself was an immigrant, encouraged by Pope Leo XIII to leave her native Italy and come to America with her community of religious women. Her service to those in need, including immigrants from Italy, was inspiring. She cared for the poor, the abandoned, the uneducated, and the sick. Your challenge this week is to go on the Justice for Immigrants website of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, click on “Take Action,” and find one thing you can do to seek justice for the immigrants in our country today. The website is <https://justiceforimmigrants.org> .

Connecting the Gospel ...

... to the First Reading: The First Reading reveals that wisdom is a virtue given to all those who seek her, Even before our desire and our watching for wisdom, she comes to us.

In the Gospel, the Bridegroom’s coming is assured even before we desire or watch for the Bridegroom.

... to experience: We rarely, if ever, view our daily Christian living in light of the final coming of Christ. But his final coming is, in fact, the promise that gives ultimate meaning to our daily behavior and our ongoing hope. <https://liturgy.slu.edu>



CHRISTMAS CONCERT



Rehearsals for the 2023 Concert will begin Nov. 7th

Tuesdays 6:00-7:00pm at Sacred Heart

contact Sr. New Eve iccsecretary@cbna.org

Virtual Remembrance Retreat. With All Soul’s day, November 2, we began a month-long remembrance for all who have died. Take this opportunity to make a Virtual Remembrance Retreat offered by <https://bustedhalo.com/ministry-resources> with Fr. Steven Bell, CSP.



RETROUVAILLE

We have all heard that having a good marriage takes a lot of work, but have you ever wondered what the “work” looks like in a really great marriage? Do you want something more for your marriage, but just don’t know how to get there? Retrouvaille, a Christian marriage ministry, has the tools you need to take your marriage, a union of one man and one woman, to the next level. For confidential information or to register for the next Retrouvaille of Alaska program beginning with a weekend experience on Jan. 21, 2024, call 907-863-8000; email: anchorage@helpourmarriage.org; or visit the website www.HelpOurMarriage.org.

Why does Jesus allow us to suffer? ... “Because He knows that it is the only means of preparing us to know Him as he knows Himself, and to become ourselves divine.”

–St. Thérèse of Lisieux



What is the “Great Divorce”?

C.S. Lewis helps explain the reality of hell...and accidentally reveals the beauty of purgatory!

There can be no marriage between heaven and hell. In fact, there is a great divorce.

This is the argument of famous Christian thinker, C.S. Lewis, in his book the Great Divorce. As the book of Revelation reveals, “Nothing unclean shall enter [the gates of heaven]” (see Rev. 21:27). Therefore, we must purge ourselves of anything that is not pure, anything not from God.

Yet, even knowing the goodness of heaven, we struggle to do so. As C.S. Lewis describes, we all can adopt our pet sins. These sins may seem insignificant, but our attachment to them can lead us to privilege them even above our Creator and heaven’s banquet feast.

Many people, Christian and non-Christian, struggle with the idea that God would condemn someone to hell. However, in *The Great Divorce*, we see that hell is a self-choice. In Lewis’s portrayal, we meet souls which come up from hell but who choose to return. There is something of which they cannot let go.



But this is not exactly the end of the story. As Catholics, we agree with C.S. Lewis that those souls condemned to hell are those who chose to embrace that which is not of God and could not be happy in heaven. Yet we also believe that our merciful God enables those souls who have died in His grace but are still imperfect to undergo a purification of their desires so that they can perfectly join Him in heaven. This is the Catholic teaching of purgatory that we read about yesterday. Through C.S. Lewis’s beautiful analysis of the “great divorce” between heaven and hell, we recognize the beauty and necessity of purgatory!

A wonderful Christian thinker and storyteller, C.S. Lewis’s work is full of profound meditations on faith and humanity. Check out www.cslewis.com official website of C.S. Lewis to find out more about his writings. <https://www.catholiccompany.com>



This prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours is graced with a partial indulgence for souls in purgatory.

Requiem aeternam dona ei (eis), Domine, et lux perpetua luceat ei (eis). Requiescat (-ant). Requiescat 9-ant) in pace. Amen.

Eternal rest grant unto him/her (them), O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him/her (them). May he/she (they) rest in peace. Amen.

Seeking Wisdom



What made five foolish, and five wise?

It was their choice. Only their choices set them apart.

We may rely upon the wisdom of another — the parent who reminds us to go to confession, the friend who demurs when we start speaking gossip, the priest who preaches boldly from the pulpit against an injustice we lack the courage to denounce ourselves. But even if we feel safeguarded by their good influence, their wisdom won’t save us.

We may possess a little wisdom ourselves — we may know well that a dark night is hard to navigate, and that we need the assistance of a lamp. We may go to Mass once in a while, read the Bible when we have time and serve others when it’s convenient.

But a lamp needs oil to burn in the darkness, just as wisdom requires action to be brought forth into the world.

We may love God just as much as we should — our flesh may pine; our soul may thirst. But a parched field never brought rain on itself just by being dry.

We must make the choice.

“Thus will I bless you while I live; lifting up my hands, I will call upon your name.” — Psalm 63:4

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman • 10/12/23 ©Lpi

Questions of the Week:

“Now he is God not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all of them are alive.” ~Luke 20:37-38

Adults: We meet Christ sometimes when we least expect it. How can you be ready to see him in all the ways he is present?

Kids: What are some surprising ways in which you meet Christ in your daily life? www.pastoralcenter.com

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

“Therefore, stay awake, for you now neither the day nor the hour.” Matthew 25:11

Many of us have put off doing something because we think we are too busy. We’ve all said, “I’ll do it later when I have time.” Unfortunately, too many of us apply this attitude to our Faith. Jesus’ call is urgent, in the here and now, in your current circumstances. How is God calling you to use your gifts today? Don’t delay. None of us is guaranteed tomorrow.

Always pray to have eyes that see the best in people, a heart that forgives the worst, a mind that forgets the bad, and a soul that never loses faith in God.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

November 5, 2023: \$ 1,285.00

Actual Collection YTD 7/1/23-6/30/24: \$ 26,345.72

Thank you for your generosity and continued support!

Visit WeShare for online giving at: www.stmarksuaf.org
Thank you for your continued support to St. Mark Parish!
For the month of November, 3% of our collection will go to the **Archdiocese for the Military Services (AMS) and the Diocese of Fairbanks Special Collection**. Funds donated for the Diocese Special Collection are split between the Dioceses of Pankshin and Maiduguri in Nigeria and Mutare in Zimbabwe. We have five priests serving us in Northern Alaska who call these Dioceses home.

Stewardship Prayer for 2023:

Dear Lord, thank You for being generous with me. Thank you for showing me that all I am and have are gifts from You and that these gifts are meant to be shared. Show me the joys of generosity. Help me to understand that others, perhaps unknown to me, depend on me for help. Remind me that my world, my parish, needs "Good Samaritans" to heal the wounds of our times. Make me a gift to others in Your name. Amen.

Prayer of the Faithful:

That we understand God's call is urgent, in the here and now, in our current circumstances.



Pope Francis' November Prayer Intentions:

We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Please Pray for: Pope Francis; Bishop Steven Maekawa, O.P., Fr. Ross Tozzi, Fr. Piotr Oprych, Dcn. Warren Lucero; and all priests, brothers, sisters, and deacons serving in the Diocese of Fairbanks.

Pray for priests and religious who have served our parish and have moved on to different assignments or retired.

Pray for members of St. Mark Parish & CSA community.

Pray for those who are struggling with health problems or loneliness.

Pray for those suffering from the results of war and violence; may they find healing from physical and mental harm.

Pray for the repose of the souls of our faithfully departed. May the Lord grant them eternal happiness.

Pray for Vocations: "Then we who are alive, who remain, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord." Consider the generous service of priesthood or consecrated life to lead others to the Lord. Contact the Vocation Office at (907) 374-9504 or email: rfath@cbna.org.



ICC Soup Kitchen needs the following items to help with their mission:

Food items needed: Granola bars, Fresh Fruit (Bananas, apples, oranges etc., Desserts, & Eggs
Clothing items needed: Hats, Wool Socks, & Gloves. VOLUNTEERS are always needed. Go to <https://www.iccfairbanks.org/soup-kitchen> for more information. The kitchen can be reached via email at iccsoupkitchen@cbna.org, or by phone at 907-452-353, ext. 1003, or in person at the church between of 10am – 2pm.

Gail Riedman is in Hawaii with family as she recuperates and is receiving medical care. You can send well wishes to: 440 N Judd Str., Honolulu, HI 96817.



Prayer Chain: Do you need someone to pray for you? Would you like to pray for others? Email St. Mark's office at stmark@cban.org or call the office at 907-374-9564.



DIOCESAN EMPLOYMENT

The **Diocese of Fairbanks** is hiring for the following position: **Safe Environment/Victim Assistance Coordinator;** responsible for the administration of the diocesan Safe Environment Program; compiling data and documents for the annual USCCB audit based on the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People; working closely with diocesan groups to ensure compliance with all diocesan Child and Youth Protection policies; providing assistance, pastoral care, and support to victims and their families; and coordinating the quarterly Diocesan Review Board meetings. Part-time, hourly position. Qualifications: bachelor's degree in social work, counseling psychology, or related field; and five years' experience collaborating with individuals affected by trauma.

Applications are still being accepted by the **Diocese of Fairbanks** for the following positions: **Faith and Family Formation Director** and **Digital Content Coordinator**. For more information about open positions visit <https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/job-postings>. To request a formal job description, or to submit a cover letter and resume please email humanresouces@cbna.org.



November 26th - St. Mark's will have Advent items available for a small donation ~ Advent Calendars, Jesse Tree Calendars, Diocesan ornaments, and our "free" table for all to bring in unused Christmas cards they want to pass on. A basket will be put out for a small donation to help in providing items for your home for Advent in 2024!



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>