



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.

CLERGY

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

Fr. Piotr Oprych: 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

Meets on Thursdays in UAF Upper Lola Tilly Rm 301

RCIA/Fundamentals of the Catholic Faith – 5:15 PM

Mass– 6:30 followed by Meeting 7:00-9:00 PM

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-third Sunday in Ordinary Time November 19, 2023



First Reading: Proverbs 31:10, 19-20, 30-31.

The virtues of a good wife are extolled.

Responsorial: Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5

Blessed are those who walk in God's ways.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

Paul warns the Thessalonians to stay alert because the day of the Lord cannot be predicted

Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus tells the parable of the talents, in which he teaches about the importance of using the gifts that God has given to us in service to the Kingdom of Heaven.



Songs for 5:30pm Sunday Mass

380 Lord, you gave the Great Commission

630 Canticle of the Turning

572 O Lord, I am not Worthy

547 O God Beyond All Praising

COMING EVENTS:

11/21: 2023 Christmas Concert Rehearsals at SHC 6–7 PM

11/21: Pro Orantibus Day

11/23-26: UAF Fall Break – NO CLASSES

11/23: THANKSGIVING

11/24-26: Spiritual Exercise Retreat for Men

11/26: Christ the King Sunday

11/26: Advent Items available at 5:30PM St. Mark Mass

LATIN MASS SCHEDULE



Nov. 18 – Dec. 2 & 16 –

Jan. 13 & 20 – Feb. 3 & 17 –

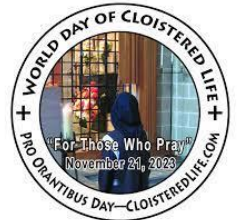
Mar. 2 & 16 – Apr. 6 & 20

Scheduling subject to change depending on priest travel.

PRO ORANTIBUS DAY – Nov. 21st is

Pro Orantibus Day (“For Those Who Pray”) honoring cloistered men & women worldwide. It is a day of thanksgiving, solidarity, & support for contemplative religious who spend their lives in total dedication to God in union with Jesus & interceding for the salvation of all. Pope Pius XII instituted this worldwide event in 1953 & Pope St. John Paul II expanded its celebration in 1997 to take place on the Memorial of our Lady's Presentation in the Temple.

Sisters of Perpetual Adoration in Anchorage is the only Contemplative Life Monastery in Alaska established 5/15/85. <https://blessedsacramentmonastery.org>





THESE EVENTS ARE OPEN TO ALL IN THE DIOCESE

The following are not meeting this week: Oratory, Confirmation/Youth Group, Voces Verbi Young Adult Group – Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

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

Silent Ignatian Retreat – Spiritual Exercises for men Nov. 24th-26th (Fri-Sun) at Harding Lake. \$75/person. Contact M. Salvation at servidoras@cbna.org.

2023 Christmas Concert – Rehearsals on Tuesdays at SHC from 6:00-7:00 PM. **All Ages Welcome!** Contact Sr. New Eve @ iccsecretary@cbna.org

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. Consecration will be on December 8th at ICC. servidoras@cbna.org

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>.

Formed – Go to Formed.org for Catholic movies, shows and other resources.

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. Become an active part in the civic lives of our country, states, and local communities.

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: The Sunday gospel focuses on the gifts which God gives to each one of us. We are called to use our talents and gifts, not hide, or neglect them. And God always wants us to share what He has given to us with the most vulnerable. Your challenge this week is to share one of your special talents with someone in need. If you have the gift of speaking, perhaps you could make a call to your legislators, asking them to support bills which ensure food security for all. If you have a gift for music, consider visiting a homeless shelter or nursing home and brightening the residents' day with song. If you are talented in sports, call a family shelter and offer to organize a game for the children. If finances are your field of expertise, offer your services to a service organization which is doing fund-raising. Share your God-given gifts with others so your light can shine for all to see.

Connecting the Gospel ...

... to the First Reading: Unlike the “wicked, lazy servant” in the Gospel, this faithful and loving wife works diligently to bring good to others and is judged praiseworthy for increasing the quality of life within and around her
... to experience: When facing any kind of judgment, our first responses is to be uncomfortable. Upon reflection, when our choices and behaviors have led to fuller Life for ourselves and others, we know we have nothing to fear from a judgment. Indeed, we can even look forward to it. <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

November 26th – Next week St. Mark's will have our annual table with Advent items available for a small donation ~ Advent Calendars, Jesse Tree Calendars, Advent Candles, Diocesan ornaments, and our “free” table for all to bring in unused Christmas: cards, books, wrapping paper ~ they want to pass on. Your donation will be put toward purchasing Advent Calendars and Candles for your home for Advent in 2024!



The Catholic Company presents



When was the first Thanksgiving?

Far from Plymouth Rock, more than fifty years before the Pilgrims arrived....

...a fleet of Spanish ships cast anchor off the coast of what is now the state of Florida. It was the feast of Our Lady's Nativity, September 8th, 1565.

The group, led by Pedro Menéndez de Avilés, was received peacefully by the local natives. Fr. Francisco Lopez de Mendoza Grajales, the fleet's Franciscan chaplain, came ashore before the captain, bearing a cross. Don Menéndez then followed, meeting Fr. Lopez, kneeling, and kissing the cross.



A 208 ft. steel cross marks where the cross was first permanently planted in the USA

Fr. Lopez proceeded to celebrate a Mass of thanksgiving for a safe voyage. The natives joined the newcomers for Mass and for a celebratory meal afterward.

The place where the Spaniards landed is the oldest continually-inhabited city in the United States—St. Augustine, Florida, so named because land was sighted on the traditional feast of St. Augustine: August 28th. The parish established there is our country's oldest Catholic parish.

The word "eucharist" means "thanksgiving," and so it is providentially fitting that the first Thanksgiving in America was—first and foremost—the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

We hope you enjoy Thanksgiving with your families today. If you are able, start off your day with the Holy Mass, as they did in St. Augustine nearly five hundred years ago. And wherever life's voyage takes you, may the Eucharist be your sustenance and may gratitude be a daily habit.

There will be lots of cooking to do today and over the next month as the holidays ramp up. Set yourself up for success with a set of recipes direct from the Vatican! Former Swiss Guard and master chef David Geisser presents [The Vatican Cookbook](#), a collection of favorite dishes served at the Vatican. Includes engaging stories and legends of the Swiss Guard, as well as stunning, behind-the-scenes photographs of the Vatican. <https://www.catholiccompany.com>

"Confession heals, confession justifies,
confession grants pardon of sin,
all hope consists of confession;
in confession there is a chance for mercy."
~ St. Isidore

What Remains



When my grandfather died, my parents, siblings, and I were left with the question: what's to become of the house?

Anyone who has inherited property knows that it's not simply a matter of assuming ownership of a plot of land upon which sits four walls and a roof. Those four walls and a roof usually contain memories and objects — an enormous volume of both, in the case of my grandfather. When they're left to you, you have to sift through them, the memories, and the objects, and with each one you have to think: *Is it worth it? Do I keep it? Will I need it?*

And slowly, painfully, you disassemble the physical existence of the person who lived here. You accept, with a pang, that most of it must be given away or discarded. You cry when you bag up the clothes to take to Goodwill. You can't even bear to look when they break the piano into a hundred pieces and throw it in a dumpster, realizing that no one wants or has a use for something that was once so precious.

But when you come upon a rosary that was used so many times it has begun to fall apart, you don't even think twice before keeping it, and not because you need the rosary. You need what it means. You need what it reminds you of.

When all is said and done, each of us will be called before our master to settle accounts, just as my grandfather was.

"Where are the gifts I gave you? What remains of the fortune to which I entrusted you?" he will ask us. "What have you done with the peace? What have you done with the love? What have you done with the mercy?"

"You yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief at night." 1 Thessalonians 5:2
Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman • 11/19/23 ©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

"Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you have been faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities." Matthew 25:21

God calls us to nurture and develop the gifts He has given us and then generously return a portion with increase. He doesn't want us to waste or hoard the gifts He has given us. He expects us to grow our gifts, to use them wisely, and to be generous in proportion to all that God has given us. God asks us to be generous with all our gifts, especially the one that means the most to you.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

November 12, 2023: \$ 1,077.00

Actual Collection YTD 7/1/23-6/30/24: \$ 27,122.72

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 answer God's call to nurture and develop our gifts and return them with increase.



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 our priests, brothers, sisters, and deacons serving in the Diocese of Fairbanks. Keep those who have retired or moved elsewhere to serve.

Pray for members of St. Mark & CSA community, especially during this Thanksgiving week. May those traveling to celebrate Thanksgiving arrive at their destination safely.

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

Pray for all 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: "Well done, good and faithful servant..."

How are you called to use your talents? If Christ may be inviting you to faithful service as a priest or consecrated religious, 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 907-452-3533, ext. 1003, or in person at the church between of 10am – 2pm.

The New Liturgical Year begins with Advent: The start



of a new seasonal cycle begins on November 26, and also marks the transition from one lectionary cycle to the next. We finish cycle A today (Nov 19) and start cycle B next Sunday. We move from St. Matthew and his Gospel to St. Mark and His Gospel.

St. Mark's Gospel is now generally regarded as the earliest Gospel and sometimes called the Gospel of

Suffering. He presents Jesus as a wise teacher and powerful and compassionate healer. He insists that Jesus can be properly understood only when we confront the mystery of the cross and Jesus' identity as a suffering Messiah.

The first reading at mass, usually comes from the Old Testament, reflecting on important themes from the Gospel reading.

The second reading is usually from one of the epistles, a letter written to an early church community read semi-continuously. Each Sunday we pick up where we left off.



DIOCESAN EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

Applications are still being accepted by the **Diocese of Fairbanks** for the following positions: **Safe Environment/Victim Assistance Coordinator, 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 humanresources@cbna.org.

It is not HAPPY people who are THANKFUL.

It is THANKFUL people who are HAPPY !!

HAVE A BLESSED THANKSGIVING

from all at St. Mark's

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>

ALL WE HAVE TO DECIDE IS
WHAT TO DO WITH THE TIME THAT IS GIVEN US.
J.R.R. Tolkien