



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
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

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

Sunday: 5:30 PM @ SHC

If you are unable to receive normal hosts, please arrive early and see the priest or sacristan (Jennifer Choun) before Mass to ask to have low gluten hosts available.

Catholic Student Association

Religious Instruction – 5:15 PM at UAF Upper Lola Tilly
Mass & Meeting – 6:30 PM at UAF Upper Lola Tilly

LATIN MASS SCHEDULE:

Held at 6:00pm at SHC- 12/9 & 12/66

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



COMING EVENTS:

12/1: First Friday Devotions at ICC ~ 5:30 PM Latin Mass;
6pm-6am Nocturnal Adoration; 7 AM Latin Mass

12/1 & 2: Sweet Adeline Holiday Concert at Pioneer Park
7:30 PM Friday & 3 PM Saturday.

12/2: 6 PM Latin Mass at Sacred Heart Cathedral (SHC)

12/3: 1st Sunday of Advent ~ HOPE

12/6: 7 PM Diocese Advent Penance Service at SHC

12/8: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

12/10: 2nd Sunday of Advent ~ PEACE

12/16: 6 PM Latin Mass at Sacred Heart Cathedral

12/17: 3rd Sunday of Advent ~ JOY

12/24: 4th Sunday of Advent ~ LOVE

12.25: THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (Christmas)

First Sunday in Advent, Cycle B December 3, 2023



First Reading: *Isaiah 63:16b-17, 64:2-7*

Isaiah prays for the Lord's forgiveness of the people.

Responsorial: *Psalms 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19*

A prayer for the Lord's protection.

Second Reading: *1 Corinthians 1:3-9*

Paul gives thanks to God for the faith of the Corinthians.

Gospel Reading: *Mark 13:33-37*

Jesus warns his disciples to be watchful so that they will be ready when the Son of Man comes.

Dec. 3 Hymns for 5:30pm Mass

47 – The King Shall Come

54 – Savior of the Nations, Come

56 – Wake, O Wake and Sleep no longer

44 – O Come, Divine Messiah



The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mass times at Sacred Heart Cathedral

Dec. 7 (Thu): 7:00 PM

Dec. 8 (Fri): 7:30 AM ~ 12:10 PM
7:00 PM



Every First Friday/Saturday at Immaculate Conception Church (ICC): 5:30 PM First Friday Latin Mass, 6AM-6PM Nocturnal Adoration (please sign up for an hour of adoration); 6AM Patriotic Rosary; 7AM First Saturday Latin Mass.

Oratory: 1:30 – 2:45 PM every Saturday at Sacred Heart Cathedral (SHC). For more information contact servidoras@cbna.org

Confirmation/Youth Group: Thursdays – alternating between SHC and ICC. Contact servidoras@cbna.org for more information.

Voces Verbi Young Adult Group – 1st Friday at ICC. Meet for 5:30 PM Latin Mass.

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

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.

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

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

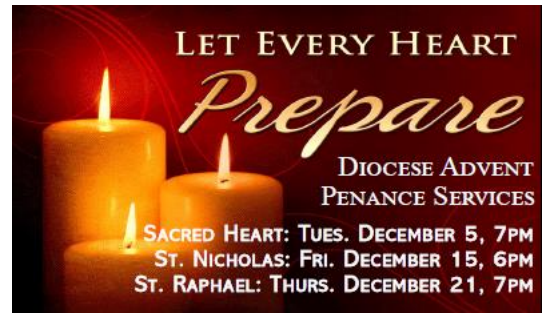
Franciscan Community – 6:30 pm on **1st Thursday of the month** at St. Raphael Church. For information contact Gloria Slagle stclare4@gmail.com

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.

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.

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 draws us into the Season of Advent, challenging us to prepare ourselves and our world for Christ’s coming. The Advent readings focus on many images of the messiah in the Old Testament. The prophets particularly describe the messiah, one who will bring peace to our troubled world. Jesus, the Prince of Peace, is the fulfillment of their prophecies. Your challenge this week is to follow in Jesus’ footsteps by being a peacemaker yourself. How can you create peace within your own heart, within your family, in the community, and even in the world? Spend time in prayer, letting the peace of Christ penetrate your being. Then bring together people you know who are fighting, inviting them to see the goodness in each other. And finally, pray for peace in the most troubled spots in the world. Where is conflict most volatile and hateful? Pray for the people who live there and for their leaders to have the courage to be peacemakers rather than peace-breakers.

The First Week of Advent:

Heavenly Father, as we begin this Advent, give light to our eyes and peace to our hearts. May the Lord find us watching and waiting in joy when He comes. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Connecting the Gospel ...

... to the First Reading: Both the first reading and second readings affirm God’s utter faithfulness in gifting us with “the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ,” “awesome deeds we could not hope for,” and continued loving care: God delivers us from guilt and sin and enriches us in every way in Christ.



... to experience: When we have expectations, we are watchful and alert; without expectations, we easily become faint and lackluster. This Sunday’s gospel reminds us that if we want to be watchful and alert for Christ’s coming, we must develop heightened expectation for God’s continuing gift of divine Presence. <https://liturgy.slu.edu>





Why is Advent called a “little Lent”?

Although a time of great joy and festivity, Advent is also a penitential season!

Christmas, that most wonderful time of the year, is always preceded by Advent. As the first season in the liturgical year, most of us know that Advent is a time of anticipation and waiting for the birth of Christ. But many might not be aware that Advent has often been called a “little Lent.” Why is this so?

One reason is the profound connection between Lent and Advent. It is not difficult to see the beauty of Christ’s birth in the sweet manger scene, where the Infant is wrapped in swaddling clothes and adored by Mary and Joseph. Yet, in truth, we are not naive witnesses to this scene. We all know that there is a scene to come—one that involves the Way of the Cross and the Crucifixion. This reality is very close to the reality of Christmas. Indeed, it is what makes the original nativity scene so poignant.

Another related reason why Advent has been called a “little Lent” is that, like Lent, it is a penitential season. Advent used to be forty days but was formalized to four weeks in the 9th century, which is why we now have the four Sundays of Advent. The Mass itself assumes a more somber tone during Advent. The priests wear violet vestments, as they do during Lent, since purple is the liturgical color that signifies repentance and sorrow for sin. The prayer is as follows:



The Gloria is also removed from the beginning of Mass during Advent, just as it is during Lent.

Unlike Lent, the penitential observances of Advent always have a festive character to them, which is why we retain the Alleluia during Advent, but not during Lent.

Both Advent and Lent are seasons of preparation. We prepare for the coming of the Savior in Advent (both commemorating His birth and looking forward to His second coming at the end of time) and we prepare for His Passion, death, and Resurrection in Lent. Lent and Advent are distinct from Easter and Christmas, even though they prepare us for them. Just as Easter does not begin until after nightfall on Holy Saturday (the beginning of the Easter Vigil), Christmas doesn’t actually begin until the first Mass is celebrated on Christmas Eve, which is when we officially enter the beautiful season of Christmas and Christmastide.

Are you wondering how to get started with your Advent preparations? A great saint and thinker of the Church wants to help you out. Journey alongside St. John Henry Newman in his powerful book *Waiting for Christ: Meditations for Advent and Christmas* and find yourself transformed when Christ comes at Christmas! A few minutes a day with St. John Henry Newman’s beautiful meditations will fill your Advent and Christmas with the joy, wonder, and peace of Christ’s coming. <https://www.catholiccompany.com>

“God didn’t call me to be successful,
He called me to be faithful.” ~ Mother Teresa

Memento Mori



Just this week, my husband and I signed our wills, and the lawyer was careful to couch our transaction in gentle, abstract language: “When we lose you” she kept saying, instead of “When you die.”

It’s very uncomfortable to dwell on our death. But the Christian life does not just encourage us to do so: it demands that we do.

I once came upon a prayer consecrating the last two hours of life to the Blessed Mother. I have since found variations of the prayer online with different phrasing, but the sentiment of them all is the same: let me not be caught sleeping. Let me be ready.

“You can’t do all your homework at the end,” a deacon who ministers to the dying once told me. “Good Friday is waiting in the wings for all of us.”

I think of that a lot when I don’t particularly feel like praying, when I think I’m too busy to go to confession or when feelings of resentment fester inside me on Sunday mornings as I pack my family off to church. All our good deeds are like polluted rags, says the prophet. We have all withered like leaves.

You can’t do all your homework at the end. God is faithful. Are we?

“May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to all: ‘Watch!’” — Mark 13:36

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman • 11/30/23 ©Lpi

Questions of the Week:

God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

~ 1 Corinthians 1:9

Adults: How do you know when you’re following?

Kids: What good thing might God be asking you to do right now?

www.pastoralcenter.com

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

“Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come.” **Mark 13:33**

We all take things for granted. In particular, we take time for granted. We make our lives too busy. We plan our days, weeks, months, even years in advance. Remember, our time on earth is a gift. None of us knows how long we will be here. Start today and begin thanking God for each and every day. Take time in silence, every day, and listen to how God is calling you right now to help build His kingdom on earth.

“It is the beautiful task of ADVENT to
AWAKEN in all of us
MEMORIES of GOODNESS
and thus to OPEN doors of HOPE.”

~ Pope Benedict XVI

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

November 26, 2023: \$ 1,086.18

Actual Collection YTD 7/1/23-6/30/24: \$ 29,324.72

Thank you for your generosity and continued support!

Visit WeShare for online giving at: www.stmarksuaf.org
In December - 3% of our collection will go the "Retirement Fund for Religious." This provides for retired members of religious communities in the USA who aren't provided for by diocesan priest retirement programs. Nearly 25,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have prayed, ministered, educated, and cared for those in need. Please help and give generously to make a difference in providing them the essential care in retirement.

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 priests, brothers, sisters, and deacons serving in the Diocese of Fairbanks.

Pray for UAF students as they finish the last two weeks of the Fall Semester.

Pray for members of St. Mark Parish and their extended families.

Pray for all who are sick, caretakers, and medical providers.

Pray for victims of natural disasters; 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: "Like a man away on a journey, he assigns each of us a task; be on the alert." Being chosen to serve as a priest or in consecrated life is an amazing work of the Lord. Ask the Holy Spirit and our Blessed Mother to help you recognize and be faithful to your vocation. Talk to your priest or reach out to Fr. Robert Fath, the Vocations Director 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.

DIOCESAN EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The **Diocese of Fairbanks** is looking to fill 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.

GET FREE CATHOLIC CONTENT ON FORMED.ORG.

St. Mark Parish has access to FORMED through Sacred Heart Cathedral! Take advantage of this fantastic online resource starting with their daily reflections during Advent.

- 1) Log onto: <https://formed.org/signup>
- 2) Type in Fairbanks and select Sacred Heart Cathedral.
- 3) Click Next, then fill in your name and email address.
- 4) Start accessing content!

The Prophet's candle signifies **HOPE** when we light the first candle of Advent. Participate in our 2023 "**REVERSE ADVENT**" Calendar where we can give hope to others during this season and support the Immaculate Conception Soup Kitchen. Suggestions are included. Details are on the calendar or go to <https://stmarks@uaf.org> to print it and begin the journey.



5 Reasons to Go to Confession

1. Cleanse Your Soul
2. Grow Your Relationship With the Lord
3. Experience Divine Forgiveness
4. Relinquish Your Guilt
5. Acknowledge Your Sinful Ways



4TH Sunday of ADVENT

SHC Mass Schedule

12/23 (Sat) 4:30 pm Mass

12/24 (Sun) 8:00 & 11:00 AM

1:00 PM Spanish Mass



CHRISTMAS VIGIL at SHC begins with:

12/24 (Sun) 5:30 pm Vigil Saint Mark Mass

7:30 pm Vigil Mass

12/25 (Mon) 12:00 AM Midnight Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY

8:00 & 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM Spanish Mass

(No 5:30 pm Saint Mark Mass)

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>

Advent = Hope + Peace + Joy + Love