



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.

St. Mark Mass & Confession Schedules

Sunday Vespers: 4:45 PM @ Sacred Heart Cathedral

Confessions: Saturdays 3-4 PM at SHC and ICC.

Sunday Mass: 5:30 PM @ SHC

Please arrive before mass and see the priest or sacristan about the availability of low gluten hosts.

During Lent @ SHC Friday 5:30pm Mass, 6pm Stations of the Cross, Lenten Lite potluck in Social Hall afterwards.

Ash Wednesday (2/14) Liturgy of the Word and Distribution of Ashes will be offered at:

Sacred Heart Cathedral: 7:30am, 12:10pm, & 7pm

UAF CSA: 7pm in (UAF Upper Lola Tilly Room)

Immaculate Conception: 12:10pm & 5:30pm

St. Raphael: 9:30am & 7pm

St. Nicholas (North Pole): 9am & 7pm

PASTOR

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

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

DEACON

Warren Lucero

Catholic Student Association

7:00pm Wednesday Mass – in UAF Upper Lola Tilly.
Religion Education for students – Contact Fr. Ross Tozzi if you have questions rtozzi@cbna.org or Ph: 907-347-3005.

LATIN MASS SCHEDULE:

Held at 6:00pm at SHC – February 3 & 17.

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@alaska.edu

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

Finance Council Marilis Bennett, Jen Tucker, Fr. Ross Tozzi

CALENDAR of EVENTS:

Now to 3/16 (Sat): 9-10:30am **Marriage Classes**

2/7-14: National Marriage Week

2/14: **Ash Wednesday**

2/17: 6pm Latin Mass at SHC

2/18: **4pm Rite of Election at SHC**

2/23-25: Marriage Encounter Weekend at St. Nicholas -NP

3/12: 7:00pm Chrism Mass at SHC

3/20-23: Priest Convocation in Anchorage

4/2: **Palm Sunday**

4/7: 4:00pm **Easter Concert at SHC**

6/5-14: 9am-4pm Summer Oratory

6th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Cycle B

Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes

World Marriage Day

February 11, 2024



First Reading: *Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46*

The Law regarding leprosy is given to Moses and Aaron.

Responsorial: *Psalms 32:1-2, 5, 11*

A prayer of contrition and confession for sin.

Second Reading: *1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1*

Paul urges the Corinthians to imitate him as he imitates Christ.

Gospel Reading: *Mark 1:40-45*

Jesus cures a person with leprosy, who reports his cure to everyone.



St. Mark 5:30 pm Music of the Mass

472 There is a Balm in Gilead

674 Precious Lord, Take My Hand

450 Amazing Grace

625 Whatsoever You Do

203 Praise to the Lord

Why is Ash Wednesday important? As the first day of Lent, Ash Wednesday awakens us to Jesus' entry into the desert preceding his death. Before Easter, however, we must prepare our hearts for his Resurrection. We begin the season this week in preparing our hearts for Easter by recognizing our brokenness and need for conversion, a turning of our hearts to God. <https://hallow.com>

Fasting and Abstinence from Meat: On these two days: Ash Wednesday (2/14) and on Good Friday (3/29) one main meal only, and two lesser meals that together do not equal the main meal. No meat is allowed. This obliges all Catholics who have passed their 18th birthday and have not yet passed their 59th birthday. Celebrate your Valentine Day on Tuesday (2/13).



Friday during Lent at SHC: 5:30pm Mass, followed by Stations of the Cross at 6pm. A potluck will follow featuring a light (meager) meal of soup and sandwiches.

Oratory: Every Saturday at Sacred Heart Cathedral from 1-2:45PM. Ages 5-17.

Summer Oratory Summer Catholic camp for youth ages 6 to 17 will be held June 5th-14th. Contact servidoras@cbna.org for more information. Registrations are due May 1, 2024.

Religious Education: Classes 3-4:15PM. For more information contact servidoras@cbna.org

Confirmation/Youth Group: Thurs -5pm- Feb 8 @ SHC; Feb 15 @ ICC Contact servidoras@cbna.org for more information.

Voces Verbi Young Adult Group: 6pm Adoration, Pizza, and formation at ICC for Young Adults 18-35 @ ICC.

Catholic Student Association – 7pm weekly Mass Wednesday at Upper Lola Tilly Commons on Campus – 1850 Tanana Loop. Contact UAF-catholic-Club@alaska.edu for information.

Winter Marriage Preparation Classes: Feb 17, March 2, 9, and 16. Contact Fr. Ross Tozzi at rtozzi@cbna.org or call (907) 347-3005.

Catholic Engaged Encounter Weekend: February 23-25. Please register for when registering for Marriage Preparation Classes.

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

Women's Group: 6:30PM every Tuesday at the sister's convent for Women over 18. Contact the sisters for more info: servidoras@cbna.org

Men's Group: 7:30PM every Thursday at ICC. Adoration & fellowship downstairs ICC.

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

SHC Book Club: 12:30PM 1st Monday of the month in SHC Community Rm. Contact: Janet Fortune – 43janetf@gmail.com

ICC - Our Lady of Fatima: Contact Shannon Christensen at (907) 388-1825.

Knights of Columbus: 6:30PM 2nd Thursday of the month downstairs @ SHC. 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: 6:30PM on 1st Thursday of the month at St. Raphael Church. For information contact Gloria Slagle stclare4@gmail.com

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

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



Fr. Ross Tozzi (907-347-3005) and Fr. Piotr Oprych (907-347-9805) hear confession on Saturdays at Sacred Heart Cathedral from 3-4pm or by appointment.

Grab a Rice Bowl! Begin your Lenten journey with a CRS Rice Bowl. During the 40 days of Lent to meet people in Uganda, El Salvador and Indonesia and reflect on the challenges they with global hunger and climate change and pray, fast, and give alms to help others. Reflect on our connectedness as one family in Christ and work together to ensure our sisters and brothers worldwide can thrive. Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more.



Marriage Class – Winter Session 2024 @ SHC February 3 – March 16 2024

The Cathedral is offering a city-wide marriage preparation course using the Beloved Series. All interested – engaged or thinking about marriage – are invited to attend and learn the ABC's of how to have a healthy, happy, and holy relationship. Sessions take place in the Cathedral Social Hall from 9-10:30am; Feb 17, March 2, 9, & 16. Please register for the Catholic Engaged Encounter Feb 23-25.



Justice Challenge: This Sunday's Gospel

is about the leper who touches Jesus' heart. While leprosy isn't rampant in our communities today, many people suffer from the poverty of relationships which lepers suffered in Jesus' time. There are people in our own communities who have no one who loves them except God. And they may not experience God's love because they have no human love to help them recognize God's love. They are the lonely, the alienated; some are scared, or angry or wounded. Your challenge this week is to take the compassion in your heart beyond your immediate circle of loved ones and extend that compassion to someone who is alone. What can you do as a family or household to bring love into this person's life? And can you commit to making it more than a one-time act of kindness and care? How can you continue to let this person know that he or she is not alone in this world, that God loves them, and that you do, too?

<https://pastoral.center>

Connecting the Gospel...

... to the First Reading: The law described in the first reading functioned to protect the community from an uncontrollable, infectious disease: the leprous individual was to "dwell apart." In the gospel Jesus, having "touched" the leper to heal him, made himself unclean according to Jewish law, and so he had to "[remain] outside in deserted places."

... to experience: "Outcasts" are not just those of long ago who have broken a legal taboo. Today there are those we have cast out: they may be members of the other political party, another religion, a foreign culture, even members of our own families, etc. <https://liturgy.slu.edu>



SHARING GOOD NEWS

"Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ."

-- 1 Corinthians 11:1

Adults: Would you have the courage to tell others to do as you do in order to be a Christian? Why or why not?

Kids: What can you do this week to be an example to others?

Lent's 3 Pillars: Prayer, Fasting, Almsgiving.



Why do we put ashes on our heads every year?

Isn't that a little bit...Old Testament-y?

Yes, it's very much Old Testament-y!

The people of Nineveh performed penance in sackcloth and ashes after Jonah delivered God's message to them.

Job scattered ash on his food when everything he possessed was taken from him.

The early Church adopted the Jewish custom of ash as an external symbol of penance or grief:

In the Old Law ashes were generally a symbolic expression of grief, mourning, or repentance. In the Early Church, the use of ashes had a like signification and with sackcloth formed part of the public penances.

—The Roman Catholic Daily Missal, 1962

So why ash?

Ash represents our mortality; just as ashes are the remains of wood consumed by fire, so our bodies will be reduced to dust after we die. We recall our mortality to practice humility, reminding ourselves of our extreme lowliness and the brevity of earthly life.



Traditionally, the forty days of Lent represent Our Lord's forty-day fast in the desert. For us, the forty days mark a period of penance and prayer as we accompany Our Lord on the road leading to His Passion.

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and the cross of ash upon our foreheads to remind us that we ought to repent of our sins, especially during the Lenten season.

Ash Wednesday is here. The season of penance has begun. How are you going to observe Lent this year?

<https://getfed.catholiccompany.com/why-do-we-put-ashes-on-our-heads-every-year/>

Then the Lord God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being."

~ Genesis 2:7

LOVE
is our true destiny.
We do not find the meaning
of life by ourselves alone -
we find it with another.
Thomas Merton

Sin and Loneliness



When I was in high school, we read "The Metamorphosis" by Franz Kafka. It's a depressing little novella about a man who (spoiler alert!) turns into a cockroach and dies of neglect, his family gradually ceasing to recognize the creature he has become.

"Never underestimate how badly human beings need touch," our teacher told us. "Without each other, we curl up and die."

Our need for communion with each other is written into our biology — breathing and heart rate of newborns regulates when they lie against the skin of their mothers, and we instinctively reach out to embrace someone who has been wounded. But it is also written into our souls. Consider the early days of the pandemic, and the emotional starvation we all experienced, prevented from gathering in groups to worship, to celebrate and to mourn. And when we did encounter other people, we kept a mutual distance. "I feel like a leper," we grumbled to our families when we returned home, because we finally understood it: the real tragedy of leprosy is not pain and disfigurement. The real tragedy of leprosy is loneliness.

"If you wish, you can make me clean," begged the leper as he knelt before Christ (Mark 1:40). He wasn't begging for deliverance from pain and disfigurement. He was begging for deliverance from isolation.

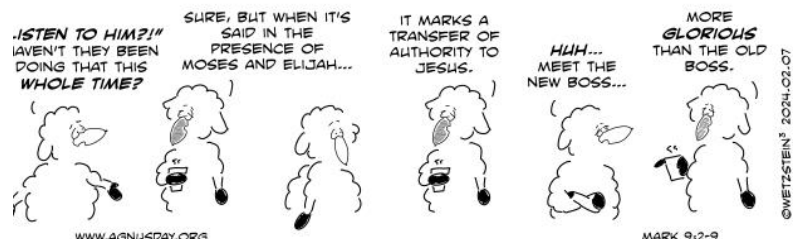
"If you wish, you can make me clean," we beg God in confession, not because we are physically withering and dying but because we are so desperate to once again be held in His embrace.

"Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched him, and said to him, 'I do will it. Be made clean.'" — Mark 1:41

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman – Feb 9, 2024

"Married love differs from any other kind of love. By its nature, the love of husband and wife is so complete, so ordered to a lifetime of communion with God and each other, that it is open to creating a new human being they will love and care for together."

USCCB, Married Love and the Gift of Life



PARISH STEWARDSHIP

February 4, 2024: \$ 1,199.00

Actual Collection YTD 7/1/23-6/30/24: \$ 43,652.43

Thank you for your generosity and continued support!

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

A percentage of donations in February and March will go towards the following special collections:

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Operation Rice Bowl (2/14-3/31). 25% of this collection supports diocesan anti-poverty efforts.

Black & Indian Mission supports evangelization work throughout our diocese and USA.

Pontifical Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land supports the preservation of Holy Places and welfare of Christians living in the Holy Land.

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

"Brothers and sisters, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God."

-- 1 Corinthians 10:31

Do a quick check of your priorities. Where does God rank in that list? If He's not first, you have some work to do. Putting God first in everything helps us from putting other "gods" (like our pride, ego, money, and possessions) before God. Before making a decision, ask yourself, "Am I doing this for the glory of God or for the glory of me?"

Pope Francis' February Prayer Intentions:

For the terminally ill: We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

Please Pray for: Pope Francis; Bishop Steven Maekawa, O.P., Fr. Ross Tozzi, Fr. Piotr Oprych, Dcn. Warren Lucero; and all priests, brothers, sisters, deacons, who have committed to consecrated life in our diocese.

Pray for married couples and those preparing for marriage.

Pray for all families to come together and keep in perfect unity of love and mutual support.

Pray that we may imitate our Lord's compassionate care for the sick and show them that their lives are just as precious and valuable as when they are healthy.

Pray for families and friends of the St. Mark Community.

Pray for the repose of the souls of all the faithful departed, especially all deceased priests, deacons, and women religious on this day.

Weekly Prayer of the Faithful:

That everything we do is for the glory of God.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS. "Jesus went away to a secluded place and prayed." If you are seeking greater simplicity of life and a closer following of the Lord in prayer and action, consider that He may be calling you to the priesthood or consecrated life. Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at (907) 374-9504 and talk to Fr. Robert Fath, the Vocations Director at our email: rfath@cbna.org

Sacramental Guidelines

Anointing of the Sick, Homebound: Please keep Fr. Ross Tozzi, Fr. Piotr Oprych, or the Parish Office of Sacred Heart Cathedral (907-474-9032) or St. Mark's (907-374-9564) informed of anyone who is homebound, hospitalized, seriously ill or wishes to receive Holy Communion or Anointing of the Sick.



Lent Fasting Ideas:

Kids/Teen – Fast from social media for a day.

General Ideas – Give up certain social media sites, or limit them to certain days/time of day.

Lent Prayer Ideas:

Kids/Teen – Pray on the way to school.

General Ideas – Spend a few minutes with Scripture each day. Consider praying for someone on your phone list.

Lent Almsgiving/Charity/Donation Ideas:

Kids/Teen/General – Create a jar to collect change to donate.

"When we hunger—whether it be for food, technology, comfort—it can be a reminder that Jesus is the bread of life."

<https://hallow.com/blog>

ADORATION TIMES ~ Fairbanks & North Pole

Sacred Heart Cathedral

Wed: 11 AM to 12 PM ~ Thurs: 8 AM - 12 PM ~ Sat: 3 PM -4PM

Immaculate Conception Church

Tues: 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM ~ Wed: 6 - 7 PM ~ Sat: 3 - 4 PM

St. Raphael Catholic Church

Tues. & Thurs 8:30 - 9:30 AM ~ Wed. 4:30 AM - 5:30 PM

2nd Thurs 4 - 8 PM ~ Fri. 7 AM - 6 PM

St. Nicholas Catholic Church

Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri., 8:00 AM

DIOCESAN EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Diocese of Fairbanks is currently seeking the following: **Maintenance Technician** (full-time w/benefits) and **Director of Faith and Family Formation** (full-time w/benefits). For more information about open positions visit their website at <https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/job-postings>. To request a formal job description or to submit a cover letter and resume please email humanresouces@cbna.org.

SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL OUTREACH COORDINATOR

Sacred Heart Cathedral is hiring a part-time **Outreach Coordinator**. Responsibilities include Stephen Ministry Outreach, Safe Environment, and 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 three references to Rev. Ross Tozzi, Sacred Heart Cathedral. rector@cbna.org or Ph: (907) 347-3005 with questions.

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, Jocelyn Niedziela 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>

Latin Mass Schedule. 6pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral: Saturdays on Mar. 9 & 16 – Apr 6 & 20

DONATIONS FOR SOUP KITCHEN NEEDED: Hats, Wool Socks, Gloves, Warm Sleeping Bags, Granola Bars, Jelly, Fresh Fruit, Desserts, Eggs. Contact: <https://iccfairbanks.org/soup-kitchen> or call (907) 452-3533 to speak with someone in the ICC Office.

"Marriage...one flesh, given and received."