



# ST. MARK UNIVERSITY PARISH

The Catholic Community of University of Alaska Fairbanks

1316 Peger Rd., Fairbanks, AK 99709-5168

Email: [stmark@cbna.org](mailto: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 at SHC.

Vesper Music can be accessed at St. Mark's website <https://stmarksuaf.org> as well as the QR code.

**Sunday Mass:** 5:30 pm at SHC

*Unable to receive normal hosts?* Please arrive before mass and see the priest or sacristan (Jennifer Chown) about the availability of low gluten.

For our homebound, Fr. Ross Tozzi homilies can be heard by going to <https://sacredheartak.org/> and click on "homilies"

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

## PASTOR

Fr. Ross Tozzi: [rtozzi@cbna.org](mailto:rtozzi@cbna.org) Ph: 907-347-3005

Fr. Piotr Oprych: [poprych@cbna.org](mailto: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](mailto:rtozzi@cbna.org) or Ph: 907-347-3005.

## LATIN MASS SCHEDULE:

Held at 6:00pm at SHC –

## 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](mailto: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:

**6/22:** SHC Parish Picnic 12-3pm

**6/22-29:** Religious Freedom Week

**6/24:** The Nativity of St. John the Baptist

**6/30:** St. Mark's Birthday/Anniversary Social

**7/4:** Independence Day

**7/12-13:** Monroe Foundation Super Sale

**7/17-21:** National Eucharistic Congress

## Catholic Definition: Creation

The production of material and spiritual things in their whole substance, done by God and of nothing. God creates out of nothing both because he starts with no pre-existing matter and because he parts with nothing of his own being in the act of creation. Thus creation in the proper sense (first creation) is to be distinguished from the so-called second creation described in Genesis, by which is understood the shaping of formless matter and giving it life and activity.

<https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/library/dictionary/>

## June 23, 2024 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ Cycle B



### First Reading: *Job 38:1, 8-11*

The Lord answers Job's complaints.

### Responsorial: *Psalms 107:23-24, 25-26, 28-29, 30-31*

A song of praise to God for rescue

### Second Reading: *2 Corinthians 5:14-17*

Those in Christ are a new creation.

### Gospel Reading: *Mark 4:35-41*

Jesus calms the storm.

## Music of the Mass ~ 6/23



**497** Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

**464** I Heard the Voice of Jesus

**671** Be Still, My Soul

My God, I Love Thee Not Because

**206** Praise God, from Whom All

Blessings Flow

*Heritage Mass parts found on pages 890-897.*

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY

**Welcome to St. Mark University Parish!** Next Sunday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, we welcome our faith community to recognize those who have celebrated a birthday or anniversary this month. Join us after mass for a social to be held outdoors if good weather, downstairs in the social hall if weather doesn't comply with our wishes. Ice cream bars and drinks will be provided by the parish. We encourage others to bring something to share that doesn't require utensils. We'll have napkins and plates available. Take some time and visit with others!



**Vespers (sung):** 4:45 pm on Sundays at Sacred Heart Cathedral. Tradition Evening Prayer of the hours of the Liturgy. Consists of praying the psalms put to traditional chant tones.

**Traditional Latin Mass-** 6 PM at Sacred Heart Cathedral  
June 29; July 13 & 27; August 10 & 24

**The following programs start again in September:**

Oratory ~ Religious Education ~ Confirmation ~ Youth Group  
~ Voice of Hope Prayer Group ~ Voces Verbi Young Adult Group  
~ Sacred Heart Reading Group ~ ICC Woman's Group – SHC Reading Group.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**Soup Kitchen at ICC:** (1pm Sat & Sun) Food items that are needed – Granola bars, Jelly, Fresh Fruit (bananas, apples, oranges, etc.), Desserts, Eggs, Hot Chocolate, Coffee (3#tin) , Peanut Butter, “Bottled water”. Need volunteers both Saturdays and Sundays from 12-3pm.

**SHC Friday Food Boxes:** Calls are taken from 10-11am Friday. Volunteers unload boxes upon delivery from Foodbank around 12:15pm and distribute them to clients in the parking lot until 1:00pm. Please call Deborah at 907-474-9032 for details.

**SHC Voices of Hope Prayer Group** – 6:00 PM Tue, downstairs in SHC kitchen for light potluck. Contemplative prayer meeting in community room ending in rosary at 8:30 PM.

**Men's Group:** 7:30 PM at ICC every Thursday. Adoration - followed by meeting downstairs.

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

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

**Knights of Columbus:** 6:30 PM **2nd Thursday of the month** downstairs @ SHC. Become an active part in the civic lives of our country, states, and local communities.

**Associates of the Sisters of St. Joseph:** For men or women currently meet about once a quarter at SHC. Contact Patty Walter [pattywalter@hotmail.com](mailto:pattywalter@hotmail.com) for more information. The association makes an annual commitment to lead lives that strive to work for justice, reach out to those in need, and to build relationships in the spirit of hospitality and simplicity. Active since 1987.

**Legion of Mary:** 6PM Tuesday Legion of Mary Meetings ~ ICC. A group of dedicated women and men doing the Blessed Mother Mary's work.

**Franciscan Community:** 6:30 PM on **1st Thursday of the month** at St. Raphael Church. For information contact Gloria Slagle [stclare4@gmail.com](mailto:stclare4@gmail.com)

**Marriage Preparations** – Contact Fr. Ross six (6) months prior to wedding - [rtozzi@cbna.org](mailto:rtozzi@cbna.org) or call (907) 347-3005.

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

“God is not a deceiver, that He should offer to support us and then, when we lean upon Him, should slip away from us.”

St. Augustine (354-430)

Father and Doctor of the Church.

**Fr. Shepherd Munaro** arrived in Fairbanks from the Diocese of Mutare, Zimbabwe. He is from the same diocese as Fr. Welcome Chipiro who recently returned to Zimbabwe, and Fr. Abraham Nemaisa, who is currently serving in the Y-K region out of Bethel. Fr. Shepherd was with us for Mass last week....please extend a warm welcome and introduce yourself next time you see him!



**Justice Challenge:** Judging is a topic in the readings this week. It is something we all do whether we admit it or not. At a Midwestern parish there was a woman who was in charge of the St. Vincent DePaul chapter and did all the intake of clients who needed assistance. She frequently spoke with the parish staff about clients after they had left the building. She didn't hesitate to express her strong opinions about why this or that person had fallen into poverty. The staff and the pastor suggested that she not be so quick to judge, but to no avail. She really thought she knew people and that it was her right to have and express her opinions. One day, a pregnant woman with three small children came to the office for help. Jeanne remarked to the woman that she obviously couldn't afford the children she had so why another one? The woman bowed her head for a minute and then lifted it and said, “This is my first one actually. The three with me are my sister's children. She and her husband died in a car accident two months ago. We were blessed to be given custody of the children. Of course we weren't prepared for this, and I had to quit work to care for them, and we are temporarily in a bind.” <https://pastoral.center>

### Focusing the Gospel

**Key words and phrases:** This is how it is, kingdom of God, scatter seed, harvest has come, seed ... sown, becomes the largest of plants

**To the point:** “This is how it is,” Jesus says in this Gospel. Yet there is no single way to describe the “kingdom of God.” Here Jesus uses two similar parables to teach us that the kingdom is realized in the intersection of our own work (plant the seed) with God's work (the mystery of life growing and bearing fruit). The Good News is that God's kingdom is assured—the scattered seed will yield a harvest; the tiny seed will grow into a large plant. “This is [really] how it is!” <https://liturgy.slu.edu>



“What will this child turn out to be?” they wondered.  
And indeed the hand of the Lord was with him. Luke 1:66

Keep up with diocesan news, announcements, and needs, including parish websites, at Catholic Bishop of Northern Alaska website:

<https://dioceseoffairbanks.org>

**Solemnity of  
the Birth of  
St. John  
the Baptist**  
June 24

Obedient to his Mission  
Prepared the people for  
the coming of the  
Messiah  
Baptism of Jesus Christ  
at Jordan River





## It's time to address the oliphant in the room ....

Catholic bookworms everywhere have something to acknowledge.

There's been an epidemic in Catholic communities for decades and it's time we address it.

Catholics are obsessed with The Lord of the Rings.

What is this obsession? Where does it come from?

Well, it's actually no coincidence that Catholics are drawn to The Lord of the Rings. It goes beyond our shared faith with Tolkien; it goes back to the nature of fantasy and fairy tales.

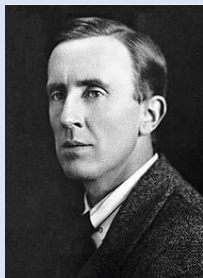
As it turns out, Catholicism is very compatible with fairy tales!

Fairy tales reflect the truth that the supernatural and natural exist together. In their depictions of fairies disguised in flowers, spirits in water and the wind, and ogres hiding under bridges, fairy tales recognize that the world is not exactly as it seems—that there is a beautiful spiritual reality beyond the material world we perceive.

In fairy tales, talking animals and pumpkins turning into golden carriages are regular occurrences. Although this may seem drastically different from our own reality, we must remind ourselves that things like miracles and God's wonderful providence are just as commonplace. This is one of the things fairy tales can teach us: miracles can happen, and with help from God's grace, all things are possible.

Beyond an awareness of the spiritual and the supernatural, fairy tales offer their readers another important lesson: good will always triumph in the end. In the best fantasy stories, the wicked witch is served justice, and the virtuous prince wins the beautiful maiden's heart.

Our favorite fairy tale author, J.R.R. Tolkien, said it best: "Fairy tales are not primarily concerned with possibility, but with desirability."



Young J.R.R. Tolkien

In showing us the way things should be, they inspire us to make the world a better place.

So, read your children fairy tales and read them yourself! Goodness and wonder are not things one should ever outgrow!

However, keep two things in mind: 1. There are options beyond Tolkien(!), and 2. There are a lot of bad fairy tales and fantasy stories out there, so choose wisely!

Want a fairy tale collection that you know reflects the good, the true, and the beautiful? We recommend [The Golden Key and Other Fairy Tales](#) by George Macdonald. According to C.S. Lewis, there is "hardly any other writer who seems to be closer, or more continuously close, to the Spirit of Christ Himself." <https://www.catholiccompany.com/getfed>



**Oliphants** – J.R.R. Tolkien's legendarium, an oliphant/muma is a giant war elephant-like creature found in middle earth.

## The Perfect Storm



I am writing this on a Saturday morning. Saturdays are my writing days, when my husband takes over the kids and the house and I disappear into the office with an enormous cup of coffee and noise-canceling headphones. Saturdays are sacred — if work can be called sacred.

But Saturday morning is also the only time I'm able to consistently get to confession. Every other time the sacrament is offered in my area during the week, I seem to have unavoidable commitments — but on Saturday morning, all I have is work, and how can I let work come before a sacrament, as much as I might secretly want to?

I've spent a good deal of time being bitter about this, because it's just not convenient, having to carve out time from work to run to the other side of town, especially when I get there and there's a line. I sit there in the sanctuary, waiting my turn, checking the clock, stewing, fretting. Obsessing over forgetting one of my sins. Thinking of how much work I have when I get home.

Saturday mornings: *a perfect storm*, I sometimes call it in my head.

I forge ahead, though. I've never gotten up and dashed back to my desk. I make it into the confessional and I stammer out my pathetic little list and receive absolution. Then I go before the tabernacle to perform my penance.

It's while I am kneeling there that it happens. Always. God awakens, and he cries into the depths of my heart: "Quiet! Be still! Why are you terrified? Do you not yet have faith?"

After teaching all day by the shore of the sea, Jesus asks his disciples to remove him from the crowds. He wants to escape the noise, the clamor, the disquiet. But the clamor follows him, because the world is full of it. Storms crop up wherever we go.

Jesus sleeps through the storm, because he understands what the disciples do not: the storms of the world cannot hurt us. They are only so much noise.

*"Who then is this whom even wind and sea obey?" — Mark 4:41*

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman –June 20, 2024©Lpi

### **Gift of Peace**

**Jesus said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" (Mark 4:39-40)**

**Adults:** When has the Lord calmed the stormy seas of your life?  
**Children:** What fear would you like the Lord to help you overcome.

Please keep the offices of St. Mark University Parish (907-374-9564) or Sacred Heart Cathedral (907-474-9032) informed of anyone who is homebound, hospitalized, seriously ill, or wishes to receive Holy Communion or Anointing of the Sick



**PARISH STEWARDSHIP**  
June 16 & 23 Collections will be posted next week.

Looking for a way to support our Parish? WeShare allows for electronic online giving at: <http://www.stmarksuaf.org>.

June Special Collections - Peter's Pence supports the Holy Father's emergency humanitarian efforts. 3% of June's collections will go towards this campaign.

**STEWARDSHIP MOMENT**

**"The he asked them, 'Why are you terrified? Do you not yet have faith?'" – Mark 4:40**

Do you really trust God? Is God your first choice or last resort? Is your faith something you just do on Sunday, or do you live the Gospel message every day of the week? Many of us know about God. How many of us have a personal relationship with Him? Start now, open your heart to receive our Lord. Talk and listen to Him every day. Move your discipleship from head knowledge to heart knowledge.

**Prayer of the Faithful:** That we not only know about Jesus but that we take time to grow in a personal relationship with Him.



**Pope Francis'**  
**June Prayer Intentions:**  
**For migrants fleeing their homes.**

Let us pray that migrants fleeing from war or hunger, forced to undertake journeys fraught with danger and violence, may find welcome and new living opportunities in their host countries.

**Please Pray For (+):** Pope Francis; Bishop Steven Maekawa, O.P., Fr. Ross Tozzi, Fr. Piotr Oprych, and all priests, brothers, sisters, and deacons in working our diocese.

- + People suffering from wars and natural disasters, that they may find hope within in times of need.
- + Security, strength, and peace may be found in troubled areas.
- + For healing among our elders in nursing homes, hospitals, and those who live alone; and strength for those watching and caring loved ones.
- + A safe summer for families and all who are traveling.
- + Loved ones who have died, that they may arise to life eternal in Christ.

**PRAY FOR VOCATIONS** "He indeed died for all, so that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for Him who for their sake died and was raised." Is Christ calling you to die to self and live for Him as a priest or religious brother or sister? 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 or email: [rfath@cbna.org](mailto:rfath@cbna.org)

**ADORATION TIMES ~ Fairbanks & North Pole**

**Sacred Heart Cathedral**

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

**Immaculate Conception Church**

Tues: 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM ~ Wed: 6 - 7 PM ~ Sat: 3 - 3:50 PM

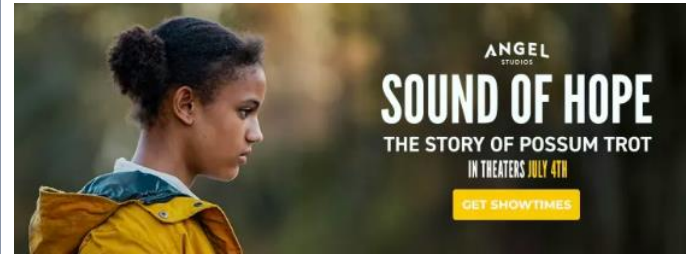
**St. Raphael Catholic Church**

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



**Angel Studio** is coming out with another uplifting move in July. **The Sound of Hope** will start showing July 3<sup>rd</sup>. A true story of 22 church families adopting over 70 children in the 1990's. It is inspired by the events of Bennett Chapel Missionary Baptist Church in east Texas, which works to provide children in crisis with proper homes. The families of the rural black church, led by Bishop W.C. Martin and his wife Donna, work with an agency to adopt 77 children, including 76 between 1996 and 1998. Angel Studio has brought us **Cabrini, Sight, and Sound of Freedom**. <https://www.angel.com>

**PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS:** Eternal Father, we lift up to you these and all the priests of the world. Sanctify them. Heal and guide them. Mold them, into likeness and holiness of your Son, Jesus, the Eternal High Priest. May their lives be pleasing to you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



**Diocesan Employment Opportunities**

**Part-time Donations Processing Clerk**, 20 hrs./wk. This job entails all aspects of processing donations received by the Diocese. Visit [dioceseoffairbanks.org/job-postings](http://dioceseoffairbanks.org/job-postings) for more detailed information or E-mail [humanresources@cbna.org](mailto:humanresources@cbna.org).

**Sacred Heart 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](mailto:rector@cbna.org) or Ph: (907) 347-3005 with questions.

**The Catholic Schools of Fairbanks are hiring for the 2024-25 school year!** Please visit <http://www.catholic-schools.org/employment> for a full list of open positions and application instructions.



**Helping Alaska**  
BUILDING COMMUNITY  
CHANGING LIVES  
INSPIRING HOPE

**Helping Alaska**

Currently hiring: **Furniture Bank Ministry Manager, Helpline Director, and Program Coordinator/Case Manager.**

Email your resume to: [Director@helpingak.org](mailto:Director@helpingak.org) or [mscper@helingspinak.org](mailto:mscper@helingspinak.org). Call our offices at 907-

452-3876 Ext 203 or Ext 208. Or apply in person at: Helping Alaska 609 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Fairbanks AK 99701.

*"Inspiring hope by connecting resources, churches, and people."*

**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](mailto:vac@cbna.org). For more information access the Diocese safe environment link through <https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/report-abuse>