



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 at SHC. Vesper Music can be accessed at St. Mark's website <https://stmarksuaf.org>

Sunday Mass: 5:30 pm at SHC

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

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.

Thursday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 8am-12pm at SHC.

PASTOR

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

DEACON

Rev. Mr. Warren Lucero

LATIN MASS SCHEDULE:

Held at 6:00pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral

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

Catholic Definition: Retreat

Withdrawal for a period of time from one's usual surroundings and occupation to a place of solitude for meditation, self-examination, and prayer, in order to make certain necessary decisions in one's spiritual life. Although the practice is older than Christianity, the example of Christ's forty days in the desert makes such retreats part of divine revelation, to be imitated, as far as possible, by his followers. As a formal devotion among all classes of the faithful, retreats were introduced with the Counter-Reformation, led by St. Ignatius of Loyola, and followed by St. Francis de Sales and St. Vincent de Paul. Retreats for a specified number of days are required of all priests and religious. "We desire," wrote Pope Pius XI, "that retreat houses, where persons withdraw for a month, or for eight days, or for fewer, to put themselves into training for the perfect Christian life..." (Constitution Declaring St. Ignatius Patron of All Spiritual Exercises, July 25, 1922).

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

Need a Priest? - Please contact Fr. Ross Tozzi (907-347-3005), St. Mark's Office (907-374-9564), or Sacred Heart Cathedral Office at (907) 474-9032.

Registration – Every family and person within the parish is encouraged to register with the Church Office at 907-374-9564.

September 8, 2024

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



First Reading: Isaiah 35:4-7a

Isaiah prophesies about God's vindication.

Responsorial: Psalm 146:7, 8-9, 9-10

A song of praise to God.

Second Reading: James 2:1-5

James teaches that there is to be no partiality within the Christian community.

Gospel Reading: Mark 7:31-37

Jesus restores a man's hearing and speech.



Music of the Mass ~9/8

556 Glory and Praise to Our God

512 Psalm 42

439 Be Not Afraid

405 Open My Eyes

567 Praise the Lord, Ye Heavens

Heritage Mass parts found on pages 890-897.

CALENDAR of EVENTS:

9/7: 10 AM-12 Noon **Altar Server Training at SHC**

9/11: 6:30 PM UAF CSA campus mass & meeting at Lola Tilly

9/14: Monroe Catholic Volleyball Clinic

9/14: Sr. New Eve's final vows in Washington D.C.
Please pray for her and other vocations.

9/15: Catechetical Sunday

9/15: Deadline for Christmas Story Video

9/21: ORATORY Starts for kids 5-17 – 1:00-2:45 PM (SHC)

9/20-22 Catholic Men's Retreat in Wasilla

9/27: 6:00 PM Voces Verbi Young Adult Group at ICC

9/26: Confirmation & Youth Group – 3:00 – 4:15 PM (SHC)

9/29: Priesthood Sunday

10/1: 5:30 PM Mass at SHC for Feast Day of St. Therese of Lisieux, the patroness of our diocese.

10/12: Catholic Schools HIPOW Annual Auction

10/18-20: Catholic Engaged Encounter Retreat at St. Nick's
Register online: <https://fairbanks.3ngagedencounter.com>

For more info email: fairbanks@engagedencounter.com



Traditional Latin Mass- 6 PM at Sacred Heart Cathedral
September 14 & 21, October 12 & 26;
November 9 & 13, December 14 & 28

Fr. Anselmo Hernandez from Ft. Wainwright will celebrate the Masses. *Please keep in mind that dates are subject to change if Fr. Anselmo has military obligations.*

The following programs resume in September:

Oratory 9/21 – 1:00-2:45PM @ SHC

Confirmation & Youth Group 9/26 – 3:00-4:15 @ SHC
Confirmation, Pre Confirmation, & Youth 5:30 PM Class-
6:30PM **Youth Group** (Dinner Provided), 7:45 PM Pick up
Contact M. Way of Salvation at servidoras@cbna.org or
telephone (907) 987-9598.

Voces Verbi 9/27 – 6 PM at ICC

Sacred Heart Book Club Discussion Group – 12:30 PM 1st Mon.
Sept. 9th –downstairs in the Community Room. The Living Word
about St. Helena and Emperor Constantine by Louise de Wohl
will be discussed. For more contact: 43janetf@gmail.com

Regional Soup Kitchen at Immaculate Conception - Serving
Hours are Saturday & Sunday only from 1-3pm. They are always
looking for volunteers and donations to help with their program.
If interested, please contact Immaculate Conception Church at
907-423-3533 ext. 1003, or email iccsoupkitchen@cbna.org

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
1:00 pm. 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.

St. Nicholas' Mother's Group: 10AM – Noon on Tuesday. Multi-
Generational Support and Conversation. Coffee/Snacks/Child
Care provided. All mothers of the Diocese are invited to be a part
of this group. Call or Text April at 907-347-1357.

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.

Legion of Mary: 6PM Monday 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

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

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

CATHOLIC MEN'S RETREAT
"Becoming a Real Man of God"

20-22 September 2024
St. Therese's Camp
7180 Twin Lakes Drive
Wasilla, Alaska 99654
Friday: 6:00 PM Arrival



Topics Include:

- Showing Oneself a Strong, Faithful Man of God, Back to the Beginning, Real Love.
- Men and Women Love Differently, Saint Joseph as an Icon of Authentic Masculine Love.
- The Virtues of a Soldier of Christ, Forming Virtuous Masculine Men, and the Perversion of Masculinity.



Mass Each Day, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Daily Prayers, Examination of Conscience, Bonfire, Free Time, Fellowship, Holy Rosary, Adoration, Confession, Benediction, and Times of Silence.

Depart 12 Noon Sunday. Cost \$50 per person; Meals provided by State Council. For more details and to register, go to the following website <https://kofcstate.com/mens-retreat> . Contact Doug Wright at statesecretarykofcak2024@gmail.com or text (907) 203-2001.

***"Be Strong and Show Yourself a Man and Keep the Charge of the Lord, your God, walking in His ways and keeping his statutes, His commandments, His ordinances, and His testimonies."* 1 Kings 2:1-3**



Justice Challenge: On September 8th, we celebrate Grandparents' Day. This is an opportunity to look at how we treat all of the elders in our communities, including but not limited to those in our own families. Your challenge this week is two-fold: do something special for the grandparents in your own family; but also identify an older person or couple in your community who suffer injustice in some way. It might be the injustice of loneliness; in which case a visit and a conversation would be great. It might be poverty; bringing a food basket or household supplies would be appropriate. Once your family identifies the elder in need, brainstorm the best way to help which also gives dignity and honor. No matter what you choose to do, find a way to let the elder share a life story or some wisdom with you from the perspective of many, many years of living. And don't forget to thank them for the gift of their wisdom.

<https://pastoral.center>

Connecting the Gospel...

... **to the First Reading:** Isaiah's poetic vision presents a world redeemed by God's saving power. What Isaiah communicates through poetry; Jesus communicates through action.

... **to experience:** We tend to think of salvation in terms of heaven and the hereafter. The readings open us to salvation as encountering and hearing God now.

<https://liturgy.slu.edu>



Rich in Faith

Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? (James 2:5)

Adults: When has your faith in Jesus enabled you to speak out on an issue of importance?

Kids: What does your belief in Jesus mean to you?



What made Pope Gregory the Great so great?

Maybe a story from his papacy will help us understand...

As pope, Gregory had a formal nightly meal. Rather than taking this meal alone, Gregory had a tradition of inviting 12 poor men to dine with him every evening, honoring the 12 Apostles by serving those in need.

One evening, as the meal was about to begin, a 13th guest unexpectedly arrived at the door—a beggar who looked even more destitute than the others.

He had not expected a 13th guest, he had not prepared enough food for 13, and he had no idea who this poor man was. It would have been easy to turn this beggar away and say that serving 12 poor men at his table was enough.

However, without hesitation, Gregory welcomed the ragged man in, making room at the table.

But something strange was afoot. When Gregory asked his steward to help prepare an extra seat, the steward was bewildered: he could only see 12 guests!

Despite the strangeness, and even with stretched resources, Gregory ensured that the beggar was fed and treated with the same dignity as the other guests.

As the evening went on, Gregory found himself strangely captivated by the 13th guest. Each time he glanced at this particular man, his appearance seemed to change—sometimes the man looked youthful, while at other moments, his face seemed older and more distinguished. There was something familiar about him that Gregory couldn't quite place.



Eventually, curiosity got the better of him, and Gregory approached the man to ask who he really was. The man answered: "I am your angel, whom God sent to test your charity."

Gregory then realized why the steward was not able to see this 13th guest.

From then on, Pope Gregory devoted himself even more to the poor. He cultivated deep humility and led as a servant. It was these qualities that allowed him to go on and do great things for God. His influence on Christian civilization and European history in general was so profound as to earn him the title "the Great." He is among those we call the "Fathers of the Church" and is one of the four great Doctors of the Western Church.

The life of Pope Gregory the Great is fascinating and unknown to many Catholics. <https://www.catholiccompany.com/getfed>

"You are to show mercy to our neighbors always and everywhere. You must not shrink from this or try to absolve yourself from it."

~ St. Faustina

(Practicing) Catholic – Recognize God in your Ordinary Moment)
BE OPENED



There are several moments throughout the calendar year when we are tricked into thinking we can reinvent ourselves.

One of them is New Year's Day. The barista at my coffee shop told me that they sell more decaf coffee in January than in the entirety of the remaining year, because everyone is swearing off caffeine. By February, she said, the trend subsides: folks have realized they're not actually superheroes just because the last digit of the year has increased by one.

The beginning of a new school year is another of those moments. Every pencil is freshly sharpened, and every lesson plan is painstakingly plotted. Our heads are full of what we plan to do this year, how we plan to do it, who we plan to become.

But by May, the wind is out of our sails. We've learned the concepts, we've used up the pencils, yes — but we've remembered that underneath it all we're basically the same people, with the same shortcomings and the same obstacles as we always were. The only difference in September was we had new planners.

The truth is that we cannot reinvent ourselves. We can't change ourselves at all, not on New Year's Day or the first day of school or on our 40th birthday or after quitting a bad habit. We are what we are: blind in some ways, deaf in others, crippled in still more, moving through life with uncertainty, stumbling in the dark.

People don't change. Not without miracles.

But being a Christian means believing in miracles and being ready for them at any moment — in January or in September, in the middle of a hopeless week or at the end of a bad day, when you feel strong and when you don't, when you want to be better and when you feel too tired to try.

No, we can't change ourselves, but we can be changed. There is one who can change us if we will let him. He is waiting — now, tomorrow, yesterday, next week. The time is always right for a miracle.

"He put his finger into the man's ears ... and said to him, Ephphatha!"— that is, 'Be opened!' —And immediately the man's ears were opened ..." Mark 7:34-35

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman -September 12, 2024©Lpi

ADORATION TIMES ~ Fairbanks & North Pole

Sacred Heart Cathedral

Thurs: 8 AM - 12 PM ~ Sat: 3 -4 PM

Immaculate Conception Church

Tues: 7 PM – 8 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



PARISH STEWARDSHIP
 Sept 1, 2024: \$1,473.00
 Actual Collection YTD
 (7/1/24-6/30/25)
 \$18,983.84
 Parishioner Count 113

Your financial stewardship is a blessing. Thank You! Visit WeShare for online giving at: <http://www.stmarksuaf.org>.

Prayer of the Faithful: That we may grow stronger in our faith, realizing that God does not measure us by what we possess but rather by what we do for one another.



**Pope Francis' August Prayer Intentions:
 For the cry of the Earth.**

We pray that each one of us will hear and take to heart the cry of the Earth and of victims of natural disasters and climactic change, and that all will undertake to personally care for the world in which we live.

Please Remember in your prayers (+): Pope Francis; Bishop Steven Maekawa, O.P., and all our priests, brothers, sisters, and deacons working within our diocese.

- + Pray for Fr. Sean Thomson's complete recover; for our priests in Anchorage with serious illness - Fr. John Hinsvark, Fr. Dick Tero, Fr. Eric Weissman, and Fr. Scott Medlock in Anchorage.
- + Those serving in Uniform, Public Service, and Political Offices.
- + Students returning to their classrooms.
- + All who are facing illnesses, loneliness, and other challenges.
- + Families and friends of the St. Mark Community.
- + The repose of the souls of all the faithful departed.

Prayer Support: If you need prayers for any intention, please contact our parish office at 907-374-9564 or email: stmark@cbna.org. Help keep us informed if you are homebound, hospitalized, seriously ill, or wish to receive Holy Communion or Anointing of the Sick.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

That none of us will be hindrance to those men called to take up their cross and follow Jesus as priests, we pray to the Lord.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

"He makes the deaf hear and the mute speak." If you feel Christ encouraging you to be a transformative instrument as a priest of religious brother or sister, talk to your priest or reach out to your priest or the Vocation Office at (907) 374-9504.

September is dedicated to
 Our Lady of Sorrows

whose memorial is celebrated on September 15th. This feast commemorates the rescue of the true Cross of Christ by Emperor Heraclius is a victory over the Persians.



"I plead with you—never, ever give up on hope; never doubt, never tire and never become discouraged. Be not afraid."
 ~St. John Paul II

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

"Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom that he promised to those who love him?" ~ James 2:5

What is more important – being rich in faith or rich in possessions? Society tells us that possessions are most important. God teaches a different lesson. When we are rich in faith, we keep God first and experience true joy and peace. When we put possessions first, we soon realize we can never have enough, and happiness is fleeting. When we put faith over possessions, we truly realize it is better to give than receive.



FEAST DAY OF
St. Therese

**October 1st at Sacred Heart Cathedral
 5:30pm Mass
 followed by dinner in the hall**

Come celebrate the patroness of our diocese with a Mass of Thanksgiving for the perpetual vows of Sr. New Eve

Dinner is provided, please bring a dessert or drinks to share if you can!

**PARTICIPATE IN A SPECIAL PROJECT
 TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS**



The USCCB Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth has asked for help in participation in a project to create a montage of families reading the story of Jesus's birth (Luke 2:1-20). The videos are due Sept. 15, 2024. Contact laity@usccb.org to answer any questions and signing up. Help prepare the hearts and homes of families nationwide to receive the Savior this Christmas!

For all those not able to receive our LORD in the Eucharist you can recite the following:



An Act of Spiritual Communion My Jesus, I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart, as though You have already come. I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to be separated from You.

WEBSITES FOR

Diocese of Fairbanks <https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/joomla/>

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>

For Peace

Mary, Queen of Peace, save us all, who have so much trust in you, from wars, hatred, and oppression. Make us all learn to live in peace, and educate ourselves for peace, do what is demanded by justice and respect the rights of every person, so that peace may be firmly established. Amen. Pope Saint John Paul II (1920-2005)