



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 Sacred Heart Cathedral (SHC).

Sunday Mass: 5:30 pm at SHC

Unable to receive normal hosts? Please arrive early and ask the priest about the availability of low gluten hosts.

For the homebound, SHC [streams](#) their 8AM Mass on Sunday most mornings.

SHC Adoration: Thursday 8AM-12Noon & Saturday 3-4PM

SHC Confessions – Saturday 3-4PM or by appointment.

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

CALENDAR of EVENTS

1/5 Epiphany of the Lord

1/6 (Mon): 12:30PM SHC Book Club Meeting

1/7: *Faith Formation Classes resume this week.*

1/7 (Tue): 5:30PM Liturgical Meeting at SHC

1/9 (Thu): 6PM Knights of Columbus Meeting at SHC

1/1 (Mon): First day of instruction at UAF

1/15 (Wed): 6:30PM CSA Campus Mass & Mtg at Lola Tilly

1/17 (Fri): 7PM [Santo Nino Mass](#) followed by festive dinner.

Catholic Definition: Epiphany

The feast commemorating Christ's manifestation to the Gentiles in the person of the Magi, as well as his baptism and first miracle at Cana. It began in the East in the third century and soon spread to the West, where it is identified with the visit of the Magi. In some countries it is known as Twelfth Night (after Christmas) and is the occasion for special celebrations. For centuries the Epiphany has been a holy day of obligation in many places. (Etym. Greek epiphaneia, appearance, manifestation.)
<https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/library/dictionary/>

"A single sunbeam is enough to drive away many shadows."
~ St. Francis of Assisi

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

January 5, 2025



First Reading: *Isaiah 60:1-6*

Jerusalem shall be a light to all nations.

Responsorial Psalm *Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13*

Every nation on earth shall worship the Lord.

Second Reading: *Ephesians 3:2-3a 5-6*

Gentiles are coheirs in the promise of Christ.

Gospel Reading: *Matthew 2:1-12.*

The Magi seek out Jesus and do him homage.

Music of Mass for Epiphany of the Lord



112 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

116 What Star is This

115 The First Nowell

113 As With Gladness Men of Old

Heritage Mass parts #'s 890-897.

Join our Sunday Mass Ministry. Become an extraordinary minister, altar server, reader/lector, or choir as a singer or musician. If you have questions in regard to what this entails, please contact the parish office at (907) 374-9564, email to stmark@cbna.org, or see Mary Pat Boger after Mass, Fr. Ross Tozzi at a CSA meeting, or George Stefan for the music ministry. Training will be provided. Prayerfully consider getting involved.



31 Biblical Virtues to pray for your kids.

1. **Salvation.** "Lord, let salvation spring up within my children, that they may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory" (Isaiah 45:8, 2 Timothy 2:10)

Anointing of the Sick. Please let us know when you or others are sick, going into the hospital, or in assisted living home so they may be included in our prayers and receive a visit upon request



MONDAY

SHC Club Discussion Group – Meets 1st Monday of the month (Jan 6) 12:30-2:30PM downstairs in the Community Room. January Book: “*The Power of Silence: Against the Dictatorship of Noise*” by Robert Cardinal Saray c.2017. Contact: 43janetf@gmail.com

Bible Study Monday Nite – Meets December 30th at 6:30 PM (*every other* Monday) in the SHC Social Hall, hosted by Michael Olsta (Office of Faith & Family Formation).

TUESDAY

Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA): 7–8:30 PM at SHC.

Voices of Hope Prayer Group: 6:30-8:30PM at SHC. Next Meeting is January 14, 2025. All are welcome!

THURSDAY

Confirmation/Youth Group – Confirmation – 5:30 PM; Youth Group 6:30–8:00 PM. Questions—Contact M. Way of Salvation at servidoras@cbna.org or call (907) 987-9595. **Men’s Group** – Adoration: 6 PM; studying St. Thomas Aquinas at 7 PM at ICC.

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

FRIDAY

SHC Friday Food Boxes - Calls taken from 10-11am. *Volunteers needed to help distribute to clients in the parking lot 11 AM - 1:00 PM.* Please call SHC on 907-474-9032 for details.

Voces Verbi – Meets at 6 PM for Adoration, Pizza, and formation for Young Adults 18-35. Held at ICC.

SATURDAY

Oratory – 1:00 PM at SHC.

Religious Education - 3–4:15 PM at SHC.

Religious of the Incarnate Word 3rd Order Meetings – 6PM *every other Saturday* at Monroe School. Formations talks – Games for kids in the gym. All who are interested are welcome to attend!

Young Adults: 7:00 pm Game Night at SHC next meeting will be in January. Contact Diocesan Office of Faith and Family Formation (OFFF) Director Michael Olsta at 907-374-9526 or olsta@cbna.org.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY

Regional Soup Kitchen at Immaculate Conception - Serving Hours are from 1-3pm. Volunteers and items are needed. Contact ICC at 907-423-3533 ext. 1003, or email iccsoupkitchen@cbna.org

EVENTS & GROUPS OF INTEREST

Spiritual Exercises – Dec. 26-30 Silent Ignatian Retreat for Men Starts Thursday @ 5PM – Ends @ 7PM at ICC. Contact servidoras@cbna.org

Catholic Engaged Encounter Retreat for engaged couples - 28 February – 2 March 2025 at St. Nicholas Catholic Church. For more info go to: Fairbanks.engagedencounter.com.

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

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

The Seven Sisters Apostolate – Everyday, three members of the Apostolate pray a holy hour for a specific clergy. For more information, contact Jan Fortune at 43janetf@gmail.com.



Justice Challenge: We celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord this week. This feast reminds us that Jesus was a universal savior—for all people, not just the Jews. The Magi who brought special gifts to the infant Jesus came from distant lands. They recognized the Messiah in the tiny baby more than most of Jesus’ own people did. Sometimes it’s easy to forget that our Catholic faith is open to everyone. But the word “catholic” means universal—for everyone, everywhere, all the time. Your challenge this week is to give a special gift to someone who has been left out, someone who hasn’t been invited into the inner circle of friendship, someone who really needs an unexpected gift. It might be something material, but it could also be the gift of conversation, listening, paying attention. <https://pastoral.center>

Connecting the Gospel...

...to the First: For Isaiah the “light [which] has come” to Jerusalem is God’s glory. The story of the magi in the Gospel reveals that the light is Christ himself, manifested to all nations.

...to experience: We tend to rely on logic when setting a direction for our lives, for example, when choosing a spouse, a profession, a neighborhood, or a school. From the magi we learn that life-directing choices must also be guided by unexpected in-breakings of wisdom that come from sudden light, the counsel of others, inspiration, insight, dreams. <https://liturgy.slu.edu>



Overcoming Jealousy

Then Herod sent the [magi] to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” (Matthew 2:8)

Adults: When have you been jealous or fearful of another person? When are such feelings harmful?

Kids: When have you been jealous because something good happened to another person instead of you? What is the problem with feeling that way? <https://pastoral.center>



How can we stay strong in our faith? Start with Me. I humbly suggest to you that the best way to acknowledge Christ is to start with our own soul’s conversion. We have to begin with our own surrender and faith journey before we can ever positively influence others. Too often, we speak and act from our heads and not our hearts (a daily struggle for me). Sincere and daily surrender to Christ’s will is a necessary first step for others to see Him in us. <https://integratedcatholiclife.org/>



Mass Intentions may be offered for friends or loved ones, living or deceased. Just call the parish office on (907) 374-9564 or Sacred Heart Cathedral’s Office on (907) 474-9032.



What does the word “Theotokos” mean?

This simple Marian title encapsulates crucial theology.

“Theotokos” means “God-bearer”—that is, one who gave birth to God.

The word was in use by the 3rd century. The Council of Nicaea in 325 A.D. formally approved it, making it the Blessed Mother’s first official title. Subsequent councils reaffirmed the vital significance of Theotokos, most notably the Council of Ephesus in 431.

Why was the Church so bent on reminding everyone about this title?



Because Theotokos is far more than a devout way of honoring the Blessed Mother: it is a one-word defense of the Hypostatic Union—that is, the union of Christ’s two Natures, divine and human, in His one divine Person.

By calling Mary the “God-bearer,” the Church declared that the physical nature of Christ which walked among

us, broke bread, and suffered pain is inseparably and unchangeably united to the divinity of the Trinity’s Second Person.

The title was emphasized at a time when various heresies taught that Christ was merely human or was a man taken up by God but not united with Him. It reminded all within the Church that God became incarnate through the Virgin Mary.

As the title Theotokas reminds us, to know Mary is to know her Son.

<https://www.catholiccompany.com/getfed>.



FLOCKNOTE INFORMATION:

Flocknote allows us to send notes to all in the parish via text messages or emails. You don’t have to download anything or create a login or password to participate. Please take a couple of minutes to sign up to receive email or text messages. You’re even able to reply directly back to messages so we can get feedback and hear from you in an efficient manner. Your information is kept totally private. You can update your communication preferences or subscribe at any time.

Text **SMDOF** to **84576** OR connect with us online at: <https://SACREDHEARTAK.FLOCKNOTE.COM/STMARKPARISH>



Support the Soup Kitchen run by ICC. Open from 1-3PM Saturdays and Sundays, providing a hot meal, hot drink, and other meal items. Check out

<https://iccfairbanks.org/soup-kitchen> to see how you can help. Contact their kitchen by phone at 907-452-3533,

As often as you did it for one of my least brothers, you did it for me.

ext 1003 or by email at iccsoupkitchen@cbna.org , Keep this ministry in your prayers!

(Practicing) Catholic – Recognize God in your Ordinary Moment) The Answer



Have you ever had an epiphany?

I’ll confess that I’ve never spent much time reflecting on the term “epiphany.” In my head, there has always been a strict separation of church and state when it comes to this word. I think of the religious feast of the Epiphany, when we celebrate the magi’s encounter with the Christ Child, as totally distinct from our modern understanding of the ancient Greek word *epipháneia*, which means “manifestation” or “appearance.”

“I’ve had an epiphany,” I have said many times before, and what I mean is that I have come to a long-awaited realization. I have received the answer to a question which has perplexed me, perhaps troubled me. I now know what course of action I must take.

“Today is the Epiphany,” I say to my children when we make a king cake and bring the little magi figures to our Nativity beneath the Christmas tree (which will, after today, be put back into storage, for the Christmas season has come to its fulfillment).

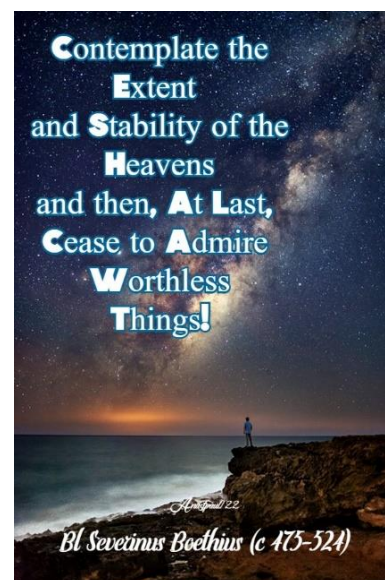
And I’ve always thought I meant I was saying two very different things.

But today, I ponder the journey of the magi, one that must have often been treacherous and uncomfortable. I think about their meeting with Herod, a situation that certainly was fraught with tension and fear. And I imagine the feeling in their hearts as they approached the young Messiah and fell to their knees. I think of the peace they must have felt. The new, vibrant awareness of what their own purpose was.

It was an epiphany for them — a discovery of truth. An answer.

It should be the same for us.

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman – January 2 2025©Lpi





December 22: \$ 1,245.82
December 29: \$ 1,976.00
Actual Collection YTD
7/1/24-6/30/25):
Number of Parishioners:
107/106

Our December 3% of donations(\$185.95) went towards the Diocesan Special Collections. Thank you for your continued support! Visit [WeShare](#) for online giving.

2024 Donations: The accounting system in the Parish Office will not allow us to post donations received after December 31, 2024, to your 2023 contributions. Donation letters for doing your taxes will be sent in January 2025

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

“...They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.” - MATTHEW 2:11

What gifts do you give to the Lord? Pope St. Gregory said that these three gifts represent what we should give God every day. Gold – we should reflect Christ’s wisdom in all our relationships. Frankincense – represents our daily prayer and adoration to God. Myrrh – is a symbol of our daily sacrifices that we unite with Jesus for the sake of others.



Pope Francis' January 2025 Prayer Intention *For a right to an education.*

Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

Please Pray For: Pope Francis; Bishop Steven Maekawa, O.P., Fr. Ross Tozzi, Rev. Dcn. Warren Lucero; and all priests, brothers, sisters, deacons, and volunteers serving in the Diocese of Fairbanks.

- + Travelers in this cold weather.
- + Families and students returning to work or school to begin the New Year.
- + For the unborn.
- + All who are faced with health issues, especially Fr. Sean Thomson, Cedric Grace, Kerri Cerney, John Fox, Ben Orr, John Fox, Fr. Gerardus Hauwert, IVE, Deborah Leibee, and Dorothy & Frank McGilvary.
- + The repose of our faithfully departed. May the Lord grant them eternal happiness and peace to their families.

Weekly Prayer of the Faithful:

That as grateful children of God, we remember to tell family and friends that we love them everyday and to pray even for those people who may annoy us.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

"They opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." (Matthew 2:11)

What gift can you offer Christ? If He is calling you to a vocation that serves the Church, He is asking for the gift of your life to serve His people. Talk to your priests or reach out to the Vocation Office at rfath@cbna.org or talk to your priests.

“Through the Incarnation and birth of Christ, God reveals to us the dignity of all human life. Human life, as a gift of God, is sacred and inviolable. The Son of God has united himself with every human being and desires for us to share eternal life with him... Each of us is made in the image and likeness of God, and we reflect his glory in the world.”

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

“The Gospel of Life: A Brief Summary”



January 2025 Daily Readings may be found at
<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings>

Saints of the Week found at

<https://www.catholic.org/saints/sofd.php>

**Bulletin insert will return January 5th, 2025.



DIOCESAN EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Diocese of Fairbanks is now hiring a **Chief Financial Officer (CFO)**. This is a full-time, exempt position with benefits. Salary DOE. To apply, submit a cover letter, résumé, and three references to humanresources@cbna.org by **6 January 2025**. For a detailed list of job duties and other information, please visit <https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/job-postings>.

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 or Ph: (907) 347-3005 with questions.

St. Raphael Lay Pastoral Minister

Responsibilities include assisting the priest and parish staff with seasonal & special celebrations preparation and coordination through ministry. Coordinating volunteer ministries, planning reflection and faith building materials, coordinating and recruiting volunteers who assist the parish in ministry and service. developing beautification strategies through seasonal decorating among some of the duties. The lay pastoral minister is a part time position with flexible hours. If you are interested in this position with St. Raphael Parish, please contact the parish office by calling (907) 457-6603 or email: staphaelcatholicparish@gmail.com.

For those who have been asking ~ Fr. Sean Thompson is at the Providence St. Joseph Care Center in Spokane, Washington, a nursing care facility providing the rehabilitation necessary for his long recovery. Please keep him in your prayers. Mail can be sent to him at:

Fr. Sean Thompson
Room 236
17 E 8th Ave.
Spokane, Washington 99202

*“Lord, wrap the sick in Your love;
may Your healing touch be felt.”*

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: <https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/report-abuse>.