



# 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 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.*

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

**SHC Confessions:** Saturday 3-4PM or by appointment.

**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.

## CALENDAR of EVENTS

**3/5: ASH WEDNESDAY**

**3/7: 5:30PM SHC Mass/Stations/Simple Soup Supper**

**3/8: 6 PM Latin Mass @ Immaculate Conception**

**3/9: 4PM Rites of Election at Sacred Heart**

**3/10-14: UAF & FNSBSD Spring Break**

**3/17: Monroe Foundation St. Patrick's Day Dinner**

**3/24-27: ACCB Priest Convocation – Anchorage**

**4/1: Chrism Mass – SHC**

## PASTOR

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

## DEACON

Rev. Mr. Warren Lucero

## 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](mailto: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

### Catholic Definition: Ashes, Blessed

A sacramental of the Church used mainly on Ash Wednesday – “Remember, man, you are dust and to dust you will return.” The use of ashes, expressing humiliation and sorrow, was common in ancient religions and is frequently mentioned in the Old Testament.

<https://www.catholicculture.org>

Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice! Psalm 50:5

**March 2, 2025**

8<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C



**First Reading: Sirach 27:4-7**

In his conversation is the test of the man.

**Responsorial Psalm 92:2-3, 13-16**

The just shall flourish like a palm tree.

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:54-58**

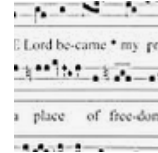
Thanks be to God who has given us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Gospel Reading: Luke 6:39-45**

Each tree is known by its yield.

### MUSIC OF THE MASS

*Heritage Mass parts #'s 890-897.*



**546** Glory and Praise to Our God

**506** Holy Wisdom, Lamp of Learning

**345** Gift of the Finest Wheat

**330** Look Beyond

**555** Sing to the Mountains

*During Lent 5:30PM Mass parts will be sung in Latin.*



LENT begins March 5<sup>th</sup> with Sacred Heart Cathedral offering three masses where ashes will be distributed to help begin our 40-day Lenten season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving at:

7:30 AM, 12:10 PM, & 7:00 PM

Friday Stations of the Cross

Sacred Heart Cathedral

5:30 PM Mass

6:00 PM Stations of the Cross

6:30 PM Simple Soup Supper

Starting March 9<sup>th</sup> Traditional Latin Masses will move to Immaculate Conception Church. Dates and 6:00 PM Mass time remain the same.

### 31 Biblical Virtues to pray for your kids.

**8. Mercy.** “May my children always be merciful, just as their Father is merciful.” (Lk 6:36)



**Summer Oratory is Mon-Fri, June 9<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> – 9AM-3PM** at Saint Nicholas Parish in North Pole for ages 6-17. Register by May 1<sup>st</sup>. at <https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/summer-oratory>

**MONDAY**

**SHC Club Discussion Group** – 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month 12:30-2:30PM downstairs in the Community Room.

Contact: [43janetf@gmail.com](mailto:43janetf@gmail.com)

**Bible Study Monday Nite** – Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> 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 downstairs at SHC every Tuesday. All are welcome!

**WEDNESDAY**

**Marian Prayer Group:** 6 PM at St. Raphael Church, after the 5:30 PM Healing Mass. The group reflects on one of the recent messages from Our Blessed Mother in Medjugorje after the Rosary is said.

**THURSDAY**

**Confirmation/Youth Group** – Confirmation – 5:30 PM; Voces Teen Youth Group 6:30–8:00 PM. Questions—Contact M. Way of Salvation at [servidoras@cbna.org](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month at St. Raphael Church. For information contact Gloria Slagle [stclare4@gmail.com](mailto: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 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.

**Nocturnal Adoration** 7AM–7PM Every Friday at ICC.

**SATURDAY**

**Oratory** – 1:00 PM at SHC.

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

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

**Young Adults:** 7:00 pm Game Night at SHC meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday for the next two months. Contact Diocesan OFFF Director Michael Olsta at 907-374-9526 or [olsta@cbna.org](mailto: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](mailto:iccsoupkitchen@cbna.org)

**EVENTS & GROUPS OF INTEREST**

**Marriage Preparations** – Contact Fr. Ross six (6) months prior to wedding - [rtozzi@cbna.org](mailto:rtozzi@cbna.org) or call (907) 347-3005.  
**ICC Our Lady of Fatima** - Contact Shannon Christensen at (907) 388-1825.

**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](mailto:43janetf@gmail.com).



**Justice Challenge:** Sunday's Gospel has Jesus challenging us about critiquing the speck in our brother's eye when we have a wooden beam in our own. This speaks to Jesus' sense of humor, but also to his passion for seeing everyone as created in God's image. As Pope Francis would say, "Who are we to judge?" Your challenge this week is to think of a person or a group of people whom you have judged. Spend some time in prayer and reflection, recalling that they are children of God and looking for signs of goodness that you may not have seen before. Then pray for them sincerely and honestly, asking God to bless them and help them to grow deeper in their love for him.

<https://pastoral.center>

**Authentic Living**

Jesus said, "How can you say to your neighbor, 'Friend, let me take out the speck in your eye' when you yourself do not see the log in your own eye?" (Luke 6:42a)

**Adults:** When have you most felt like a hypocrite? How did you overcome this feeling?

**Kids:** is it a good thing or a bad thing to act differently from what you are really feeling? Why?

<https://pastoral.center>

**How can we stay strong in our faith? Read a good book.** We need to fill our minds with the goodness of God and the witness of the saints. Pick up one to read 10 minutes a day during Lent, it can do wonders!

<https://www.amadorcatholic.com/10-ways-to-grow-your-faith>

**JOIN US FOR CRS RICE BOWL'S 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY!** CRS Rice Bowl is celebrating 50 years of helping



Catholic faith communities bring Lent to life and encounter God through our global family. During the 40 days of Lent, let us journey together through CRS Rice Bowl to

meet people in Nigeria, Guatemala and Bangladesh who are rising above the challenges of hunger and malnutrition. Pick up your rice bowl today on the table in the entrance of the church. For more information, visit [www.CRStricebowl.org](http://www.CRStricebowl.org) on how others benefit from this collection.



**CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN**

**Question:** Which saint who was a Carmelite nun is known as the "Little Flower"?





### 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? You can find many digital sites that will help guide you each day in your spiritual retreat during the 40 days of Lent. <https://catholiccompany.com/getfed/>



"Looking for a way to LIVE your Total Consecration?" The Legion of Mary was founded for just that – a simple way to commit "To Jesus through Mary." For more information on how 3 hours a week will satisfy your desire for service call Shannon Christensen at 907-388-1825 or Kathleen Frisby at 907-385-7114."

#### CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Answer: St. Thérèse of Lisieux @LPi

### The Log in Your Eye



Today's Gospel is a big favorite of non-Christians — or Christians who don't like being told what to do.

That trusty ol' remove the wooden beam from your own eyelid is a classic. Mind your business, Christians! You're not perfect either.

And that's entirely true. None of us are perfect. We've all got logs in our eyes. We can't approach life acting like we have the answers simply because we follow Jesus.

Jesus has the answers, and we have Jesus.

The real problem with having someone remove a splinter from my eye, if he himself has a log in his eye, is not that he has no business removing the splinter from my eye. It's that he can't see clearly to do it. His own eyesight is occluded.

If we see a splinter in another person's eye, or a problem in the world that needs to be fixed, or a scandal in the community that should be addressed, what Jesus is saying is not that we should ignore it and move on. He's merely saying that, when we see these things, we must take them first as a challenge to examine ourselves. To address the problem as it exists within our own souls, so that we ensure we are seeing clearly. Then, if we reach out to pluck the splinter, we will do so with clear eyesight.

He wants us to worry as much about our own souls as we do about other people's.

We tend to look at the world and feel anxious — so much evil!

So much hate! So much sin! We pray, God, when will you change it?

And He whispers back: I will change it here. Now. In your own heart. You just have to ask.

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman – February 27, 2025 ©Lpi

**GOOD FRIDAY** is an obligatory day of fasting from age 18 until 59. When fasting, a person is permitted one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence from meat and binding from age 14 onwards. – USCCB

**Weekly Prayer of the Faithful:** That we practice mercy and compassion more frequently and pray for those that annoy us.



February 23: \$ 922.00  
Actual Collection YTD  
(7/24- 6/25): \$ 48,485.05  
Number of Parishioners: 131

Thank you for your continued support! St. Mark's donated \$168.10 (3% of February collection) to the National Collection for Black & Indian Missions. Visit [WeShare](#) for online giving.

#### STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

***"A good tree does not bear rotten fruit, nor does a rotten tree bear good fruit." - LUKE 6:43***

Are you using your gifts in the way God intended? Have you asked God how He would like you to use them? Do you compare yourself to others and complain about what you don't have instead of being thankful for what you do have? God gives each of us unique gifts and a unique plan. Listen to how God is calling you to use your gifts, to bear good fruit, for the glory of His name.



#### POPE FRANCIS' FEBRUARY 2025 PRAYER INTENTION **For families in crisis.**

*Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.*

**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.

...medical and humanitarian aid for all who suffer from hardship due to catastrophic weather, fires, wars, floods, earthquakes, and disorders.

...respect for life from conception to natural death.

...all who are sick, homebound, undergoing or recovering from surgery, medical procedures, treatments, or testing, and those who have made specific prayer requests.

...for all who have passed on

...for the repose of the souls of our loved ones.

...Dcn. Paul Perreault's wife, Mary Beth, was recently diagnosed with advanced stage pancreatic cancer. She is receiving palliative care at this time. Please keep Mary Beth and the Perreault family in your prayers.

**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. Masses on Sunday are offered for all members of the St. Mark Community.

**"My sweetest Joy is to be in the presence of Jesus in the holy Sacrament. I bet that when obliged to withdraw in body, I may leave my heart before the holy Sacrament."**

~St. Katharine Drexel (Feast Day – March 3<sup>rd</sup>)

#### Beloved Marriage Preparation Classes

Winter Classes at Sacred Heart on Saturday Mornings 9:00 to 10:30 AM - March 8, 15, 22, 2025. The 6 sessions speak to the very heart of every man and woman, bringing sacramental truth and God-infused love into the everyday challenges of married life. Please register by email with Fr Ross [rtozzi@cbna.org](mailto:rtozzi@cbna.org)



#### Lent and Holy Week (46 Days)

- It begins on Ash Wednesday and ends with Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday.
- A time of preparation for the celebration of the Easter Resurrection.
- Liturgy prepares catechumens for initiation into the Church on Easter.
- Liturgy prepares the faithful by recalling their baptism, their uniting to the saving work of Jesus.
- Time recalls the frailties and sinfulness of the human condition and calls us to perfection through prayers and penance.
- The forty days from Ash Wednesday to Palm Sunday remind us of the 40 years the Jews wandered in the desert before God allowed them to enter the Holy Land and of the 40 days Jesus spent in the desert before his public life.

**At the start of Lent**, we should ask ourselves – what pulls me away from loving God, loving others, and loving myself well? How can I incorporate acts of sacrifice, acts of giving, and acts of prayer that will help me love as God loves?

Giving thought to observing Lent is important. Whether you wait until the last minute to decide, or you've known your Lenten sacrifice since *last* Lent, it's worth spending time to thoughtfully consider how to make the most of your experience this year.

Observing Lent is so much bigger than what you "give up."

<https://hallow.com>

**FLOCKNOTE:** Keep in touch with us for free! Text 'SMDOF' to 84576 or connect with us online at [SACREDHEARTAK.FLOCKNOTE.COM/STMARKPARISH](https://SACREDHEARTAK.FLOCKNOTE.COM/STMARKPARISH) Or fill out one of the cards on the table at the entrance of church (SHC) and drop in the collection basket or leave it on the table. *Thank You!*

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