



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

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

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

3/18: 6:30 PM @ SHC Lenten Presentation on the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Jubilee Year of Hope

3/21: SHC Lenten Friday Stations of the Cross

3/22: 7 PM Young Adult Game Night @ SHC

3/24-27: ACCB Priest Convocation – Anchorage

3/28: 5:00-8:30 PM FISH FRY at Monroe Catholic School. Stations of the Cross 5:30 PM.

4/1: 7:00 PM Chrism Mass at Sacred Heart Cathedral

PASTOR

Fr. Ross Tozzi: 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@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

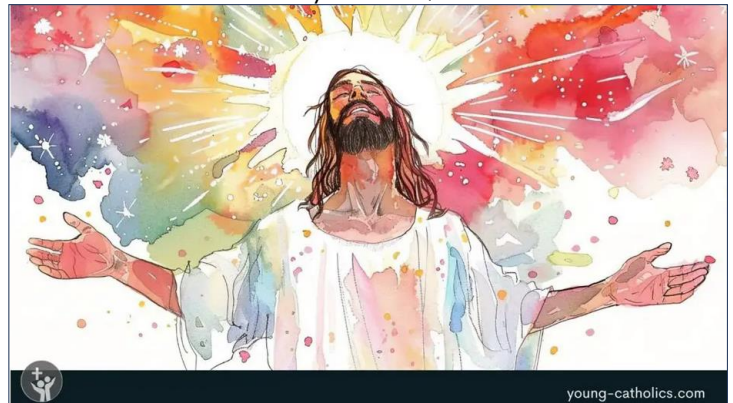
Catholic Definition: Chrism

A consecrated mixture of olive oil and balsam. Blessed by a bishop, it is used in the public administration of baptism, confirmation, and holy orders, in the blessing of tower bells, baptismal water, and in the consecration of churches, altars, chalices, a patens.

<https://www.catholicculture.org>

March 16, 2025

2nd Sunday in Lent, Year C



young-catholics.com

First Reading: Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

God makes a covenant with Abraham, promising him many descendants.

Responsorial Psalm 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14

A prayer to God who is our salvation.

Second Reading: Philippians 3:17-4:1

Paul encourages the Philippians to remain firm in their faith that Christ will subject all things to himself.

Paul teaches that we are saved by faith.

Gospel Reading: Luke 9:28b-36

Jesus is transfigured in the presence of Peter, John, and James.

MUSIC OF THE MASS

Chant Mass Parts #840-846

126 'Tisa Good, Lord, To Be Here

422 What Wondrous Love is This

127 Transfiguration

409 Open My Eyes

143 From The Depths We Cry To

Thee



The annual diocesan **Chrism Mass** will take place on Tuesday, April 1 at 7:00 pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral. Vonnie Baysinger, one of the Cathedral musicians is organizing the choir for the Chrism Mass and we would like YOU to participate. Two practices will be held: Sunday 3/16 & Sunday 3/23 from 2:15 pm-3:30 pm in the Cathedral sanctuary. *If you have any questions, please contact Sacred Heart Cathedral or Fr. Robert Fath at rfath@cbna.org.*



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

MONDAY

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

Contact: 43janetf@gmail.com

Bible Study Monday Nite – March 10th 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: 6:00-8:30PM 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 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 10-11:30 AM. **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 3rd Order Meetings – 6PM every other Saturday at Monroe School. Formations talks – Games for kids in gym. All who are interested are welcome.

Young Adult Game Night: 7 PM at SHC meets on the 4th Saturday (3/22 & 4/26) for the next two months. Contact Diocesan OFFF Director Michael Olsta at 907-374-9526 or olsta@cbna.org.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY

IVE Third Order Meetings – Meeting 3/29 at St. Nicholas; 4/12 at ICC.

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

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

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 how you can join, contact Jan Fortune at 43janetf@gmail.com.



Justice Challenge: Luke's Gospel retells the story of the Transfiguration of Jesus. God tells the apostles to listen to his beloved son, Jesus. We too are called to listen to him, and to follow him as missionary disciples. Your challenge this week is to listen to Jesus' call to be people of justice and service. How can you live out Jesus' teaching that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters, we do for him? Who needs love and support in your life? <https://pastoral.center>

Connecting the Gospel...

...to the First Reading: On the mountain of transfiguration the disciples witnessed the glory of Jesus' identity as the "chosen Son." We, too, are destined for glory when Christ will "change our lowly body to conform with his glorified body" (Second Reading).



...to experience: We often have glimpses of glory: in a remarkable sunset, in the shining face of a delighted child, in the radiant joy of new parents. Like the transfiguration, these glimpses of glory encourage and strengthen us to continue the journey of life toward eternal glory. <https://liturgy.slu.edu>

Transformed by Christ

But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. (Rom 10:13)

Adults: How are your priorities affected by your faith in Jesus Christ?

Kids: When you have important choices to make, do you and your family pray to make the right choice? <https://pastoral.center>



**SECOND WEEK OF LENT
PAYING IT FORWARD AS A
LEAD MOTHER IN NIGERIA**

In Nigeria, over 25 million people are experiencing extreme food insecurity due to climate change, poverty, and conflict. Because of violence in their hometown, Amina and her family were forced to flee and start life over again in a new village. Learn how Amina's participation in a Catholic Relief Services program helped her prepare nutritious meals for her family and support other families in her community to overcome the challenges of hunger and malnutrition. Visit this week's [Story of Hope](#).

31 Biblical Virtues to pray for your kids.

10. Biblical self-esteem. "Help my children develop a strong self-esteem that is rooted in the realization that they are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus." (Eph. 2:10)

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: : What is the definition of the "bible"?

The Catholic Company presents



Struggling with your Lenten penances?

Fear not! Even our failures are opportunities for grace.

Lent is hard.

We're just over a week into this penitential season and already we can feel defeated.

Maybe you've already broken those Lenten resolutions you made with such determination. Maybe you're struggling with fasting and physical penance. Maybe you've kept all your Lenten intentions but still feel burdened and depleted spiritually.

For some of us, the sacrifices we've committed to can feel burdensome, and the demands of fasting, prayer, and almsgiving can weigh heavily on our busy lives.

No matter where you find yourself this Lent, remember that these small defeats are an important part of your Lenten journey!

It is within these difficulties that we can find profound opportunities for growth and grace.

St. Teresa of Avila teaches us that those who walk closest to Christ often endure the greatest trials, and Lent is an opportunity to walk with Christ in the desert. Yet she reminds us that God will never abandon us in these struggles. Rather, He will always provide us with the strength necessary to suffer them well. She wrote:

"Courage, courage, my daughters. Remember that God does not give anyone more trials than can be



suffered and that his majesty is with the afflicted. For this is certain; there is no reason to fear but to hope in his mercy. He will reveal the whole

truth; and some machinations, which the devil kept hidden so as to create a disturbance, will be made known."

These small moments of weakness and difficulty are also opportunities for profound humility. Sometimes the lessons of Lent are not beautiful ones of self-sacrifice, but difficult ones of personal humility. The lessons learned in weakness will teach us that we cannot trust ourselves to be strong; rather, we must rely on God, who gives us His strength in abundance.

Strength requires struggle, and our spiritual lives require strength. <https://catholiccompany.com/getfed/>

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



My husband pretty much knows that if he tells me something — anything — he's also telling my sister.

Most of us have that person that we run to when we have important information. I'm not even talking about gossip; I'm talking about stuff we just *have* to discuss. We joke that I don't really know how I feel about something until I've run it by my sister first.

There's not really anything wrong with that. When we're trying to figure out how to think about something that has happened or how to react to a certain situation, it's always helpful to get the opinion of someone we trust.

But what if we ran as quickly to discuss the situation with God as we did to discuss it with our "person?" Wouldn't that be ideal?

After witnessing the transfiguration — an event that had to have been as confusing as it was astounding — we hear that the disciples "fell silent and did not at that time tell anyone what they had seen."

When something profound, frightening, or confusing happens, our first confidante should be God. I'm reminded of Luke 2:19: "Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart." There is something to be said for taking a moment to keep that information sacred between ourselves and the One who can really help us confront it.

Sure, maybe we don't understand what just happened. Maybe we're scared by it. We don't really know how we feel about it. And that's totally okay. The divine confidante knows how to help us pray through that confusion, that fear.

If you're someone's "person" and they come to you wanting to talk, that's great. Talk it out. But remind them — and remind yourself — to pray about it as much as you talk about it.

Let the love of those things carry you through this Lent, and beyond.

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman – March 13, 2025©Lpi

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Answer: A collection of books. @Lpi

Have patience with all things, but first of all with yourself.

~ St. Francis de Sale



March 9, 2025: \$ 874.00
Actual Collection YTD
(7/24- 6/25): \$ 51,397.05
Number of Parishioners: 117

Thank you for your continued support! Consider online giving with [WeShare](#) on our website. St. Mark will give 3% of our March collections to the National Collections for Catholic Relief Services, which supports international immigration and justice.

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

*"I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land as a possession."
- GENESIS 15:7*

Just as the Lord gave Abraham, Moses, and the Israelites a land to possess, He has also given each of us a home. Whether your home is grand or humble, it is a gift from God. Abraham prepared a great sacrifice to the Lord in gratitude for the home God gave him. How do you show your gratitude to God for the home He has given you? Do you make a sacrifice of any kind? Do you return any of your finances to God, investing in your eternal home just as you invest in your earthly home?



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.

...unity and solidarity in our universal Roman Catholic Church.

...Jitlada Duangpakpheng as she prepares to enter into the Catholic Church.

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

...the sick, their loved ones and caregivers

...Isabelle Harrington, Mary Beth Perreault, Ben Orr, Kerri Cerney, Ron Johnson, Fr. Gerardus Hauwert, IVE, Dorothy & Frank McGilvary, Deborah Leibe, Fr Sean Thomson, Cedric Grace, and the Galvin family,

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

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 at (907) 474-9032. Masses on Sunday are offered for members of the St. Mark Community.

ARE YOU REGISTERED AT ST. MARK'S UNIVERSITY PARISH?

Registration allows Fr. Ross and his staff to get to know you better, to welcome you, and to minister to you. It is also an opportunity to enjoy a sense of belonging and identity. If you want to receive our emails and notices fill out the FLOCKNOTE card in the church entrance or email Mary Pat Boger at stmark@cbna.org.



Keep current with what is going on in our diocese by going to the Diocese of Fairbanks [website](#). You can reach area websites from one location, publications, needs around the diocese, ministries available, training, and contact information.



For more information on the Year of Hope scan the QR code or go to the Diocesan website at <https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/the-year-of-hope>

The Diocese of Fairbanks is now hiring a Chief Financial Officer (CFO).

This is a full-time, exempt position with benefits. To apply, submit a cover letter, résumé, and three references to humanresources@cbna.org. For a detailed list of job duties and other information, please visit <https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/job-postings>.



"Oh Jesus, I surrender myself to you,
take care of everything. Amen."

What is Fasting?

The practice in self-discipline with a penitential focus. In the context of Lent, it refers to reducing food intake and limiting how many meals we have.

What are the Lent rules on abstinence?

In this context, abstinence refers to "abstaining" from meat on Fridays during Lent. Whereas Catholics fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday with just one large meal, Catholics must refrain from eating meat on other Fridays, though they can have three full meals.

At what age do you start fasting for Lent?

Those ages 18-59, in reasonable health, are required to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Those 14 and older must abstain from meat on Fridays during Lent. Parents should still communicate the meaning and penance to young children not fasting.

Who is exempt from fasting during Lent? Children, adults with physical and mental illness, pregnant women and those nursing are all exempt. The USCCB stresses that "common sense should prevail" and that no one should jeopardize their health to fast. <https://hallow.com/lent/>

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>

Would you like to be an ALTAR SERVER, READER, OR EXTRA ORDINARY MINISTER OF THE EURCHARIST for St. Mark? Contact Mary Pat Boger at 907-374-9564 or see her after Sunday 5:30 AM Mass.