



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.

CALENDAR of EVENTS

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

4/13: 5:30 PM Palm Sunday Mass

4/17: 7 PM Holy Thursday Mass

4/18: 7 PM Good Friday Services

4/19: 8 PM Easter Vigil

4/20: EASTER SUNDAY (No 5:30 PM Mass)

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: stmark@cbna.org

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

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: Mass Intention

The object for which a priest offers the Eucharistic Sacrifice. Mass intentions refer to the particular purpose for which a specific Mass is offered. This may be to honor God or thank him for blessings received. But technically a Mass intention means that the sacrifice is offered for some person(s) living or dead. <https://www.catholicculture.org>

31 Biblical Virtues to pray for your kids.

11. Faithfulness. “Let love and faithfulness never leave my children but bind these twin virtues around their necks and write them on the tablet of their hearts.” (Prov 3:3)

March 23, 2025

3rd Sunday in Lent, Year C



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

661 Healing River of the Spirit

458 I Heard the Voice of Jesus

759 As the Deer Longs (Hurd)

643 Come to the River

641 O Breathe on Me, O Breath of God

Mass, Stations of the Cross & Simple Supper held at Sacred Heart Cathedral on Fridays during Lent. Combine nourishment for both the body and the soul.

5:30 PM Mass, 6:30 PM Stations, 6:30 PM Simple Supper, 7:00 PM Stations in Spanish.



THIRD WEEK OF LENT

NUTRITIOUS MEALS HELP CHILDREN GROW HEALTHY IN GUATEMALA

In Santa María Chiquimula, Guatemala,

over half the community is affected by malnutrition. Amid rising food prices and job loss, Ana Belén and her husband were struggling to provide for their growing family. But they saw a ray of hope through their participation in a Catholic Relief Services' program that helps them ensure their children are healthy and have the nutrition they need to thrive and play. Visit <https://crsricebowl.org/week-3> to read this week's Story of Hope.



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 24th 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: As we enter more deeply into Lent, we recall Jesus washing the feet of his apostles. This action contains two essential challenges for those who seek justice in the world: the challenge to serve and the challenge to be served. Jesus sets the example to serve in ways that may seem to be beneath us and calls Peter to accept service. Many great leaders, even in the corporate world, spend some of their time doing the work of the lowest paid person in the organization as an important reminder that all work is valuable. This act is also a beautiful sign that the service of these all-too-often forgotten people is well-received by the leader. Step out of your comfort zone this week and do a task that may seem to be beneath you. Experience the dignity in your simple service. <https://pastoral.center>

Connecting the Gospel...

...to the First Reading: Paul, like Jesus, offers examples from Israel's history as a "warning to us" (Second Reading) not to stray from God's guidance. God offered every means for coming to new life to the people of Israel; so, too, Jesus offers us every means for coming to new and fruitful life ("I shall cultivate the ground ... and fertilize it").



...to experience: Growing up takes hard work. Getting ahead in life takes hard work. Deepening our relationship with God and others takes hard work. It is no surprise, then, that repenting takes hard work. The discipline of Lent includes this kind of hard-work repentance which leads to the new life Easter promises. <https://liturgy.slu.edu>

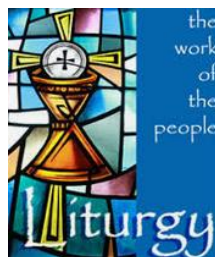
Tempered With Humility

The reign of God is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in the garden; it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air made nests in its branches. (Lk.13:19b)

Adults: What important work could bear fruit in your life right now if you have more confidence in God's loving care?

Kids: What great work would you like to do as you grow older? What can you do to begin now?

<https://pastoral.center>



ST. MARK VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Participate and actively worship and show ownership in our parish! Lectors (*readers*) & Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist are needed to help with rotation when people are travelling or sick. We are always looking for more volunteers to become altar servers. Contact Mary Pat Boger at 907-374-9564 or Email: stmark@cbna.org.

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: : What is the name of the commemorative, prayerful "walk" that Catholics take part in to retrace Christ's journey to Calvary? (Answer on page 4)

True story: when Catholic priests saved civilization... *After the Roman Empire collapsed, the Church stepped in to bring order to chaos.*

When Rome fell, law and learning went down with it. A dark chaos ensued. Man descended into the barbarism of the Dark Age until the Enlightenment.

Right?

Nope. That's a myth. The actual history reveals something very different.

Out of the rubble of Rome arose the Golden Age of the Church and, through her, a new and better and more beautiful civilization. This "Western Civilization" was built thanks to priests.

How did priests build Western Civilization?

They built it by nurturing truth, erudition, and faith. Let's look at a few examples:

First, education. Most priests helped in this crucial work, among them Chrodegand of Metz, Alcuin, St. Bede, and Cassiodorus. Alcuin was a true champion of education. Noted for his brilliance from a young age, he ran York's palace school when he was in his early thirties.

During a trip to Rome, Alcuin caught the attention of the great Emperor Charlemagne, who asked Alcuin to run his own palace school. Alcuin took charge of the school for many years, teaching the sons and daughters of great Christian men. When he retired to the monastery of St.

Martin de Tours, he quickly formed a monastic school there.

As did many like him, Alcuin dedicated his life to teaching, a great pillar of civilization.

Another example is music. Pope Gregory the Great is best remembered for saving and copying down plainsong or chant (which is why traditional church

music is known as "Gregorian Chant"). He loved music—beautiful music—and knew that it is important in any society. After Gregory's death, the highest compliment a music-loving successor could receive was, "The Holy Father knows as much about music as Gregory the Great!"

Architecture is another important pillar of civilization. Carthusian, Augustinian, Cistercian, and Cluniac monks were among the forerunners of great Western architecture, desiring a fitting space in which to worship. Some of the more famous priests, however, come later—

Continued on left side of page...



A depiction of St. Gregory the Great by Francisco de Goya

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



I have garden beds on the side of my house that I don't deserve.

When we bought the property, this was one of the features that was highlighted in the listing. "Professional landscaping! Tri-level garden beds that bask in the southern exposure!"

But I'm so terrible at weeding these garden beds — they become overgrown quickly, and I shudder to imagine what the previous owners would think of me if they drove by. I'm afraid they would write me off as lazy or disinterested, when really I'm just exhausted and busy. Every time I try to garden, one of my little assistant gardeners runs near the road and I must abandon the project to save them.

So, my husband, bless his heart, is the savior of these garden beds. He goes out there in the cool of the evening to pluck up the weeds that threaten to overtake this beautiful little garden. Patiently and tenderly, he restores it to a presentable state. Without him, they would be lost.

Perhaps I love these garden beds so much because I identify with them. If I were a garden, I would also be a mess, and people who have no time for messes would write me off as hopeless. We all need a savior to stick up for us, to come and quietly prune the unsightly growths that have taken root in our souls and turn the soil that has sat undisturbed for too long.

What I love most about our Savior is that he didn't — doesn't — give up on us. "Give me more time," he says to the Master. "I can still fix this one."

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman – March 20, 2025©Lpi

"True Story" ending....

Giovanni Giocondo of the 15th century, who made St. Peter's Basilica; and Robert of Luzarches, 13th century, who designed Notre Dame Cathedral in Amiens.

These examples are just a scratch on the surface of Western Civilization and the great priests who toiled to build it. *Heroism and Genius: How Catholic Priests Built Western Civilization* tells more about *who* they were, *what* they did, and *how* they did it. Fascinating, eye-opening, and even surprising, this will number among the most exciting histories you've ever read!

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



March 16, 2025: \$ 857.00
 Actual Collection YTD
 (7/24- 6/25): \$ 52,254.05
 Number of Parishioners: 85

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

“He said to the gardener, ‘For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none.’” - LUKE 13:7

We can all be like the barren fig tree at times. Do you cling to what you have, or do you generously share with others? How will you respond when God asks you what you have done with all the gifts He has given you? Remember, not only are we called to be generous; we are called to develop and nurture our gifts; and return them with increase. We are called to be generous with all of gifts; especially the one that means the most to you.



POPE FRANCIS' MARCH 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.

... our Alaskan priests gathering in Anchorage this week for Priestly Formation.

...Jitlada Duangpakpheng preparing to enter into the Catholic Church; Piper Peters preparing for 1st Communion.

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

...Isabelle Harrington, Mary Beth Perreault, Ben Orr, Kerri Cerney, Ron Johnson, Fr. Gerardus Hauwert, IVE, Dorothy & Frank McGilvary, Deborah Leabee, 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.

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. stmarks@cbna.org

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN
Answer: The Stations of the Cross. @Lpi

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>.



“Fasting cleanses the soul, raises the mind, subjects one’s flesh to the spirit, renders the heart contrite and humble, scatters the clouds of concupiscence, quenches the fire of lust, kindles the true light of chastity.” -St. Thomas Aquinas

LENTEN FOOD DRIVE

Three keys to a good Lent are prayer, fasting and almsgiving. To help with almsgiving, our parish is doing a food drive to feed the hungry, a basic corporal work of mercy. We will collect cans and non-perishable packaged foods in the blue bins in the vestibule. We call this “Food for Families/Cans for Christ” because Jesus said, “As you did for the least of your brethren, you did for Me. Lent is a great time to give to the Food bank because the large amounts of food that were donated around Thanksgiving dwindled. Our goal is 1,000 pounds of food. The Knights of Columbus will weigh the donations each week and bring it to the Food Bank. Let’s all make a special effort to fill the bins!



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>