

DAY 1

9 DAYS
FOR LIFE



May the tragic practice of abortion end.

DAY 2

9 DAYS
FOR LIFE



May each person suffering from participation in abortion find forgiveness, hope, and healing in Christ.

DAY 3

9 DAYS
FOR LIFE



May every pregnant mother receive compassionate care and support as she nurtures the life in her womb.



9 DAYS
FOR LIFE

DAY 4

May every father of a preborn child lovingly support the mother of his child in welcoming new life.

DAY 5

9 DAYS
FOR LIFE



May every pregnant mother choosing adoption receive grace and support in embracing this loving option.



9 DAYS
FOR LIFE

DAY 6

May all who support or participate in abortion experience a conversion of heart to seek and receive the Lord's boundless mercy.

DAY 7

9 DAYS
FOR LIFE



May all preborn children be protected in law and welcomed in love.

9 DAYS
FOR LIFE



DAY 8

May civic leaders work for the protection of all human life, in every stage and circumstance.

DAY 9

9 DAYS
FOR LIFE



May all who defend life find strength and renewal in the Holy Spirit.

9 DAYS
FOR LIFE

JANUARY 16-24: 9 DAYS FOR LIFE NOVENA

Take 9 days to pray for the protection of human life. Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life. See page 5 for details.

SAINT MARK

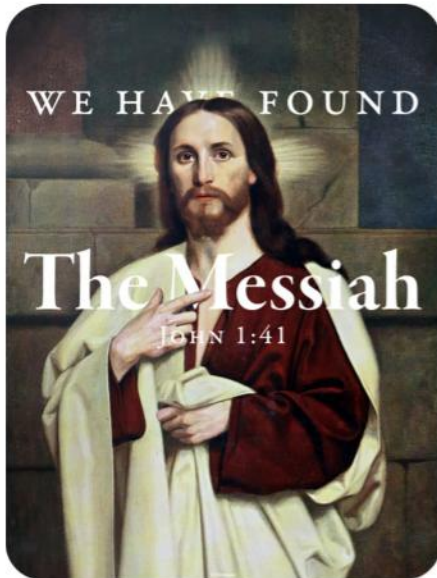
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, January 14, 2024, Español pagina 15



Welcome to St. Mark

January 14, 2024, 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

The readings for today can be found in the St. Augustine Hymnal on **page 1016**.
Music handouts are at the entrances; see an usher if you did not receive one.



Thank you for being a part of our parish, either as a visitor or a long-time parishioner.

Our Mission: We are all called as one by Christ to embrace the spirit of stewardship and engagement to Grow in Christ, Serve One Another, Share Our Gifts and Connect in Faith. This mission is our quest for holiness. It is by our intentional discipleship that each of us become stewards of the gifts God has given us and to share them with others. Our time, our talent and our treasure is given to us by God to share with others by spreading the Gospel and building His kingdom.



If you are interested in registering as a member of St. Mark, please go to stmarknc.org/registration or use the QR code. You may submit the form online or bring a paper copy to the Welcome Desk during normal business hours. Forms can be found in the narthex. Please know, you do not need to be Catholic to join and come to our parish.

Mass Schedule Change:

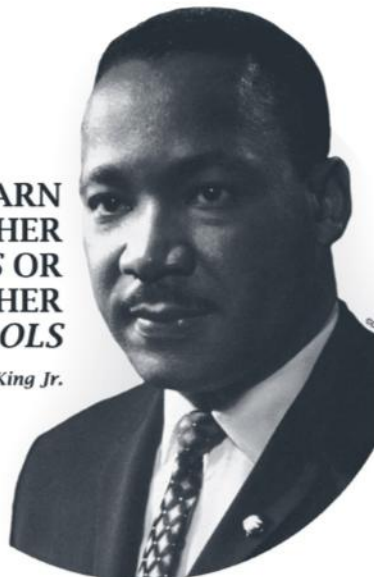
When: Mon., Jan. 15:

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

In observance of the national holiday, there will be no 7 am Mass on Monday, January 15. The Parish Offices and Kerin Family Center will be closed.

WE MUST LEARN
TO LIVE TOGETHER
AS BROTHERS OR
PERISH TOGETHER
AS FOOLS

Martin Luther King Jr.



Guidelines for Communion For Catholics

1. To be in a state of grace, that is to say, to be free from any unconfessed mortal sin.
2. To abstain for at least one hour before Holy Communion from any food and drink, with the exception of water and medicine.
3. To know what you are receiving and to approach the altar with devotion.
4. **St. Mark uses altar rails. Please go to the far end of the rail and either kneel to receive Holy Communion on the tongue or remain standing to receive in your hand. The distribution of the Precious Blood remains suspended.**

For Non-Catholics: We welcome you to Holy Mass and are glad you are here. Please feel free to participate by singing, standing, kneeling, etc. However, the reception of Holy Communion is reserved for Catholics in a state of grace. At the time of Communion, please feel free to come forward with your arms crossed over your chest for a blessing or remain in your pew. (See page 1302 in the hymnal.)

FROM THE PASTOR



"Speak, for your servant is listening." With those few words, Samuel humbles himself and declares his loyalty and obedience to God. There are perhaps for many of us challenges in those words. Initially, Samuel responds, "Here I am," but thinks it was Eli who called him. The idea of being a servant and the willingness to serve are what may be trials for

us in terms of how we live.

Samuel does not recognize the voice of the Lord. That, too, might be a problem for us. First, we need to be listening. Are we, or are we merely going through the motions? Responding to God with "Here I am" is a magnificent way to react to God. It is not that God does not know where we are but saying that can serve as a reminder to us that we are stewards and servants to Him, and it implies we are prepared to hear what He wants us to do.

"Here I am" is said numerous times by those in the Old Testament including Abraham, Jacob, Moses, Isaiah, and by Ananias in the New Testament. When Jesus says, "Come follow me," as He does to us, do we hear Him, and even more importantly do we respond, and do we follow?

In order to do that properly we have to be prepared to serve Him and others. Thus, like Samuel, we need to listen, and then we need to serve. At a recent papal audience, Pope Francis said, "Love and charity are service, helping others, serving others. When you forget yourself and think of others, this is love!" © Catholic Stewardship Consultants, 2023

Pastoral Pondering - Over the Christmas break I had a wonderful opportunity to get to know two amazing saints, St. Damien de Veuster and St. Marianne Cope. Both of them worked in Hawaii and both worked with those suffering with Hansen's disease (Leprosy). Father Damien volunteered to go to the Leprosy colony at Moloka'i to minister to those who had been exiled there due to the disease. In those days (1860's) little was known about leprosy and it caused a great deal of fear. Being sent to the peninsula on Moloka'i was, for the most part a death sentence.

Father Damien worked tirelessly to provide the residents with proper housing, sanitation, and care. It was a constant battle with his religious superiors and the Hawaiian government to obtain needed supplies and resources. He began his mission in 1869 and died of the

disease in 1889. Prior to his death he was honored by the King of Hawaii as a Knight Commander of the Royal Order of Kalākaua. This honor raised awareness of the plight of the residents and brought international support to Father Damien's efforts.

One of his fervent prayers and constant requests was that the Church would send Religious sisters to help in the mission. In 1883 Franciscan sisters from Syracuse, NY, led by Mother Marianne Cope, arrived in Honolulu to open a hospital for lepers. Her desire to go to Moloka'i was resisted for some time, but in 1888, after setting up an infrastructure in Hawaii to help leprosy patients, she was allowed to go to Kalupapa on the peninsula and begin her work in the leper colony. Mother Marianne was with Father Damien when he died. He gave Mother his blessing and told her that his prayer had been granted, another priest had been assigned to the mission and sisters had come as well. His work was done.

Stories of this type remind us of the power of the human spirit guided by Divine inspiration. With God, all things are possible. The movie, *Molokai*, does a good job at sharing this important story. I encourage you to take some time and watch it.



Courage is a Catholic apostolate for men and women who experience same-sex attractions and for the family members and loved ones of those who identify as LGBTQ+. It offers confidential support for living chastity, growing in holiness, and keeping family bonds intact. To learn more and find a local chapter, visit Courage International at Couragerc.org.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please Pray For...

Janice Anderton	The Kantra Family
Sharon Antoszyk	Carol & Frank Kenny
Des Arrup	The Kube Family
Katherine Arvesu	Kelly Scherer Lang
Laura Ashley	Jeanne LoPriore
Daisy Bayona	Jane Mayhew
Michelle Bissinger & Family	Kay McAfee
Brian Blatchford & Family	Jim McLaughlin
Don & Cathy Blackwell	Laura Mulvihill
Len & Michele Boos	Deacon Robert Murphy
Viola Cleo Bradshaw	Michael Newton
John Brannon	Keith Noble
Lynne Bridges	Scott O'Halloran
Gretchen Burke	Evelyn Pachana
Anne Caestecker	Josie Pais
Mark Carolla	Shannon Peake
Donna Castoria	Mary Lynn Polly
Janelle Cataldo	Joette Reid
William Conklin	Lindsey Remington
Dwight Corley	Jose Raymond Rios
Shawn Davis	Ronald Robinson
Mary Deininger	Crys Roeder
Emma Drummond	Marilyn Sacek
James P. Durcan	Mickey Shannon
Jack Evans	Deacon Ronald Sherwood & Family
Frances & Kai Ferel	Todd Singh
David Fogarty	Ben Smith
Richard Foy	Jerry Stewart
James Freer	Patricia Tarasiewicz
Elyse Pancheri-Freer	Stacey Tarasiewicz
Maureen K. Frost	Reese Tenga
Helen Haddad	Tom Thompson
Ron Haley	Lucia Solis Vallarino
Dave Heaton	Julio Velez
Madeline Louise Henwood	Lewis Vellia
Pat Herkey	Maria Vilchez
Kevin Herman Sr.	Vilchez Hernandez Family
Zohra Hunter-Rezgui	Virginia (Ginny) White
Julie Jones	MaryJane Zimmerman
The Juster Family	
Steve Kaminski	

To submit a prayer request visit: stmarknc.org/prayerchain.

Scripture Readings

For the Week of January 14, 2024

Sunday	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10; 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42
Monday	1 Sm 15:16-23; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23; Mk 2:18-22
Tuesday	1 Sm 16:1-13; Ps 89:20, 21-22, 27-28; Mk 2:23-28
Wednesday	Memorial of Saint Anthony, Abbot 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51; Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10; Mk 3:1-6
Thursday	1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7; Ps 56:2-3, 9-10a, 10b-11, 12-13; Mk 3:7-12
Friday	1 Sm 24:3-21; Ps 57:2, 3-4, 6 and 11; Mk 3:13-19
Saturday	Memorial of Saint Fabian, Pope and Martyr and Saint Sebastian, Martyr 2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27; Ps 80:2-3, 5-7; Mk 3:20-21
Sunday	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Jon 3:1-5, 10; Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9; 1 Cor 7:29-31; Mk 1:14-20

Mass Intentions

Sunday January 14

7:30 am † Frances and Salvatore Addamo Sr.
9 am † Anthony Edward D'Andrea
11 am † Alicia Dyanne Dacey
1 pm Gladis Campoverde
5 pm † Vincenzo & Michelina Carapellotti

Monday January 15

9 am † Mark Pierce

Tuesday January 16

7 am † Dorothy Ann Novak Gilmartin
9 am † Tomas Gomez

Wednesday January 17

7 am † Dual Gianechini
† Marjorie Kenney
6:30 pm † Mary Louise Koehl
† Vincenzo & Michelina Carapellotti

Thursday January 18

7 am † Mary Anne Retort Mehalic
9 am Mary Women of Joy

Friday January 19

7 am Bill Fountain
9 am † Sue McCarron
7 pm Marianne Probst

Saturday January 20

9 am Respect Life Ministry
5 pm St. Mark Parishioners

Sunday January 21

7:30 am † Sue Lang
9 am † Albert Nigro
11 am Jack Heggie
1 pm Jose Guilebaldo Elias
4:30 pm † Don Kiebler
5 pm † Kayla Wilson

† Deceased

Our Faithful Departed

May God's grace be with the family of our recently deceased: **Anthony (Tony) Bruno**
Father of Scott Bruno

Prayers For Our Military

Air Force: SrA Brennen Brown; Airman Gregory Burke; Airman Antoinio Diaz; Capt Stephen Hack; Lt Col Douglas Lincoln; Capt Ryan Loyd; Alejandro Martinez; Sgt James McCormick; SrA Benjamin Salber; Airman Chloe Scott

Army: 1st Lt. Patrick Camatcho; Major Robert Caracillo; Lt Col Michael Dragoon; SSgt Darcy Fisher; Kyle Hawk; PFC J. Parker Hogan; Pvt Chaz Margo; Maj Daniel McCormick; Maria Morell; PV2 Matthew Pressley; Sgt Matthew Quillinan; Maj Stephen J. Romeo; Andrew Santos; Capt Ramon Ricardo Tapia; Spl Forces Nolan Tillotson; Josh Wagner; 1st Lt Nick Worth

Marines: LCPL Richard Breier; Sgt Andrew Sales; Maj. Matthew Santoli; Cpl Ben Holden

Navy: LCDR Matthew Giannone; Lt. Albert Remmey, Jr.; LCDR Jordan Mayo; STG E-4 Colton McLaughlin; OSSN Daniel Pressley; LCDR Jenna Hehn Quist; ENS Tyler Spear; LCDR William Vey; CTT2 Zachary Wortham...
and all service members not listed.



Monthly Respect Life Mass and Prayer Vigil

Please join us for Mass followed by a peaceful prayer vigil at Planned Parenthood.

Saturday, January 20
Saint Mark Mass, 9 am

Peaceful Prayer Vigil
10:15 -11:15

**Pray with us at the
Preferred Women's Health
Center, 3220 Latrobe Drive,
Charlotte**

We will caravan to Charlotte for the Rosary Vigil returning to Saint Mark by 11:45 am.
Info: respect.life@stmarknc.org

2024 March for Life Information

Friday, January 19: March for Life DC. The Diocese of Charlotte Office of Family life is hosting a pilgrimage to the national March for Life. Join Fr. Peter Ascik to defend the unborn. Details and Register: charlottediocese.org/event/national-march-for-life/

Monday, January 22:
[National Day of Prayer for the Protection of the Unborn.](http://www.ncrtl.org/rallyandmarch)

Saturday, May 18: North Carolina March for Life (new date): www.ncrtl.org/rallyandmarch

Birthright of Charlotte is Now Open!

Birthright of Charlotte, a new area Catholic pregnancy center, opened its doors this month. Located just east of the Latrobe Drive abortion center, it's ready to meet with expectant mothers in need and provide counseling and support.

Thank you to all of the St. Mark parishioners who helped to make this a reality.

Please save Birthright of Charlotte's contact information in case you want to refer someone for help: birthrightofcharlotte.org/ or call 803-543-8144.




9 DAYS FOR LIFE JANUARY 16-24

Pray to protect human life!

Join Catholics nationwide in prayer for the protection of human life! You can download the novena or get the daily prayers and reflections by email or text message.

9DAYSFORLIFE.COM





DO YOU KNOW
Why Jesus was born?

the RESCUE project

The Rescue Project
Rescued People Rescue People
JOIN US!

Where:
Kerin Family Center

When:
Thursdays 6:30pm - 8:30pm
January 25; February 1, 8, 15, 29;
March 7, 9 (Saturday mini retreat), 14

Info & Registration:
stmarknc.org/the-rescue-project
RescueProject.us

Meal Episode Discussion

An Evening of Prayer & Praise

*When: Tues., Jan. 16,
7:30 - 8:30 pm*

*Where: In the church after the
7 pm rosary*

Want to draw closer to God? Join us on January 16 at 7:30 pm for an hour of prayer & praise. This will be a time to use music to enter into God's presence and spend an hour in prayer with Him.

This will be led by Fernando & Karen De Urquidi who have led worship for conferences and retreats over the past 25 years in North Carolina.

Info: 252-412-9978

Perpetual Hope Gospel Choir is Coming!

When: Sat. Jan. 20; 6:30 pm

Where: St. Mark Parish Hall

Don't miss this opportunity to see the Perpetual Hope Gospel Choir at St. Mark. Founded in 1980, this African American musical heritage is part of the liturgy at Our Lady of Consolation Catholic Church in Charlotte.

The Choir, under the direction of Erick Massey, recently celebrated its 43th Anniversary.

The rich tradition of growing and spreading the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ is open to everyone! Please join us for a spirit-filled evening after the Saturday 5 pm Mass.

Learn More About the Catholic Faith!

When: Tuesdays, 7 pm

Where: In the Kerin Family Center Parish Hall

Our Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (former RCIA) team invites all to join us at our weekly classes to get a better understanding of the dogmatic teachings of the Holy Catholic Church. You can choose to attend all the classes or just pick the topics which you would like to know better.

Upcoming 2024 Schedule of Topics:

Jan. 16	The Sacraments
Jan. 23	The Eucharist
Jan. 30	Walk through the Mass

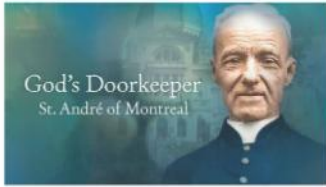
Feb. 6
Sick
Feb. 13
Feb. 20
Feb. 27
Mar. 5
Mar. 12

Penance and Anointing of the
Matrimony and Holy Orders
A Catholic Moral Vision
A Love that Lasts-Part I & 2
Catholic Social Teachings-Part I
Catholic Social Teachings-Part II

Please let us know you are coming by emailing either Deacon Rich McCarron, deacon.rich@stmarknc.org or Leanne Vaccaro, leanne.vaccaro@stmarknc.org.

THIS WEEK ON FORMED

Week of January 14, 2024



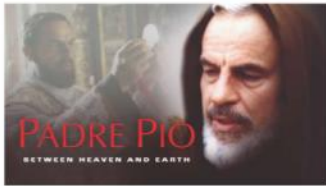
God's Doorkeeper: St. André of Montreal

This week, we celebrate the memorial of a humble doorkeeper, St. André of Montreal. Learn how this man became a great saint through his small acts of love!



The Bible Collection - Genesis

Experience the epic tale of creation in this Christian anthology that details the stories of Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, and Noah and the Ark.



Padre Pio: Between Heaven and Earth

Based on the historical records and the personal testimony of his fellow friars, this is the amazing true story of the life of the famous stigmatic monk, St. Padre Pio, a contemporary saint who died in 1968. Blessed with incredible spiritual gifts, including healing, bi-location, reading of souls, and the stigmatic wounds, Padre Pio was a powerful witness for Christ, and a great spiritual guide to countless souls for over fifty years.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.
Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.

An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and IGNACIO PRESS

Healed and Restored Bilingual Women's Retreat

When: Sat., Jan. 20, 8 am-3 pm

Where: St. Mark Catholic Church Kerin Family Center

Come and encounter God's healing love through inspiring talks from Elza Spaedy, Christine Wisdom and Carolyn Franks.

What to expect from this powerful day:

- Breakfast and lunch included with the \$20 registration fee
- Inspiring talks
- Confession
- Worship music led by Aubrey Quintero and Bella Spaedy
- Community building with women from all over the Charlotte and Lake Norman area

Cost is \$20 per person.

Registration and information: www.HealedAndRestored.org or email Info@HealedAndRestored.org



2024 Women's Welcome Retreat

When: Feb. 17-18, 8 am Sat.-3 pm Sun.

Where: Kerin Family Center

Are you searching for more meaning in your life? Do you need some time to reconnect with God? Come join us at the Women's Welcome Retreat. You'll meet and be inspired by a community of women who are at various stages of their faith journey. At the Welcome Women's Retreat you'll hear God's voice through prayer, inspiring testimonials, table conversations, Mass, and more!

Hurry! Space is limited. Register at stmarknc.org/welcome-retreat.

Questions? Email Charlene at cjoese01@gmail.com.

Welcome.
There is More to Life

Priests' Retirement and Benefits Collection

On January 14 we will be collecting for our Priests' Retirement and Benefits Collection. This Diocesan assessment is based on our offertory. Our goal for 2023-2024 is \$107,016 and so far we have collected \$45,585. Please consider making a donation toward this fund as a way to show your gratitude to the priests who serve you so faithfully.

We will have a second collection this weekend. Envelopes can be found in your packet, or you may donate via our Online Giving website at www.osvhub.com/stmarknc/giving/funds/priest-s-retirement-benefits.





GOAL: 600 people \$12.5K funds

February 2 & 3

Volunteers, donors and people like you are needed to provide food for people in need throughout the world. Our goal is to package 150,000 meals!

Please consider:
\$35 donation per family
or \$10 per person

Three Shifts:
Fri., Feb. 2, 4-6 pm
Sat., Feb 3, 9:45 am-12 pm
Sat., Feb 3, 12:30-2:45 pm



Off to a good start!



sign-up/donate:stmarknc.org/swh

Charitable Service Committee (CSC)

Proverbs 19:17 teaches us that *whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord*. To that end, St Mark has formed a Charitable Service Committee (CSC) and a new way of communicating service opportunities and requesting signups of volunteers. The CSC is actively working with our parish partners and the wider diocesan community to serve the needs of local communities and to help facilitate linking volunteers to the needs. Frequently charitable service organizations are in greater need of volunteers even instead of money! St. Mark has created a new Volunteers web page on our official parish website and we now have a "Sign-up Genius" to make it simple to find service opportunities and sign-up. Please scan the QR code below to see how you can help our Parish help the community.



For more information, please go to stmarknc.org/charitable-service-committee,

Stephen Ministry

The Stephen Ministry is made up of St. Mark parishioners who have received extensive training to give emotional and spiritual care/ support to fellow St. Mark parishioners as well as to those in our community. This ministry is a confidential, one to one opportunity to receive Christian care in a comfortable meeting place, whether in your home, parish hall, or even in a park setting. We all go through times of:

Grief - Children leaving home - Divorce - Parenting
Job Loss - Issues related to aging - Cancer diagnosis
Adjustment to retirement - Medical crisis - Job stress
Spiritual crisis - Unemployment - Stress to being a caregiver - Relocation - Hospitalization - Changes in living situations - Terminal illness - Natural disaster
Chronic health conditions - Adjustment to disability
Rehabilitation from illness or injury - Marital separation
Pregnancy

Stephen Ministry is here to serve you, so you don't have to suffer alone.

For more information, please contact either Leanne Vaccaro at leanne.vaccaro@stmarknc.org or Rich Kull at rkull@optonline.net or visit our website at stmarknc.org/Stephenministry.

St. Mark Preschool 2024-25

Preschool registration will begin on January 8 for current and alumni families. Registration will be open to parishioners on January 22 and to the community on February 5.

Please fill out the enrollment form at Stmarknc.org/preschool and bring to the Welcome Desk with \$100 cash or check for the registration fee. Email Amanda Rametta at Amanda.rametta@stmarknc.org if you would like to set up a tour.



Date Night!
February 10, 2024, 6:30 pm
In the Family Center Parish Hall

Come and share a special evening with your spouse!

Enjoy a delicious meal, mingle with other married couples, and listen to a dynamic presentation.

In our content-saturated, calendar-packed world, it is easy to take our spouse for granted and lose sight of the gift of marriage. Through this presentation you will learn five keys to safeguarding your marriage from stagnation and keeping love alive.

\$50 per couple/\$60 after January 10
Register at stmarknc.org/marriage-ministry or scan the code.



YOUNG AT HEART

Country Western Dance Luncheon

When: Wed., Feb. 21; 11 am

Well Ladies and Gents - Get on your 10 gallon hats and Western boots and join us for our Country Western Dance Luncheon. Anthony Cirillo is coming to get everyone up and dancing!

Reservations must be in by Friday, February 9

Please place your \$10 donation in the Black Box on the wall by the Receptionist Desk in Parish Hall

Young at Heart Lunch and Learn Program

When: Mon., Jan. 29, 11 am

Where: St. Mark Parish Hall

Presentation will be given by Bob Langbo, Parishioner, a Certified Ramsey and Compass Catholic Financial Coach.

Join us for a brief presentation, followed by open discussion and Q/A, of recent common financial decisions facing aging adults. Highlights will be what types of savings, investments, and accounts are appropriate, how much should you have saved for retirement, general good money habits, and common risks and pitfalls.

Lunch is complimentary.

RSVP: Paula Fischlein-516-457-3548 or pmf424@yahoo.com

Young Catholic Professionals of

Charlotte invites all young professionals to join us on Wednesday, January 17, 7 pm at St. Ann Catholic Church for the first talk in our Executive Speaker Series. We will hear from Jacob Ciccarelli on his experience leading with the YCP Motto, *Working in Witness for Christ*.

Jacob is the Founder of Loedan - a fractional revenue leadership agency aimed at helping startups grow with confidence. Utilize the QR code to reserve your spot!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Knight Life: Will You Join Us in 2024?

It's 2024 and your St. Mark Knights of Columbus are excited to continue to provide support for our parish and charities.

This year we have set a goal to add more men, to help build the next generation of Knights! Men of character and conviction, who are driven by faith, family and a conscience to do truly meaningful work. By now you probably know a lot of the ways we support our parish, but we couldn't do most of what we do without the understanding and support of our families. That's why we encourage family participation at our events. Bring your wife, bring your children to help set up chairs, or help collect for L.A.M.B! The list is endless!

What you might not know is that we also like to have some fun times together outside of the the meetings, fundraising, and charity work.

Here are some of the things that we are looking forward to doing with our fellow Knights and our families and friends in 2024!

Our annual family picnic, Cannonballers night at the ballpark, Charlotte Checkers hockey games, weekly golf outings, monthly breakfast get together, NASCAR racing events, adult game night at the brewery, and a family trip to the rodeo!



This year why not consider joining in the fun and rewarding experience of being a Knight Scan here to join online, or Contact Ray at rfitzg@aol.com.

May God Bless you and your family with a healthy and prosperous new year!

Young Catholic Professionals of Charlotte

January 17th: YCP Executive Speaker Series (+Networking)



Register Here

Speaker: Jacob Ciccarelli
Where: St. Ann's Catholic Church

7pm | Drinks & Appetizers

Fidelis Invites All Middle and High School Girls to January Jumpstart

When: Fri., Jan. 26, 7 - 8:30 pm (High School),
Sat., Jan 27, 9 am - 6 pm

Where: Msgr. Kerin Center / Parish Hall

Fidelis has planned two days for young women (middle and high school) to retreat, regroup and "Jumpstart" their new year. The day is filled with Mass, game time, meals, crafts, talks, small group sessions, Adoration, and more - let's call it Faith, Food and Fun! We have an amazing keynote speaker this year, Dana Catherine, who will inspire us with her faith and music. You will not want to miss this opportunity to jumpstart 2024. Register at the link below and invite a friend. Space is limited so register early.

Things to know:

- Registration is \$40 (\$100 family cap)
- Registration link (or use QR Code): <https://tinyurl.com/StMarkJumpstart2024>
- Payment link: <https://osvhub.com/stmarknc/forms/fidelis-payment>
- T-shirt for all who register prior to Jan. 17
- There are opportunities for moms to help. Reach out with questions to: Alaina Duncan: lljd3@live.com

Information: januaryjumpstartretreat@gmail.com

Contact: Marleena Young, fidelis@stmarknc.org

Payment link: <https://osvhub.com/stmarknc/forms/fidelis-payment>

St. Mark Fidelis presents January Jumpstart Jan 27, 2024

(High School Sisters Friday night 1/26 too)

You don't need to be a
Fidelis Sister to attend. All
middle and high school girls
are welcome!
(Bring a friend)



Sat, 1/27 9:00 AM Mass to 6:00 PM
Fri, 1/26 7 PM to 8:30 PM (high school)

**\$40 per participant
(\$100 family max)**

**Breakfast and Lunch provided.
T-shirt if you register by Jan 17th.**

This year - featuring
the Heart and Talent
of

Dana Catherine

You won't want to
miss her.



Here is a link and QR Code to the sign-up for
Jumpstart2024:

<https://tinyurl.com/StMarkJumpstart2024>



Payment link: <https://osvhub.com/stmarknc/forms/fidelis-payment>

We are planning the best Jumpstart yet!



Life Teen Summer Trips: Registration Opens This Week!

Life Teen Summer Camp Hidden Lake: July 1-6
Steubenville Atlanta Youth Conference: July 26-28

Each summer Life Teen presents the opportunity for teens to go to a weeklong Life Teen camp and a weekend trip to a Steubenville Conference in Atlanta. These two trips offer high school students a unique experience to deepen their Catholic faith and encounter Christ in the Eucharist. It also provides a time to build lasting friendships in a fun and dynamic environment.

Both trips are chaperoned by St. Mark High School Ministry Coordinator Sarah Rider and other Life Teen Core Team Members. Transportation by motorcoach is included in the price.

REGISTRATION OPENS Friday January 19! Space is limited and these two events fill quickly. Details, pre-registration surveys, and registration available at www.stmarknc.org/lifeteen
Contact: sarah.rider@stmarknc.org



Registration Now Open! Mary's Women of Joy Spring 2024 Study

***Graced: The Mind and
Heart of Our Lady at
Prayer by Liz Kelly***

When: Thurs., Feb. 1-May 9

Where: Kerin Family Center

Many of the greatest works of art that capture the Annunciation show Our Lady with a book, presumably the Scriptures.

The implication is clear: when the angel came to visit, Mary was already preparing her mind and heart for the calling the Lord had on her life.

We want to do the same, to prepare ourselves to respond to the Lord when He calls through study and prayer with God's word.

With the Blessed Mother as our guide, in the 12 week study, *Graced*, we will be praying with Scripture, asking for specific graces, and strengthening our "listening" muscle to better discern the voice of the Lord at work in our lives.

Space is limited, so register early. Online Registration Jan. 6-17 at stmarknc.org/mwoj.

Cost: \$45 (includes study packet); registration is open until sessions are full.

Please note, 30 minutes of prayer and study per day is required for this study.

Thursday Morning Session:

Parish Hall

10 am-12:30 pm

Morning session contact:

Jean Whelan,

jeanwhelan6@gmail.com

Thursday Evening Session

7-9 pm (Room TBD)

Evening session contact:

Margie Vermilion, vptinc@yahoo.com



Getting to know you... getting to know us.



You're Invited to a
NEW MEMBER
MEET & GREET
Sunday, January 21, Noon
after the 11 am Mass

All newly registered parishioners — or those who don't feel connected — are invited to a reception in the Parish Hall after the Sunday 11 am Mass. Come enjoy a bite to eat, get to know one another, and find out how to make us your parish family. Please RSVP to stmarknc.org/meet-and-greet so we can count you in!



AROUND THE DIOCESE

St. Therese Catholic Church is Hiring: *Director of Music Ministry*

The Director of Music Ministry is responsible for leading the music ministry of the parish. These responsibilities include presiding over the weekend liturgies, organizing and directing the Adult Choir, Children's Choir, and Handbell Choir. The Director will also manage/train cantors and oversee the Sanctuary Praise Choir.

For a complete job description and more information visit:
sainttherese.net/st-therese-is-hiring

Communications Manager

The Communications Manager will have responsibility for creating and delivering the parish's comprehensive communications strategy. This position works to facilitate all parish-wide communications, working with the support of the professional staff, the Evangelization and Communication Commission and other ministries. The Communications Manager will promote programs and events to the parish and wider community through various communications channels.

For a complete job description and more information visit:
sainttherese.net/st-therese-is-hiring

If interested or for additional information regarding either position, please email a cover letter and resume and/or questions by Wednesday, January 24th to Melinda Drury, Parish Manager at mdrury@sainttherese.net

Catholic Divorce Healing Program

Join Us for the **Build a New Life Workshop**. A life-changing 12-Week Virtual Catholic Divorce Support & Healing Program. Discover proven guidance to not just survive but thrive before, during, and after divorce - emotionally, spiritually, interpersonally, and as a parent. Whether you're discerning separation, have been divorced for years, or are somewhere in between, this program is tailored for you!

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Starts January 18 on Zoom - Register Now at
aboundingjoyministry.com/events or call Carolyn at 608-547-9484.

Don't miss your opportunity to receive the healing and support you deserve. Payment plans and scholarships available.

Retreat for a Hurting Marriage

Do you know of a marriage that is struggling? The Retrouvaille Program is for any married couple facing difficult challenges. They have helped tens of thousands of couples at ALL stages of disillusionment or misery in their marriage. In short, they save marriages!

Next Retreat: Jan. 19-21, 2024

Location: Catholic Conference Center, Hickory

More information: 800-470-2230,

3062ac@helpourmarriage.org or HelpOurMarriage.org

Saint Mark Parish Directory

stmarknc.org †14740 Stumptown Rd, Huntersville NC 28078
Parish Office | Mon-Fri, 9 am-4:30 pm Sun. 8:15 am-12:15 pm
Phone: 704-948-0231; Fax: 704-948-8018

Pastor

Very Rev. John T. Putnam, JV

Parochial Vicars

Rev. Michael Carlson

Rev. Chinonso Nnebe-Agumadu

Fr. Aaron Huber (in residence)

Deacons

Rev. Mr. Thomas Martin

Rev. Mr. Richard McCarron

Rev. Mr. Thomas McGahey

Rev. Mr. Tom McMahon

Rev. Mr. Robert Murphy

Rev. Mr. Louis Pais

Rev. Dr. Ronald Sherwood

Rev. Mr. Ramon Tapia

Director of Parish Operations

Scott Bruno

scott.bruno@stmarknc.org

704-948-0231, Ext. 118

Sacristan

Sr. Mary Agnes

sacristan@stmarknc.org

704-948-0231, Ext. 211

Liturgy Coordinator

Emily Bixler

emily.bixler@stmarknc.org

704-948-0231, Ext. 102

Annulments, RCIA

Rev. Mr. Rich McCarron

deacon.rich@stmarknc.org

704-948-0231, Ext. 113

Director of Sacred Music

Manuel Mora

manuel.mora@stmarknc.org

704-948-0231, Ext. 130

Director of Human Resources

Leanne Vaccaro

leanne.vaccaro@stmarknc.org

704-948-0231, Ext. 107

Director of Finance

Richard Cataldo

richard.cataldo@stmarknc.org

704-948-0231, Ext. 116

Hispanic Ministry

Coordinator

Emilio Gómez

emilio.gomez@stmarknc.org

704-948-0231, Ext. 117

Stewardship Coordinator

Rose George

rose.george@stmarknc.org

704-948-0231, Ext. 136

Calendar Management

Sue Bruce

sue.bruce@stmarknc.org

704-948-0231, Ext. 123

Director of Evangelization and

Catechesis

Paul Laskowski

paul.laskowski@stmarknc.org

704-948-0231, Ext. 121

Pastoral Associate of

Catechesis

Sr. Charis Gavan

charis.gavan@stmarknc.org

(704) 948-0231, Ext. 103

Elementary Faith Formation

Coordinator

Maddie Torres

maddie.torres@stmarknc.org

704-948-0231, Ext. 124

Middle School Youth Ministry/

Confirmation Coordinator

Mariana Vazquez

mariana.vazquez@stmarknc.org

704-948-1306, Ext. 105

High School Youth Ministry

Coordinator

Sarah Rider

sarah.rider@stmarknc.org

704-948-0231, Ext. 122

Director of Preschool

Amanda Rametta

amanda.rametta@stmarknc.org

704-948-8015

bulletin@stmarknc.org

Mass Schedule

Mon/Tue/Thu: 7, 9 am

Wed: 7 am, 6:30 pm

Fri: 7, 9 am

7 pm (Spanish)

Sat: 9 am, 5 pm Vigil

Sun: 7:30, 9, 11 am,

1 pm (Español), 5 pm

All Masses may be watched live:

stmarknc.org/livestream

The Nursery remains CLOSED at this time.

Please use Online Giving or mail in your offertory

stmarknc.org/Online-Giving

Please do not attend Mass if you are sick, have a fever or are in a high-risk group.

Confessions

Confessions are held 45 minutes prior to the start of Mass for a 30 minute duration.

In addition, Wednesday: 6 pm–7:15 pm and Saturday: 3 pm–5 pm

Rosary in the Church

Tue: 7–7:30 pm

Wed: Immediately preceding 6:30 Mass

Sat: Immediately preceding 5 pm Mass

Sun: Immediately preceding 7:30 am Mass

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration

Available in the Monsignor Bellow Adoration Chapel in the Family Center.

See stmarknc.org/adoration for complete details.

Hospitalization

If you or your loved one are in an area hospital, call the Parish Office to reach one of the Priests. The Priests offer Confession, bring the Holy Eucharist to you or administer the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick.

Baptisms & Weddings

The use of the Church for Baptisms, Weddings and other Sacramental events is available to active parishioners. Contact the Parish Office. (Please note that weddings and baptisms cannot be celebrated during Lent.)

Financial Counseling

Complimentary and confidential services are available to provide financial literacy training, personal financial coaching, and/or advocacy support for you and your family. Contact the Parish Office.

Carolina Catholic Corner Gift and Book Store

Open daily in the Family Center

Coffee & Conversation Social Gathering

Tuesdays, 9:30 am, Parish Hall.

Cursillo

Are you looking for a Cursillo group to join at St. Mark? Contact Holly Kennedy at 704-875-8328 or ehjazzkenedy@gmail.com for information on our local group, or visit stmarknc.org/Cursillo.

Natural Family Planning

Joe and Kathy Hack; Sympto-Thermal Method;

704-548-1834; hackhouse@bellsouth.net; ccli.org

Elisabeth Laskowski; Creighton Model;

creightonmodel@gmail.com; 484-332-9084

Crisis Pregnancy Help

Community Pregnancy Center of Lake Norman: 704-727-0535

Catholic Charities: 704-370-3262; Birthright: 1-800-550-4900; Post Abortion: 1-800-5-WE CARE

Poor prenatal diagnosis? You're not alone. There is help. benotafraid.net

Parishioner Assistance:

Financial:

St. Vincent De Paul Society:

Leanne.Vaccaro@stmarknc.org

Life Crisis:

Stephen Ministry

stmarknc.org/stephen-ministry

Food Insecurity:

Parish Office

stmarknc.org/assistance or

Leanne.Vaccaro@stmarknc.org or

704-948-0231, Ext. 107.

AI-Anon

Ellen | 704-907-8555

Alcoholics Anonymous

Tom | 704-604-7739

Alateen program

Paul G. | 704-641-0654

Divorce Support Group

For anyone going through separation and/or divorce. Meetings are held Monday evenings at 7 pm in Room 204. When parish offices are closed, meetings are held at Lowe's Foods at exit 23.

Contact: divorce.support@stmarknc.org





"Habla, porque tu siervo te escucha". Con esas pocas palabras, Samuel se humilla y declara su lealtad y obediencia a Dios. Quizás para muchos de nosotros haya desafíos en esas palabras. Inicialmente, Samuel responde: "Aquí estoy", pero piensa que fue Elí quien lo llamó. La idea de ser un siervo y la voluntad de servir

son las pruebas que pueden ser para nosotros en términos de cómo vivimos.

Samuel no reconoce la voz del Señor. Eso también podría ser un problema para nosotros. En primer lugar, tenemos que escuchar. ¿Estamos, o simplemente estamos siguiendo los movimientos? Responder a Dios con un "Aquí estoy" es una manera magnífica de reaccionar ante Dios. No es que Dios no sepa dónde estamos, pero decir eso puede servirnos como un recordatorio de que somos mayordomos y siervos de Él, e implica que estamos preparados para escuchar lo que Él quiere que hagamos.

"Aquí estoy" es dicho numerosas veces por aquellos en el Antiguo Testamento incluyendo a Abraham, Jacob, Moisés, Isaías, y por Ananías en el Nuevo Testamento. Cuando Jesús dice: "Ven, sígueme", como lo hace con nosotros, ¿lo escuchamos y, lo que es más importante, respondemos y lo seguimos?

Con el fin de hacer eso apropiadamente, tenemos que estar preparados para servirle a Él y a los demás. Por lo tanto, al igual que Samuel, tenemos que escuchar, y luego tenemos que servir. En una reciente audiencia papal, el Papa Francisco dijo: "El amor y la caridad son servicio, ayudar a los demás, servir a los demás. Cuando te olvidas de ti mismo y piensas en los demás, ¡esto es amor!" © Consultores de la Mayordomía Católica, 2023

Reflexión pastoral - Durante las vacaciones de Navidad tuve la maravillosa oportunidad de conocer a dos santos increíbles, San Damián de Veuster y Santa Marianne Cope.



Ambos trabajaron en Hawái y ambos trabajaron con personas que padecían la enfermedad de Hansen (lepra). El padre Damián se ofreció como voluntario para ir a la colonia de leprosos en Moloka'i para atender a los que habían sido exiliados allí debido a la enfermedad. En aquellos días (década de 1860) se sabía poco sobre la lepra y causaba mucho temor. Ser enviado a la península en Moloka'i era, en su mayor parte, una sentencia de muerte.

El Padre Damián trabajó incansablemente para proporcionar a los residentes una vivienda, saneamiento y atención adecuados. Fue una batalla constante con sus superiores religiosos y el gobierno hawaiano para obtener los suministros y recursos necesarios. Comenzó su misión en 1869 y murió de la enfermedad en 1889. Antes de su muerte, fue honrado por el Rey de Hawái como Caballero Comendador de la Real Orden de Kalākaua. Este honor creó conciencia sobre la difícil situación de los residentes y atrajo el apoyo internacional a los esfuerzos del Padre Damián.

Una de sus fervientes oraciones y constantes peticiones era que la Iglesia enviara religiosas para ayudar en la misión. En 1883, las hermanas franciscanas de Syracuse, Nueva York, dirigidas por la Madre Marianne Cope, llegaron a Honolulu para abrir un hospital para leprosos. Su deseo de ir a Moloka'i fue resistido durante algún tiempo, pero en 1888, después de establecer una infraestructura en Hawái para ayudar a los pacientes de lepra, se le permitió ir a Kalupapa en la península y comenzar su trabajo en la colonia de leprosos. La Madre Marianne estaba con el Padre Damián cuando murió. Le dio la bendición a la madre y le dijo que su oración había sido concedida, que otro sacerdote había sido asignado a la misión y que las hermanas también habían venido. Su trabajo estaba hecho.

Historias de este tipo nos recuerdan el poder del espíritu humano guiado por la inspiración divina. Con Dios, todas las cosas son posibles. La película, *Molokai*, hace un buen trabajo al compartir esta importante historia. Te animo a que te tomes un tiempo y la veas.

Lecturas de las Escrituras

Domingo	Segundo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario 1 Sm 3, 3b-10. 19; Sal 39, 2 y 4ab. 7-8a. 8b-9. 10; 1 Cor 6, 13c-15a. 17-20; Jn 1, 35-42
Lunes	1 Sm 15, 16-23; Sal 49, 8-9. 16bc-17. 21 y 23; Mc 2, 18-22
Martes	1 Sm 16, 1-13; Sal 88, 20. 21-22. 27-28; Mc 2, 23-28
Miércoles	Memoria de San Antonio, Abad 1 Sm 17, 32-33. 37. 40-51; Sal 143, 1. 2. 9-10; Mc 3, 1-6

Jueves	1 Sm 18, 6-9; 19, 1-7; Sal 55, 2-3. 9-10. 11-12. 13; Mc 3, 7-12
Viernes	1 Sm 24, 3-21; Sal 56, 2. 3-4. 6 y 11; Mc 3, 13-19
Sábado	Memoria de San Fabián, Papa y Mártir y San Sebastián, Mártir 2 Sm 1, 1-4. 11-12. 17. 19. 23-27; Sal 79, 2-3. 5-7; Mc 3, 20-21
Domingo	Tercero Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario Jon 3, 1-5. 10; Sal 14, 4-5ab. 6-7bc. 8-9; 1 Cor 7, 29-31; Mc 1, 14-20

¿Qué es la Planificación Familiar Natural?

Planificación Familiar Natural (PFN) es un término general que designa aquellos métodos científicos, naturales y morales para la planificación familiar que ayudan a las parejas casadas a lograr o posponer los embarazos.

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www.usccb.org



Clase de Planificación Familiar Natural



Sábado 27 de Enero, 2024

De 10:00 am a 12:30pm

Salón 202



St. Mark Catholic Church.

14740 Stumptown Rd, Huntersville, NC.

Regístrese enviando texto a Maggie al teléfono

704-941-0720



Colecta para la Jubilación y Beneficios de los Sacerdotes

El 14 de enero estaremos recolectando para nuestra Colecta de Jubilación y Beneficios de los Sacerdotes. Esta evaluación diocesana se basa en nuestras ofrendas. Nuestra meta para 2023-2024 es de \$107,016 y hasta ahora hemos recolectado \$45,585. Por favor, considere hacer una donación a este fondo como una forma de mostrar su gratitud a los sacerdotes que le sirven tan fielmente.

Tendremos una segunda colecta este fin de semana. Los sobres se pueden encontrar en su paquete, o puede donar a través de nuestro sitio web de Donaciones en Línea en www.osvhub.com/stmarknc/giving/funds/priest-s-retirement-benefits.



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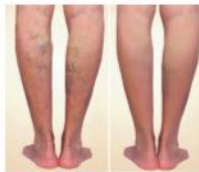
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