

# SAINT MARK

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, January 21, 2024, Español pagina 15



# Welcome to St. Mark

# January 21, 2024, 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

The readings for today can be found in the St. Augustine Hymnal on **page 1017**. 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 longtime 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.



At the close of Mass, please join us in the Prayer to St. Michael, the Archangel:

Saint Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle.

Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do Thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the Power of God, cast into hell, Satan and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls.

Amen.

#### **Guidelines for Communion For Catholics**

- To be in a state of grace, that is to say, to be free from any unconfessed mortal sin.
- To abstain for at least one hour before Holy Communion from any food and drink, with the exception of water and medicine.
- To know what you are receiving and to approach the altar with devotion.
- 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



Today's readings call us to be decisive in our faith.

Simon, Andrew, James, and John demonstrate this decision for us in their response to Christ's calling, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." In both instances, the men immediately abandoned what was before them and followed Christ.

Imagine if Simon and Andrew looked at their Savior and said,

"Thanks for the offer, but we will finish up fishing and meet you later." That is no way a disciple should respond to Christ's call. Yet, that is how we often respond to Jesus' offer to us, "Come after me." We can easily fall into the misconception that we have plenty of time to live active discipleship. But as faithful stewards of our time, we must change our ways and immediately follow Christ more intentionally, because Christ is calling us to act now.

These men became members of Jesus' 12 apostles. They surrendered their entire lives to follow Christ. We, too, are called to surrender our lives to the Lord so that He may work through us. We might think, "God isn't calling me." But indeed, He is. Just as He called four ordinary fishermen, He is calling each one of us. Renewing and re-evaluating what God might be asking of us throughout our lives is a key component of our stewardship journey.

As we settle into this New Year, let us ponder the ways we can renew our commitment to God. Let us ask ourselves: what are we casting our nets for? And are we willing to leave it behind for something much greater? And if not now, when? © Catholic Stewardship Consultants, 2023

Pastoral Pondering - When Chris Stefanik spoke at St. Mark on January 10th, the first part of his talk was a reminder that we are wonderfully made in the image and likeness of God, a God who we say we believe in every Sunday and Holy Day during the Nicene Creed. Perhaps, because we say it as part of the herd, that we forget what that Creed, and that phrase really means.

We believe in a God who loves us beyond all telling; a God who sent His beloved Son into the world because of

# Combined Mission Collection - January 20-21, 2024

As part of the diocesan combined collections program, the Collection for the Church in Latin America, the Church in Central and Eastern Europe, Church in Africa, Catholic Home Missions, and the United States Mission Collection have been combined into one collection. Your contribution to the good work of these organizations will give you an opportunity to participate in the missionary activity of the Church on both a local and world level. The envelope for this collection is part of your parish envelope packet, or you can make a donation online through stmarknc.org/online-giving.

that love. A God who, because He made us in His image and likeness, refused to let us be cut off from Him forever. As Chris pointed out, "this is a love story" and one that we need to be reminded of over and over.

I have never had a crisis of faith in God. I have had plenty of crises of faith in man, both in myself and others. And in those times, what has turned things around is being reminded of the love story. Because in the face of challenges, and disappointments, and bewilderment at the things going on all around us, God hasn't changed. He is still in charge. His plan is still unfolding, and it is a story of love - love for us, as unworthy as we are; because He wants us, you, and me, to be with Him for all eternity in heaven. That's Good News! Let's try to remind each other of that more often, especially when things seem uncertain in the world around us. Jesus tells us in John 16:33: "I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world." And with that, we can all say thanks be to God!!



# Lent 2024



Registration opens February 3.

Study begins February 24.

Go to stmarknc.org/ small-groups to find out more!



Attention: We need more new group leaders so more people can be a part of Small Groups. Please prayerfully consider being a part of the parish mission to connect each other in faith. If you are interested in facilitating a group, please contact Paul Laskowski at paul.laskowski@stmarknc.org.

## REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

### Please Pray For...

Janice Anderton Carol & Frank Kenny Jonathon Kraeger Sharon Antoszyk Des Arrup The Kube Family Kelly Scherer Lang Katherine Arvesu Jeanne LoPriore Laura Ashley Daisy Bayona Jane Mayhew Michelle Bissinger & Family Kay McAfee Brian Blatchford & Family Jim McLaughlin Don & Cathy Blackwell Len & Michele Boos Laura Mulvihill Deacon Robert Murphy Viola Cleo Bradshaw Michael Newton John Brannon Keith Noble Scott O'Halloran Lynne Bridges Gretchen Burke

Evelyn Pachana Anne Caestecker Josié Pais Shannon Peake Mark Carolla Piraino Family Donna Castoria Janelle Cataldo Mary Lynn Polly William Conklin Joette Reid Lindsey Remington Jose Raymond Rios **Dwight Corley** Shawn Davis Mary Deininger Ronald Robinson Emma Drummond Crys Roeder James P. Durcan Marilyn Sacek Jack Evans Mickey Shannon

Frances & Kai Ferel Deacon Ronald Sherwood &

**David Fogarty** Family Richard Foy Todd Singh James Freer Elyse Pancheri-Freer Ben Smith Patrick Sullivan Maureen K. Frost Patricia Tarasiewicz Helen Haddad Stacey Tarasiewicz Reese Tenga Tom Thompson Ron Haley Dave Heaton Madeline Louise Henwood Lucia Solis Vallarino

Julio Velez Lewis Vellia Pat Herkey Kevin Herman Sr. Zohra Hunter-Rezgui Maria Vilchez

Julie Jones Vilchez Hernandez Family The Juster Family Virginia (Ginny) White Steve Kaminski MaryJane Zimmerman The Kantra Family

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

## Scripture Readings

For the Week of January 21, 2024

Sunday Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jon 3:1-5, 10; Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9; 1Cor 7:29-31;

Mk 1:14-20

Day of Prayer for Legal Protection of Unborn Children Monday

2 Sm 5:1-7, 10; Ps 89:20, 21-22, 25-26; Mk 3:22-30

Memorial of Saint Vincent, Deacon and Martyr and Tuesday

Saint Marianne Cope, Virgin

2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19; Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10; Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday St. Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

2 Sm 7:4-17; Ps 89:4-5, 27-28, 29-30; Mk 4:1-20

Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul, Apostle Thursday

Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Mk 16:15-18

Friday Memorial of Saints Timothy and Titus, Bishops

2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5; Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10;

Mk 4:26-34

Memorial of Saint Angela Merici, Virgin Saturday

2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17; Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 16-17;

Mk 4:35-41

Sunday Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dt 18:15-20; Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9; 1 Cor 7:32-35; Mk 1:21-28

#### Mass Intentions

Sunday January 21 7:30 am † Sue Lang 9 am † Albert Nigro 11 am Jack Heggie

Jose Guilebaldo Elias 1 pm

4:30 pm † Don Kiebler 5 pm † Kayla Wilson Monday, January 22 † Múriel Pekrul 7 am 9 am Sonia Payerpaj Tuesday, January 23

Blessed Virgin Mary 7 am 9 am † James Donaghy Wednesday, January 24

Robert Chernoff Jr 7 am † Souls in Purgatory Debbie Frino

6:30 pm Monique Jennings

Thursday, January 25 Josephine Monroe 7 am 9 am † John Huber

Friday, January 26

Bethany Hayes 7 am

9 am Caridad y Marciel Masson 7 pm Monica Ledermann

Saturday, January 27 9 am † Ruth Hotuj 5 pm † Victor Mendolia

Sunday, January 28 7:30 am All Parishioners in the New Year

9 am Marlene Bombay 11 am † Karl Hagemeiér Pablo & Miryam Best 1 pm Mr. & Mrs. Probstein 4:30 pm 5 pm † John C. Buck

† Deceased

## Our Faithful Departed

May God's grace be with the family of our recently deceased: Jose Edgar Flores, Father of Jose Flores Rodriguez

## 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 Caraccilo; 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 Nólan 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.

# PARISH LIFE

#### Our Lady Undoer of Knots Rosary Maker's

When: Sat., Jan. 27; 10 am Where: Parish Hall Room 204

evangelizing the Rosary.

Did you know that here at St. Mark we have a ministry devoted to making Rosaries for those making First Communion, Confirmation, and for those being Baptized? We also send Rosaries to missions around the world

that are in need.

What a beautiful way to share your talent while

Everyone is Welcome! Whether you are a beginner (we will teach you) or someone who has been making Rosaries for years, we need you! So....

If you enjoy making things with your hands, have a devotion to the Blessed Mother and the Rosary please consider becoming part of this Ministry.

If you plan on joining us, please call or email Valerie Selkirk at 704-604-6166 or Selkirkv@gmail.com

#### Save the Date — 2024 Hibernian St. Patrick's Dinner & Show

When: Sat. March 9, 2024 6:30 - 10 pm Where: Msgr. Kerin Family Center

The St. Brendan the Navigator Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH), a Catholic-Irish Fraternal Organization, will be presenting their annual St. Patrick's Dinner and Show. Entertainment includes the kilt-kicking Celtic band, "banna", along with Irish Step Dancers, a sing -along and a Silent Auction. Admission includes a traditional Irish dinner and dessert. "Tis a grand time we'll

be having" and you don't have to be Irish to enjoy this fun -filled evening.

Admission is \$35 for adults and \$15 for children 6-12 years of age. No charge for children under 6. Tickets will be sold after Masses on January 27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup>, February 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup>. This annual event is usually a sellout, so be sure to purchase your tickets early.

Contact: Ray FitzGerald 704-992-1702 or aohmeck2@aol.com

Further information: AOH website www.aohmeck2.org.



#### Spend an Hour With Our Lord



**Every Monday** morning the first thing I do when I get into the office is pull up our Adoration short list. This list is comprised of the hours that have either no Adorers or only one Adorer. During the week I receive emails from people who may need to change their hour, give up being an Adorer or my favorite

kind of email is the one where they sign up to be an Adorer.

Having Perpetual Adoration has been such a blessing for St. Mark. The Lord put the desire on Monsignor Bellows' heart to start Perpetual Adoration and praise God he gave his yes! This was a great undertaking but Monsignor knew that if God asked him to do this, he would also give him all the grace that was needed for it to come to fruition.

This May 1<sup>st</sup> will be thirteen years since Perpetual Adoration started at St. Mark. Sadly, we recently lost Monsignor Bellow but because of his yes, many people have deepened and will continue to deepen their relationship with Christ. Below are some of the comments our Adorers have shared from their time in Adoration.

- I feel blessed every time I'm there!
- It is my special time with God!
- -I've had the great joy and blessing of Adoring since the days of "Friday only" and through all the Perpetual yrs. -can picture Monsignor processing the Monstrance on DM Sunday to open the Chapel!
- -For me, this hour is one of the highlights of the week. We are so blessed at St. Mark to have this beautiful chapel available and I thank God for leading me to worship him
- -I have been an Adoration person for more than 5 years and love it! -What a blessing it has been!
- -Monsignor Bellow talked in his homily about how we are not supposed to look for sensation and miracles, but simply come to Mass every Sunday where a miracle is happening every time when bread is consecrated and becomes the body of Jesus Christ. Then he said "sign up for an Adoration Hour". When he said that, it felt like he was talking directly to me, so I signed
- So grateful for this blessing
- I have been attending for 5+ years. Best hour of the

I would like to personally invite you to become an Adorer. Come spend time with Jesus. If you can commit to an hour a week, great. You can choose whatever time works for you. We also have hours that have a need. If you can't commit that is okay too but please just stop in and make a visit. Come and enter into this sacred place where Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist.

If you would like to sign up for an hour or have any questions, please email me at: donna.fodale@stmarknc.org

## **STEWARDSHIP**



# GOAL: 600 STOREST

people

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







4,709

We will need more volunteers and donations.



sign-up/donate:stmarknc.org/swh

If you are unable to attend, please consider making a donation. Thank you.



NEW... How to and Where to Serve One Another! Service Opportunities: Charitable Service Committee (CSC)

Proverbs 19:17 teaches us that whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord.

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 volunteer. Please scan the QR code to see how you can help our Parish help the community.

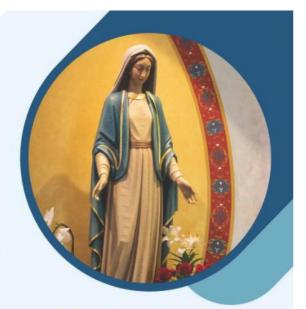
For more information, please go to stmarknc.org/charitable-service-committee.



FAMILY FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY

# FIRST SATURDAY

**FEBRUARY 3, 2024** 



# Join us in the Parish Hall for food, prayer and family fellowship!

6:15 - 8:30 PM

Pizza available for purchase.

Half pizza (4 slices): S6, whole pizza (8 slices): S12 (or bring your own meal)

Drinks and salad provided. Please bring a dessert to share! (optional)

Dinner will be followed by games & fellowship. Rosary & Meditation to close.

ADDITIONAL DATES:

MARCH 2

APRIL 6

MAY 4

JUINE 1

here to



# RSVP at stmarkffm.com or scan the QR code

Please RSVP by 1/30 to order pizza. Otherwise, RSVP is optional.

# Mhatisthe FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION?

"Have compassion on the Heart of your Most Holy Mother, covered with thorns which ungrateful men place therein at every moment, while there is no one who does an act of reparation to withdraw them for her." -- Child Jesus, to Lucia of Fatima, December 10, 1925



Our Lady promised Lucia that whomever did the following on the First Saturday of five consecutive months, with the purpose of making reparation to her Immaculate Heart, would receive the graces necessary for salvation:

- Receive the Sacrament of Confession within 8 days of the 1st Saturday
- Receive Holy Communion
- Recite Five Decades of the Rosary
- Meditate for 15 minutes on the mysteries of the Rosary

LEARN MORE AT: AMERICANEEDSFATIMA.ORG

# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

### Knight Life: In Gratitude



"May God GREATLY reward each of you for these charitable acts which build up His holy Church."

This is why we're here! You all know that feeling! As a parent, sibling, friend, or a volunteer, your heart warms when you can help someone who needs you. It's even more special when you realize how

much they appreciate what you did for them. That's how the Knights felt when we received handwritten thank you notes from 11 Seminarians, thanking us for sending them much needed money to use at their discretion.

From one Seminarian, "What an incredible gift! All the Seminarians from St. Mark were quite surprised and grateful! I hópe to use my money towards a study abroad program to Rome.

These gifts were funded by events and fundraisers that you - St. Mark parishioners - supported throughout the

year. Remember, we are stewards of your generosity. We volunteer our time and skills but without your support, we would not be able to fund programs like this. So, while these thank you cards are written to the Knights, they are yours as well. Feel good about it!

We would like to give a shout out to the Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus. What a wonderful and supportive group of women they are! We gathered with them as a group during our first council meeting this year, and WOW, we really had fun! There were so many of us at this meeting we had to use adjacent

this meeting we had to use adjacent rooms to sit down and eat! Thanks for all the food ladies!

Lastly, a big thank you to all who attended and participated in the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship last week. We had

another successful turnout! Stay tuned for results! This year why not consider joining in the fun and rewarding experience of being a Knight. Use the QR code to join online for free.

Contact: Ray at rfitzg@aol.com





Why is there something rather than nothing?

Why is everything so obviously messed up?

What if anything has God done about it?

How should I respond?



#### Do you ever ask yourself if there is something rather than nothing or why everything is messed up?

Although many of us have spent most of our lives attending church, many of us have not heard Gospel Message known as the Kerygma.

Fr. John Riccardo from the Archdiocese of Detroit has created a program to lead us on a journey to get God's world back:

#### THE RESCUE PROJECT.

We invite you to be a part of our winter session of The Rescue Project. You will meet in Family Center Parish Hall at 6:30 pm for an 8-week program:

January 25 February 1, 8, 15, 29 March 7 March 9, 9 am-2 pm Saturday Retreat March 14

Here you will get to know new people, share a free meal, watch a video, and discuss the video with your table group.

Together, we can discover the answer to the questions.

Please RSVP at stmarknc.org/the-rescue-project or by scanning the code.



# **FIDELIS**

#### 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.

Registration is \$40 ((\$100 family cap). Register at <a href="https://tinyurl.com/StMarkJumpstart2024">https://tinyurl.com/StMarkJumpstart2024</a>. Payment link: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/StMarkJumpstart2024">https://tinyurl.com/StMarkJumpstart2024</a>. <a href="https://tinyurl.com/StMarkJumpstart2024">https://tinyurl.com/StMarkJumpstart2024</a>. <a href="https://tinyurl.com/StMarkJumpstart2024">https://ti

There are opportunities for moms to help. Reach out with questions to: Alaina Duncan: <a href="mailto:lijd3@live.com">lljd3@live.com</a> Information: <a href="mailto:januaryjumpstartretreat@gmail.com">januaryjumpstartretreat@gmail.com</a>

Contact: Marleena Young, fidelis@stmarknc.org

#### AROUND THE DIOCESE

### Carolina Caring

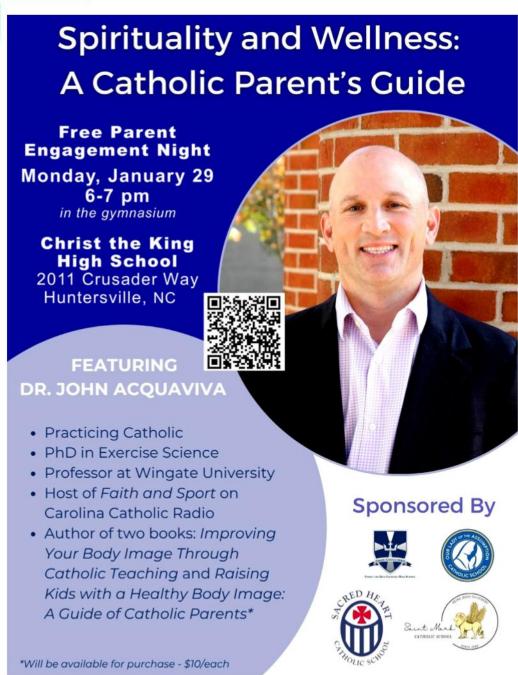
Carolina Caring is a nonprofit hospice and palliative care organization caring for patients in their homes, facilities, hospice houses. One of the first three hospices started in North Carolina, Carolina Caring was founded by volunteers, still an integral part of their care teams. Volunteers are always needed for companionship support for patients. Their mission is to "fill each day with purpose." If interested in volunteering or learning more, please contact Theresa Benson, Volunteer Services Recruiter/Onboarder, at tbenson@carolinacaring.org

#### Catholic Health Care Ethics Conference

When: Sat., Mar. 16;

8 am - 6:45 pm Where: Cathedral of S. Patrick Health care professionals are invited to the 7th annual Converging Roads health care ethics one-day conference, exploring Compassion for the Sick & Dying. Continuing education for health care professionals is offered, rooted in the Hippocratic and Catholic ethical tradition. Registration: \$75-\$159 based on CME/CNE inclusion. Presented by the St. John Paul II Foundation, the Diocese of Charlotte, and Belmont Abbey College. For more info, please visit

<u>convergingroads.com</u> or email <u>heather@forlifeandfamily.org</u>





# WE ARE CALLED

Grow, Serve, Share,

# **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

#### Mondays

Divorce Support Group, 7 pm, room 204 Holy Face Apostolate, 5-6 pm, church

#### Tuesdays

Coffee & Conversation, 9: 30 am, Parish Hall

Rosary, 7 pm, church

2nd/4th Tuesday Prayer Shawl Ministry, 10 am, Parish Hall

#### Sundays

High School Life Teen, 6 pm, Parish Hall

#### January 9-February 11

Consecration to Jesus through Mary (Join at stmarkffm.com)

#### January 20

\*Perpetual Hope Gospel Choir, 6:30 pm

#### January 21, Noon

\* New Member Meet and Greet, 12 pm (see page 2)

#### January 25, 6:30 pm

\* The Rescue Project (see page 8)

#### January 26-27

\* Fidelis, January Jumpstart Middle and High School Girl's Retreat (see page 9)

#### January 29, 11 am

\* Young at Heart Ministry Lunch and Learn (see page 12)

#### February 2 & 3

\* Servants with a Heart Meal Packaging Event (see page 6)

#### February 2

Candlemas Blessing of Candles Before 9 am & 7 pm Spanish Mass

#### February 3

St. Blaise Blessing of Throats, 9 am Mass

- \* First Saturday Devotion Family Dinner (see page 7)
- \* SmallGroups Registration Opens: Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible (Study starts February 24; see page 3)

#### February 10

\*Marriage Ministry Date Night stmarknc.org/marriage-ministry

#### February 13, 7 pm

Special Mass: Feast of the Holy Face

# Holy Season of Lent

#### February 14

Ash Wednesday

Mass: 7 am, 9 am, 12:10 pm (Liturgy of the Word/ Ashes only), 6 pm,

8 pm (Spanish)

#### February 16, 23, March 1, 8, 15, 22

Stations of the Cross, Noon, 7 pm, 7:30 pm Spanish

#### February 17 & 18

\* Women's Welcome Retreat (full)

#### February 20, 7:30 pm

An Evening of Prayer & Praise, church

#### February 21, 11 am

\* Young at Heart Ministry Country Western Dance Luncheon (see page 12)

#### February 23, March 8 & 22

Knights of Columbus Fish Fry

#### March 2

\* First Saturday Devotion Family Dinner

#### Weekly Mass Schedule

Monday 7 am, 9 am

Tuesday 7 am, 9 am

## Wednesday

7 am, 6:30 pm

#### Thursday

7 am, 9 am

#### Friday

7 am, 9 am, 7 pm Spanish

#### Saturday

9 am 5 pm Vigil

#### Sunday

7:30 am, 9 am, 11 am, 1 pm Spanish, 5 pm

#### <u>Confession</u> Schedule

Offered 45 minutes before all Masses and ending 15 minutes before Mass.

> Wednesday 6-7:30 pm

> > Saturday 3-5 pm

# AS ONE BY CHRIST!

# & Connect in 2024!

# **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**



\* Ancient Order of Hibernians St. Patrick's Day Dinner and Show (see page 5)

#### March 10,11,12

Parish Mission: Array of Hope

#### March 19, 7 pm

Mass: Solemnity of St. Joseph Spanish

#### March 24

Palm Sunday (special 7 am Mass)

#### March 28, 29, 30 Holy Triduum and Easter

# Holy Season of Easter

# March 31

Easter Sunday
Mass Schedule TBA

#### April 6

\* First Saturday Devotion Family Dinner

#### April 7

Divine Mercy Sunday

#### April 16, 7:30 pm

An Evening of Prayer & Praise

#### April 25

St. Mark Feast Day

#### May 1, 6:30 pm

Alan Ames Mass and Healing Service

#### May 4

\* First Saturday Devotion Dinner

#### May 4 & 18, 9 am & Noon

First Holy Communion Masses 9 am

#### May 19

Pentecost

#### June 1

Ordination to the Deaconate, 10 am

\* First Saturday Devotion Family Dinner

#### June 15

Ordination to the Priesthood, 10 am

#### June 23-38

\* Vacation Bible School

#### July 1-6

\* LIFE TEEN Camp (see page 12)

#### July 7-12

\* Totus Tuus summer "day camp"

#### July 26-28

\* LIFE TEEN Steubenville ATL (see page 12)

#### August 30 & 31

Diocese of Charlotte Eucharistic Congress

#### September 28

SeptemberFest parish social

\* Requires RSVP and may have a cost. Complete details can be found in the bulletin, stmarknc.org, or on social media closer to the event date.

Calendar as of 1/15/24; all times and dates subject to change.

Find Catholic content on FORMED.ORG: Sign up for a free account by going to formed.org/signup; enter St. Mark or 28078. (see page 13)

Read our email newsletter Thursday afternoons. Go to stmarknc.org/newsletter to sign up if you do not receive it.

Follow Us on Social Media:





Do you want to get more involved at St. Mark, but don't know where to start?

Check out our parish Ministry Directory at stmarknc.org/ ministry-directory (use QR code)



or email our Stewardship Coordinator Rose George at Rose.George @stmarknc.org.



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

See page 5 for details.

# January Update: Walking With Moms in Need



As you sit in Mass this upcoming Sunday, I would like you to take a moment and look around you. Notice not just the

beautiful stained glass, or the wooden pews you sit on. Try not to open the bulletin and leaf through while waiting for Mass to begin.

I ask you to look for the Mothers.

Look for the mother who has their adult child on one side, and a grandchild on the other, beaming with generational pride. Look for the mother who is on the other side of sleepless nights and diaper changes as they sit next to their teenage children. Look for the mother who is beckoning her small child to sit still and say their prayers. Look for the mother with a small baby, as the child sleeps peacefully in her arms. And lastly, look for the mother, who has yet to become a mother, with perhaps a noticeable baby bump, and the unimaginable hope for her unborn baby in her heart.

I see love, I see joy, I see resilience. The heart of a mother is a reflection of the love our own Mother Mary has for her Son, and for each of us.

But as we all know, Motherhood does not come without a set of challenges. Whether it be physical health, an emotional toll, or financial struggles.

As you look upon the mothers at our parish, or perhaps reflect upon the ones you may know in your community, ask yourself, what is their struggle? And more importantly, how can you be a blessing to maybe not this particular mother in the pew in front, but another in need?

Mothers in our community are struggling. The worries of clothing, feeding, and providing a roof over the heads of their children are weighing heavy on many right now. But we are now here to help.

Do you feel called to join us? There are many ways to get involved:

- Host a supply drive. Collect diapers, wipes, or even baby supplies.
- Volunteer to sort through our donated baby clothes or count diapers.
- Donate Items. We accept gently used baby clothes up to 5T. We also accept pack and plays, high chairs, strollers, (less than 5 years old) children's books and new hygiene items.
- Join our ministry. Urgent emails are sent to those on our email list when an urgent request comes in from one of our Moms. To join our email list, and stay up to date on ways to get involved, please email stmarkwwmin@gmail.com.

And to the Mothers, we see you. Never hesitate to reach out and have a confidential meeting with myself or one of our volunteers. May God Bless you all,

Liz Swanson





Photos: Thank you to the St. Mark School Girl Scouts for making a diaper cake to donate to a mother in need!

# YOUNG AT HEART

## 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

## 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

# LIFE TEEN

# Life Teen Summer Trips: REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Life Teen Summer Camp Hidden Lake: July 1-6

Steubenville Atlanta Youth Conference: July 26 - 28

Details, pre-registration surveys, and registration available

at <a href="https://www.stmarknc.org/lifeteen">www.stmarknc.org/lifeteen</a> Contact: <a href="mailto:sarah.rider@stmarknc.org">sarah.rider@stmarknc.org</a>



# MISSIONARY SUPPORT OPPORTUNITY

## Missionary Support Opportunity: Kaitlyn Martinez

Dear Parish Family,

I am excited to share that, this summer, I am serving as an Alumni Corps summer missionary at the Apostolate for Family Consecration's "Catholic Familyland!"

Every summer at Catholic Familyland, more than 5,000 people attend the Holy Family Fests! It's a week-long spiritual retreat for families that provides spiritual encouragement and inspires them to give themselves to Jesus through Mary and Joseph. Multiple St. Mark families attend each year.



I truly believe in the mission of the Apostolate to renew families through the Holy Family. The Apostolate's mission has impacted me personally and I couldn't thank them enough for all they do. I was a missionary for the



Apostolate last summer and saw first-hand the impact the AFC's mission had on families and I cannot wait to be a part of it again this summer. I would greatly appreciate prayers for me during my time

of mission

during the summer. In addition, I would greatly appreciate it if you would be willing to support me financially. My goal is to raise \$3,000 for the Apostolate. The money I raise will go towards the food and lodging for myself and the other missionaries who serve there each summer.

I would be incredibly grateful for any way you can support the Apostolate's mission and support me on my mission to lead and inspire the families to encounter Jesus Christ this summer. Donations can be made online at <a href="https://rootfunding.com/campaigns/kait-martinez-afc-missionary-campaign-2024">https://rootfunding.com/campaigns/kait-martinez-afc-missionary-campaign-2024</a>.

If you have any questions about donating, the Apostolate for Family

Consecration, or about what I will be doing this summer feel free to contact me at <a href="mailto:katemartinez108@gmail.com">katemartinez108@gmail.com</a>, or

you can find more information on their website at <a href="mailto:afc.org">afc.org</a>.

Thank you for your support and prayers! Kaitlyn





# APOSTOLATE FOR FAMILY CONSECRATION®



# Week of January 21, 2024



# Saint Francis de Sales and the Character of a Christian: Devotion (Part 1 of 4)

In this four-part series, Dr. Ben Akers and Dr. Christopher O. Blum sit down to discuss St. Francis de Sales, his best known work "The Introduction to the Devout Life", and the character of a Christian.



# The Hour of Our Death | Eternal Rest | Episode 3

The Anointing of the Sick is one of the seven sacraments of the Church. This session, we discover the role of this sacramental anointing in the spiritual struggle during serious illness, the final stages of our temporal life, and the hour of our death.



#### The Conversion of Saint Paul

Dr. Ben Akers sits down with Dr. James Prothro, Assistant Professor of Sacred Scripture at the Augustine Institute Graduate School, to discuss the conversioin of one of the largest figures in Christianity, Saint Paul.

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

An offering from the 😝 Augustinf Institute and 📵 gradicus praeses

Fri:

Sat:

Sun: All Masses may be watched live: stmarknc.org/livestream

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 <u>stmarknc.org/adoration</u> 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

#### 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 <a href="mailto:ehipazkennedy@gmail.com">ehjazkennedy@gmail.com</a> for information on our local group, or visit <a href="mailto:stmarknc.org/Cursillo">stmarknc.org/Cursillo</a>.

#### **Natural Family Planning**

Joe and Kathy Hack; Sympto-Thermal Method; 704-548-1834; hackhouse ellsouth.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

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Fr. Aaron Huber (in residence)

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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

Saint Mark Parish Directory

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

**High School Youth Ministry** Coordinator Sarah Rider sarah.rider@stmarknc.org 704-948-0231, Ext. 122

704-948-1306, Ext. 105

Director of Preschool Amanda Rametta amanda.rametta@stmarknc.org 704-948-8015 bulletin@stmarknc.org

#### 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.

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

## DEL PASTOR



Las lecturas de hoy nos llaman a ser decididos en nuestra fe.

Simón, Andrés, Santiago y Juan nos demuestran esta decisión en su respuesta al llamado de Cristo: "Venid en pos de mí, y os haré pescadores de hombres". En ambos casos, los hombres abandonaron inmediatamente lo que tenían delante

y siguieron a Cristo.

Imagínese si Simón y Andrés miraran a su Salvador y dijeran: "Gracias por la oferta, pero terminaremos de pescar y nos encontraremos más tarde". Esa no es la manera en que un discípulo debe responder al llamado de Cristo. Sin embargo, así es como a menudo respondemos a la oferta de Jesús para nosotros: "Venid en pos de mí". Podemos caer fácilmente en la idea errónea de que tenemos mucho tiempo para vivir el discipulado activo. Pero como fieles mayordomos de nuestro tiempo, debemos cambiar nuestros caminos e inmediatamente seguir a Cristo de manera más intencional, porque Cristo nos está llamando a actuar ahora.

Estos hombres llegaron a ser miembros de los 12 apóstoles de Jesús. Entregaron toda su vida para seguir a Cristo. Nosotros también estamos llamados a entregar nuestras vidas al Señor para que Él pueda obrar a través de nosotros. Podríamos pensar: "Dios no me está llamando". Pero, de hecho, lo es. Así como Él llamó a cuatro pescadores ordinarios, Él está llamando a cada uno de nosotros. Renovar y reevaluar lo que Dios podría estar pidiéndonos a lo largo de nuestras vidas es un componente clave de nuestro viaje de mayordomía.

A medida que nos acomodamos en este Año Nuevo, meditemos en las formas en que podemos renovar nuestro compromiso con Dios. Preguntémonos: ¿para qué estamos echando nuestras redes? ¿Y estamos dispuestos a dejarlo atrás por algo mucho más grande? Y si no es ahora, ;cuándo? © Consultores de Mayordomía Católica, 2023

Cuando Chris Stefanik habló en San Marcos el 10 de enero, la primera parte de su charla fue un recordatorio de que estamos maravillosamente hechos a imagen y semejanza de Dios, un Dios en el que decimos que creemos cada domingo y día santo durante el Credo de Nicea. Quizás, porque lo decimos como parte de la manada, nos olvidamos de lo que realmente significa ese Credo y esa frase

Creemos en un Dios que nos ama más allá de toda descripción; un Dios que envió a su Hijo amado al mundo a causa de ese amor. Un Dios que, porque nos hizo a su imagen y semejanza, se negó a dejarnos separar de Él para siempre. A Chris señaló: "esta es una historia de amor" y una que necesitamos que nos recuerden una y otra vez.

Nunca he tenido una crisis de fe en Dios. He tenido muchas crisis de fe en el hombre, tanto en mí mismo como en los demás. Y en esos momentos, lo que ha cambiado las cosas es recordar la historia de amor. Porque frente a los desafíos, las decepciones y el desconcierto ante las cosas que suceden a nuestro alrededor, Dios no ha cambiado. Todavía está a cargo. Su plan aún se está desarrollando, y es una historia de amor: amor por nosotros, tan indignos como somos; porque Él quiere que nosotros, tú y yo, estemos con Él por toda la eternidad en el cielo. ¡Son buenas noticias! Tratemos de recordarnos eso unos a otros más a menudo, especialmente cuando las cosas parecen inciertas en el mundo que nos rodea. Jesús nos dice en Juan 16:33: "Os he dicho estas cosas, para que en mí tengáis paz. En el mundo tendréis tribulación. Pero anímate; Yo he vencido al mundo". Y que eso, todos podamos decir gracias a Dios!!

# I She

#### Lecturas de las Escrituras

Para la Semana del 21 de Enero de 2024

Domingo Tercero Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

Jon 3, 1-5. 10; Sal 24, 4-5ab. 6-7bc. 8-9; 1 Cor 7, 29-31; Mc 1, 14-

20

Lunes Día de Oración por la Protección Legal de los Niños No Nacidos

2 Sm 5, 1-7. 10; Sal 88, 20. 21-22. 25-26; Mc 3, 22-30

Martes Memoria de San Vicente, Diácono y Mártir y Santa Marianne Cope, Virgen

2 Sm 6, 12-15. 17-19; Sal 23, 7. 8. 9. 10; Mc 3, 31-35

Miércoles Memoria de San Francisco de Sales, Obispo y Doctor de la Iglesia

2 Sm 7, 4-17; Sal 88, 4-5. 27-28. 29-30; Mc 4, 1-20

Jueves Fiesta de la Conversión de San Pablo, Apóstol

Hch 22, 3-16 o Hch 9, 1-22; Sal 116, 1bc. 2; Mc 16, 15-18

Viernes Memoria de Santos Timoteo y Tito, Obispos

2 Tm 1, 1-8 o Ti 1, 1-5; Sal 95, 1-2a. 2b-3. 7-8a. 10; Mc 4, 26-34

Sábado Memoria de Santa Ángela Merici, Virgen

2 Sm 12, 1-7. 10-17; Sal 50, 12-13. 14-15. 16-17; Mc 4, 35-41

Domingo Cuarto Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

Dt 18, 15-20; Sal 94, 1-2. 6-7. 8-9; 1 Cor 7, 32-35; Mc 1, 21-28

#### Colección de misión combinada - 20 de enero de 2024

Como parte del programa de colectas diocesanas combinadas, la Colecta para la Iglesia en América Latina, la Iglesia en Europa Central y del Este, la Iglesia en África, las Misiones Católicas en el Hogar y la Colecta para las Misiones en los Estados Unidos se han fusionado en una sola colecta. Su contribución al buen trabajo de estas organizaciones le brindará la oportunidad de participar en la actividad misionera de la Iglesia a nivel local y mundial. El sobre para esta colecta forma parte de su paquete de sobres parroquiales, o puede realizar una donación en línea a través de stmarknc.org/onlinegiving.

# 

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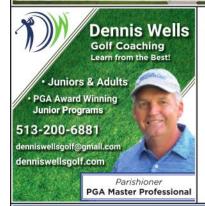


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