

Today is the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time. The readings can be found on page 1179. 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. We are thankful that you are here and welcome you back anytime for Mass, prayer in our Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration Chapel or any of our programs.

At St. Mark, we believe 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 are 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 business hours, including Sunday 8:30 am-12:15 pm. 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, join us in the Prayer to St. Michael. Please do not leave the church until after the priests, deacons, and servers have exited the church. Thank you

aint 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

- 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.
- 5. Please consume the Holy Eucharist in front of the minister of Holy Communion, before walking away.

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 to remain in your pew.

See page 1302 in the hymnal for more information.

FROM THE PASTOR.



Today's readings set a high bar for us Christian stewards, reminding us that a stewardship way of life is meant to be a challenging way of life.

In the second reading, from the Letter to the Hebrews, we are told to live as Christ lived. And how did Christ live? "For the sake of the joy that lay before Him He endured the cross."

If we are tempted to complain about the sufferings we must endure in living as Christ's disciples, we are told, "In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood." In other words, "If you're not bleeding, what are you complaining about?" That is quite a high bar!

The Gospel reading from Luke continues this challenging theme. Our Lord tells His disciples "I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing." A couple of verses later Jesus adds, "Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division."

Jesus's life on this earth and the message He brought were not meant to simply make us feel good. In fact, His words can make us downright uncomfortable at times. That's because His Good News (and it is indeed good news!) is meant to change us, to make saints of us.

The stewardship way of life sets a high bar indeed. But deeply embraced, this way of life focused on God and others will make us the saints we are called to be. © Catholic Stewardship Consultants, 2025

Pastoral Pondering – Most of you are probably familiar with a non-Catholic who accuses Catholics of "worshipping Mary and the saints." This is, of course, false, but it shows a

misunderstanding of Catholic theology and Catholic understanding of the various types of worship and veneration. I thought it would be helpful to lay this out in a simple way for everyone's benefit.

In Catholic theology, **dulia**, **hyperdulia**, and **latria** are terms used to describe distinct types of reverence or worship offered to God, the saints, and the Virgin Mary.

- -Latria: This is the highest form of worship, reserved exclusively for God (the Holy Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit). It involves adoration, acknowledging God's supreme divinity and sovereignty. Latria is expressed through acts like the Mass, prayer, and sacrifice, directed solely to God.
- -Dulia: This is the veneration or honor given to saints, recognizing their holiness and their role as intercessors before God. Dulia is a lesser form of reverence compared to latria, as saints are not divine but are honored for their exemplary lives and closeness to God. This is expressed through prayers asking for saints' intercession, feasts in their honor, or devotion to their relics.
- **Hyperdulia**: This is a special, elevated form of dulia reserved exclusively for the Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. Hyperdulia acknowledges Mary's unique role in salvation history, surpassing the honor given to other saints due to her divine maternity and sinlessness, but it remains distinct from and subordinate to latria. It is expressed through devotions like the Rosary or Marian feast days.

In summary, **latria** is worship for God alone, **dulia** is veneration for saints, and **hyperdulia** is a higher veneration for Mary, all carefully distinguished to maintain the centrality of God's worship in Catholic practice.

Anniversary Mass of the Dedication of St. Mark Catholic Church

When: Sat., Aug. 23, 9 am

Where: Church, followed by Reception in the Parish Hall

Join us in celebrating the anniversary of the dedication of our parish church. On August 23, 2009, St. Mark was solemnly dedicated and set apart as a sacred place for worship, prayer, and the sacraments.

Why It's Important:



1. It marks the moment a building became sacred space

A church dedication isn't just an opening ceremony it's a solemn liturgical act that consecrates the building as a house of God. From that moment on, it becomes a place set apart for divine worship.

2. It honors the Church as the Body of Christ.

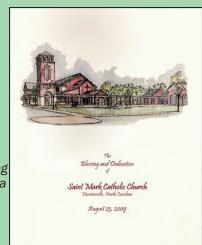
The building represents the living Church—the people. So the celebration isn't just about bricks and mortar, but about the community of faith gathered in Christ.

3. It connects the local to the universal.

Every church dedication echoes the dedication of the Temple in Jerusalem and reminds us of the heavenly Jerusalem—our eternal home. It's a visible sign of the Church's unity in space and time.

This is a time to commemorate this important day, to give thanks for our spiritual home, and to renew our commitment as the living Church—gathered as the Body of Christ.

This special Mass will be celebrated as a Solemnity within our parish. There will be a reception to follow in the Parish Hall. All are encouraged to attend!



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please Pray For...

Julie Andrews Sarah Armstrong Donald Arrup John & Casey Ball Daisy Bayona Deidre Beck Richard Biddy

Beatrice Bilodeau Brian Blatchford & Family Virginia "Gini" Bond

Virginia "Gini" Bond Kathy Brandt Dave Breen Helen Sally Buff Elaine Burkinshaw Carmen Cabranes Anne Caestecker Michelle Chichone Murphy Clark Beth Collins William Conklin

Sheila DeArmon
Judy and Rich Deboer
John Deluca
Henry Diener
James Dupree
Barbara Dutty
James P. Durcan

Jack Evans Frances & Kai Ferell &

Tim Cunnane

Janice D'Angelo

Family Charles Fillipo Joseph Fiore

Tom Fox Alan Friedl & Family Maureen K. Frost

Carmine Gallo Teri Gay

Denny & Monica Golden Josette Grace

Robert Graham Hank Griffin To submit a prayer request, visit: stmarknc.org/prayerchain

John Grivizas Helen Haddad Kevin Herman Sr. Hannah Hopkins Jerry Jackson Jr. Cathi Kalberier Craig Kashuba Karen Kastle Gary Katz

Gary Katz
Carol & Frank Kenny
Chris Kerstetter
Jackie Kopicki
Peggie Lauricella
Joan Lesch
Marie Ligon
Peter R. Loew
Mary Jo Lucey

Dr. Sivaramalingam
Manickavasagar
Patrick & Annette Mann
Rosina Marcucci
Vernon McCord
Cathy Milligan

Terry Milstead Lucille Modica Vincent Montoya Haleigh Moss Elizabeth Mulligan Jamie Mulvihill Angeles Murphy

Maria Magdalena Murphy

Carl Muti
Paul Nealon Jr.
Margaret Nelson
The Ober Family
Blanca Yolanda Ojeda
Margaret Paquette
Hazel Palmer
The Patterson Family

Fernando Paverpai John Pecoraro Doug Peterson Angela Piraino Gianni Piraino
Ella Postlewait
Nicole & Bruce Preiss
Thomas Ranney
Gretchen Rasheed
Joette Reid
Lindsay Remington
Butch Remesch
Lola Rodriguez
Madge Root

Maria Rubinos
Thomas Rynne
Phyllis Searles
Daniel Sheffield

Deacon Ronald Sherwood

& Family
Mark Shields
Sue Sia
Todd Singh
Robert Somerville
Betsy Spartz

Jeff Stark Dr. Edward Staudinge John Williams Stoker &

Family
Terri Summers
The Tate Family
Kenneth Terry & Family
Cheryl Thompson
Mike Tolbert
Alston Torres
Zaida Torres
Lucia Solis Vallarino

Robert Virgint Caroline Vogel Jonathan Wark Welcome Retreat Staff Paul Widman

Carol Woodard Mary Jane Zimmerman

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, August 17

7:30 am † Robert & George Williams

9 am † John Phillips

11 am † Deacon Leo Gladnick & Lori

Gladnick

Monday, August 18

Tuesday, August 19

7 am Fernando Payerpaj 9 am † Roland Luze Wednesday, August 20

7 am Lonnie Collins

B.J.

6:30 pm Joe, Mary Ellen, & Kathleen

Cavanaugh † Ruth Donovan

Thursday, August 21

7 am † Zita & Don Sakry 9 am † Walter Oberster

Friday, August 22

7 am † Mary Jo Lucey 9 am Respect Life Ministry 7 pm † Lauro Armijos Vega

Saturday, August 23

9 am † Mitch Burdzinski 5 pm † Hannah Imhoff

Sunday, August 24

7:30 am Colin Heidtman
9 am St. Mark Parishioners
11 am Eric Kennedy

11 am Eric Kennedy
1 pm Cristina Ramirez
4:30 pm Fr. Kevin Martinez

5 pm †Linda Ribkoski †Deceased

Pray for the Repose of the Soul of Luz Maria Torres Mother of Lucy Torres

SCRIPTURE READINGS

For the Week of August 17, 2025

Sunday Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jer 38:4-6, 8-10; Ps 40:2, 3, 4, 18; Heb 12:1-4;

Lk 12:49-53

Monday Jgs 2:11-19; Ps 106:34-35, 36-37, 39-40, 43ab & 44;

Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday Jgs 6:11-24a; Ps 85:9, 11-12, 13-14; Mt 19:23-30 Wednesday Memorial of St. Bernard, Abbot & Doctor of the Church

Jgs 9:6-15; Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Mt 20:1-16

Thursday Memorial of Saint Pius X, Pope

Jgs 11:29-39a; Ps 40:5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10; Mt 22:1-14

Friday Memorial of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22; Ps 146:5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9a,

9bc-10: Mt 22:34-40

Saturday Ru 2:1-3, 8-11, 4:13-17; Ps 128:1b-2, 3, 4, 5;

Mt 23:1-12

Sunday Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 66:18-21; Ps 117:1, 2; Heb 12: 5-7, 11-13;

Lk 13:22-30

Pray for Our Military

Air Force: Airman Gregory Burke; Airman Antoinio Diaz; Capt. Stephen Hack; Lt. Col. Douglas Lincoln; Capt. Ryan Loyd; Alejandro Martinez; Sgt. James McCormick; 2nd Lt Connor Milligan; SrA. Benjamin Salber; Airman Chloe Scott

Army: 2nd Lt. Amelia Andretti; 1st Lt. Patrick Camatcho; 1st Lt. Sarah Camatcho; Major Robert Caraccilo; Lt. Col. Michael Dragoon; SSgt. Darcy Fisher; Kyle Hawk; PFC. J. Parker Hogan; Capt. John Hughes; Pvt. Chaz Margo; Maj. Daniel McCormick; 2nd Lt. Maria Morell; PV2 Matthew Pressley; 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; 1st Lt. Nathanael

Rusciolelli

Navy: LCDR. Matthew Giannone; Lt. Albert Remmey, Jr.; LCDR. Jordan Mayo; ENS. Rory Moran, OSSN. Daniel Pressley; LCDR. Jenna Hehn Quist; ENS. Tyler Spear; LCDR.

William Vey; CTT2. Zachary Wortham and all service members not listed.

PARISH LIFE

2025 Ireland of Your Dreams Raffle Tickets



The Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) will again be selling raffle tickets, the winner this year to receive up to \$5,000 toward extraordinary experiences on one of CIE Tours Guided Vacations through Ireland. 2nd Place Drawing for \$500.00, 3rd Place Drawing for \$250.

This is the 15th consecutive year we have conducted this raffle, the proceeds of which have been used, and will continue to be used, to

support our parish, pro-life activities, seminarian education and various other religious and humanitarian organizations which have been adopted by our AOH Division.

Raffle tickets will continue to be priced at \$25 each, or "5 tickets for \$100.".

Ticket sales will be conducted after weekend Masses Aug. 23-24, Sept. 13-14, Oct. 11-12, and Nov. 15-16. Payments may be made by cash, check (payable to "AOH Meck #2") or credit card. This year you will also be able to purchase tickets online.

Tickets may also be purchased by contacting the members of the Ancient Order of Hibernians who are also fellow parishioners. Their names/contact information are listed below and they will be happy to answer any questions.

Contact Information:

Paul Mescall – pmesca@aol.com, 731-394-1795
Frank Fay – frankfay58@gmail.com, 704-641-4176
Ray FitzGerald – fritzg@aol.com, 704-992-1702
Bernard Holst - bholst@carolina.rr.com, 704-507-3261

We sincerely thank you for your support and participation over the years, without which we could not have succeeded. The drawing will be held on Saturday, November 29, 2025. Good Luck to all.

Physical Healing Prayer & Praise Night

When: Aug. 19, Rosary starts 7 pm, Prayer and Praise is from 7:30-8:30 pm

Where: In the church

We would like to invite you to come and spend an hour praising God and opening



ourselves to His healing touch. Come for physical healing, or just to experience God in a profound way as we worship our Lord in prayer and song. If you have never been to these evenings, please pray to see if God wants you to come. If you have been in one of these evenings, consider coming back to support what God is doing during these times of prayer and praise.

Future dates: August 19, September 30, October 14, November 25, December 9 Contact information: Fernando at (252) 412-

9978 (call or text).

Your Legacy Matters

August is National Make-A-Will Month, a perfect time to reflect on the legacy you'll leave behind. A gift to St. Mark Catholic Church through your will or estate plan is a powerful expression of faith, ensuring our parish continues to flourish for future generations.

We're deeply grateful to those who have already included us in their plans. If you've done so and haven't yet informed us, please contact Karen Donahue at karen.donahue@stmarknc.org / 704-948-0231, so we can honor your generosity and welcome you into the St. Mark Legacy Society.

Altar Server Training

When: Sun., Aug. 17 & 24; 6:30-8 pm

Where: Church

We would like to invite any rising 4th grader or older who would like to serve the Lord to come and learn how to be an Altar Server.

We will be holding two training sessions in the Church on Sundays after Mass, on August 17 and 24 from 6:30 - 8 pm.

Contact: Matt Mixa,

stmarkacolytes@gmail.com



RESPECT LIFE

Quarterly Respect Life Mass & Rosary Vigil

When: Fri., Aug. 22, 9 am Where: St. Mark Catholic Church

The Respect Life Committee invites you to come pray for the end of abortion and for abortion-minded women to choose life. Please join us for St. Mark's quarterly Respect Life Mass at 9 am on Friday, Aug. 22 followed by peaceful prayer outside of Planned Parenthood (700 S. Torrence Street, Charlotte).

Contact: Mike FitzGerald at respect.life@stmarknc.org

"Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you..." Jeremiah 1:5



YOUTH MINISTRY



2025-26 School Year Kick-Off! Sunday, August 17, 6 pm

We have group meetings on Sunday Nights during the school year, Bible Study during the week, and conference, pilgrimage, and retreat offerings throughout the year.

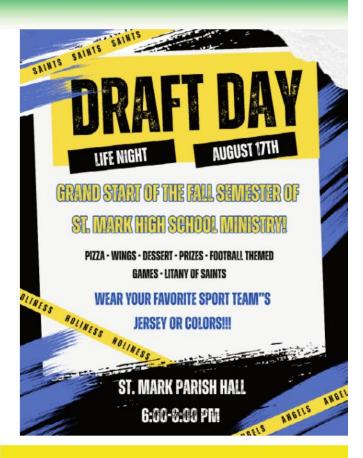
Get plugged into the communication methods listed below and use the QR code to sign up!

Want to receive text message notifications about High School Ministry events? We use REMIND messaging to text parents and teens weekly activities, reminders, or schedule changes. Sign up by texting "@smhsym2025 to the phone number "81010."

Get Connected! Instagram: @stmarkncyouth

Email: augustine.free@stmarknc.org





CONFIRMATION

Faith Formation needs committed volunteers to lead small groups of 8th and 9th grade students in Sacrament Prep.

We are looking for ADULTS (18+)
AND Juniors/Seniors in High School!

We hold Confirmation classes on Sundays 9:30 - 10:45 am OR Mondays 6:30 - 7:45 pm

Confirmation Catechists would lead small group discussion, participate in group and small group games or activities, and accompany 8th-9th grade students during their Confirmation year.

Teens: Email Maddie to sign up: maddie.torres@stmarknc.org

Adults: Scan here to sign up:



Join the Adventure! Cub Scout Open House this Thursday!

When: Thurs., Aug. 21, 6-8:00 pm Where: Outside on the Church Lawn



Come meet our leaders, learn about the exciting programs we offer, and discover how Cub Scouting builds character, faith, and friendship.

Whether your family is new to Scouting or ready to return, this is the perfect time to join Pack

97 and start the journey!

More about Pack 97...

- Catholic Troop sponsored by St. Mark Catholic Church
- Open to boys in any school program, public, private, charter or home-school
- Cub Scouts (K-5 grade
- Family-oriented activities & siblings can participate
- Boys can join at any age and at anytime

EVANGELIZATION

Becoming Catholic: OCIA 2025-26

When: Tues. in August, 6:30-8 pm Where: St. Mark School Library



Are you, or someone you know, feeling drawn to the Catholic Church?

The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) is the process through which individuals become Catholic and receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.

Sessions begin Tuesdays in August from 6:30–8 pm in the St. Mark School Library.

What Is OCIA?

The OCIA is the official process established by the Universal

Church for welcoming new members into the Catholic faith.

It is a journey of conversion, centered on building a deep relationship with Jesus Christ and the Church He founded. This process unfolds over time and through distinct stages, offering thorough catechesis, participation in the life of the parish, and commitment to the moral and liturgical life of the Church.

Who Should Come to OCIA?

- 1. Persons in need of Baptism
- 2. Baptized Christians who wish to become Catholic
- 3. Baptized Catholics who never received First Holy Communion or Confirmation

How Long Does OCIA Take?

Every journey is different. Some may take six months, others up to three years. The Church respects the time each person needs for discernment and conversion. *The typical journey*

takes about one year.

Please let us know you are coming by emailing: paul.laskowski@stmarknc.org or leanne.vaccaro@stmarknc.org



A Special Opportunity for Men

- What? An incredible experience that will help you discover what's missing in your life and what to do about it
- When: Sat./Sun. November 8th & 9th
- Where: St. Mark's Kerin Center
- Why? You deserve a break! Join fellow parishioners for a weekend of respite, renewal, fellowship, & good food!
- How to Sign up: Scan the QR code below or register at https://stmarkretreat.com/





Men's Bible Study – What We Believe: The Beauty of the Catholic Faith

When: Most Wednesday evenings 7:15–8:45 pm, beginning Sept. 10

Where: Room 200 Parish Center

In this study, you will uncover the amazing riches of the Catholic faith. You will also discover:

- What the Catholic Church is all about
- What t means to be Catholic
- What Catholics actually believe
- Who Catholics truly are and how we are called to live
- The profound gift of the sacraments, especially the Holy Eucharist, the source and summit of our Faith
- How to imitate Christ through prayer, through personal conversion, and through love for others

Founded by Christ himself, the Catholic Church is where we encounter God in his Word, his sacraments, and his saints. Maybe you've been Catholic your entire life, recently returned to the faith or converted into the faith. Wherever you may be in your journey, you will be profoundly moved by the beauty and the richness of the Catholic Church.

For Registration & information: Ray FitzGerald (Rfitzg@aol.com or 704-992-1702)

There is a fee for purchase of workbook or online access to video and course materials.

STEWARDSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Stewardship Spotlight on the Parish Pastoral Council

Our St. Mark's purpose statement reads, "The love of Christ commands us to accompany and evangelize as many people as possible to the eternal happiness of heaven." Priests cannot accomplish this alone, and the Second Vatican Council made provisions for pastors and bishops to work together with the laity, forming parish and diocesan pastoral councils to help reach a wider audience. "While the same Spirit gives many different gifts, they are all given by the one Spirit and are intended to build up the unity of the Church in diversity." (Second Vatican Council, Dogmatic Constitution on the Church (Lumen gentium) #9). This week, our spotlight focuses on the St. Mark Pastoral Council.

Parish Pastoral Council members serve by bringing questions, concerns, and views of various parishioners to Father Putnam. They also provide opinions and insights from their perspectives on various matters affecting St. Mark, including the annual budget, capital campaign, and other special projects. Council members also serve as liaisons to various parish committees, including Evangelization, Liturgy, Stewardship, Building and Grounds, etc. Council members must maintain communion with the church and live holy lives.

The Pastoral Council typically meets on the 4th Monday of each month and seeks new members late each summer as part of rotating three-year terms. While on campus, council members wear name tags that identify them as such. If you are interested in learning more or considering joining this group of parish leaders, you can speak to a member, send an email to pastoral.council@stmarknc.org, or submit a letter of interest along with a short bio to fr.putnam@stmarknc.org.





Coming Up at Saint Mark:

August 21

Cub Scout Open House

Saturday, August 23, 9 am Mass Anniversary Dedication of St. Mark

Monday, September 1

Holiday: Labor Day, offices closed 9 am Mass only

Friday and Saturday, September 5 & 6
Diocese of Charlotte Eucharistic Congress

Tuesday, September 9

Coffee and Conversation Resumes

Thursday, September 11
Annual Blue Mass

Friday, September 12

Healed and Res
Saturday, September 13

Put on the Armor of God Conference

September 13-21

Walking with Moms in Need Diaper Drive

Wednesday, September 24

Young at Heart Luncheon

Saturday, September 27

SeptemberFest Annual Parish Social

Saturday, October 4

Wings and Trivia

Sunday, October 5

Prayer Chain for Life

October 11 and 12

Coat and Blanket Drive

Sunday, October 12

Pro-Life Ministry Fair

October 18

Thanksgiving Food Drive Begins

October 25

Called and Gifted Workshop

Saturday, November 1

First Saturday Dinner

November 2

Christmas Giving Tree Gift Campaign

November 8 and 9

Men's Welcome Retreat

Events Scheduled to Change. Details in the bulletin and newsletter in the weeks before event.



MINISTRY FAIR

Your journey starts here!

Join us for St. Mark's

Annual Ministry Fair and
take a Jubilee Year of
Hope Pilgrimage
through the many
ministries that make our
parish so amazing!

Pick up your passport and travel from table to table, discovering more than 45 ministries where you can serve our parish and how you can be part of the journey.

Whether you're called to hospitality, liturgy, outreach, evangelization or formation, there's a place for you to grow, serve, share, and connect here.

Let this pilgrimage lead you to new friendships, deeper faith, and meaningful service. Food. Raffles. Fun. Friends.

Schedule of Events August 16 & 17

This weekend in the Parish Hall after Masses:

Saturday, August 16

Hot Dogs, after 5 pm Mass

Sunday, August 17

Donut Holes, after 7:30 & 9 am Mass Hot Dogs, after 11 am Mass







RESPECT LIFE

Parish-Wide Pro-Life Outreach at Saint Mark

RELAUNCHING ST. MARK





NHO?

This effort is for everyone—men, women, families, youth, and individuals—who want to build a culture of life and love here at Saint Mark and beyond! Let us walk together in hope and service to the Moms in need of our community.

Every woman facing an unexpected pregnancy or parenting in difficult circumstances should know she can turn to her local Catholic Church for the help and hope she needs. That is the mission of Walking with Moms in Need–a nationwide, parish-based initiative of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

At Saint Mark, we are relaunching this outreach with renewed commitment, and we invite you to walk with us. This apostolate seeks to provide real, tangible support to pregnant and parenting women-not just within our parish, but across our entire local community.

Five Pillars of Support:

We are organizing this initiative around five key pillars, and we need your help in each area. We encourage you to prayerfully consider how God might be calling you to serve:

- Resource Referral: Help connect mothers to local services and resources
- Monetary Support: Financial contributions or assistance with fundraising
- Material Support: Donating or collecting essential baby and household items
- Emotional Support: Offer friendship, encouragement, and mentorship
- Spiritual Support: Pray intentionally for our moms and the ministry



WHO? Each pillar will have a volunteer leader. If you feel called to serve as a coordinator in one of these areas, please reach out to us directly—we would love to talk with you about this opportunity for servant leadership.



If you have questions, feel drawn to one of the support pillars, or feel called to take on a leadership role, please contact beth@zuhosky.com or meet us at the St. Mark Ministry Fair August 16-17.

Learn More:

National website for Walking with Moms in Need www.walkingwithmoms.com/videos

Watch the new 3-minute video, **Answering the Call**, featuring our own diocesan leader,
Melissa Scanlon from St. Matthew Church,
that beautifully highlights how parishes like
ours can be the hands and feet of Christ to
mothers in need. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6htuNr8GuOg







A Prayer to St. Joseph, Defender of Life

In the wake of Congress's defunding of Planned Parenthood, the U.S. Bishops are inviting Catholics to pray for St. Joseph's intercession from now through October 1 to stop taxpayer funding of the abortion industry.

Dearest St. Joseph,

at the word of an angel, you lovingly took Mary into your home. As God's humble servant, you guided the Holy Family on the road to Bethlehem, welcomed Jesus as your own son in the shelter of a manger, and fled far from your homeland for the safety of both Mother and Child.

We praise God that as their faithful protector, you never hesitated to sacrifice for those entrusted to you.

May your example inspire us also to welcome, cherish, and safeguard God's most precious gift of life. Help us to faithfully commit ourselves to the service and defense of human life —especially where it is vulnerable or threatened.

Obtain for us the grace to do the will of God in all things.

Amen.

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Our Lady Undoer of Knots Rosary Ministry

When: Sat., Aug. 23; 10 am Where: Family Center, Room 204

No experience is necessary—we will teach you!

The Rosary Ministry invites everyone to be part of this special ministry, whether you're looking to learn, serve, or contribute in your own way. There are many tasks to be done, from making cord rosaries, counting beads, to adding labels. Some members work from home. We meet every 4th Saturday of the month (except November and December) at 10 am, following the 9 am Mass.

Individual and small group lessons are also available for those who would like extra help or a more personalized learning experience. We are excited to announce that we are expanding the Rosary Ministry and have several new projects, including along with some of the current ministries:

- Rosaries for care packages for the men and women in the military service
- Rosaries for welcome retreats for men and women
- Rosaries for infants who are baptized
- Rosaries for those receiving First Communion and Confirmation

This is a wonderful opportunity for all ages to get involved in a meaningful way. Whether you are a beginner or experienced, there's a place for you!

Info:: Rosaryblessing@aol.com, Sharon Torczynski 303-667-1971

Come join us after the 9 AM Mass on the 4th Saturday!

FAMILY MINISTRY

PUTTING ON THE ARMOR OF GOD



Putting on the Armor of God Conference

When: Sat., Sept. 13, 10 am - 3 pm

Where: St. Mark Catholic Church Parish Hall

Join the Saint Mark Family Ministry for a day of spiritual strengthening! Learn how to combat evil and cultivate virtue. Increase spiritual protection for families. Deepen your connection with Our Lady through Marian Devotion. Snacks and lunch from Viva Chicken are included. 9 am Mass and confessions are available.

Guest Speaker: Dr. Dan Schneider is a theologian, former amateur boxer, U.S. Army helicopter pilot and Gulf War veteran who has worked for many years in the Catholic apostolate of deliverance and exorcism.

The cost is \$35/couple or \$20/single. *More Information and Registration:*

<u>www.stmarknc.org/family-ministry</u> or scan code. Contact: Michelle Suarez or Kelly Fernandez,

family.ministry@stmarknc.org









SAINT MARK FAMILY MINISTRY





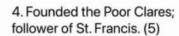


Down

- 1. Died in Auschwitz, offering his life for another. (16)
- 2. Wrote confessions and converted after a wild youth. (9)
- 3. First saint from the Americas; lived in Peru. (12)
- 5. Widow who founded the Visitation Order. (12)

Art Work by Anna Morelli

Across



- 6. Known as the Cure of Ars and patron of parish priests. (12)
- 7. Promoted the Rosary and started the Dominican Order. (7)
- 8. Mother of Constantine and found the True Cross. (6)







EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

ORDER DEADLINE MONDAY! Custom St. Mark T-Shirt for 2025 Eucharistic Congress!

\$15-20, Children and Adult Sizes, English /Spanish

Order Deadline August 18; T-shirt pickup at church after Mass August 30 & 31 T-shirts are available for order and payment through Chameleon Screen Printing. To order, go to stmarknc.org/ eucharistic-congress (scan code) and click on the ORDER HERE button.

Join fellow parishioners as we march together in the Eucharistic Procession at the Diocese of Charlotte's Eucharistic Congress, a powerful, public witness to our belief in the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist. When we walk together, unified in prayer and purpose, we proclaim to the world that Christ is truly present in our Church, in our Diocese, and in our lives.

To help us stand out and walk in unity, we are offering t-shirts featuring the Monstrance from our very own Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration Chapel. This is the first time we've created a custom design to reflect our parish's deep devotion to the Eucharist.

T-shirts are made to order and will not be sold after this date.

Let's show up together — in spirit and in strength — for Our

Lord!





Friday-Saturday, Sept. 5-6, 2025 You Belong Here YouBelong2025.com Charlotte Convention Center | FREE

Friday, Sept. 5, 2025

5 p.m. Doors open

5-11 p.m. Food / Cash Bar / Exhibitors

6:45 p.m. Welcome

7-9 p.m. Matt Maher in Concert 8:30-9 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration

9-11 p.m. Screening: "Carlo Acutis: Roadmap to Reality"

Saturday, Sept. 6, 2025

9 a.m. Eucharistic Procession from St. Peter Catholic Church

to the Charlotte Convention Center

10:45-11:30 a.m. Holy Hour, led by Bishop Michael Martin, OFM Conv.

11:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Chapel open, Confessions

11:30 am.-5 p.m. Food / Exhibitors

5:15 p.m. Pre-Mass music by The Vigil Project

5:30 p.m. Holy Mass, led by Bishop Michael Martin, OFM Conv.

Spanish Programming

Saturday, Sept. 6 / Hall A-B Main Stage

12:30-1:30 p.m. Paula Umaña 1:30-2:30 p.m. Fr. Roberto Serrano,

OFM

English Programming Saturday, Sept. 6 / Hall A-B Main Stage

3-4 p.m. Chris Stefanick
4-5 p.m. Fr. John Riccardo

Vietnamese Programming Level 3: East Wing Room 216

12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Confessions and a talk led by Father Tri Truong, pastor St. Joseph Vietnamese Catholic Church in

Charlotte

Middle/High School Programming Level 3: East Wing Room 220

12:30-3:30 p.m. Chris Stefanick Note: High School dismissal at 3:30 p.m.; Middle School dismissal at 3:45 p.m.

Family Programming Level 3: East Wing Room 219

1-2:30 p.m. Screening: "Carlo Acutis: Roadmap to Reality" (English) 3-4:30 p.m. Screening: "Carlo Acutis: Roadmap to Reality" (Spanish)



More information:



ADOR ATION

"Let the Children Come to Me, and Do Not Prevent Them; for the Kingdom of Heaven Belongs to Such as These." *Mt.* 19:13

By Donna Fodale/Adoration Coordinator

Many weeks I often have no idea what I will be writing in this bulletin piece on adoration. This week, however, something moved me so much that I knew exactly what the Lord wanted me to write about.

Last week while in Adoration, a beautiful family came in with their young children.

The mom and dad led them up to the altar rail instructing them to kneel. The mom then instructed them to make the sign of the cross. As I watch this family kneel before the Lord, I could not help but think that this must be very pleasing to the Lord. Many scripture passages came to my mind about what the Lord said about children.



The family then moved to the seats. Both mom and dad seemingly trying to pray but you know how it goes with young children. When the youngest began to squirm a bit and get loud, mom gently took her by the hand and led her back to the altar rail. She knelt and put her arm around her and looked at the monstrance. She then gestured to the child to also look, and you could hear the child say Jesus. I could see the mom shake her head yes.

What a beautiful moment. Some may say that I was distracted, and I would agree but at that moment I was reminded of how important it is to teach our children about the Eucharist, about spending time with the Lord.

I know that there are many families that shy away from spending time in the chapel because their children are young and may misbehave. My response to that would be what would Jesus want you to do.

Of course we want to always encourage being quiet in the chapel, respecting others in their prayer time but know that even just stopping in for a five-minute visit can be transforming. Transforming not only in the heart of the child, but to the family and to those who are witnessing this in the chapel.

As we approach the school year, I want to invite you to visit the Adoration chapel with your children. The world tries to influence them about so many things. Many good but many things that draw them away from the faith. By spending time before the Lord, we receive many graces, and these graces strengthen us so that we can go out into the world and face what is before us. When doing so, we don't leave Jesus in the chapel, but we carry him in our hearts and bring him into our daily lives. So, parents... stop in Adoration with your children. Jesus loves them and longs to see them walk into the chapel. How much joy this must bring Him!

Jesus said..."Let the children come to me; do not prevent them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Amen, I say to you, whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it." Then he embraced them and blessed them, placing his hands on them. (MK 10: 13-16)

"See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven always look upon the face of my heavenly

Father." (MT 18:10)

If you are interested in signing up to be an adorer or a sub, please email:

donna.fodale@stmarknc.org.



Saint Mark Parish Directory

stmarknc.org | 14740 Stumptown Rd, Huntersville NC 28078 Parish Office | Mon-Thur 9 am-7:30 pm, Fri 9 am-4:30 pm

Sun 8:15 am-12:15 pm | Phone: 704-948-0231

Pastor

Very Rev. John T. Putnam, JV

Parochial Vicars

Rev. Kevin Martinez

Rev. Christopher Angermeyer Rev. Aaron Huber (in residence)

Rev. Mr. Thomas Martin

Rev. Mr. Richard McCarron

Rev. Mr. Thomas McGahey

Rev. Mr. Tom McMahon

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/Office Manager

Emily Bixler

emily.bixler@stmarknc.org 704-948-0231, Ext. 102

Annulments, OCIA

Rev. Mr. Rich McCarron deacon.rich@stmarknc.org 704-948-0231, Ext. 113

Sacrament Admin/Adoration

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Donna.fodale@stmarknc.org 704-948-0231, Ext. 104

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Karen Donahue

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704-948-0231, Ext. 136

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Catechesis

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paul.laskowski@stmarknc.org

704-948-0231, Ext. 121

Director of Faith Formation

Sarah Rider

sarah.rider@stmarknc.org 704-948-0231, Ext. 137

Elementary Faith Formation

Coordinator

Maddie Torres

elementary@stmarknc.org 704-948-0231, Ext. 124

Middle School Youth Ministry/

Confirmation Coordinator

Mariana Vazquez

middleschool@stmarknc.org

704-948-1306, Ext. 105

High School Youth Ministry Coordinator

Augustine Free

augustine.free@stmarknc.org

704-948-0231, Ext. 122

Director of Preschool

Amanda Rametta

amanda.rametta@stmarknc.org

704-948-8015

Office of Faith Formation

Faith Formation Main Office Line:

704-948-0231, Ext. 103

Tribunal Advocate

Rod Brostrom

rnbrostrom@rcdoc.org

Bulletin Team

Al-Anon

Ellen | 704-907-8555

Alcoholics Anonymous

Tom | 704-604-7739

Divorce Support Group

Alateen program

bulletin@stmarknc.org

Mass Schedule

Mon/Tue/Thu: 7, 9 am Wed: 7 am, 6:30 pm

Fri: 7.9 am 7 pm (Spanish)

> 9 am, 5 pm Vigil 7:30, 9, 11 am, 1 pm (Español), 5 pm

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

Sat:

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 pm 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 & Book Store

Open daily in the Family Center

Coffee & Conversation Social Gathering

Tuesdays, 9:30 am, Parish Hall.

Cursillo

Visit www.CharlotteCursillo.com for information on upcoming retreat weekends, ultrevas and group reunions.

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: 704-975-8572; Post Abortion: 1-800-5-WE CARE Poor prenatal diagnosis? You're not alone. There is help.

benotafraid.net

Taken Abortion Pill? It may not be too late: Abortion Pill Reversal 877-558-0333 or abortionpillreversal.com

Parishioner Assistance

Financial:

St. Vincent De Paul Society: Emily.Bixler@stmarknc.org

Life Crisis: Stephen Ministry stmarknc.org/stephen-ministry Paul G. | 704-641-0654

Parish Office

stmarknc.org/assistance or Emily.Bixler@stmarknc.org or

704-948-0231, Ext. 102

Food Insecurity:

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

Contact: divorce.support@stmarknc.org





ANUNCIOS EN ESPAÑOL



20° Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

Las lecturas de hoy establecen un listón alto para nosotros, los mayordomos cristianos, recordándonos que una forma de vida de mayordomía está destinada a ser una forma de vida desafiante.

En la segunda lectura, de la Carta a los Hebreos, se nos dice que vivamos como vivió Cristo. ¿Y cómo vivió Cristo? "Por causa del gozo que estaba delante de Él, soportó la cruz". Si nos sentimos tentados a quejarnos de los sufrimientos que debemos soportar al vivir como discípulos de Cristo, se nos dice: "En vuestra lucha contra el pecado aún no habéis resistido hasta el punto de derramar sangre". En otras palabras, "Si no estás sangrando, ¿de qué te quejas?" ¡Ese es un listón bastante alto!

La lectura del Evangelio de Lucas continúa este tema desafiante. Nuestro Señor dice a sus discípulos: "He venido a incendiar la tierra, y cómo desearía que ya estuviera ardiendo". Un par de versículos más adelante, Jesús añade: "¿Pensáis que he venido a establecer la paz en la tierra? No, te lo digo, sino más bien división".

La vida de Jesús en esta tierra y el mensaje que trajo no tenían la intención de simplemente hacernos sentir bien. De hecho, sus palabras pueden hacernos sentir francamente incómodos a veces. Eso es porque Sus Buenas Nuevas (¡y de hecho son buenas noticias!) están destinadas a cambiarnos, a hacernos santos.

El estilo de vida de la mayordomía establece un listón alto. Pero profundamente abrazada, esta forma de vida centrada en Dios y en los demás nos convertirá en los santos que estamos llamados a ser. © Consultores de mayordomía católica, 2025

Reflexión pastoral: la mayoría de ustedes probablemente estén familiarizados con un no católico que acusa a los católicos de "adorar a María y a los santos". Esto, por supuesto, es falso, pero muestra un malentendido de la teología católica y la comprensión católica de los diversos tipos de adoración y veneración. Pensé que sería útil exponer esto de una manera simple para el beneficio de todos.

En la teología católica, **dulia**, **hyperdulia** y **latria** son términos utilizados para describir distintos tipos de reverencia o adoración ofrecida a Dios, a los santos y a la Virgen María.

-Latría: Esta es la forma más alta de adoración, reservada exclusivamente para Dios (la Santísima Trinidad: Padre, Hijo y Espíritu Santo). Implica adoración, reconocimiento de la divinidad y soberanía supremas de Dios. Latría se expresa a través de actos como la Misa, la oración y el sacrificio, dirigidos únicamente a Dios.

-Dulia: Es la veneración u honor que se da a los santos, reconociendo su santidad y su papel de intercesores ante Dios. Dulia es una forma menor de reverencia en comparación con la latría, ya que los santos no son divinos, sino que son honrados por sus vidas ejemplares y su cercanía a Dios. Esto se expresa a través de oraciones pidiendo la intercesión de los santos, fiestas en su honor o devoción a sus reliquias.

- Hiperdulía: Esta es una forma especial y elevada de dulia reservada exclusivamente para la Virgen María, la Madre de Dios. La hiperdulía reconoce el papel único de María en la historia de la salvación, superando el honor otorgado a otros santos debido a su maternidad divina y su impecabilidad, pero sigue siendo distinta y subordinada a la latría. Se expresa a través de devociones como el Rosario o las fiestas marianas. En resumen, latría es adoración solo para Dios, dulia es veneración para los santos e hiperdulía es una veneración superior para María, todas cuidadosamente distinguidas para mantener la centralidad de la adoración de Dios en la práctica católica.

LECTURAS DE LAS ESCRITURAS

Para la Semana del 17 de Agosto de 2025

Domingo Vigésimo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

Jer 38, 4-6. 8-10; Sal 39, 2. 3. 4. 18;

Heb 12, 1-4; Lc 12, 49-53

Lunes Jue 2, 11-19; Sal 105, 34-35. 36-37. 39-40.

43ab y 44; Mt 19, 16-22

Martes Jue 6, 11-24a; Sal 84, 9. 11-12. 13-14;

Mt 19, 23-30

Miércoles Memoria de San Bernardo, Abad y Doctor de

la Iglesia

Jue 9, 6-15; Sal 20, 2-3. 4-5. 6-7;

Mt 20, 1-16

Jueves Memoria de San Pio X, Papa

Jue 11, 29-39; Sal 39, 5. 7-8a. 8b-9. 10;

Mt 22, 1-14

Viernes Memoria de Nuestra Señora María Reina

Ru 1, 1, 3-8, 14-16, 22; Sal 145, 5-6, 7,

8-9a. 9bc-10; Mt 22, 34-40

Sábado Ru 2, 1-3. 8-11; 4, 13-17; Sal 127, 1-2. 3.

4-5; Mt 23, 1-12

Domingo Vigésimo Primero Domingo del Tiempo

Ordinario

Is 66, 18-21; Sal 116, 1. 2; Heb 12, 5-7.

11-13; Lc 13, 22-30



Camiseta personalizada de San Marcos para el

Congreso Eucarístico 2025

\$15-20, Tallas para niños y adultos, en inglés o español

Fecha límite para ordenar: 18 de Agosto Recoge tu camiseta en la iglesia después de Misa, el 30 y 31 de Agosto Las camisetas se pueden ordenar y pagar a través de Chameleon Screen Printing.

Para ordenar, visita stmarknc.org/eucharistic-congress (o escanea el código) y haz clic en el botón ORDER HERE.

Acompaña a tus hermanos parroquianos mientras marchamos juntos en la Procesión Eucarística durante el Congreso Eucarístico de

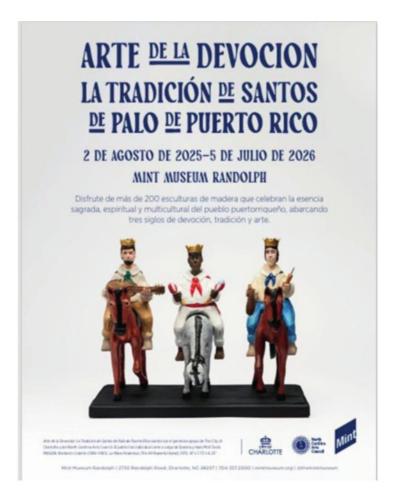


la Diócesis de Charlotte — un poderoso testimonio público de nuestra fe en la Presencia Real de Jesucristo en la Sagrada Eucaristía. Cuando caminamos juntos, unidos en oración y propósito, proclamamos al mundo que Cristo está verdaderamente presente en nuestra Iglesia, en nuestra Diócesis y en nuestras vidas.

Para ayudarnos a resaltar y caminar en unidad, ofrecemos camisetas con el diseño de la Custodia de nuestra Capilla de Adoración Eucarística Perpetua. Es la primera vez que creamos un diseño personalizado que refleja la profunda devoción de nuestra parroquia a la Eucaristía.

Las camisetas se hacen por pedido y no se venderán después de la fecha límite. ¡Presentémonos juntos — en espíritu y fortaleza — por Nuestro Señor!





Ministerio del Rosario Nuestra Señora Desatadora de Nudos

¡Únase a nosotros en oración y servicio!

Cuándo: 23 de agosto; 10:00 AM

Dónde: Salón 204

¡No se necesita experiencia—nosotros le enseñaremos!

El Ministerio del Rosario invita a todos a ser parte de este ministerio especial, ya sea que desee aprender, servir o contribuir de alguna manera. Hay muchas tareas por realizar: hacer rosarios de cordón, contar cuentas, colocar etiquetas... Algunos miembros trabajan desde casa. Nos reunimos cada **cuarto sábado del mes** (excepto noviembre y diciembre) a las 10:00 AM, después de la Misa de las 9:00 AM.

También hay clases individuales y en grupos pequeños para quienes deseen más ayuda o una experiencia de aprendizaje más personalizada. Nos complace anunciar que estamos expandiendo el Ministerio del Rosario y que tenemos varios proyectos nuevos, además de algunos de los ministerios actuales:

- Rosarios para paquetes de ayuda para hombres y mujeres en el servicio militar
- Rosarios para retiros de bienvenida para hombres y mujeres
- Rosarios para bebés que son bautizados
- Rosarios para quienes reciben la Primera Comunión y la Confirmación Esta es una maravillosa oportunidad para que personas de todas las edades participen de una manera significativa. Ya sea principiante o con experiencia, ¡hay un lugar para usted!

Información: Rosaryblessing@aol.com, Sharon Torczynski • 303-667-1971

¡Acompáñenos después de la Misa de las 9:00 AM el cuarto sábado!







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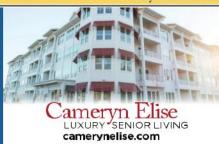
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