



PRIESTS' RETIREMENT BENEFITS COLLECTION



When you support this appeal, you provide for the future of every seminarian, transitional deacon, newly ordained priest, and current priest *including Fr. Putnam, Fr. Martinez and, Fr. Angermeyer* serving in the Diocese of Charlotte.

Details page 4.

SAINT MARK

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time, September 21, 2025, Spanish Page 16



Welcome to St. Mark

May I love the Lord
more
than the Treasures
of this World

Today we celebrate 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time. The readings can be found on page 1188. Music handouts are at the entrances; see an usher if you did not receive one.

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



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

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



After today's readings, we can't say we have not been warned about the dangers of mixed-up priorities. God's Word is so very clear today on the necessity of putting Him first in all areas of our lives.

We see this in the First Reading from Amos. The Lord has harsh words for those who would take advantage of the poor and whose priorities are not aligned with God's.

In the Second Reading from St. Paul's Letter to Timothy, Paul gives us the antidote to the self-centeredness condemned in our First Reading. The antidote is to imitate Christ, "who gave Himself as a ransom for all." Rather than thinking of Himself and how to "get ahead," Christ gave Himself away — completely — for our sake. That is how we are to live.

In our Gospel passage from Luke, the Lord shows us how to bridge the gap between worldly thinking and priorities and eternal thinking and priorities. Jesus tells the parable of the corrupt but clever steward who is about to be fired when the master discovers the steward has been squandering his property. Realizing his imminent unemployed status, the clever steward reaches out to the various debtors of his master to wheel and deal with them, making friends who would look out for him when he became jobless.

What if we put that kind of effort into our own tasks as good stewards of all God's gifts to us? Into our ministries, into the ways we could make more time for prayer as individuals, as couples, as families, and as a parish? What if we got as creative as the "bad steward" in the use of our finances so that we could give more generously to the poor and the advancement of God's kingdom on the earth? That's our lesson and our challenge.

© Catholic Stewardship Consultants, 2025.

Pastoral Pondering

I am writing this in the aftermath of the assassination of Charlie Kirk in Utah. It was a sad day for the country, and we should certainly pray for Charlie's family, especially his wife, Erika, and their two children. Certainly, the assassination itself was horrifying, but what the act represented was perhaps worse: the attempt to destroy respectful debate in a constitutional republic that values freedom of speech and the free exchange of ideas. I watched many of Charlie Kirk's campus visits, and I always found him to be challenging but respectful. He intentionally wanted to listen to and dialogue with those who disagreed with him. Sadly, an assassin's bullet silenced his efforts.

From a Catholic viewpoint, debate and dialogue are not merely intellectual exercises but essential expressions of Christian charity, truth-seeking, and evangelization. The Church teaches that

engaging others in conversation—especially on matters of faith, morality, or social issues—must always be rooted in love, humility, and respect for the dignity of the human person, as every individual is made in God's image (Genesis 1:27). This approach transforms potential conflict into an opportunity for mutual growth, reconciliation, and the proclamation of the Gospel. As Pope Francis emphasizes in *Laudato Si'*, the Church encourages "honest debate" among experts while "respecting divergent views," recognizing that genuine solutions emerge from dialogue, not domination. The Church identifies key reasons for this emphasis drawn from Scripture, Church teaching and tradition.

1. Rooted in Christ's Command to Love and Speak Truth in Charity

Catholic teaching holds that respectful debate reflects Jesus' model of engaging opponents with compassion, even amid disagreement. In the Gospels, Christ debates Pharisees and Sadducees not to "win" arguments but to reveal truth mercifully (e.g., Matthew 22:15-46). St. Paul echoes this in Ephesians 4:15: "Speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ." Harsh or condescending rhetoric, by contrast, risks sinning against charity, which the Catechism describes as the "bond of perfection" (CCC 1827).

This is why Catholic apologists like those at Catholic Answers stress cultivating a "calm and friendly manner" in debates, warning against becoming "debate junkies" who prioritize controversy over spiritual health. A morbid craving for disputes, Paul warns, breeds "envy, dissension, slander" (1 Timothy 6:4-5). Respectful engagement, therefore, safeguards the debater's soul while inviting others to Christ.

2. Promotes Unity and Ecumenism in a Divided World

The Church views dialogue as a path to unity, fulfilling Christ's prayer "that they may all be one" (John 17:21). In an era of polarization—whether over politics, immigration, or theology—respectful debate counters division by fostering understanding. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' president, Archbishop Timothy Broglio, recently urged promoting "the importance of dialogue [and] respect for the other" amid U.S. political tensions, linking it to the defense of human dignity from conception to natural death. Similarly, Pope John Paul II's message for the 2001 World Day of Peace calls for "dialogue between cultures" that overcomes "ethnocentric selfishness" through mutual respect, building a "civilization of love."

Ecumenically, this means avoiding misrepresentations, such as falsely accusing Catholics of "worshiping" Mary or saints—instead of veneration—or dismissing Tradition outright. The Catechism (CCC 821) encourages such respectful exchanges to

bridge divides, as seen in interfaith colloquia hosted by the Dicastery for Interreligious Dialogue, where Pope Francis stresses seeing the "other" not as a threat but as a "gift" for growth.

3. Essential for Evangelization and Proclaiming the Gospel

Debate, when respectful, is a form of dialogue and proclamation, as outlined in the 1991 Vatican document of the same name. It allows Catholics to share the faith persuasively without coercion, respecting freedom of conscience. The Church has a long history of public disputations, from medieval scholastic debates to modern apologetics, but always under safeguards: priests may not initiate challenges, and discussions require episcopal approval to ensure reverence for sacred mysteries (*Catholic Encyclopedia on Religious Discussions*).

In practice, this means prioritizing witness over victory. As one Catholic writer notes, debates with atheists often fail because "faith... is the belief in a thing for which there is no evidence," so the best "win" is living virtuously as a testimony to Christ. Recent examples include calls for Christians to lead "respectful debate" on issues like immigration, modeling Gospel civility in public discourse.

4. Guards Against Sin and Builds a Culture of Life

Unrespectful debate erodes human dignity, a core Catholic principle. It can devolve into personal attacks, violating the Fifth Commandment's call to honor others (CCC 2262-2268). Pope Francis warns in addresses on interreligious dialogue that polarized discussions risk becoming "polemical and inconclusive" without trust and shared vision. Instead, respectful exchange upholds the "sanctity of human life," opposing atrocities and promoting harmony across religions, ethnicities, and cultures.

In apologetics, this translates to avoiding condescension or assuming bad faith, as both Catholics and Protestants seek to follow Christ. Debates on topics like sin, evolution, or authority should seek common ground—e.g., natural moral law binding all—while humbly acknowledging limits.

In summary, respectful debate is vital in Catholic thought because it mirrors Christ's merciful truth-telling, advances unity, and evangelizes without compromising dignity. As Vatican teachings repeatedly affirm, it requires "respect for differences" and a commitment to our shared "common home." In a noisy world, Catholics are called to be voices of dialogue, proving the Gospel's power through love, not force. For deeper reading, explore *Laudato Si'* or the Catechism's sections on charity and dialogue.



In Service to All

The annual appeal for
Priests' Retirement Benefits Collection
will be held in every parish
September 20-21, 2025.

Priests' Retirement Collection Today!

Your contribution to the Priests' Retirement Benefits Collection provides for the future pension and retiree health benefits of the 152 priests from our diocese, other dioceses, and religious orders who are currently involved in active ministry and serving the faithful of Western North Carolina. Your gift ensures the funds will be available when every priest becomes eligible for retirement benefits.

The 2025 goal is \$2,080,000!

The amount of our assessment at St. Mark is \$120,953, so please give prayerful thought to your proportionate contribution and be as generous as possible. We will have a second collection, you may donate via Online Giving website at www.osvhub.com/stmarknc/giving/funds/priest-s-retirement-benefits, or use the QR code. Your contribution to this important collection is a way to show your gratitude to the priests who serve you so faithfully.



Allocation of Funds:

- 17% Pension Contributions for Religious Order Priest
- 78% Diocese of Charlotte Priests' Pension Plan and Diocese of Charlotte Retired Clergy Health Plan
- 2% Administrative Fees
- 3% Fundraising Costs

Each parish is assessed 3% of their annual offertory collection to raise the funds needed to support Priests' Retirement Benefits Collection.

This appeal defrays the cost of the assessment to St. Mark so the more funds that are donated to this collection, the less the contribution from the our parish operating budget.

Please prayerfully consider the many ways you have been blessed by our priests and donate today.

Thank you.

Your contribution to the Priests' Retirement and Benefits Collection provides for the future pension and retiree health benefits of our beloved priests. The collection serves not only priests from our diocese, but also priests from elsewhere and from religious orders who are currently involved in active ministry and serving the faithful of the Diocese of Charlotte.



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
Kathy Brandt
Dave Breen
Helen Sally Buff
Elaine Burkinshaw
Carmen Cabranes
Anne Caestecker
Michelle Chichone
Murphy Clark
Beth Collins
William Conklin
Janice D'Angelo
Sheila DeArmon
Judy and Rich Deboer
John Deluca
Henry Diener
Jane & William Dragoon
James Dupree
Barbara Dutty
James P. Durcan
Jack Evans
Frances & Kai Ferell & Family
Charles Fillipo
Al Fischlein
Joseph Fiore
Tom Fox
Alan Friedl & Family
Maureen K. Frost
Carmine Gallo
Teri Gay
Denny & Monica Golden
Josette Grace
Robert Graham
Paige Grieshop

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

Rachel Grieshop
Hank Griffin
John Grivizas
Helen Haddad
Kevin Herman Sr.
Hannah Hopkins
Frank Hunnicutt III
Jerry Jackson Jr.
Cathi Kalberier
Karen Kastle
Gary Katz
Carol & Frank Kenny
Dennis Koenig
Jackie Kopicki
Peggie Lauricella
Joan Lesch
Marie Ligon
Peter R. Loew
Kitty Long
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
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, September 21

7:30 am † Anthony Joseph Russo
9 am † John Hughes
11 am St. Mark Parishioners
1 pm † Jesus Martinez & Miguel Diaz
4:30 pm Cher Ferrouillet
5 pm † Emelia Figueroa Leon

Monday, September 22

7 am † Manuel Novoa Nava
9 am † Ruth Catherine Jaeger

Tuesday, September 23

7 am Wilder Hernandez
9 am † Ann Marie Sterbini

Wednesday, September 24

7 am Valery Hernandez
† Kathy O'Sullivan
6:30 pm Purgatorial Society Mass

Thursday, September 25

7 am † Joseph Reppi
9 am Mary's Women of Joy

Friday, September 26

7 am Claudia Martinez
9 am † Ruth Donovan
7 pm Esperanza Rodriguez

Saturday, September 27

9 am † Alvaro Torres
5 pm † Edsel Field

Sunday, September 28

7:30 am † Frank & Phyllis Mauri
9 am † Virginia (Ginny) White
11 am † Richard Rogoulot
1 pm St. Mark Parishioners
4:30 pm † Kay McAfee
5 pm † Judith Echevarria

† Deceased

Saint Mark Purgatorial Society

Saint Mark offers the opportunity for you to have your loved ones remembered at a monthly Wednesday 6:30 pm Mass for a calendar year. Names enrolled for the year will also be placed on the altar during our Masses in November.

To enroll a family member, please contact the Office at 704-948-0231 or complete the form on our website at

www.stmarknc.org/purgatorial-society.

The following members will be remembered on September 24, 2025

Michael V. Flattery
Kathleen F. Smith
Emmanuel Yngente
Butch Lopez
Zelda Myers

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday **Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Am 8:4-7; Ps 113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8; 1 Tm 2:1-8; Lk 16:1-13

Monday Ezr 1:1-6; Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6; Lk 8:16-18

Tuesday **Memorial of Saint Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest**
Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5; Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday Ezr 9:5-9; Tb 13:2, 3-4a, 4befghn, 7-8; Lk 9:1-6

Thursday Hg 1:1-8; Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b; Lk 9:7-9

Friday Hg 2:1-9; Ps 43:1, 2, 3, 4; Lk 9:18-22

Saturday **Memorial of Saint Vincent de Paul, Priest**
Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a; Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13; Lk 9:43b-45

Sunday **Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Am 6:1a, 4-7; Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10; 1 Tm 6:11-16; Lk 16:19-31

STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship Spotlight: Stewardship of Truth

Not many of us would care to identify with the dishonest steward in the gospel reading today, but if we hope to live in heaven one day, we must consider whether we will be found trustworthy when we are asked to prepare a full account of our stewardship. Our prudence in recognizing the gifts we have been blessed to steward helps prepare us to be welcomed into the eternal dwelling of heaven. Our church is the one, true, holy, catholic, and apostolic church founded by Jesus Christ. Whether we are cradle Catholics, converts, or here seeking the truth of a faith we are still exploring, we have been entrusted with a call to live in relationship with God.

Jesus offers us his body, blood, soul, and divinity at each Holy Eucharist. Have we responded well to that truth, or have we squandered it? When tempted by doubts about the true presence, do we seek true understanding? St. Carlo Acutis, recently canonized, viewed the Eucharist as the “highway to heaven” and spent an important part of his short life documenting many Eucharistic Miracles, creating a website and exhibit to educate others about this truth. To deepen your understanding, explore these documented miracles and educational resources at <https://www.miracolieuucaristici.org/>.

We have been entrusted with the knowledge of the kerygma, salvation through Jesus Christ’s life, death, and resurrection. Have we accepted and responded to that knowledge, or have we squandered it? Do we make daily choices to follow His will rather than our own? Do we treat our gifts as though they are ours, for only our benefit, or grow and share them for love of God and neighbor? “Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.” (1 John 3:18)

Special Event in October! *Called and Gifted* Charism and Gifts Discernment Workshop

When: Sat. Oct. 25; 9 am-3:30 pm
Where: Family Center/Parish Hall

St. Mark has the unique opportunity to host the Catherine of Siena Institute for their transformative

Called and Gifted workshop on Saturday, October 25. This one-day experience will help you discover the unique spiritual gifts, called charisms, that God has given you, not only for your personal journey but to serve others and reflect Christ’s light in the world.

Whether you’re navigating one of life’s transitions, a new or returning Catholic, a young adult or simply wondering, “How can I follow Jesus’ plan for my life?”, this workshop is for you.

This event is the first step in a three-part discernment process which also includes a personal interview and small group discernment. There is a \$20 registration fee. Lunch will be provided. Register at

stmarknc.org/small-group-registration or scan the code.



Estate Planning 101: For parents, professionals, and everyone in between

Do you want to:

- Provide security for your family and loved ones?
- Remember loved ones in a tangible way?
- Designate who will manage your estate?
- Reduce estate taxes and administrative expenses?
- Coordinate estate planning with your overall financial plan?

St. Mark will host an **Estate Planning Seminar** on **Thursday, October 23 at 6:30 pm** in the Parish Hall.

An estate attorney, along with members of the Diocesan Planned Giving Office, will discuss the basics of estate planning. The goal is to provide information and insights which will ensure your legacy while safeguarding your family and loved ones. Bring your questions and learn more about this important topic. Light refreshments will be served.

Use the QR code to register for the seminar.

Contact: Karen Donahue at karen.donahue@stmarknc.org or 704-948-0231 for more information.



ONLINE GIVING

Planned
Proportionate
Consistent



PARISH LIFE

Seminarian Update

Good News!

We received news that our seminarian from this past year, **James Tweed**, will be ordained a deacon on December 6, at 10 am.

The Ordination will take place at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Hendersonville.

Thank you for keeping in your prayers.



Healing Prayer & Praise Night

When: Sept. 30; *The Rosary starts at 7 pm and the 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 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: October 14
November 25
December 9

Contact information: Fernando at 252-412-9978 (call or text)

Lunch and Learn: Crime Prevention in our Communities

When: Mon., Oct. 20, 2025; 11 am-1 pm

Where: Parish Hall

Officer Matthew Choice, Huntersville PD, along with his crime investigators will raise awareness on crime in the Lake Norman area. They will provide safety tips to avoid becoming a victim as well as the influx of illegal drugs infiltrating our community.

A complimentary lunch is included. Registration required.

RSVP: Kevin & Janet Urban, urbkevy@yahoo.com, 704-689-3847



Stephen Ministry

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

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

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

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



Coming Up at Saint Mark

Tuesday, September 30

Prayer and Praise

Saturday, September 27

SeptemberFest Annual Parish Social

Saturday, October 4

Blessing of Pets, 10 am, Memorial for Life 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

Sunday, October 14

Prayer and Praise

October 18

Thanksgiving Food Drive Begins

October 20

Lunch and Learn

Thursday, October 23

Estate Planning Seminar

October 25

Called and Gifted Workshop

Saturday, November 1

All Saints Day

Catholic Charities Furniture Collection

First Saturday Dinner

November 2

Christmas Giving Tree Gift Campaign

November 6

Special Suicide Talk: Emily Hogan

November 8 and 9

Men's Welcome Retreat

Saturday, November 15

Mass of Consolation

Wednesday, November 19

Young at Heart Luncheon

Sunday, November 30

Advent Begins, St. Nicholas Brunch

Saturday, December 6

First Saturday Dinner

Monday, December 8

Immaculate Conception

Holy Day of Obligation, Offices closed

Tuesday, December 9

Prayer and Praise

Saturday, December 13

Parish-Wide Holiday Celebration

Thursday, December 25

Christmas, Holy Day, Offices closed

January 1

Holy Day, Offices Closed

January 3

First Saturday Dinner

Saturday, January 17

Meal Packaging Event

Events Scheduled to Change. Exact times and details will be in the bulletin and newsletter in the weeks before event.

SeptemberFest

Parish-Wide
Saturday,

This is a parish-wide, just-for-fun, connect-with-others-who-share-a-love-of-Christ, celebration, and family social event!

Thank you to the many volunteers, ministries, apostolates, groups, staff, and vendors who work to bring us this parish social each year.



Candid Captures
photobooth

NEXT SATURDAY!

Family Social *September 27, 6-9 pm*



What you need to know:

FOOD TRUCKS and DRINKS!

No Admission: This is not a fund raiser. Food and beverages will be available for sale from vendors (cash, debit/credit accepted.) Ice cream, hot dogs, and beverage tickets will need to be purchased from the Stewardship Tent. Picnic baskets are welcome!

Six Food Trucks: Lobster Dogs; Muchachos Tacos; Libretto's Pizzeria, St. Mark Hispanic Ministry Tamales, Elotes (Mexican Corn on The Cob), Fruit Cup, and Aguas Frescas; Fishbaugh Hot Dogs; and The Butcher Grill. Pay with cash or credit; Fishbaugh Dog will only take tickets.

Beverages: Primal Brewery, Wine, Soda and Water

Desserts: Bruster's Ice Cream and Kona Ice

GAMES and ENTERTAINMENT!

Activities: All activities are free. Split Second Sound DJ and Dance Party, Candid Capture Photo Booth, Inflatable Obstacle Course and Football Toss, Cornhole, Game Truck, Bingo, Face Painting, Crafts, Cookie Walk, and more.

Fun for the Entire Family: This is a family event. We will have tables outside but you can bring a chair, blanket and friends. There will be activities outside and in the Parish Hall.

YOUTH MINISTRY

High School Youth Ministry: An Open Letter from Gus Free, High School Ministry Coordinator

Welcome to High School Ministry at St. Mark!

Our mission is to take everything that your teens have learned so far in Faith Formation, and to help them to turn that knowledge into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. We also strive to promote and provide an environment where teens can be around other like-minded Catholic teens, and have a chance to just have fun, and escape the many cares and worries of their everyday lives.

We meet (most) Sunday nights from 6-8 pm and always serve dinner. Our Sunday meetings are called Life Nights.

High School Ministry at St. Mark is open to ALL high school teens. Please do not hesitate to email me with any questions!

Gus

Want to receive message notifications?

We use the REMIND app to message parents and teens weekly about activities, reminders, or schedule changes. To sign up, download the Remind App, and type in the class code **smhsym2025**.



Other Ways to Stay Connected!

Instagram: @stmarkncyouth

Sunday Bulletin - Updates Every Sunday

Email List: augustine.free@stmarknc.org

JOIN THE FAMILY MINISTRY FOR

WINGS & TRIVIA

Saturday, **October 4**
6:15 - 9PM

Free Register Now!

Registration Closes 9/30!

Bring Your Fully-Charged Phone for Trivia with Kahoot!

Menu: Chicken wings, chicken nuggets, carrots & celery, pizza, dessert & drinks!

LIFE NIGHT SERIES:

BACK TO THE GARDEN

PART IV:
GARDEN OF JOY

"Arise, my friend, my beautiful one, and come! For see, the winter is past, the rains are over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth, the time of pruning the vines has come, and the song of the turtledove is heard in our land. The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines, in bloom, give forth fragrance. Arise, my friend, my beautiful one... Let me see your face, let me hear your voice, For your voice is sweet, and your face is lovely." Catch us the foxes, the little foxes that damage the vineyards; for our vineyards are in bloom!

~ Song of Songs 2:10-15

9/21. ST. MARK PARISH HALL. 6-8PM

CRHP 2.0

Welcome.

There is **More** to Life

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/>
- **Questions:** Call Joe Smith (610) 883-7753

RESPECT LIFE

Walking With Moms in Need: Diaper, Formula, and Wipe Drive!

When: Sept. 13-21

Where: Leave donations in Narthex Bin

We are excited to announce the relaunch of our Walking with Moms in Need ministry here at St. Mark! This beautiful initiative is part of our parish's commitment to walk alongside mothers and families facing challenging circumstances, offering not only our prayers but also practical support.

As we begin anew, we invite you to participate in our Diaper, Formula, and Wipe Drive from September 13–21. These essential items will provide immediate help and hope to moms in our community who often feel alone or overwhelmed.

We especially need diaper sizes 3-5 and Similac Baby Formula, although all sizes and brands are welcome.

Your generosity can make a life-changing difference—reminding every mother that she is not alone and that her parish family is here to support her and her child with love. Your donations will go to parishioners, local moms in need, and local agencies serving this community.

Please bring donations to the collection bin in the Narthex during the drive week. Together, let's live out Christ's call to "love one another" and surround moms and babies with the care they deserve.



Fall 40 Days for Life Campaign

When: Wed., Sept. 24-Sun., Nov. 2

Where: Abortion Centers in Charlotte

Join us for prayer, fasting and community outreach to stop abortion! The Fall 2025 40 Days for Life campaign, a peaceful, prayerful and law-abiding campaign, starts on Wednesday, September 24, and ends Sunday, November 2,

There will be two campaign locations in Charlotte this fall:

- Planned Parenthood 700 Torrence St., Charlotte, from 7 am to 7 pm Monday through Saturday.
- A Woman's Choice facility 421 N. Wendover Rd., Charlotte from 8 am to 8 pm, Monday through Saturday.

For more information go to 40DaysforLife.com. If you need more information on the Planned Parenthood location, please contact Maureen Barrett at mbarrett25@gmail.com or 571-236-9583.

If you need more information on the Woman's Choice location, please contact Savannah O'Brien at 516-302-7112 or email at charlotte40dfl@gmail.com.

Please come! When even one person prays outside, the no show rate for abortions can go as high as 75%.

Go to 40DaysforLife.com/charlotte for more information and to sign up or just show up.

There will be a closing rally on Sunday, November 2, at 3 pm in front of the Charlotte Planned Parenthood facility.

Walking with Moms in Need: Community Pregnancy Center 34th Annual Walk for Life

When: Sat., Oct. 4 check-in 8:30 am | Walk begins at 9:30 am

Where: Langtree, 150 Landings Drive, Mooresville (Don't need to be present to participate.)

Join the St. Mark Walking with Moms in Need (WWMIN) team to help raise the most money for the Community Pregnancy Center of Lake Norman. Event begins with a short opening program, followed by a 1.5-mile family-friendly walking course, and finishes with an announcement of the total amount raised and prizes being awarded.

HOW TO WALK WITH AND RAISE MONEY FOR THE ST. MARK WALKING WITH MOMS IN NEED TEAM:

Register by visiting: stmarknc.org/wwmin or scan code

Click on the "Walk for Life" link (if you didn't use code)

Click the "Give" button

Fill out the online form completely

Share this link with your friends on social media to raise more money

Show up with our WWMIN team on Saturday, October 4, 2025 at 8:30 am and get ready to walk!

(If you're unable to make the walk-in person, you can walk wherever you are.)

Have questions or need help? Go to stmarknc.org/wwmin or Beth@Zuhosky.com.



Saints Matthew and Padre Pio

Find the bolded words in the Word Search!



Saint Matthew, one of the twelve **apostles**, was a tax collector before Jesus called him to follow Him. He is the author of the **Gospel** of Matthew, which highlights **Christ** as the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy. His life reminds us that no one is beyond God's call and **transformation**.



Artwork by Anna Morelli

Saint Padre Pio, a Capuchin friar from Italy, was known for his deep prayer life, the gift of the **stigmata**, and his ability to read souls in confession. He devoted his life to bringing people closer to Christ through the sacraments and his famous phrase: "Pray, **hope**, and don't worry."

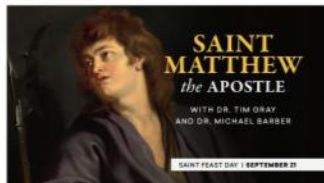
This Week on Formed

Week of September 21, 2025



Padre Pio: Miracle Man

This movie captures the Capuchin friar's intense faith, devotion, and deep spiritual concern for others, as well as his great compassion for the sick and suffering. It reveals the amazing details and events in Padre Pio's life as a boy and throughout his fifty years as a friar, dramatizing the frequent attacks from the devil, as well as the persecution he suffered at the hands of people, including those in the Church.



Saint Matthew | Catholic Saints

Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. We are all familiar with the four Gospels, but what makes them stand out from the rest? Join Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. Michael Barber as they discuss St. Matthew, the great Apostle and evangelist.

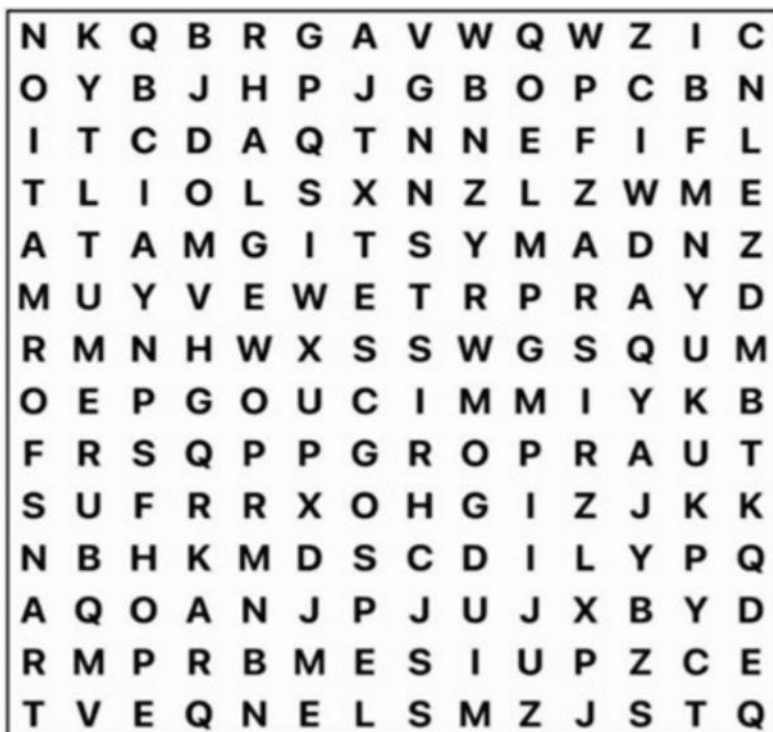


Padre Pio: Between Heaven and Earth

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

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

An offering from the  AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Blue Mass, September 11

Thank you to all who came to honor our First Responders at our third annual Blue Mass and Reception. The words of Fr. Christopher Angermeyer in his homily:

"As we celebrate today's Blue Mass, I can't think of a group that understands better how much good can come from lawful acts. Every single day, you are dealing with those difficult moments in life. Rarely do you have the easy cases. You are helping people who are facing great stresses, great difficulties, and on occasion, even evil itself.

How fitting it is today that we remember your great service, and also those who gave their lives on 9/11—the great sacrifice they made to save others in the midst of such a terrible, terrible act.

But then comes the question: Why does our Lord allow evil? Why does He allow these evil acts to happen? Why did 9/11 happen? Why do school shootings occur, such as the one in Minneapolis? Or even, as we saw just yesterday, the killing of a political figure while he was giving a speech?

Our Lord allows evil because, number one, we have free will. If we have free choice, then we must be able to choose between good and evil—and that means sometimes people are going to choose evil.

But number two, and more importantly, our Lord can take that evil and make it into a greater good. He has that ability. He has that power. And He has shown it to us before. When He died on the Cross—that great injustice, that terrible murder—He took that evil and transformed it into salvation for us all.

So what are we called to do when great evil comes? As we heard in today's Gospel, we are called to love our enemies.

First, we are called to pray for them. Pray for their souls, even though it is hard. In those difficult moments, pray for them. Pray for their sanctification.

Second, we must pray for those who support us—our policemen, our firefighters, our paramedics. Pray that they may receive the grace necessary to deal with those difficult moments. Prayer gives them strength to continue in their sacrifice, even giving of their very lives for others.

And third, most importantly, we must have trust in our Lord. Trust that He is going to take these terrible things and create good from them. Trust that He is building up our communities through them. Trust that He is making humanity stronger. Have faith. Have trust in Him.

So in this Mass, let us give thanks for those who have sacrificed, those who have given their lives for the greater good. Let us pray that our Lord may sanctify and renew them as we remember those who have fallen. Let us pray also for those who are serving now—that they may receive the graces they need. And we pray for those who will serve in the future—that they may be strengthened to serve the Lord worthily and well.

And finally, we pray that at the end of all things, we may all see the eternal glory of heaven—where evil will never reign again."



1ST ANNUAL

DAVID CALABRASE MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Presented by the Monsignor Joseph A. Kerin Knights of Columbus Council #12654 Huntersville, NC

Monday, November 10, 2025

NORTHSTONE COUNTRY CLUB

11 AM SHOTGUN START, CAPTAIN'S CHOICE
\$160/Per Golfer for Green Fees; \$20 for Mulligan Package.

*50/50 Raffle; Putting Contest; Closest-to-Pin
Chicken & BBQ Buffet*



Questions or want to sponsor a hole?
Bill Pugh / bill.pugh@cmc.com / 704-309-7466
John Knight / john.knight1@verizon.net / 703-618-3779



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)

Deacons

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

Donna Fodale

donna.fodale@stmarknc.org

704-948-0231, Ext. 104

Director of Sacred Music

Manuel Mora

manuel.mora@stmarknc.org

704-948-0231, Ext. 130

Director of Finance

Richard Cataldo

richard.cataldo@stmarknc.org

704-948-0231, Ext. 116

Hispanic Ministry Coordinator

Emilio Gómez

emilio.gomez@stmarknc.org

704-948-0231, Ext. 117

Stewardship Coordinator

Karen Donahue

karen.donahue@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

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

Olivia DiGiovanni

olivia.digiovanni@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

bulletin@stmarknc.org

Mass Schedule

Mon/Tue/Thu: 7, 9 am

Wed: 7 am, 6:30 pm

Fri: 7, 9 am

7 pm (Spanish)

Sat: 9 am, 5 pm Vigil

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

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

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 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, ultreyas 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

Food Insecurity:

Parish Office

stmarknc.org/assistance or

Emily.Bixler@stmarknc.org or

704-948-0231, Ext. 102

Al-Anon

Ellen | 704-907-8555

Alcoholics Anonymous

Tom | 704-604-7739

Alateen program

Paul G. | 704-641-0654

Divorce Support Group

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

Contact: divorce.support@stmarknc.org





Después de las lecturas de hoy, no podemos decir que no se nos haya advertido sobre los peligros de las prioridades confusas. La

Palabra de Dios es muy clara hoy en día sobre la necesidad de ponerlo a Él en primer lugar en todas las áreas de nuestras vidas.

Vemos esto en la primera lectura de Amós. El Señor tiene palabras duras para aquellos que se aprovechan de los pobres y cuyas prioridades no están alineadas con las de Dios

En la segunda lectura de la carta de San Pablo a Timoteo, Pablo nos da el antídoto contra el egocentrismo condenado en nuestra primera lectura. El antídoto es imitar a Cristo, "que se dio a sí mismo en rescate por todos". En lugar de pensar en sí mismo y en cómo "salir adelante", Cristo se entregó a sí mismo, por completo, por nuestro bien. Así es como debemos vivir.

En nuestro pasaje evangélico de San Lucas, el Señor nos muestra cómo cerrar la brecha entre el pensamiento y las prioridades mundanas y el pensamiento y las prioridades eternas. Jesús cuenta la parábola del mayordomo corrupto pero inteligente que está a punto de ser despedido cuando el amo descubre que el mayordomo ha estado despilfarrando su propiedad. Al darse cuenta de su inminente estado de desempleo, el inteligente mayordomo se acerca a los diversos deudores de su amo para lidiar con ellos, haciendo amigos que lo cuidarían cuando se quedara sin trabajo.

¿Qué pasa si ponemos ese tipo de esfuerzo en nuestras propias tareas como buenos administradores de todos los dones de Dios para nosotros? ¿En nuestros ministerios, en las formas en que podríamos dedicar más tiempo a la oración como individuos, como parejas, como familias y como parroquia? ¿Qué pasaría si fuéramos tan creativos como el "mal mayordomo" en el uso de nuestras finanzas para poder dar más generosamente a los pobres y al avance del reino de Dios en la tierra? Esa es nuestra lección y nuestro desafío. © Consultores de mayordomía católica, 2025.

Reflexión pastoral : escribo esto después del asesinato de Charlie Kirk en Utah. Fue un día triste para el país, y ciertamente debemos orar por la familia de Charlie, especialmente por su esposa, Erika, y sus dos hijos. Ciertamente, el asesinato en sí fue horrible, pero lo que el acto representó fue quizás peor, el intento de destruir el debate respetuoso en una república

constitucional que valora la libertad de expresión y el libre intercambio de ideas. Vi muchas de las visitas al campus de Charlie Kirk y siempre lo encontré desafiante pero respetuoso. Intencionalmente quería escuchar y dialogar con aquellos que no estaban de acuerdo con él. Lamentablemente, la bala de un asesino silenció sus esfuerzos.

Desde el punto de vista católico, el debate y el diálogo no son meros ejercicios intelectuales, sino expresiones esenciales de la caridad cristiana, la búsqueda de la verdad y la evangelización. La Iglesia enseña que entablar conversación con otros, especialmente en asuntos de fe, moralidad o temas sociales, siempre debe estar arraigado en el amor, la humildad y el respeto por la dignidad de la persona humana, ya que cada individuo está hecho a imagen de Dios (Génesis 1:27). Este enfoque transforma el conflicto potencial en una oportunidad para el crecimiento mutuo, la reconciliación y la proclamación del Evangelio. Como subraya el Papa Francisco en *Laudato Si'*, la Iglesia fomenta el "debate honesto" entre expertos al tiempo que "respeto los puntos de vista divergentes", reconociendo que las soluciones genuinas surgen del diálogo, no de la dominación. La Iglesia identificó razones clave para este énfasis extraídas de las Escrituras, la enseñanza y la tradición de la Iglesia.

1. Arraigado en el mandato de Cristo de amar y decir la verdad en la caridad

La enseñanza católica sostiene que el debate respetuoso refleja el modelo de Jesús de involucrar a los oponentes con compasión, incluso en medio del desacuerdo. En los Evangelios, Cristo debate con fariseos y saduceos no para "ganar" discusiones, sino para revelar la verdad misericordiosamente (por ejemplo, Mateo 22:15-46). San Pablo se hace eco de esto en Efesios 4:15: "Hablando la verdad en amor, crezcamos en todo en aquel que es la cabeza, que es Cristo". La retórica dura o condescendiente, por el contrario, corre el riesgo de pecar contra la caridad, que el Catecismo describe como el "vínculo de la perfección" (CIC 1827).

Esta es la razón por la que los apologistas católicos como los de Catholic Answers enfatizan cultivar una "manera tranquila y amistosa" en los debates, advirtiendo contra convertirse en "adictos al debate" que priorizan la controversia sobre la salud espiritual. Un anhelo mórbido de disputas, advierte Pablo, engendra "envidia, disensión, calumnia" (1 Timoteo 6:4-5). El compromiso respetuoso, por lo tanto, salvaguarda el alma del polemista

mientras invita a otros a Cristo.

2. Promueve la unidad y el ecumenismo en un mundo dividido

La Iglesia ve el diálogo como un camino hacia la unidad, cumpliendo la oración de Cristo "para que todos sean uno" (Juan 17:21). En una era de polarización, ya sea por política, inmigración o teología, el debate respetuoso contrarresta la división fomentando la comprensión. El presidente de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de Estados Unidos, el arzobispo Timothy Broglio, instó recientemente a promover "la importancia del diálogo [y] el respeto por el otro" en medio de las tensiones políticas de Estados Unidos, vinculándolo a la defensa de la dignidad humana desde la concepción hasta la muerte natural. Del mismo modo, el mensaje del Papa Juan Pablo II para la Jornada Mundial de la Paz de 2001 llama a un "diálogo entre culturas" que supere el "egoísmo etnocéntrico" a través del respeto mutuo, construyendo una "civilización del amor".

Ecuménicamente, esto significa evitar tergiversaciones, como acusar falsamente a los católicos de "adorar" a María o a los santos, en lugar de venerar, o descartar la Tradición por completo. El Catecismo (CIC 821) fomenta tales intercambios respetuosos para cerrar las brechas, como se ve en los coloquios interreligiosos organizados por el Dicasterio para el Diálogo Interreligioso, donde el Papa Francisco enfatiza ver al "otro" no como una amenaza sino como un "regalo" para el crecimiento.

3. Esencial para la evangelización y el anuncio del Evangelio

El debate, cuando es respetuoso, es una forma de *diálogo* y *proclamación*, como se describe en el documento del Vaticano de 1991 del mismo nombre. Permite a los católicos compartir la fe de manera persuasiva sin coerción, respetando la libertad de conciencia. La Iglesia tiene una larga historia de disputas públicas, desde debates escolásticos medievales hasta apologética moderna, pero siempre bajo salvaguardas: los sacerdotes no pueden iniciar desafíos, y las discusiones requieren la aprobación episcopal para garantizar la reverencia por los misterios sagrados (Enciclopedia Católica sobre Discusiones Religiosas).

En la práctica, esto significa priorizar el testimonio sobre la victoria. Como señala un escritor católico, los debates con los ateos a menudo fracasan porque "la fe... es la creencia en algo de lo que no hay evidencia", por lo que la mejor "victoria" es vivir virtuosamente como testimonio de

Continuado en la siguiente página

Cristo. Los ejemplos recientes incluyen llamados a los cristianos a liderar un "debate respetuoso" sobre temas como la inmigración, modelando la civilidad del Evangelio en el discurso público...

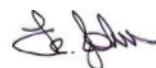
4. Protege contra el pecado y construye una cultura de la vida

El debate irrespetuoso erosiona la dignidad humana, un principio católico fundamental. Puede convertirse en ataques personales, violando el llamado del Quinto Mandamiento a honrar a los demás (CIC 2262-2268). El papa Francisco advierte en discursos sobre el diálogo interreligioso que las discusiones polarizadas corren el riesgo de volverse

"polémicas e inconclusas" sin confianza y visión compartida. En cambio, el intercambio respetuoso defiende la "santidad de la vida humana", oponiéndose a las atrocidades y promoviendo la armonía entre religiones, etnias y culturas.

En apologética, esto se traduce en evitar la condescendencia o asumir la mala fe, ya que tanto los católicos como los protestantes buscan seguir a Cristo. Los debates sobre temas como el pecado, la evolución o la autoridad deben buscar un terreno común, por ejemplo, la ley moral natural que obliga a todos, al tiempo que reconocen humildemente los límites.

En resumen, el debate respetuoso es vital en el pensamiento católico porque refleja la verdad misericordiosa de Cristo, promueve la unidad y evangeliza sin comprometer la dignidad. Como afirman repetidamente las enseñanzas del Vaticano, requiere "respeto por las diferencias" y un compromiso con nuestra "casa común" compartida. En un mundo ruidoso, los católicos están llamados a ser voces de diálogo, demostrando el poder del Evangelio a través del amor, no de la fuerza. Para una lectura más profunda, explore *Laudato Si'* o las secciones del Catecismo sobre caridad y diálogo.



Al Servicio De Todos

La colecta anual para los beneficios de jubilación de los sacerdotes se llevará a cabo en cada parroquia el 20 y 21 de septiembre de 2025.

Colecta para la Jubilación de los Sacerdotes Hoy!

Su contribución a la **Colecta para los Beneficios de Jubilación de los Sacerdotes** provee para la futura pensión y los beneficios médicos de los 152 sacerdotes de nuestra diócesis, otras diócesis y órdenes religiosas que actualmente están en ministerio activo y sirviendo a los fieles del oeste de Carolina del Norte. Su donativo asegura que los fondos estarán disponibles cuando cada sacerdote sea elegible para los beneficios de jubilación.

¡La meta del 2025 es \$2,080,000!

La cantidad de nuestra evaluación en **San Marcos** es de **\$120,953**, así que por favor reflexione en oración sobre su contribución proporcional y sea lo más generoso posible. Tendremos una segunda colecta; también puede donar a través del sitio web de *Online Giving* en www.osvhub.com/stmarknc/giving/funds/priest-s-retirement-benefits, o usar el código QR. Su contribución a esta importante colecta es una manera de mostrar su gratitud a los sacerdotes que lo sirven con tanta fidelidad.

Distribución de Fondos:

- 17% Contribuciones de pensión para sacerdotes de órdenes religiosas
- 78% Plan de pensión para sacerdotes de la Diócesis de Charlotte y Plan de salud para el clero retirado de la Diócesis de Charlotte
- 2% Gastos administrativos
- 3% Costos de recaudación de fondos

Cada parroquia es evaluada con el **3% de su colecta anual del ofertorio** para recaudar los fondos necesarios para apoyar la Colecta de Beneficios de Jubilación de los Sacerdotes.

Este llamado ayuda a cubrir el costo de la evaluación en San Marcos; por lo tanto, **cuantos más fondos se donen a esta colecta, menor será la contribución de nuestro presupuesto parroquial operativo.**

Por favor, considere en oración las muchas maneras en que ha sido bendecido por nuestros sacerdotes y done hoy. **Gracias.**






THE SOCIETY FOR FINANCIAL AWARENESS


A4 WEALTH ADVISORS, LLC
 IKN FINANCIAL CENTER
 16140 Northcross Drive | Huntersville, NC 28078
 office: 704-509-1141

- Comprehensive Retirement Planning
- Wealth Management
- Income Planning
- Medicare Consulting
- Insurance Planning
- Long-Term Care Planning
- Social Security Maximization

John Balcerzak
 Investment Advisor
 Representative,
 Certified Financial
 Planner™



Shauntae Funkhouser
 Investment Advisor
 Representative,
 Certified Personal
 Retirement Specialist™

Fee-based financial planning and investment advisory services are offered by A4 Wealth Advisors, LLC a Registered Investment Advisor an SEC investment advisor. Insurance products and services are offered through A4 Insurance Solutions. A4 Wealth Advisors LLC and A4 Insurance Solutions are affiliated companies.



Raymer-Kepner
 FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATION SERVICES


John & Claudia Kepner and son Jonathan & Lindsey Kepner

Family Owned & Operated
On Site Crematory
Two Locations to Serve You:
 16901 Old Statesville Road, Huntersville, NC 28078
704-892-9669
 Life Tribute Center
 388 NC 16 Business Hwy. • Denver, NC 28037
704-966-4257
raymerfh.com


Riley Grace
 SENIOR APARTMENTS
rileygraceliving.com
 14801 Stumpton Rd.
 Huntersville, NC 28078


Luxury Apartments for Seniors
 Call to schedule a tour today!
704-363-4086



Cameryn Elise
 LUXURY SENIOR LIVING
camerynelise.com
 8571 Sam Furr Rd.
 Huntersville NC 28078



Drawn2Art
 Fine Art Instruction 4 yrs-Adult


 Schedule a **FREE** Introductory Art Class
 Mention this ad & receive **25% OFF** your first month (New Students Only)

(704) 997-6068 | Drawn2ArtStudios.com/Cornelius
 Cornelius@Drawn2ArtStudios.com


CAROLINA'S VEIN & VASCULAR SOLUTIONS
Dr. Martin Carignan
 Vascular Surgeon, Parishioner
 EXPERIENCE PERSONALIZED CARE AND COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTIONS FOR YOUR VASCULAR HEALTH JOURNEY. BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT WITH OUR TRUSTED VASCULAR SURGEON TODAY!

704-659-4499
 Mooresville, NC & Huntersville, NC
www.CarolinasVeinAndVascular.com


Nice difference.®


Christian Brothers
 AUTOMOTIVE
 Free shuttle service
 Free courtesy inspection
 Complete automotive repair
 All makes and models
 Mon - Fri: 7am - 6pm • Sat - Sun: Closed
 After Hours Drop Off


GRAINDA BUILDERS


Joe Grainda
 St. Mark Parishioner
 704.892.7640 | GraindaBuilders.com

OUR GOAL IS MENTAL WEALTH

Lake City
 PSYCHIATRY
 Medication Management for Adults 18+
 704-251-9123 • LakeCityPsychiatry.net
 500 South Main Street, Suite 113 • Mooresville, NC 28115
 (Located inside Soul Wellness)

LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED BY:
 Steve & Sherry Genenbacher
 Owners & Parishioners
ChristianBrothersAuto.com | (704) 727-0808
 16618 Old Statesville Rd, | Huntersville, NC


B&T
 FINANCIAL COACHING



Bob & Terri Langbo
 • Personal Financial Literacy
 • CPA Tax Preparation & Planning
 • Small Business Consulting & Training
704-737-0085
BTFinancialCoaching@gmail.com


God First

VM LANDSCAPE & STONE
 Call **704-277-9527** Office **704-890-8658**
Vincent Montoya
 CONCRETE & ASPHALT SPECIALIST
 Owner / Parishioner
10% OFF NEW PROJECTS WITH MENTION OF AD
 Complimentary 1st Consultation • Now Offering Financing
 Landscaping, outdoor kitchens, fire-pits, fireplaces, retaining walls, patios, fences and much more!
Vmlandscapeandstone.co


GARAGE LIVING

GARAGE FLOOR COATINGS
 CABINETRY
 CAR LIFTS
 SLATWALL ORGANIZATION
 OVERHEAD STORAGE
 Visit our Huntersville showroom
704.897.7298
garageliving.com/charlotte


BEAUTIFUL, ORGANIZED GARAGE INTERIORS.


K&B
 INTERIORS
980.328.1144
kbinteriorscc@gmail.com
kandbinteriors.com
Kitchen & Bath • Remodeling
New Construction • Interior Design
 Cabinets, Countertops, Trim, Custom Carpentry

Kevin + Blanca
 Parishioners



CAROLINA
ORAL & FACIAL
SURGERY

WISDOM TEETH
IV SEDATION
DENTAL IMPLANTS
EXTRACTIONS

MICHAEL J. COLEMAN, DDS
PARISHIONER
MICHAEL J. FORAN, DMD

704.892.1198
CAROLINAOMS.COM

LAKE NORMAN'S TRUSTED
CHOICE FOR ORAL SURGERY
SINCE 1985



JAMES
FUNERAL HOME
CEMETERY & ONSITE CREMATORY

NORTHLAKE
MEMORIAL GARDENS
A PERPETUAL CARE CEMETERY

The Closest Funeral Home to St. Mark

Lake Norman's Only Family Owned
Funeral Home, Cemetery & Crematory Combination
jamesfuneralhomelkn.com | 704-584-9004 | northlakememorial.com

Traditional Funerals • Cremation with Memorial Service
Service with Cremation to Follow • Graveside Services
Transportation of Remains to or from Anywhere in the World

Our Cemetery Includes Catholic Consecrated Gardens



EXTERIOR HOME
Repair

Integrity in
every nail and
every detail

TODD DRIVER 678-768-4159
INFO@EXTERIORHOMEREPAIR.NET LICENSED | BONDED | INSURED



GREAT SELECTION OF BURG'RS, BEER & WINE

CRAFTY BURG'R
HAND CRAFTED BURG'RS
EST. 2015

HAND CRAFTED BURG'RS.
UNIQUE SIDES & APPETIZERS.

KENTON	DENVER	ANTIQUITY
17015 Kenton Dr. Cornelius, NC 28031 (704) 997-5388	547 Brentwood Rd. Denver, NC 28037 (704) 966-1820	21726 Catawaba Ave. Cornelius, NC 28031 (704) 897-7320

CRAFTYBURGR.COM Local Parishioner owned

Precision
GARAGE DOOR
SERVICE

a neighborly company

LOCAL SERVICE YOU CAN TRUST
The top rated garage door company in the Charlotte-area
Locally owned and operated
Best warranty in the business
Installs • Repairs • Tune-ups
Licensed, Bonded & Insured
(980) 243-3655
WWW.GARAGEDOORSCHARLOTTENC.COM



Reimels, Miller, Pattera
FAMILY & COSMETIC DENTISTRY

Voted "Top Dentists" 16 years
running by our colleagues!

- Comprehensive Care for Adults & Children
- Implants
- Sleep Dentistry
- Invisalign
- Sedation Dentistry

St. Mark Parishioners
~ We offer savings with a
Dental Membership Plan ~

704.948.1111 13605 Reese Blvd. W. | Huntersville
www.ReimelsDentistry.com



Dennis Wells
Golf Coaching
Learn from the Best!

- Juniors & Adults
- PGA Award Winning Junior Programs

513-200-6881
denniswells golf@gmail.com
denniswells golf.com

Parishioner
PGA Master Professional



M/I MERULLA
INTERIORS

Lake Norman
Charlotte Area
704-966-7556

Sherri Merulla
Owner/Designer
sherri@merullainteriors.com
merullainteriors.com



KITCHEN / BATH GARAGE / ADDITIONS PORCH / SUNROOM

RCB CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

10% OFF
FOR PARISHIONERS

980-299-5475 | info@rcbconstructionmgmt.com | www.rcbconstructionmgmt.com





Erie Insurance

Personal & Business
Insurance

TONY POMORSKI
Text or Call
704.777.0771
Tony@piedmont-ins.com

PROTECTING WHAT
MATTERS MOST
TO YOU



Piedmont
Insurance Associates

JMJ Construction LLC
Catholic General Contractors Serving NC
Remodels • Additions
New Construction • Handyman Services
St. Joseph the Worker, Pray for Us!
Gregory Smith & Elliot Consoli
St. Ann Parishioners
704-247-7458




BRITTIAN
CHIROPRACTIC

Drs. Tyler and Jess Slabaugh
3371 Cloverleaf Parkway
Kannapolis, NC 28083
980-248-1788
BrittianChiropractic.com

Parishioners

SCAN TO
SCHEDULE




Creative Window Coverings LLC

GRABER. | DELIGHT IN EVERY DETAIL

Quality products and superior customer service since 2000

Plantation Shutters | Blinds & Shades
704.947.9822 | www.cwcsouth.com

Bill Fitzpatrick
 Owner / St. Mark Parishioner

Alex Adams
 Parishioner for 14 years
 St. Mark & CTK Grad
704.885.4819
AJWDetailing.com
10% Discount
 with bulletin

Mobile Detailing Services
 (We come to you)

TITAN BUILT CONSTRUCTION

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL PAINTING
 KITCHEN/BATH REMODELS • BASEMENT REMODELS
 FLOORING (HARDWOOD, TILE & MORE)
 DECKS & FENCES

FREE ESTIMATE

WWW.TITANBUILTCONSTRUCTION.COM
 ASK FOR JAY HORTON • OWNER & PARISHIONER
704-777-0100 • Lic & Ins.
JHortonTitanBuilt@gmail.com

DAVID SELF
 FAMILY LAW & MEDIATION
 EXPERIENCED • HONEST • ADVOCACY

Providing clear, honest guidance and experience you can trust

DavidSelfFamilyLaw.com
 980.441.1110

WHEN IT REALLY MATTERS, WE ARE HERE FOR ALL OF YOUR FAMILY LAW NEEDS

GleamUp DETAILING

15% DISCOUNT
 for Parish Members
 (with bulletin)

(980) 309-2913

gleamupdetailing.com

We Come to You... Mobile Detailing for Cars & Boats

Segovia Cleaning Services

EXPERT CLEANING FOR YOUR SPACE
 Serving the local community since 2020

Residential Cleaning
 Move in/out Cleaning
 Commercial Cleaning
 Airbnb Turnover Services

(980) 622-6071
 Call for your FREE estimate today!

Parishioners
SegoviaCleaningServices.net

SACRED HEART DERMATOLOGY .com

Blake Sanders, D.O.
 Board Certified Dermatologist

Privately Owned Clinic - Accepting New Patients
170 Medical Park Rd | Suite 203
Moorseville, NC 28117
(980) 550-2400

REMMEY
 Antiques of Fine Art Appraisers

Remmey Antiques & Fine Art is an appraisal and personal property brokerage firm located in New York's tri-state area serving also in the Davidson, NC and surrounding areas as well as S. Florida. Principal Appraisers Carolyn & Albert Remmey conduct thorough and comprehensive appraisals for estate taxes, equitable distribution, and insurance purposes. Their services include tag sales, clean outs, donation services and online auctions.

Call or Text Carolyn at **973-722-6547**
remmey@remmeyappraisers.com
www.remmeyappraisers.com

Pregnant & in college? We're here to help!

MIRAVIA
 Serving Pregnant Women & Their Children Since 1994

704-602-4806 **MiraVia.org** **info@miravia.org**

Guided by Faith, DRIVEN TO SERVE.

Mike Hege, MRE
 Broker | Realtor®
704.491.9445
mikehege.com

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR A FREE HOME VALUE REPORT!

RICARDO URIAS
 OWNER

URIAS FLOORING COMPANY LLC

uriasflooringco@gmail.com
(980) 475-7405
 Charlotte, NC
www.uriasflooringllc.com

HAMBLETON Handyman
(704) 413-4769

"Your Home Repair Expert"

SERVICES:
 • Carpentry & Wood Rot
 • Drywall & Patching
 • Painting & Plumbing
 • General Repairs

Family Owned • Full-Time Employees • 10+ Years in Business

EXQUISITE "HAND MADE" CATHOLIC SACRAMENTALS
THE VERY FINEST QUALITY PIECES!
 (MADE FROM AUTHENTIC GEM STONES, CZECH "FIRE POLISHED" GLASS, ETC...)
 HOLY ROSARIES / CHAPLETS (TO THE VARIOUS SAINTS)
 7 SORROWS OF OUR LADY CHAPLETS / BENEDICTINE DOOR HANGERS
 CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN BRACELETS & MUCH MORE!

Chuck Koury (Artist) / BandOfTheLeaf.Etsy.com / Parishioner @ St. Therese Since 1963

PLEASE VOTE for Fellow Parishioner

Dan Boone
 Huntersville Town Commissioner & prioritize public safety and first responders.

Election: November 4, 2025
Early Voting: October 16-November 1

www.danbooneforhuntersville.com
 PAID FOR BY THE DAN BOONE ELECTION COMMITTEE

ALEXANDRA LE LONG
 REALTOR • BROKER

ALEXANDRA LE LONG
 Broker & Parishioner
(704) 996-9424
Alex.Lelong@allentate.com
 19460 Old Jetton Rd., Cornelius, NC 28031

Pediatric Physical Therapy for your child in your own home!
 Call Sarah today for a free 15-minute phone consultation!

Growing Strong
growingstrongpt.com
(980) 399-3353

Sarah Obermiller, PT
 Parishioner

62% of Seniors Overpay for Medicare Plans!
 Turning 65 Soon? Already on Medicare? Are You Getting All the Benefits You Qualify for? You Have Questions. I Have Answers. I will help find a plan that's right for you!

MARIA HANSEN
 St. Therese Parishioner
704.756.9213

PLUS I Have Health Insurance Plans for ALL AGES!

WHITE AND HAINES
advanced dentistry
General & Cosmetic Dentistry

Steven M. White, DDS, PA | Parishioner
Brad S. Haines, DDS, PA
Claire E. Papp, DMD
704.896.9535
drswwhiteandhaines.com

9725 Caldwell Commons Circle Cornelius, NC 28031



Mention this Ad for a Free T-Shirt!

BALLAS CHIROPRACTIC
Whole Health Wellness Center


WHOLE HEALTH WELLNESS CENTER
St. Mark Parishioners
NECK PAIN | BACK PAIN | HEADACHES
704.896.8080
9718-D Sam Furr Road
(Located across from Target)

Find us on facebook

www.BallasChiropractic.com



Bob Gordon
516-551-7838
robert.gordon@kofc.org
Fraternal Benefits Advisor



**Faith guides your life,
why not your financial
decisions?**

For over 140 years, the Knights of Columbus has been committed to helping families plan their financial future and achieve economic security, a tradition carried on today through its insurance products.

Book a complimentary financial needs analysis today.

No purchase necessary.
1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510

Birkdale Audiology
Advanced Hearing Care

Advanced Hearing Care Services

- Comprehensive Diagnostic Hearing Tests
- Communication Needs Assessments
- Hearing Aid Fittings and Repairs
- Tinnitus Evaluations & Management
- Ear Wax Management
- Custom Ear Molds

Kelly Knolhoff, AuD.
Doctor of Audiology • St. Mark's Parishioner
704.237.4099
www.BirkdaleAudiology.com

8936 Northpointe Executive Park Dr | Ste 195 | Huntersville, NC 28078



PRODUCCIONES VALLE
FOTOGRAFIA Y VIDEO PROFESIONAL
CALIDAD Y BUEN SERVICIO

15 AÑOS Y BODAS
704 780 8215 AGUSTIN VALLE



COLEMAN & DASTRUP
DENTISTRY ELEVATED


Dennis Coleman, DDS
Parishioner
Joseph Dastrup, DDS



GENERAL, FAMILY & COSMETIC DENTISTRY
www.dentistryelevated.com

460 S. Main Street, Suite #101 | Davidson, NC 28036 | 704-892-6602

LAKE NORMAN ORTHODONTICS
Dr. Anne Marie Payne
704-896-8452 www.lknortho.com



Guided by Faith,
Committed to Justice.

Personal Injury & Employment Lawyers
Experience & skills matter. Work with us when you need it most.
harmanlawnc.com 704.286.0947
Personal Injury | Employment Law | Workers' Comp
Estate Planning | Social Security Disability



ELITE ROOF & SOLAR

Call Elite when you need a new 'ROOF'!

704.992.7474
eliteroofandsolar.com

MICK KOSTER, Co-owner & Parishioner



ADVERTISE HERE

Promote your Business AND support your Parish. Give us a call! 800-292-9111

Better Homes and Gardens REAL ESTATE

PARACLE Steve Keane, MS
Broker/Realtor® | Navy Veteran | Parishioner
Member of the Knights of Columbus
Ancient Order of Hibernians

Trust, Commitment, Excellence.

I treat all my clients like family!
Please do not hesitate to reach out for a NO obligation consultation.

@stevekrealtornrc

Direct: 781.850.6553
skeane@paraclerealty.com



WOODARD LUXURY TRAVEL
Your Refined Journey Awaits... join us!

Donny Woodard 980-483-3620
St. Mark Volunteer & Parishioner

UPCOMING HOSTED TRIPS

May 2026 – Catholic Pilgrimage:
Fatima, Spain, & Lourdes with Fr. Martinez
Fall 2026 – TBD

Visit
WWW.WOODARDLUXURYTRAVEL.COM
for more details

