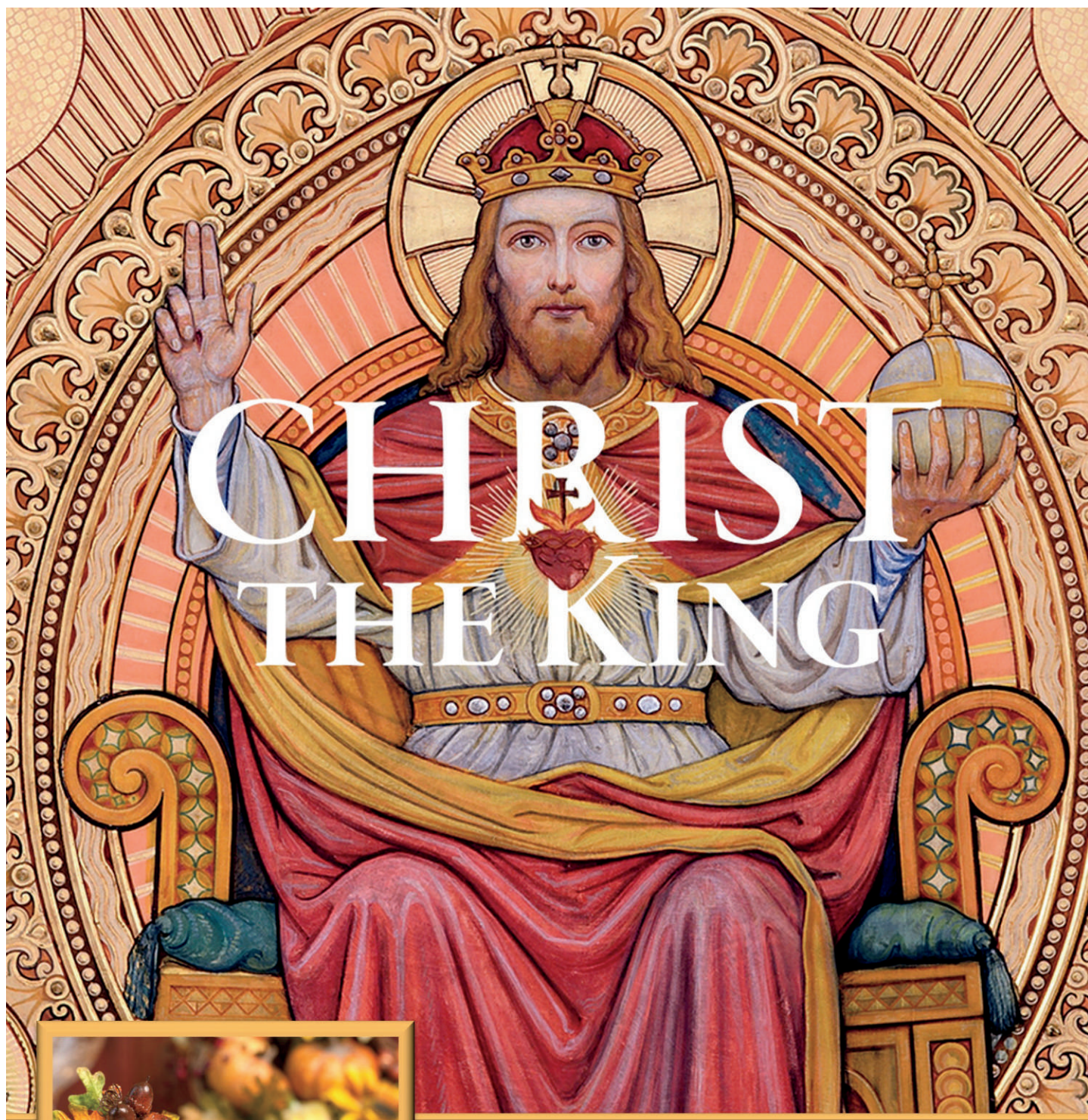




CHRIST THE KING



HAVE A BLESSED THANKSGIVING!

Join us for Mass, November 27, 9 am

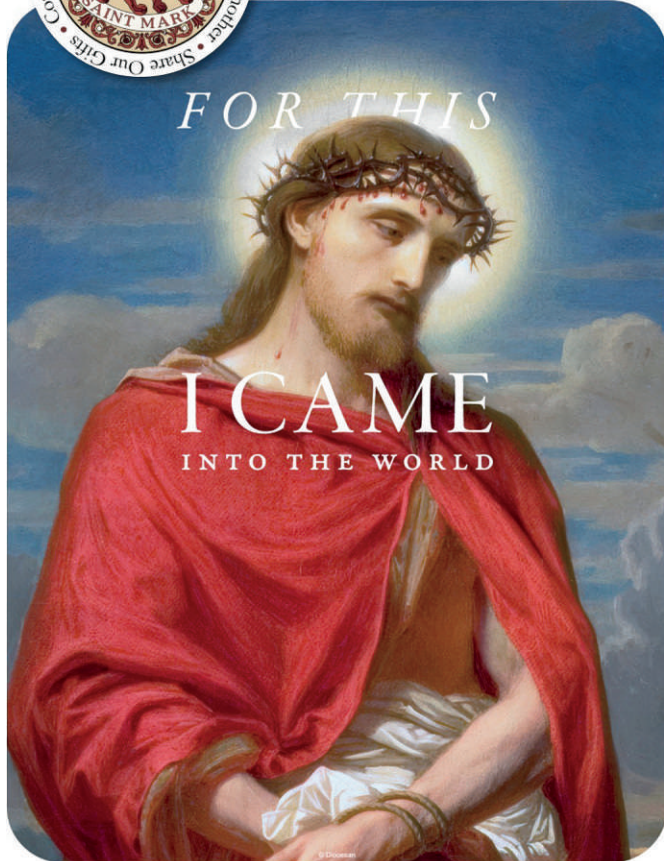
See page 3.

SAINT MARK

Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, November 23, 2025, Español página 15



Welcome to St. Mark



Today we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King, the final Sunday before we begin a new liturgical year. The readings can be found on page 1076. 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. **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, we invite you 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



On this Feast of Christ the King, our readings show us that we serve the greatest of Kings, who is at the same time the humblest of Kings. Christ is the perfect model of servant leadership. And what an indescribable privilege that He has called us to be servant leaders — stewards in the work of advancing His Kingdom.

In our second reading, from St. Paul's letter to the Colossians, Paul describes the great power and dignity that characterize Christ the King. "All things were created through him and for him. He is before all things and in him all things hold together." It makes you want to stand up and cheer. That's our King!

Yet, what a contrasting description of the same King we find in our Gospel passage, from Luke. Now we see our King nailed to the Cross. Everyone from

rulers to soldiers, to the criminals on either side of Christ is mocking, sneering, and reviling him. They tauntingly urge him to prove His kingship by coming down from the Cross to end his suffering with a great show of power. "if you are the King of the Jews, save yourself."

But He does not. Amazingly, it is in this moment of seeming-weakness and humiliation, when all appears hopeless and lost, that the full breadth of his greatness as king is displayed. Though all things were created through and for Him — Christ chooses to live entirely for others, for us!

What does this mean for us as his followers and stewards of His kingdom? It is precisely that our lives are not about us. They are about Christ and others. And we will advance his kingdom to the extent that we embrace this mindset: my life is not about me; it is about serving the King of kings. © Catholic Stewardship Consultants, 2025

A handwritten signature in purple ink, likely belonging to the pastor.

FOR THIS I WAS BORN AND FOR THIS I CAME INTO THE WORLD

✕
Christ the King Sunday

**Happy Thanksgiving from
St. Mark! We are thankful
for every one of you.**

Here is the official prayer from the Book of Blessings that you can pray on Thanksgiving Day:

God most provident, we join all creation in raising to you a hymn of thanksgiving through Jesus Christ, your Son.

For generation upon generation peoples of this land have sung of your bounty; we too offer you praise for the rich harvest we have received at your hands.

Bless us and this food which we share with grateful hearts.

Continue to make our land fruitful and let our love for you be seen in our pursuit of peace and justice and in our generous response to those in need.

Praise and glory to you, Lord God, now and forever. Amen.



Include Mass in Your Thanksgiving Traditions

THANKSGIVING DAY MASS
and
BLESSING OF THE BREAD

Thursday, November 27, 9 am

This Thanksgiving, in the midst of the traditions that you and your family have, give thanks to God for the many blessings He has bestowed upon you.



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
Vic Crognale
Janice D'Angelo
Sheila DeArmon
Judy and Rich Deboer
John Deluca
Henry Diener
Charlie Donovan
Jane & William Drogoun
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
Valeria Gerbasi
Denny & Monica Golden
Tom Goodwin

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

Josette Grace
Robert Graham
Paige Grieshop
Rachel Grieshop
Hank Griffin
John Grivizas
Helen Haddad
Madeline Louise Henwood
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
Margaret Lynch
Dr. Sivaramalingam
Manickavasagar
Rosina Marcucci
Vernon McCord
Cathy Milligan
Terry Milstead
Lucille Modica
Vincent Montoya
Mary Morgan
Haleigh Moss
Elizabeth Mulligan
Jamie Mulvihill
Angeles Murphy
Maria Magdalena Murphy
Carl Muti
Paul Nealon Jr.
Paul Sr. and Sally Nealon
Margaret Nelson
Joann Nigro

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
Joette Reid
Lindsay Remington
Butch Remesch
Lola Rodriguez
Maria Rubinos
Thomas Rynne
Phyllis Searles
Daniel Sheffield
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, November 23

7:30 am † Pat Nestor
9 am Father Christian Goduti
11 am † Roger Porubsky
1 pm † Epigmenio Martinez Domingues
5 pm St. Mark Parishioners

Monday, November 24

7 am Toria Capri Stevens
9 am † Jean Misner

Tuesday, November 25

7 am Jim & Judy Wagner
9 am † Carlos Velez

Wednesday, November 26

7 am † Philip Eigenbauer
6:30 pm Purgatorial Society Mass

Thursday, November 27

9 am † Bruce Milstead

Friday, November 28

7 am † Mabel & Thomas Griffith
9 am Joyce Heggie
7 pm Tiana Willis

Saturday, November 29

9 am Gabriela Gallese
5 pm St. Mark Parishioners

Sunday, November 30

7:30 am Ron & Kathleen Haley
9 am † Kathy Harmer
11 am † John Burger
1 pm † Ricardo Lora
5 pm † Anna Royko

† deceased

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Scripture Readings for the Week of November 23, 2025

Sun. Solemnity of Christ the King of the Universe
2 Sm 5:1-3; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5; Col 1:12-20; Lk 23:35-43
Mon Dn 1:1-6, 8-20; Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56; Lk 21:1-4
Tues Dn 2: 31-45; Dn 3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61; Lk 21:5-11
Wed Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28; Dn 3:62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67;
Lk 21:12-19
Thurs Dn 6:12-28; Dn 3:68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74; Lk 21:20-28
Fri Dn 7:2-14, Dn 3:75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81; Lk 21:29-33
Sat Dn 7:15-27; Dn 3:82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87; Lk 21:34-36
Sun Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Rom 13:11-14; Mt 24:37-44

ONLINE
GIVING

Planned
Proportionate
Consistent



Thank you for
sharing your gifts.
You may give
online at:
[stmarknc.org/
online-giving](http://stmarknc.org/online-giving)

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 were remembered October 29.

Shawn Hudgins

The following members will be remembered November 26.

Sharon Sheridan

Maurice Stuhrenberg

STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship Spotlight: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Growing in Christ, Serving One Another, Sharing Our Gifts, and Connecting in Faith.

As we celebrate the feast of Christ the King, it is a good time for special reflection on Holy Communion and the grace we receive in the true body, blood, soul, and divinity of Christ. "Then he took the bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body, which will be given for you; do this in memory of me.'" (Luke 22:19). May we never take for granted this gift which strengthens us and increases our unity with Christ, our King.

Our spotlight this week highlights a ministry that helps ensure the availability of Holy Communion for all those who need it. Our bishops, priests, and deacons are ordinary ministers of Holy Communion by the authority of their ordination. In a church the size of St. Mark, more than ordained ministers are needed to distribute Holy Communion effectively during weekend Masses and to those who are homebound, in nursing homes, assisted living facilities, or hospitalized. Lay parishioners answering the call to serve in this way become Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.

Training is provided to ensure proper reverence, consistency, and a safe environment in accordance with church norms. In a statement of welcome to this ministry Father John notes that these volunteers, "...not only respond to their Baptismal call to serve the people of God, but make a commitment to Christ through their dedication and evangelization as instructed at the end of Mass: 'Go and Announce the Gospel of the Lord.' They share in Christ's loving ministry to His people as they visit with or offer the Eucharist."

If you feel called to serve in this way, please reach out to Deacon Tom McGahey, who coordinates the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion for the Homebound at TEMcGahey@rcdoc.org or 704-577-6229; or Ralph Wearsch, who coordinates the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at Mass at rwearsch.em@gmail.com or 704-906-7031.

2026 Liturgical Calendars

Calendars for the 2026 Liturgical Year are now available! Please pick one up in the Narthex after Mass this weekend — while supplies last.

Thank you to James Funeral Home for generously underwriting our annual calendar giveaway.

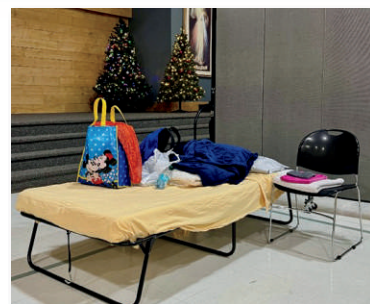
Ongoing Food Collection

When: *Anytime*

Where: *Narthex Bin*

Please remember to bring non-perishable food donations with you anytime you come to the church. We have a permanent food collection bin inside the entrance of the church. Volunteers take this food every week to various food pantries in Huntersville and Charlotte. Grocery gift cards (\$25) can also be left in the parish office.

Thank you.



Room in the Inn (RITI)

Room in the Inn (RITI) is a ministry that serves the homeless, or neighbors, in the Charlotte area by providing meals and overnight accommodations in the Parish Hall at St. Mark. We offer a safe place to sleep, hot breakfast, a bag lunch, and laundry service. RITI operates in the winter months, from December through March. The program is coordinated by Roof Above in Charlotte, an organization that serves the homeless in many ways. St. Mark has been an active participant in RITI since 2013, having served hundreds of people during that time with the help of hundreds of volunteers.

For 2025-2026, we will now serve on **Thursdays**, about twice a month.

If you are interested in helping organize for this year, please contact Bob Langbo (rwlangbo@outlook.com) or Sue Bruce (smbruce99@gmail.com).

For more information on RITI, visit www.stmarknc.org/RITI.

Christmas Giving Tree



Thank you to everyone who selected Christmas Giving Tree ornaments and to the many volunteers who help with this huge outreach effort!

WHAT TO DO NOW?

1. **ALL GIFTS MUST BE RETURNED BY THIS SUNDAY NOVEMBER 23!** We will collect at the POD in the parking spaces next to the Family Center.
2. There are still plenty of children, elderly, and those in need that still have tags on the tree. Even though they are all gift cards, they are for specific people at the partner organizations, MiraVia and Daughters of the Virgin Mother, for example.
3. **GIFT CARDS ARE STILL NEEDED:** Please make an online donation to at stmarknc.org/Christmas-Giving-Tree or scan the code.

Your generosity helps share the love of Christ and the true spirit of Christmas with those who need it most!

ADVENT 2025

Advent Starts Next Sunday: Free Catholic Advent Resources

Looking for a simple way to prepare your heart—and your household—this Advent? We have put together a list of free daily email devotions for adults and family-friendly activities for children.



Daily Email Devotions for Adults:

Dynamic Catholic: Best Advent Ever

Dynamic Catholic (Matthew Kelly) offers a daily email with an uplifting video reflection and simple spiritual practice to help you live the season with intention. The content is engaging and easy to share with family members. Free at dynamiccatholic.com/advent.

Loyola Press: Advent Inspiration Emails

Loyola Press provides daily Advent messages featuring brief reflections, seasonal prayers, and Ignatian insights. These thoughtful, spiritually rich emails offer a meaningful way to begin or end each day of Advent. Free at loyolapress.com/advent.

Relevant Radio: Advent Inspirations

Relevant Radio delivers a daily email that includes a short prayer, a brief teaching, and an encouraging story—simple, uplifting, and suitable for all ages. A great option for busy households. Free at relevantradio.com/advent.

Catholic Apostolate Center: Advent Daily Reflections

The Catholic Apostolate Center shares daily reflections rooted in Scripture and the spiritual tradition of the Pallottine Fathers. Each message includes saint quotes and practical ideas for living Advent more prayerfully. Free at catholicapostolatecenter.org/advent.

Advent Resources for Children & Families:

Holy Heroes: Advent Adventure

Holy Heroes offers a free online Advent Adventure with daily videos, quizzes, printable activities, and simple prayers for children. Full of joy and solid Catholic content, it's made especially for families with young kids.

Free signup with young kids. Free signup at adventadventure.com.

FORMED: Rooted: Rediscover the Jesse Tree (Kids' Jesse Tree Series)

FORMED's Jesse Tree series provides short daily videos and printable ornament coloring pages that help children connect the story of salvation history to the coming of Christ. Perfect for a family tradition. Free with a FORMED account at daily.formed.org/advent. (Free account at formed.org/signup enter St. Mark.)



Loyola Press: Children's Advent Calendar & Activities

Loyola Press offers a printable Children's Advent Calendar with daily ideas for prayer, service, or reflection. Additional activities and prayers make this ideal for families or faith-formation classes. Available at loyolapress.com (search "Children's Advent Calendar").

Sadlier: Advent Prayers & Activities

Sadlier provides a downloadable set of Advent prayers and activities for children—available in English and Spanish. These simple, kid-friendly pages encourage prayer and good works throughout the season. Free download at sadlier.com/religion (search "Advent activities").

Brother Francis: The Days of Advent

On FORMED, Brother Francis leads children through short daily Advent episodes filled with prayer, Scripture, and simple reflections. A warm and engaging option for family viewing. Available with a FORMED subscription at watch.formed.org. (Free account at formed.org/signup enter St. Mark.)



Shop Local. Shop Catholic. Shop St. Mark.

Advent Begins Next Sunday!

The Carolina Catholic Corner has a large selection of **Advent Candles, Advent Calendars,** unique **Advent Wreaths & Candle Holders,** Christmas gifts, books, scented candles and decorations to Keep Christ in your Advent and Christmas.



CAROLINA CATHOLIC CORNER

book and gift store

Located in the Kerin Family Center. Open 7 am-9 pm. A portion of all proceeds benefit Saint Mark.

ADVENT 2025

Ladies Auxiliary Flower Sale

When: Sat. and Sun., Nov. 29 & 30
Where: In front of the church



The Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary will be selling Christmas poinsettias and flowers after all Masses the first

Sunday of Advent. They will have the flowers available for immediate purchase outside near the fountain while supplies last. Thank you for the generous support of the good work that they do for the parish. Cash or check accepted.



Prepare the Way: St. Andrew Christmas Novena

When: Pray Daily, Nov. 30-Dec. 24

St. Andrew is associated with this Christmas novena because it begins on his feast day, November 30. He holds the honor of being the first apostle to be called by Christ to follow Him. This novena is a bit different in that it does not invoke the intervention or aid of the saint himself, but is adoring, glorifying the hour of Christ's birth and seeking aid from God Himself!

The St. Andrew Christmas Novena is typically prayed for 25 days and continues until Christmas Eve on December 24. All you have to do is pray the short novena prayer 15 times each day; you can pray them all at once or spread throughout the day. We can't promise you will get your request, but praying is indeed a gift to the Holy Child and a beautiful way to spiritually prepare for Christmas season by reflecting on Christ's birth.

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold.

In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ, and of His blessed Mother. Amen.

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

When: Thurs., Dec. 4, 7 pm

Where: In the church

Lessons and Carols is a beautiful service that combines Scripture readings (lessons) with the singing of hymns, known as Christmas Carols. The concert tells the story of salvation history inviting us to reflect on the joy of the Incarnation — God becoming man in the person of Jesus Christ.



SOUNDS AT SAINT MARK

presents

A FESTIVAL of
NINE LESSONS & CAROLS

Thursday, December 4 at 7pm

Come experience the joy of Christmas through scripture and song!

featuring

The Saint Mark Solemn Mass Choir
Saint Mark Catholic School Chorus and Students
The Saint Mark Pueri Cantores (Children's Choir)
The Saint Mark Festival Orchestra

ADVENT

3rd Annual
**ST. NICHOLAS
 BREAKFAST**
Sunday, November 30, 2025
Following the 9 AM & 11 AM Masses

- Hot breakfast including eggs, pancakes, sausage, fruit, and juice.
- Visit with St. Nicholas
- FREE Advent Liturgical Living Resources
- FREE Family Photo Opportunity


Registration Required
Registration closes November 25, 2025, or once capacity is reached.


**SAINT MARK
 FAMILY MINISTRY**

\$7/person
 \$50 max per family



Please Support Our Deployed Military Personnel this Christmas

If you know someone in the military that is deployed and will not be home for the holidays, please email Susan Evilsizer with their name and address. We are preparing cards and care packages to send to military personnel and do this on a monthly basis. If you would like to donate items for the care packages, please contact Susan to arrange pickup. We want to make sure they know we support them; we care and are thankful for all they are doing for us and this country! Contact: Susan Evilsizer, susan.evilsizer@gmail.com



Pray for Our Military

Air Force: Airman Gregory Burke; Airman Antoinio Diaz; Lt. Col. Michael Dragoon; 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, Airman Michael F. Yellico

Army: 2nd Lt. Amelia Andretti; 1st Lt. Patrick Camatcho; 1st Lt. Sarah Camatcho; Major Robert Caraccilo; 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: DCFN Matthew J Bixler Jr.; LCDR. Matthew Giannone; SR Chase T. Golden; 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.

CHRISTMAS TREES SALE

The Knights of Columbus are announcing the annual Christmas tree sale at St. Mark's, an event held for over a decade.

Proceeds from tree sales will be directed to charities supported by the organization.

A limited number of Fraser fir Christmas trees are available in three sizes:

6-7 ft.

7-8 ft.

8-9 ft.



Wreaths are also offered in 3 different sizes with the option to add decorations for an additional fee.

Delivery to your home is also an option.

Orders can be placed by scanning the QR code or visiting stmarknc.org/koc.

Order must be received with your payment by November 28, 2025

Pickup / Delivery date will be Saturday, December 6, from 8am till 2 pm.

PARISH LIFE

Mass & Veneration of the Relics of St. Anthony of Padua

When: Mon., Dec. 8, 12 pm and 7 pm (Sp)

Where: In the church

St. Mark Catholic Church is honored to welcome two precious first-class relics of St. Anthony of Padua from the Pontifical Basilica in Padua, Italy. The relics will be accompanied by Fr. Mario Conte and Fr. Fabio Turrisendo, Franciscan Friars from the Basilica where the saint is buried.

About the Relics

Two reliquaries will be present:

- A golden bust containing layers of skin from St. Anthony's cheek
- A free-standing reliquary containing a fragment of his floating rib

These relics have been venerated by Pope Francis, Saint John Paul II, Saint Mother Teresa, Pope Benedict XVI, and Servant of God Sr. Lúcia of Fatima.

Veneration & Prayer Petitions

After each Mass, the faithful may venerate the relics and participate in the worldwide tradition of writing prayer petitions to St. Anthony. Cards, pens, and holy cards will be provided. All petitions will be brought back to the saint's tomb in Padua, where the Franciscan Friars will pray for each intention.

Who Is St. Anthony?

Born in 1195 in Lisbon and a brilliant Franciscan preacher, St. Anthony died in 1231 at the age of 35 and was canonized within a year, one of the fastest canonizations in Church history. Known for his miracles, teaching, and powerful intercession, he was declared a Doctor of the Church in 1946. While famous for helping find lost items, St. Anthony is also a patron for those seeking faith, family harmony, health, hope, peace of mind, and trust.

All are invited to join us for this special day of grace and to seek the intercession of one of the Church's most beloved saints.



Exclusive Film Screening: *Triumph of the Heart*

When: Mon, Dec. 1;

Doors Open 6:15 / *Movie* 6:45 pm.

Where: Kerin Family Center Parish Hall

St. Mark's Young Adult Ministry is thrilled to host a special screening of *Triumph of the Heart* – the moving true story of St. Maximilian Kolbe, the Franciscan priest who offered his life in exchange for another prisoner at Auschwitz during World War II.

All are invited to come and be inspired by this powerful witness of faith, courage, and sacrificial love. This screening is open to all diocese parishioners, families, and friends. Free admission; RSVP to Quinn Ostendarp at quinnodarp@gmail.com.

Join us for this unique opportunity to encounter the heroic story of St. Maximilian Kolbe on the big screen!

More about the movie at triumphoftheheart.com

Ages 14+, PG-13

PARISH LIFE

Millions of Monicas - One Hour, One Purpose, Our Children

When: Wed. after 6:30 pm Mass,
Thur. 10 am

Where: St. Mark Church – left transept

This ministry invites mothers, grandmothers, godmothers, aunts and other women to pray for our children's return to the faith. Join us for prayer, intentions and the rosary – with petitions to St. Monica and the conversion of souls.

Contact: KC at nccnms1@yahoo.com,
Kathleen at kmr10nc@gmail.com



For More Information Visit
www.millionsofmonicas.com

Young Adult Ministry

If you are 21 -39 and looking for ways to connect with other faithful, our Young Adult Ministry would love to have you join them. Activities include both group study and social events. This group may be especially helpful for those new to the parish or otherwise looking to build new friendships.

The best way to learn about upcoming events for this ministry is through their GroupMe address by scanning the QR code.

Contact: Sean Meier at
seanmeier1@gmail.com



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, and Pregnancy.

Stephen Ministry is here to serve you, so you don't have to suffer alone. For more information, please contact either Rich Kull at rkull@optonline.net Leanne Vaccaro leanne.vaccaro@stmarknc.org or visit our website at stmarknc.org/Stephen-ministry.

Prayer & Praise Night

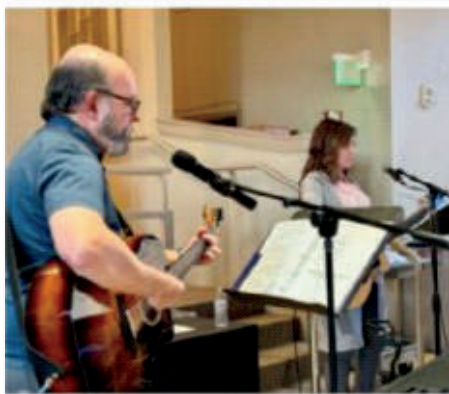
When: Tue., Nov. 25, Rosary at 7 pm
Prayer and Praise 7:30-8:30 pm

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 date: December 9

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



Coming Up at Saint Mark

Tuesday, November 25

Prayer & Praise

Sunday, November 30

Advent Begins

St. Nicholas Brunch

Monday, December 1

Triumph of the Heart Film, 6:45 pm

Thursday, December 4

Nine Lessons and Carols, 7 pm

Sunday, December 7

Knights of Columbus Blood Drive

Monday, December 8

Immaculate Conception

Holy Day of Obligation, Offices closed

St. Anthony Relic Mass and Veneration

Tuesday, December 9

Prayer & Praise

Friday, December 12

Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Saturday, December 13

Parish-Wide Holiday Celebration

December 15-23

Posada, nightly, Spanish

Thursday, December 25

Christmas

Thursday, January 1

Solemnity of Mary, Holy Day, Offices Closed

Saturday, January 3

First Saturday Dinner

Saturday, January 10

Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest

Volunteer Appreciation Event

Saturday, January 17

Meal Packaging Event

Monday, January 19

Martin Luther King Day, Offices Closed

February 7 and 8

Women's Welcome Retreat

February 11

Young at Heart Luncheon

Saturday, February 14

Marriage Date Night

Wednesday, February 18

Ash Wednesday

Friday, February 20

Knights of Columbus Fish Fry

Monday, March 9

St. Serra Mass

PARISH LIFE

Thank You from Walking with Moms in Need!



A huge thank you to St. Mark Parish and School for sharing your gifts of time, talent, and treasure, and living the life of a faithful steward. Your continued generosity and support of the many outreach efforts that Walking with Moms in Need held for our community this fall was unprecedented.

One woman writes, "Thank you so much. The formula makes me wanna cry! It's all so expensive and hard to keep up sometimes. I feel so touched and blessed."

Another agency wrote, "We wanted to extend our sincere gratitude for the overabundant supply of diapers, wipes, and clothing WWMIN has supplied to us over the past month."

"We are truly grateful to your group and Saint Mark for helping us fulfill our mission in serving moms and babies in need," and another, "Your willingness to

serve made the walk a tremendous success!"

Highlights:

- Collected more than 12,150 diapers, 550 wipes, and 75 containers of formula from St. Mark parishioners and St. Mark Catholic School families.
- Collected carloads of bags, bins, and boxes of gently used baby clothing.
- Donated all of these items to Ada Jenkins, Angels & Sparrows, Caterpillar Ministries, Catholic Charities, Cook Community Clinic, Hope House, Huntersville Police Department, Neighborhood Care Center, Nurses Serving Our Neighbors, MiraVia, Queen City Pregnancy, the Saint Mark Coat, Toy, and Blanket Drive, and other parishioners in need.
- Raised over \$6,000 for the Walk for Life, sponsored by the Community Pregnancy Center of Lake Norman. This walk raised \$183,000 to empower women to choose life for their babies.
- Walked with more than 20 men, women, children, and grandparents in

support of life for the Community Pregnancy Center of Lake Norman's Walk for Life.

- The Giving Tree provided fifty \$25 Target gift cards for WWMIN women and babies.

- Recruited over 75 women to be a part of the WWMIN initiative.

Together, we are building a community where every mother and baby is supported, welcomed, and loved.



Two holy days, two Masses

Catholics should plan to attend two Masses over two days December 7 & 8:



Sunday, December 7

Second Sunday of Advent

Monday, December 8

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Please plan to attend Mass for each day. One Mass does not fulfill both obligations.

Alzheimer's Respite Ministry - A Place of Peace

When: Mondays 1-4 pm

Where: Kerin Family Center, Room 200

Caring for someone with Alzheimer's can be both beautiful and challenging. At Saint Mark Catholic Church we understand the deep need for companionship, spiritual support and meaningful engagement – especially in the early to moderate stages of Alzheimer's.

Our Alzheimer's Respite Ministry offers a safe, welcoming space where your loved one can experience prayer, friendship and joyful socialization. Our dedicated volunteers recognize that meaningful relationships are possible at every stage of Alzheimer's. We are here to nurture those connections with compassion and faith.

You are welcome to attend with your loved one or allow us to care for them while you receive some much-needed respite from your caregiving.

To enroll in this free program, contact: Janet Urban, jgraceart@yahoo.com or 704-236-7475.

WELCOME RETREATS

Welcome.



Congratulations to the Men Who Completed the 7th Annual Men's Welcome Retreat!

Please keep them in your prayers as they work together to form a new team and begin preparing for the 2026 retreat.

May the graces they received this weekend continue to strengthen their faith, their families, and our parish community.

NOW REGISTERING:

Women's Welcome Retreat

Come be inspired by a community of women on your faith journey.

When: Feb. 7-8, 8 am Sat. - 3 pm Sun.

Where: Kerin Family Center

Our retreats have been a life-changing experience for the women who have attended. This is your opportunity to be a part of this

amazing retreat program at St. Mark.

The 6th annual Women's Welcome Retreat will take place February 7 & 8, in the Kerin Family Center.

This is a 1.5 day women's retreat built around creating fellowship with other women of the parish where they can share their Catholic Faith and the challenges of living a Christ-centered life.

Welcome is designed to meet every lady right where she is in her faith journey, whether far away from God, seemingly close, or somewhere in between.

Created by Matthew Kelly's Dynamic Catholic organization, the retreat is led by ordinary parishioners. Participants will hear 10 inspiring witness testimonies, enjoy great food, Mass, Adoration, examine their own faith experience, and build authentic Catholic fellowship.



Space is limited. Register at stmarknc.org/welcome-retreat or scan code.

Questions?

Email Lauren at LaurenFloyd@verizon.net.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



DONATE BLOOD

Donors Receive



- PLUS -



- PLUS -



ID REQUIRED



Appointments are encouraged, please visit oneblood.org/donate-now and use sponsor code 43389



St. Mark Catholic Church
Sunday, December 7
8:30 AM - 1:30 PM

All donors will receive*:

- **\$20 eGift Card**
- **Oneblood Sweatshirt**
- **Wellness Checkup**

including blood pressure, pulse, temperature, iron count, and cholesterol screening.

Fact: Only 3% of those who are eligible actually donate blood.



ADORATION

In All Circumstances Give Thanks!

Thessalonians 5:18

By: Donna Fodale/ Adoration Coordinator

This week we will celebrate Thanksgiving. I often write about how many of us visit the chapel with heavy hearts. This week I want to focus on visiting our Lord with a thankful heart. I know that can be difficult for those of us who are struggling. Still certain passages in Scripture instruct us to do that very thing.

I remember going through a difficult time. I was complaining to anyone who would listen to me about my circumstances. One of my brothers, who I love dearly and who was very patient with me said "Donna... get a pen and a piece of paper. I want you to write three things that you are thankful to God for.

'Right now, I asked?' "Yes, he said, right now!

He then said to do this every day for the next week and then check back with him. My brother was never one for long phone conversations. So, at first, I thought he was just rushing me off the phone. However, if you knew my brother and the transformation that took place in his own life, you would know that this advice could only help me grow in my relationship

with the Lord and he would never steer me wrong.

And so, it began. Every day I would write at least three things that I was thankful for. While the Lord certainly wants us to ask for what we need, He also wants us to thank him for the blessings that he gives us daily. Even on my worst days I could find more than three things to be thankful for.

So, this week I want to invite you to go to the Adoration chapel and sit before our Lord with a heart of thanksgiving. This, I am sure, will greatly please Him! Maybe get a pen and a piece of paper and make it a part of your daily routine if you do not do so already. Here are some scripture passages that remind us to give thanks.

Thessalonians 5:18 – In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.

Colossians 4:2 – Persevere in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.

Psalms 106:1 – Give thanks to the Lord, who is good, whose mercy endures forever.

Finally, I want you to know that my list today and everyday includes being thankful for all our Adorer's. You are all a blessing! May God bless you and all those you love. Happy Thanksgiving and thank you for making time to spend with Jesus!

If you are interested in becoming a weekly Adorer, please, register at: www.stmarknc.org/adoration.

Can't commit to an hour then become a sub. For more information on being a sub please email: donna.fodale@stmarknc.org

LIFE TEEN



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Jesus Christ, King of the Universe | Sacred Art

Sit down with Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp as they explore Catholic theology through the lens of Sacred Art. In this episode, they discuss the Solemnity of Jesus Christ, King of the Universe.

Our parish has a free Formed subscription for you! Simply scan the QR code or visit formed.org/signup to create your account and select our parish to get free access to this content and much more!



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. 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

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

Annulments, OCIA

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deacon.rich@stmarknc.org
704-948-0231, Ext. 113

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Donna.fodale@stmarknc.org
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Sarah Boyd (Formerly Rider)
sarah.boyd@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, ultreys 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

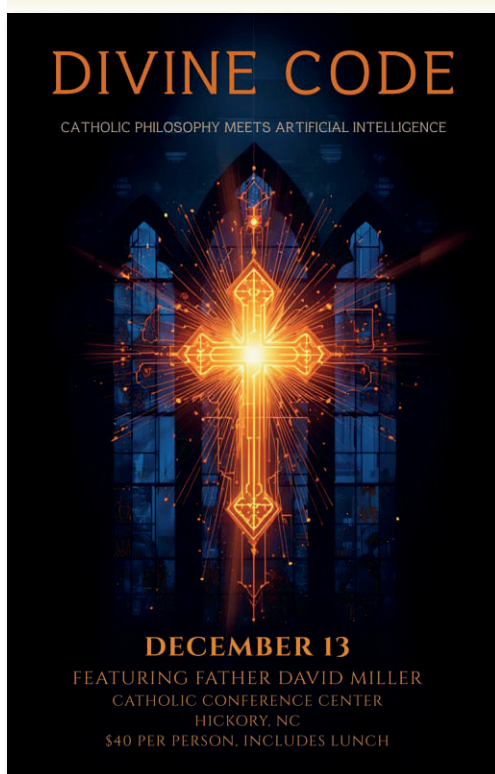
Divorce Support Group

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



AROUND THE DIOCESE



Divine Code Conference: Catholic Philosophy Meets Artificial Intelligence

Featuring Fr. David Miller

When: Sat., Dec 13, 9:30 am-3:30 pm

Where: Catholic Conference Center,
1551 Trinity Ln, Hickory, NC

The cost is \$40 dollars, includes lunch.
Pay on the Catholic Conference Center
website, catholicconference.org, or in
person upon arrival.

I AM THE
ALPHA AND OMEGA,
THE ONE WHO IS
AND WHO WAS
AND WHO IS TO COME,
THE ALMIGHTY
Revelation 1:8

Retrouvaille Marriage Help

Retrouvaille offers a welcoming and loving space to couples who have been living with the misery of a failing marriage. Retrouvaille offers hope: hope that it is not too late, hope for a different and better marriage. Retrouvaille helps couples to show each other mercy through the opportunities it provides to listen, to forgive, to be reconciled and to move into their futures believing that God loves them and, with His help and their efforts, their marriages can be healed and restored. For over 48 years, Retrouvaille has provided help for marriage problems/difficulties/ crises. For more information about an upcoming Retrouvaille Weekend program in Charlotte area on January 16-18, 2026 for couples, email 3062r@helpourmarriage.org or call 727-343-6701 Website: www.HelpOurMarriage.com;

ESPAÑOL

Misa y Veneración de las Reliquias de San Antonio de Padua

Cuándo: Lunes, 8 de diciembre, 12:00
pm y 7:00 pm (Español)

Dónde: En la iglesia



La Parroquia de San Marcos tiene el honor de recibir dos preciosas reliquias de primera clase de San Antonio de Padua provenientes de la Basílica Pontificia en Padua, Italia. Las reliquias estarán acompañadas por el P. Mario Conte y el P. Fabio Turrisingo, frailes franciscanos de la Basílica donde está sepultado el santo.

Sobre las Reliquias

Habrán dos relicarios presentes:

- Un busto dorado que contiene capas de piel de la mejilla de San Antonio
- Un relicario independiente que contiene un fragmento de su costilla

flotante

Estas reliquias han sido veneradas por el Papa Francisco, San Juan Pablo II, Santa Madre Teresa, el Papa Benedicto XVI y la Sierva de Dios Sor Lucía de Fátima.

Veneración y Peticiones de Oración

Después de cada Misa, los fieles podrán venerar las reliquias y participar en la tradición mundial de escribir peticiones de oración a San Antonio. Se proporcionarán tarjetas, bolígrafos y estampas.

Todas las peticiones serán llevadas de regreso a la tumba del santo en Padua, donde los frailes franciscanos rezarán por cada intención.

¿Quién es San Antonio?

Nacido en 1195 en Lisboa y un brillante predicador franciscano, San Antonio murió en 1231 a los 35 años y fue canonizado dentro de un año, una de las canonizaciones más rápidas en la historia de la Iglesia. Conocido por sus milagros, enseñanza y poderosa intercesión, fue declarado Doctor de la Iglesia en 1946.

Aunque es famoso por ayudar a

encontrar objetos perdidos, San Antonio también es patrono de quienes buscan fe, armonía familiar, salud, esperanza, paz interior y confianza.

Todos están invitados a unirse a nosotros en este día especial de gracia y a pedir la intercesión de uno de los santos más queridos de la Iglesia.



DEL PASTOR CRISTO REY (2025)



En esta Fiesta de Cristo Rey, nuestras lecturas nos muestran que servimos al más grande de los Reyes, que es al mismo tiempo el más humilde de los Reyes. Cristo es el modelo perfecto de liderazgo servidor. Y qué privilegio tan indescriptible que Él nos haya llamado a ser líderes servidores — administradores en la obra de avanzar en Su Reino.

En nuestra segunda lectura, de la carta de San Pablo a los Colosenses, Pablo describe el gran poder y dignidad que caracterizan a Cristo Rey. "Todas las cosas fueron creadas a través de él y para él. Él está antes que todas las cosas y en él todas las cosas se unen." Te dan ganas de levantarte y animar. ¡Ese es nuestro Rey!

Sin embargo, qué descripción tan contrastante del mismo Rey encontramos en nuestro pasaje del Evangelio, de Lucas. Ahora vemos a nuestro Rey clavado a la cruz. Todos, desde gobernantes hasta soldados, pasando por los criminales de ambos lados de Cristo, se burlan, se burlan y le desprecian. Le instan burlescamente a demostrar su realeza bajando de la Cruz para acabar con su sufrimiento con una gran demostración de poder. "si eres el Rey de los judíos, sálvate."

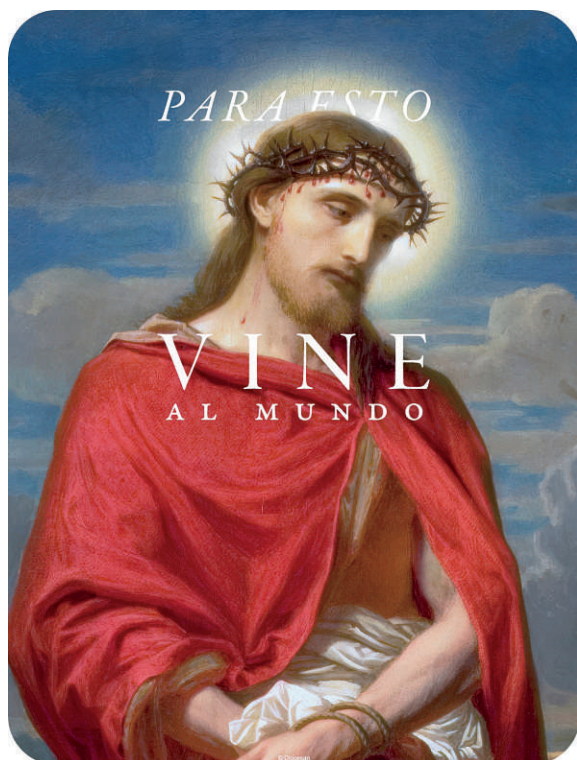
Pero no lo hace. Sorprendentemente, es en este momento de aparente debilidad y humillación, cuando todo parece perdido y desesperanzado, cuando se muestra toda la magnitud de su grandeza como rey. Aunque todas las cosas fueron creadas a través de Él y para Él — Cristo elige vivir enteramente para los demás, ¡para nosotros!

¿Qué significa esto para nosotros como sus seguidores y guardianes de Su reino? Es precisamente que nuestras vidas no giran en torno a nosotros. Son sobre Cristo y los demás. Y avanzaremos en su reino hasta la medida en que adoptemos esta mentalidad: mi vida no gira en torno a mí; se trata de servir al Rey de Reyes. ©

Consultores de Gestión Católica, 2025

YO NACÍ Y VINE AL MUNDO PARA SER TESTIGO DE LA VERDAD

✠
Domingo de Cristo Rey



Feliz Día de Acción de Gracias de parte de St. Mark.

Estamos agradecidos por cada uno de ustedes.

Aquí está la oración oficial del Libro de Bendiciones que pueden rezar en el Día de Acción de Gracias:

Dios, providente y bondadoso, nos unimos a toda la creación para elevarte un himno de acción de gracias por Jesucristo, tu Hijo.

Por generaciones y generaciones, los pueblos de esta tierra han cantado tu generosidad.

También nosotros te ofrecemos Alabanza por la abundante cosecha que hemos recibido de tus manos.

Bendícenos y bendice estos alimentos que compartimos con corazón agradecido.

Sigue haciendo fértil nuestra tierra y permite que nuestro amor por ti se manifieste en nuestra búsqueda de la paz y la justicia y en nuestra respuesta Generosa a quienes están necesitados.

A ti la alabanza y la gloria, Señor, ahora y por los siglos. Amén.



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Ingresa tu email — y ya estás inscrito.

Visita **FORMED.org** o descarga la aplicación de FORMED para iOS o Android y comienza a disfrutar de excelente contenido católico hoy mismo.






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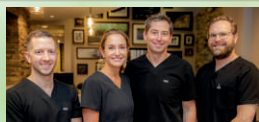
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