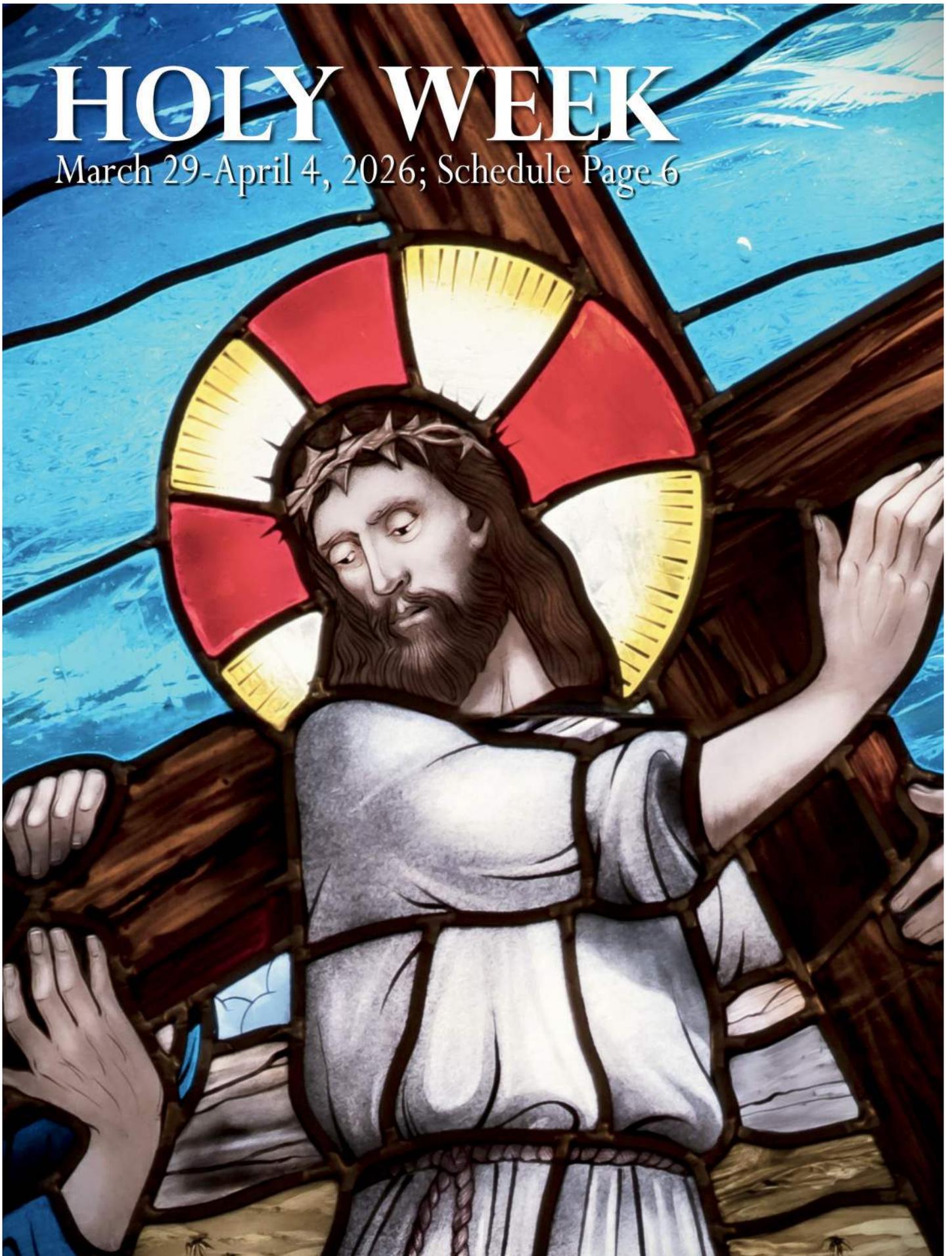
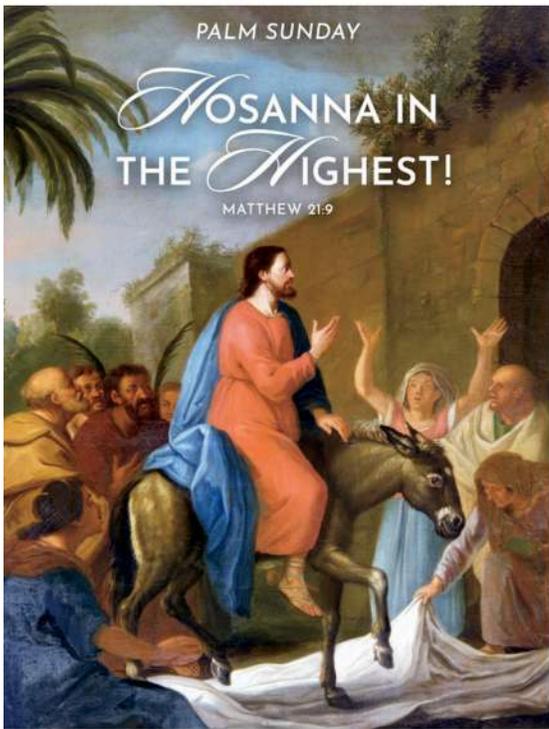


HOLY WEEK

March 29-April 4, 2026; Schedule Page 6



WELCOME TO ST. MARK!



Today is Palm Sunday! The readings can be found in the music handouts or on page 848 of the St. Augustine Hymnal. The Order of the Mass can be found on page 7.

We invite you to make St. Mark your parish home!

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.



Please join us in the Prayer to St. Michael after the Final Blessing. **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. *You may receive Holy Communion standing or kneeling.*
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.

Thank you for generously sharing your gifts with the parish.

You may make an online donation at stmarknc.org/online-giving or scan the code.



Share Our Gifts

Lord, teach me to share joyfully all that I have received.

May I never cease to thank you through my own self-giving.

I will place before you at the altar all that I have, given in faith and love. Open my heart, Lord, to your will.

Amen

FROM THE PASTOR



We begin this Holy Week with the reading of the Lord's Passion from the Gospel of Matthew. It is fitting that during this week we intensely focus our minds and hearts on the steps of our Savior

as He laid down His very life for us. But let us also examine the seemingly small acts of stewardship by some who encountered Jesus during this most eventful week.

One occurred when Jesus gave instructions about the room where He would celebrate the Passover. Jesus said, "Go into the city to a certain man and tell him..." "In your house I shall celebrate the Passover with my disciples." While we do not know this man's name, we do know he agreed to this request — he shared the material gift of his home and the gift of hospitality. Because of his good stewardship, his own home became the site of the institution of the Eucharist!

There was also Simon the Cyrenian, who offered the gift of his physical strength, helping the Lord to carry His Cross. Consider, too, the actions of Joseph of Arimathea — he generously shared a material gift of the tomb that was his, and he gave the gift of service to our Lord by giving Him a proper burial. Then there were the "two Marys" who gave Jesus the gift of their time. Keeping watch in tender vigil after His death, they "remained sitting there, facing the tomb."

Each of these were simple acts of good stewardship, yet God used them in mighty ways. God invites each of us, too, to cooperate with Him in small ways through the sharing of our time, talent, and material gifts. Small gifts can become mighty deeds when placed in God's service. © *Catholic Stewardship Consultants*, 2026.

Pastoral Pondering – Recently, a new translation of The Order of the Anointing of the Sick and of Their Pastoral Care was released by the USCCB. In keeping with our review over the last two weeks, I think it would be good to have a reminder about when it is proper to ask to receive this wonderful sacrament of healing. The following is adapted from an article by Father Dylan Shrader, an edited version of which appeared in the journal of the Society for Catholic Liturgy Antiphon 16, no. 1 (2012):52-61.

Anointing of the Sick Before Surgery: When and Why?

Many Catholics wonder: "Can I receive Anointing of the Sick just because I'm

having surgery?" It's a common question in parishes. Some assume that any procedure requiring general anesthesia carries enough risk to qualify for the sacrament. Fr. Dylan Schrader's clear article (published in Antiphon, 2012) shows why this view, though well-meaning, does not match Church teaching.

The sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is not a "good-luck charm" against surgical complications. It is a healing sacrament Christ gave specifically for those who are already suffering a dangerous bodily infirmity—a serious illness, injury, or the frailty of old age that puts them in danger of death right now. Scripture (James 5:14) and the Councils of Florence and Trent are unmistakable: this sacrament is for the sick, not for anyone facing an external danger (battle, travel, or upcoming surgery) if they are otherwise healthy.

The Church's official Ritual says anointing can be given before surgery—but only when "a dangerous illness is the cause of the surgery itself." The Catechism echoes this: it is "fitting" to receive Anointing before a serious operation for those who already qualify because of their illness. The point is pastoral wisdom, not a new rule: if someone is already sick enough to need anointing, it's better to receive the sacrament before the added stress of surgery than to risk delaying it or missing it entirely.

The special grace of Anointing does not "wear off." Once received with faith, it lasts throughout the entire period of that same infirmity, giving strength, peace, union with Christ's suffering, forgiveness of sins (if needed), and even possible physical healing. It can be repeated only if the person recovers and then falls seriously ill again, or if the same illness becomes markedly worse.

Practical Guidance for Parishioners

- If your surgery is because of a serious illness or injury (e.g., cancer surgery, heart procedure, complications from an accident), ask your priest about Anointing beforehand. He will gladly celebrate it.

- If your procedure is elective, precautionary, or cosmetic (teeth removal with no infection, knee replacement for a stable condition, organ donation, etc.), you are not yet a candidate for Anointing. The Church offers beautiful alternatives: the blessing of the sick, prayers from the Book of Blessings, or simply the sacraments of Penance and Eucharist.

- Always prepare spiritually with Confession and Holy Communion. These are available to everyone, healthy or ill.

Priests are happy to explain the sacrament and resolve any doubt in favor of celebrating it when the criteria are met. The goal is never to withhold grace but to honor the beautiful purpose Christ gave this sacrament: to strengthen us precisely in the suffering we already carry.

Christ instituted Anointing of the Sick so that, in our weakness, we might be united to His Passion and receive every grace we need to bear illness as Christians. When we understand its true purpose, we receive it with greater faith—and experience its full power. If you or a loved one faces serious illness, don't wait. Call your priest today. The Church wants you to have this sacrament at the right time, for the right reason, and with full confidence in Christ's healing love.

**CHRISM
MASS**

*St. Mark hosts the
Diocese of Charlotte
for the annual Mass.*

**Tuesday,
March 31**

3 pm

*All are invited to witness
Bishop Martin bless holy
oils for the sacraments
and watch our priests
renew their promises to
the Church.*

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please Pray For

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

Tom Addison	Jane & William	Dennis Koenig	The Ober Family
Julie Andrews	Dragoon	Jackie Kopicki	Louise Painter
Donald Arrup	Joanne Errick	Aubrey Lamb	Fernando Paverpai
Maryann Bahret	Jack Evans	Craig Leiker	Doug Peterson
Lizzy Balzer	Charles Fillipo	Carolina Liendo	Nicole & Bruce
Deidre Beck	Al Fischlein	Marie Ligon	Preiss
Richard Bidy	Alan Friedl & Family	Peter R. Loew	Angela & Gianni
Brian Blatchford & Family	Tom Fox	Kitty Long	Piraino
Virginia "Gini" Bond	Valeria Gerbasi	Wilfredo Lostaunau	Joette Reid
Kathy Brandt	Daniel Gilbridge	Margaret Lynch	Lindsay Remington
Dave Breen	Denny & Monica Golden	Utelia Malwitz	Butch Remesch
Helen Sally Buff	Tom Goodwin	Tom & Colette Manente	Thomas Rynne
Carmen Cabranes	Lucas Graf	Melissa McDonald	Phyllis Searles
Anne Caestecker	Paige Grieshop	Cathy Milligan	Mark Shields
Michelle Chicoine	Rachel Grieshop	Lucille Modica	Pennie Singh
Rod Clair	Helen Haddad	Linda Morella	Todd Singh
Jim Clark	Fran Hehn	Mary Morgan	Bill Sirnack
Beth Collins	Laura Hehn	Haleigh Moss	Robert Somerville
William Conklin	Allan Helmbrecht	Niall Mulkeen	Betsy Spartz
Vic Crognale	Madeline Louise Henwood	Elizabeth Mulligan	Alston Torres
Janice D'Angelo	Kevin Herman Sr.	Angeles Murphy	Haley Velez
Sheila DeArmon	Hannah Hopkins	Maria Magdalena Murphy	Julio Velez
Judy and Rich Deboer	Frank Hunnicutt III	Carl Muti	Kristine Yeager
John Deluca	Suzy Iskander	Paul Nealon Jr.	Margaret Yeager
Joan Demarco	Cathi Kalberier	Paul Sr. and Sally Nealon	Caroline Vogel
Henry Diener	Karen Kastl	Joann Nigro	Patricia Zeggert
Charlie Donovan	Mary Kate Knight		

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, March 29

- 7:30 am St. Mark Parishioners
- 9 am † Henry Desmond Arrup Jr.
- 11 am † Judy Taborga Palmieri
- 1 pm † Josefa Ruperto
- 4:30 pm † Molly Hall
- 5 pm † Denise Harper

Monday, March 30

- 7 am † Mr. and Mrs. Edward Cox Sr.
- 9 am † Tom Abbatecola

Tuesday, March 31

- 7 am † Sean Harrington
- 9 am † Bruce & Joan Tatur

Wednesday, April 1

- 7 am Matthew Schnur
- Diane Hoskins
- 6:30 pm St Mark Homeschool Ministry
- † Gloria Whelan

Thursday, April 2

- 7 pm † John Markovics

Friday, April 3

No Masses on Good Friday

Saturday, April 4th

- 8:30 pm OCIA Candidates and Catechumen

Sunday, April 5

- 7:30 am St Mark Parishioners
- 9 am Uppal Family
- 10 am Ray and Karen Brindley (CTK High School)
- 11 am † Margaret Hillman
- 1 pm Itsel Gomez
- 5 pm † Jose Mendoza

† Deceased



READINGS | WEEK OF MARCH 29

Sunday

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Mt 21:1-11; Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24; Phil 2:6-11; Mt 26:14-27:66 or Mt 27:11-54

Monday

Is 42:1-7; Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14; Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday

Is 49:1-6; Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday

Is 50:4-9a; Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34; Mt 26:14-25

Thursday

Holy Thursday - Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15

Friday

Good Friday of the Lord's Passion

Is 52:13-53:12; Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25; Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:1-19:42

Saturday

Holy Saturday at the Easter Vigil in the Holy Night of Easter

Gen 1:1-2:2 or Gen 1:1, 26-31a; Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20 and 22; Gen 22:1-18 or Gen 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11; Ex 14:15-15:1; Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18; Is 54:5-14; Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13; Is 55:1-11; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11; Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28; Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 or Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19; Rm 6:3-11, Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Mt 28:1-10

Sunday

The Resurrection of the Lord

Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10 or Lk 24:13-35 (Afternoon or Evening)

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

Air Force: C4C Andrew Bauders; Airman Gregory Burke; Amn Antonio Diaz; Lt. Col. Michael Dragoon; Capt. Stephen Hack; Lt. Col. Douglas Lincoln; Capt. Ryan Loyd; Alejandro Martinez; Sgt. James McCormick; SCANG Sgt. John Andrew McCormick; 2nd Lt Connor Milligan; Airman Chloe Scott; Amn Michael F. Yellico

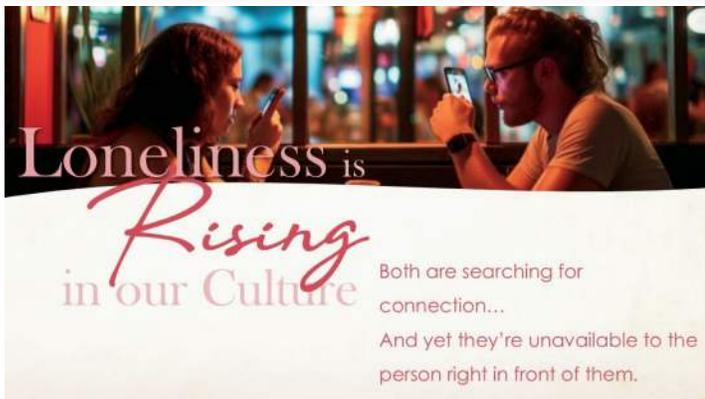
Army: 2nd Lt. Amelia Andretti; 1st Lt. Patrick Camatcho; 1st Lt. Sarah Camatcho; Major Robert Caraccilo; SSgt. Darcy Fisher; Kyle Hawk; PFC. J. Parker Hogan; Capt. John Hughes; Pvt. Chaz Margo; Maj. Daniel McCormick; 2nd Lt. Maria Morell; PV2 Matthew Pressley; Maj. Stephen J. Romeo; SSG Andrew Sales; Andrew Santos; Capt. Ramon Ricardo Tapia; Spl. Forces Nolan Tillotson; Josh Wagner; 1st Lt. Nick Worth; 2nd Lt. Matthew Zagar

Marines: LCPL. Richard Breier; Maj. Matthew Santoli; Cpl. Ben Holden; 1st Lt. Nathanael Rusciollelli

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.

MARRIAGE MINISTRY



Marriage Ministry at St. Mark *Placing Our Marriage in God's Hands*

Marriage is not sustained by effort alone. It is sustained by grace.

Christ did not leave marriage wounded after the fall. He redeemed it. He entered into our human story and made marriage a sign of His redemptive love.

That means your marriage is not meant to be lived alone. It is meant to be entrusted to Him.

One of the simplest and most powerful practices a couple can adopt is to pray together. It does not need to be long. It does not need to be eloquent. It needs only to be sincere.

This week, we invite you to pray together using the Prayer of Gratitude and Hope for Our Marriage. You may pray it during your date night, before bed, or at the beginning of your day.

Pause. Look at one another. And thank God for the gift of your marriage. Then place your future in His hands.

Lord, we place our marriage in Your hands, our past, our present, and our future. Strengthen our bond and renew our love.



SAVE THE DATE: Navigating Us!

A Summer Marriage Retreat at St. Mark

When: June 26-28

Where: St. Mark

Special marriage retreat right here at the parish! Scan the code for details.



A Prayer of Gratitude and Hope for Our Marriage

For Spouses to Pray Together:

Together –

Lord God, We pause in this moment to thank You for the gift of our marriage.

Thank You for bringing us together, for sustaining us through seasons of joy and challenge, and for the countless ways You have been present in our life together – often in ways we did not even notice at the time.

Help us to remember the blessings we have received and to trust You with the road still unfolding before us.

Husband Prays:

Lord, Thank You for the gift of my wife. Thank You for her presence in my life, for her strength, her patience, her love, and for the ways she reflects Your goodness to our family and to the world. Forgive me for the times I have failed to love her as fully as You call me to. Teach me to lead with humility, to listen with care, and to love her with the self-giving love You model for us.

Bless our future together. Give me wisdom to guide our family, courage to protect what matters most, and a heart that seeks You first, always.

Wife Prays:

Lord, Thank You for the gift of my husband. Thank You for his presence in my life, for his dedication, his effort, his love, and for the ways he provides, serves, and shows up for our family.

Forgive me for the times I have failed to love him with patience and grace. Teach me to encourage him, to trust more deeply, and to walk beside him with compassion and faith. Bless our future together. Give me peace when things feel uncertain, hope when the path feels unclear, and a heart rooted in love, faith, and gratitude.

Pray Together:

Lord, We place our marriage in Your hands – our past, our present, and our future. Strengthen our bond, renew our love, and help us to choose each other daily, with intention and grace.

May our marriage be a place of refuge, forgiveness, and joy, and may it reflect Your love to our family and to all those we encounter.

We ask this in trust and hope. Amen.

Spring Marriage Retreat

When: May 1–3, 2026

Where: Belmont Abbey College, Belmont, NC

Friday 6–8 pm

Saturday 8 am–7 pm

Sunday 8 am–4 pm



The Domestic Church Marriage Retreat is for Catholic married couples who desire to grow in holiness together. This retreat offers a renewed experience of marital spirituality, helping couples encounter Christ and grow toward sainthood. Come receive the Good News and stir up the grace of your Sacrament.

Nursing babies are welcome.

The \$150.00 registration fee includes meals and materials. Limited scholarships are available.

Register at QR code or region14.domesticchurchfamilies.com.



HOLY WEEK MASS & CONFESSION SCHEDULE

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Catholics are obligated to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation at least one time per year. We will offer additional opportunities to come to confession during Holy Week:

Mon: 6:15-6:45 am, 8:15-8:45 am
Tues: 6:15-6:45 am
Wed: 6:15-6:45 am, 6-7:15 pm
Holy Thursday: 10 am-4 pm
Good Friday: 10 am-4 pm
Holy Saturday: 10 am-4 pm

There will be no confession before Easter Masses.

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, March 30
7 and 9 am

Tuesday, March 31

3 pm Diocese of Charlotte Chrism Mass
7 am Mass only; No 9 am Mass
NOTE: The Church will be closed from 8 am-2 pm for Chrism Mass preparations.

Wednesday, April 1
7 am and 6:30 pm

Holy Thursday, April 2
Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7 pm, bilingual

Good Friday, April 3
Passion, 3 pm, 7 pm Spanish

Holy Saturday, April 4
Easter Vigil 8:30 pm, bilingual

Easter Sunday, April 5
St. Mark: 7 am, 9 am, 11 am, 1 pm Spanish
CTK: 10 am

ADORATION CHAPEL SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday
The Chapel will close at noon.

There will be simple Adoration in the Altar of Repose after the 7 pm Mass until midnight.

Good Friday, Holy Saturday, Easter Sunday
Adoration Chapel is closed.

Easter Monday
The Adoration Chapel will open after the 9 am Mass.

THE EASTER

As we enter Holy Week, our church itself becomes a guide.

The Easter Triduum, three sacred days from Holy Thursday through Easter, is one continuous liturgy unfolding the mystery of Christ's Passion, Death, and Resurrection.

The Mysteries of the Rosary, captured in our stained glass windows, lead us step by step through these sacred days. From the Institution of the Eucharist



April 2, Holy Thursday

Confession: 10 am-4 pm

Mass of the Lord's Supper
7 pm, bilingual

Incense used.

Tonight we enter the Upper Room.

We remember and celebrate Jesus' gift of the Eucharist, when He offers Himself as the true Passover sacrifice. On this night, He also gives us the priesthood, entrusting His apostles and every priest after them to continue this sacrifice in His name.

After Mass, we process by candlelight to the Family Center for Adoration at the Altar of Repose.

Altar of Repose: After Mass until Midnight

Remain with the Lord where the Parish Hall is transformed into the Garden of Gethsemane. Come, watch and pray as we recall His Agony in the Garden before His betrayal. Stay as long as you are able.

Seven Church Pilgrimage:

Visit local churches to recall the seven steps of Jesus before His Crucifixion. Many parishes throughout the diocese will have an Altar of Repose for prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.

This tradition, dating back to 16th century Rome, continues as a way to accompany Christ through the night. Prayer guides will be available. List of participating churches will be published on the Catholic News Herald website.



TRIDUUM

on Holy Thursday, to the Crucifixion on Good Friday, to the glory of the Resurrection at the Easter Vigil, these windows do more than depict the story, they invite us into it.

We do not simply remember. We walk with Christ.

Come and enter into these holy days with us!

April 3, Good Friday

A day of fasting and abstinence.

Confession 10 am-4 pm

Passion of Our Lord; Veneration of the Cross
3 pm, 7 pm Spanish



On Good Friday, we gather in silence and turn our gaze to the Cross of Calvary.

We listen to the proclamation of the Passion, entering into the suffering, crucifixion and death of Christ. The altar is bare. The tabernacle stands empty. The Church keeps watch in mourning at the foot of the Cross.

This is not a Mass. Yet we receive Holy Communion from hosts consecrated on Holy Thursday, reminding us that Christ's sacrifice is one and eternal.

At the heart of this liturgy is the Veneration of the Cross. The faithful come forward to reverence the Cross with a simple gesture, honoring the wood on which hung the Savior of the world.

Stations of the Cross, 12 pm

Pray our final Stations of the Cross of 2026. This 14-step prayer commemorates the final hours of Jesus Christ's last day on earth. This is a powerful way to enter into the Mystery of Jesus' gift of himself to us. Prayer books are provided.

Pray privately in our outdoor Stations of the Cross garden. It is located near the school entrance.

Begin Praying the Divine Mercy Novena

Good Friday through April 11; Pamphlets in the Narthex.



Begin this novena entrusted to the Church through St. Faustina, turning to the infinite mercy of Christ revealed in His Passion.

Divine Mercy Sunday, April 12
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Sung Chaplet (bilingual), Reflection, and Veneration of St. Faustina Relic.
2:45 pm, bilingual

April 4, Holy Saturday

Confession 10 am-4 pm

Blessing of the Food, 3 pm

Bring your Easter baskets/ food for a blessing.

Easter Vigil Mass

8:30 pm, bilingual

Incense Used

This holy night begins in darkness.

Outside, the new fire is kindled and the Paschal Candle is lit, and from it the light of Christ is carried into the Church. What begins in silence and shadow is gradually filled with light.

In this most solemn vigil, we keep watch and listen as the story of salvation unfolds. We pass from darkness to light, from death to life.

The waters of Baptism are blessed, and new members are brought into full communion with the Church through Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion. In them, we see the Church made new.

The Easter season begins as we proclaim with joy what has been accomplished through the Cross: Christ is risen. Alleluia.



April 5, Easter Sunday

There will be no Confession today.

Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord

Mass will be offered at 2 locations:

St. Mark Church

7 am, 9 am, 11 am, 1 pm Spanish

Incense used at 11 am and 1 pm

Christ the King Catholic High School:
10 am

CTK is located at 2011 Crusader Way, Huntersville, Hwy 73, East of Poplar Tent Road

There will be chairs and bleachers used for seating. Extended parking in the lower lot behind the school.

VIRTUES

Practicing the Virtues: Courage

On Palm Sunday the Church remembers Jesus entering Jerusalem as the crowds greet Him with palm branches and shouts of praise. Yet in the same liturgy we also hear the Passion, reminding us that Christ enters the city fully aware of what lies ahead.

The virtue we consider this week is courage.

As Fr. John often reminds us, growth in the spiritual life often happens when God transforms a vice into a virtue. The vice opposed to courage is fear. When fear takes hold, we can hesitate, withdraw, or turn away from what we know is right.

In our church, the word Courage appears above the pillar near St. Joseph, beneath the words, "Proclaim the Gospel." It is a fitting place. St. Joseph's life was marked not by dramatic moments, but by quiet, steady courage. When he said yes to God's plan, he could not have known all that lay ahead, yet he trusted and acted.

Christ shows us that same courage in its fullness. He does not avoid what awaits Him. Instead, He steps forward with clarity and resolve, embracing the Father's will even when it leads to suffering and the Cross.

As we begin Holy Week, the virtue of courage invites us to follow Christ more closely, trusting that God gives us the strength we need to remain faithful. Like Joseph, and like Christ, we are called not to turn away, but to walk forward in faith toward the life God promises.



Please Help Us Care for the Parish Grounds

Our parish grounds are a place where families gather, children play, and many people stop to pray or spend a few quiet moments near the fountain and gardens. We are grateful that so many people enjoy these spaces.

Over the past year we have made several repairs to the fountain, including installing new lights, and additional maintenance is planned this year.

Unfortunately, rocks, sticks, mulch, and other items have occasionally been thrown into the fountain, which can cause damage and costly repairs.

We simply ask parents to help remind children not to throw anything into the fountain.

Please also help care for the landscaping by not picking flowers, digging in the soil, climbing the trees, or moving the drainage rocks around the beds.

Thank you for helping us take good care of these shared spaces.

Ongoing Food Bin and Gift Card Collection

When: Anytime

Where: Narthex Bin

Please remember to bring non-perishable food donations with you any time 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.

Please do not leave anything else in the Narthex Bin. It is a hardship to the volunteers to sort through clothing and household items. We do not use these items and do not have a way to get them to people in need.

Thank you.

STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship Spotlight on the Stewardship Committee



The Stewardship Committee is a spiritually motivated group of St. Mark parishioners who live in discipleship with Christ and seek to love and serve Him and others in gratitude by embracing lives of stewardship. They recognize where the spirit of stewardship has brought St. Mark today and envision where it can take the parish and greater community in the future.

Some of the events and initiatives the Stewardship Committee works on include:

- * Developing and Maintaining the Annual Stewardship plan.
- * Connecting with and welcoming new parishioners at quarterly Meet & Greet events in cooperation with the Social Committee and Ambassadors.
- * Organizing the annual ministry fair.
- * Stewardship formation and education.
- * Stewardship renewal and commitment.

If this sounds interesting, the Stewardship Committee would love to speak with you. They are always open to new members. For more information, please contact Stewardship Committee Chair, Debi O'Bryant at stewardship.chair@stmarknc.org.

PARISH LIFE

Come Work for St. Mark! Director of Faith Formation

Saint Mark Catholic Church is seeking a full-time Director of Faith Formation to lead, oversee, and supervise the parish's comprehensive Faith Formation Department.

The Director is responsible for the strategic vision, pastoral leadership, administration, and operational management of all parish faith formation programming for children, youth, and families. The Director ensures fidelity to the teachings of the Catholic Church and alignment with diocesan policies while fostering a vibrant culture of discipleship within the parish.

This role serves as a senior parish leader and reports directly to the Director of Operations and the Pastor.

Those interested should send their resume to Scott Bruno at scott.bruno@stmarknc.org.

Preschool Substitute Teachers Needed

St. Mark Preschool is also looking for a few energetic people to join our team as substitutes. Please contact Amanda Rametta if you are interested Amanda.Rametta@stmarknc.org.



Summer Preschool Camp

Looking for a joyful way for your child to grow in faith and have some summer fun? St. Mark Preschool invites children to join us for two special weeks of summer camp filled with faith, friendship, and hands-on activities.

This year's themes will explore the Fruits of the Spirit and the lives of the Saints. Each week will include faith-filled lessons, crafts, games, and plenty of summer fun.

Cost: \$130 per week (includes a camp t-shirt). Full payment is due at the time of registration.

Camp Weeks

Week 1: *Fruits of the Spirit*, June 8–11

Week 2: *Saints*, July 20–23

To register, complete the form at www.stmarknc.org/preschool and bring it with payment to the Welcome Desk.

If your child does not currently attend St. Mark Preschool, please also complete the Authorization for Release Form and Emergency Contact Form and email them or bring them to the Welcome Desk.

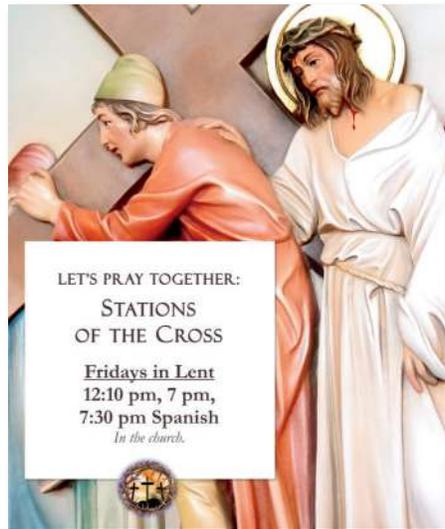
Faith Community Nursing-Volunteers Needed

Do you have a heart for caring and a passion for supporting the education and well-being of others? St. Mark's Faith Community Nursing ministry is seeking additional volunteers to join our team!

We provide health related outreach to parishioners, offering education, wellness support and compassion to those in need. As our ministry grows, we hope to expand the services we can offer to our community at St. Mark.

If you have a healthcare background and feel called to share your gifts in a meaningful and faith-filled way, we would love to hear from you. Please contact KC Shinnars for more information.

Contact: KC Shinnars, 704-458-8783, nccnms1@yahoo.com



Camino De Santiago Pilgrimage

When: Oct 27 – Nov 7 2026

Where: Spain

Hello Friends! Have you ever thought of doing a Camino walk, but didn't know where to begin? One of the most famous and sacred walking pilgrimage in the world. For over 1,000 years, millions have journeyed these ancient paths – and countless more have dreamed of it...

Well...You're warmly invited to join us on our **11 Day Camino De Santiago Pilgrimage beginning October 27, 2026!** Feel free to **share this invitation** with your family and friends – all are welcome for this beautiful experience! We can't wait for you to join us on this exciting journey! Find the full itinerary with the QR link or website below:

More Information: www.WoodardLuxuryTravel.com/events-trips

Contact: Donny Woodard, 980-483-3620, dwoodard@WoodardLuxuryTravel.com



CORRECTION: Annual Ladies Auxiliary Spring Flower Sale this Weekend!

When: Sat.-Sun., March 28-29

Where: Outside after all Masses, while supplies last

The Ladies' Auxiliary will be selling flowers after all Masses next weekend, while supplies last. Come choose from a variety of beautiful, potted spring flowers for yourself or to give as gifts. All plants \$20; cash or check accepted. Proceeds support parish and community programs.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Confession is offered every day at our parish as a way to prepare our hearts to receive God's mercy. **Additional hours are offered during Holy Week; see page 6-7 for hours and schedule changes.**

Confessions begin 45 minutes before Mass and end 15 minutes prior to the start of Mass, when the priests must begin preparing for the liturgy.

Confession lines will form down the side aisle. Please be attentive to the confessional lights:

Green: Open

Red: In Use

No Light: Confessional Closed

The Confessional will close 15 minutes prior to the start of Mass.



ADORATION



This is hard...

By: Donna Fodale/Adoration Coordinator

Today is the beginning of Holy Week, the most sacred week of the year for Catholics.

I never feel completely prepared for how this week affects me spiritually and emotionally. It is hard to imagine all that our Lord went through for us. It is hard to imagine what our sweet Mother Mary went through, seeing all that Jesus endured out of love for us.

If there was ever a time to gain a deeper understanding of that love, it is this week. We will have several opportunities this week to gather as a community to truly walk in the footsteps of the Lord and to place ourselves at the foot of the cross with the Blessed Mother. This is not an easy place to be. We gaze at Him upon the cross and know that He is there because of you and me. Willingly taking upon Himself, literally the weight of the world.

How can our hearts ever want to be separated from someone so filled with love and mercy?

Eucharistic Adoration is the extension of all that takes place this week. It is the gift of the promise that He made, that He will be with us until the end of time.

It is an opportunity (invitation) that He gives to each of us to remember the sacrifice He made and to not be like the apostles that fell asleep at a time when He needed them most.

This week the Chapel will close on Holy Thursday at 12 pm. After the Mass of the Last Supper on Holy Thursday, we will have the Holy Thursday Repose of the Eucharist. This is a significant liturgical practice that commemorates the final hours of Jesus Christ's life. It involves a solemn procession of the Eucharist to an altar other than the main altar in the church, (Kerin Center) often accompanied by the hymn "Pange Lingua.". This practice invites the faithful to approach the Altar of Repose in their own churches as well as others throughout the diocese. It is a pilgrimage for silent adoration.

This is a very special time for you to spend with the Lord. Come and enter more deeply into the mystery of our faith.

Please prayerfully consider becoming a weekly adorer.

register at: www.stmarknc.org/adoration

TO BE A SUB PLEASE CONTACT donna.fodale@stmarknc.org

ATTENTION ALL ADORER'S

ADORATION CHAPEL WILL CLOSE HOLY THURSDAY AT 12 pm AND WILL REOPEN EASTER MONDAY AFTER THE 9 am MASS

TRAVEL

Danube River Cruise and Prague Pilgrimage

When: Mar 31 – Apr 9 2027

Where: Prague, Czech Republic and the Danube River

Join **Father John Putnam** on a journey of a lifetime, combining spirituality of a pilgrimage with the beauty of a **Danube River cruise!** This remarkable experience begins with a two-night stay in **Prague**, allowing us to immerse ourselves in the historic and religious significance of this enchanting city. Our itinerary is carefully curated to offer an immersive experience, including guided tours of significant historical sites and access to religious sites. After exploring Prague, we embark on the Danube River cruise, where you'll enjoy the comfort of a well-appointed cabin and gourmet dining. The cruise features daily excursions that enhance your understanding of the region's rich cultural and religious heritage, all while providing ample leisure time to reflect and rejuvenate!

Find the full itinerary and booking information with the QR link or website below:

More Information:

www.WoodardLuxuryTravel.com/events-trips

Contact: Donny Woodard, 980-483-3620,

dwoodard@WoodardLuxuryTravel.com



Fatima Celebrates | 109th Anniversary

*Pilgrimage to Fatima, Portugal & Avila Spain
July 15- July 29, 2026*



Join Father John Putnam & Father Christopher Roux on a special pilgrimage celebrating the 109th anniversary of the Appearance of Our Lady of Fatima to Three Shepherd Children.

For more information contact The Te Deum Foundation, Inc. 980-355-8762 or visit our website: www.tedeumfoundation.org

Reservation Deadline: April 1, 2026



DIOCESAN SUPPORT APPEAL

**DIOCESAN
SUPPORT
APPEAL** 2026

TENDING *the* VINEYARD



Diocesan Support Appeal: Many Gifts, One Mission

Thank you to everyone who has already participated in this year's Diocesan Support Appeal. Your generosity helps support the mission of the Church across our diocese.

The DSA allows the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte to do together what no single parish could do alone. Through the appeal, we help form future priests in the seminary, support Catholic education and faith formation, care for those in need through Catholic Charities, and provide ministries that serve people throughout our region.

One of the most visible fruits of the DSA is the formation of seminarians preparing for the priesthood. These men are studying, praying, and discerning their vocation today so that our parishes will be served by faithful priests in the future. The support of the whole diocese helps make that possible.

If you have not yet made a gift or pledge, we invite you to participate this week. Every gift, no matter the size, strengthens the mission we share as Catholics throughout the diocese. Participation from many households allows the responsibility to be shared across the parish.

You may return a pledge envelope in the offertory basket or make a secure gift online at charlottediocese.org/dsa.

Thank you for helping the Church continue its work of forming disciples, serving those in need, and preparing future priests for the generations to come.

Saint Mark has been blessed to have many men discern the priesthood. Your donations to the DSA directly supports their formation.

Please pray for the men who have received Holy Orders, will receive them this year, and are still in formation:

Father Christian Goduti, Father Joseph Yellico, Patrick Martin, Conor White*, Bradley Loftin*, John Harrison, Elijah Buerkle, Matthew Stanley, Jeremy Smith, James Sides, Max Torres, John Yellico and Micah Burgess.*

** Will be ordained deacons in May.*



Status Update as of March 19

Goal: \$425,648.00

Pledged: \$143,502.20

Balance: \$282,145.80

Numbers of Donors: 237

Thank you!

We had 57 new donors last week.

St. Mark High School Ministry

Summer 2026 Registrations Are Open!

Please consider signing your teen up for one or both of the available camps/retreats. They are both awesome opportunities for your teen to rekindle their faith this Summer! Reach out to augustine.free@stmarknc.org with any questions.



Steubenville Conference Registration

SPACE IS LIMITED AND FIRST COME FIRST SERVED.

BOTH EVENTS ARE OPEN TO RISING FRESHMEN THROUGH GRADUATING SENIORS.



Life Teen Camp Covecrest Registration



Life Teen Camp

Steubenville Conference

Life Teen Camp

Life Teen: FINAL Theology of the Body Life Night Series

When: Sunday, March 29, 6-8 pm
Where: Parish Hall



All high school students are invited to join us for the final two evenings of our Theology of the Body Life Night series with St. Mark Life Teen.

These evenings are a great opportunity for teens to grow in faith and friendship while exploring the Church's teaching on the dignity and purpose of the human person. Each Life Night includes dinner, games, a talk, small group discussion or prayer time, and time to connect with other teens in our parish community.

Upcoming Topics
March 22: Part IV: Dating, Marriage, and the Consecrated Life
March 29: Part V: Concluding Panel Hall.

All high school students are welcome. We hope to see you there!



The Last Days
The Passion and Death of Jesus the Christ

BASED ON THE GOSPELS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

formed
Forming Catholics for Life.

The Last Days: The Passion and Death of Jesus the Christ w/ Jonathan Roumie

This filmed presentation of the theatrical production movingly recreates the final moments of Jesus' earthly ministry as a teacher through His crucifixion and death. The play has been seen by thousands worldwide, not only as a live performance but also in live streams and televised broadcasts.

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!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AT ST. MARK

WHEN: June 22-26 9:00 am - 12:30 pm

WHO: Rising Kindergarteners to Rising 5th graders are invited to register as participants!
Rising 6th graders to graduated Seniors, as well as ADULTS* are invited to volunteer!

WHY: VBS is a time to come together for a high energy - high spirit week focused on learning about our faith and the way it connects to our daily life. We play games, sing songs, and most importantly read scripture and learn bible stories.

*Adults (18+)! We're looking for people who want to make an impact and be part of an awesome week as group leaders during VBS. We can't do it without you! We're also looking for a few adults to help plan and shape the experience before VBS even begins. That means joining a few planning meetings and helping us build something really meaningful together!
If you enjoy creating fun environments, telling stories in engaging ways, or simply jumping in to help where it's needed, we'd love to have you involved. Come be part of a team that's making the week unforgettable! Please contact **Maddie Torres:** maddie.torres@stmarknc.org or **Sharon Torczynski:** sharon.torczynski@stmarknc.org and let us know what you would like to help with!

REGISTRATION OPENS 3/28!

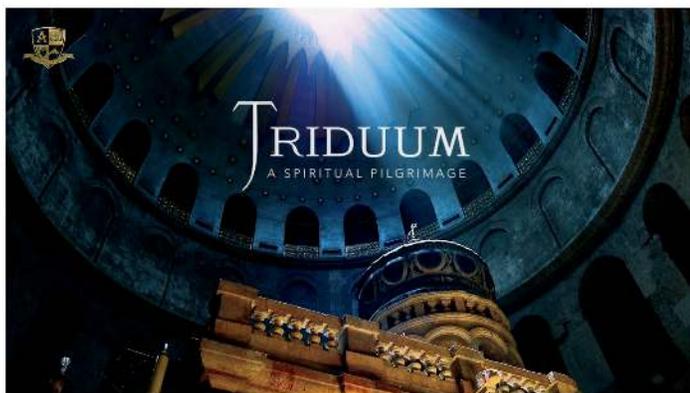
Visit the website for more information!
www.stmarknc.org/VBS

WEBSITE:



Vacation Bible School Volunteers Wanted!

We're looking for adults to help plan and shape the experience before VBS even begins. That means joining a few planning meetings and helping us build something really meaningful together! If you enjoy creating fun environments, telling stories in engaging ways, or simply jumping in to help where it's needed, we'd love to have you involved. Let us know how you can help. Please contact: Maddie Torres: maddie.torres@stmarknc.org Sharon Torczynski: sharon.torczynski@stmarknc.org



formed[™]
Forming Catholics for *Life*.

Triduum: A Spiritual Pilgrimage

Triduum: A Spiritual Pilgrimage cinematically walks through the locations of the Holy Week story, representing the most important days of human history. Immersed in the Holy Land, the pilgrim is brought tangibly nearer to the story, the landscape, and the reality of the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

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!



An offering from the  AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

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

Liturg 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

Public Relations Coordinator

Amy Burger
amy.burger@stmarknc.org
704-948-0231, Ext. 155

Director of Marriage and Family Life

Christine Wisdom
christine.wisdom@stmarknc.org
704-948-0231

Faith Formation Coordinator

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

Faith Formation Admin Asst

Sharon Torczynski
sharon.torczynski@stmarknc.org
704-948-0231, Ext. 103

Middle School Youth Ministry 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

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.

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

AI-Anon

Ellen | 704-907-8555

Alcoholics Anonymous

Tom | 704-604-7739

Alateen program

Paul G. | 704-641-0654

Divorce Support Group

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

Contact: divorce.support@stmarknc.org

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.
benotafrad.net

Taken Abortion Pill? It may not be too late: Abortion Pill

Reversal 877-558-0333 or abortionpillreversal.com





.Del Pastor Domingo de Pascua (A)
29 de marzo de 2026

Comenzamos esta Semana Santa con la lectura de la Pasión del Señor del Evangelio de San Mateo. Es apropiado que durante esta semana centremos intensamente nuestra mente y corazón en los pasos de nuestro Salvador mientras entregó Su propia vida por nosotros. Pero examinemos también los

aparentemente pequeños actos de administración de algunos que conocieron a Jesús durante esta semana tan movida.

Uno ocurrió cuando Jesús dio instrucciones sobre la sala donde celebraría la Pascua. Jesús dijo: "Ve a la ciudad a un hombre y dile..." "En tu casa celebraré la Pascua con mis discípulos." Aunque no conocemos el nombre de este hombre, sí sabemos que aceptó esta petición: compartió el regalo material de su hogar y el regalo de la hospitalidad. Gracias a su buena administración, su propio hogar se convirtió en el lugar de la institución de la Eucaristía.

También estaba Simón el Cireno, que ofreció el don de su fuerza física, ayudando al Señor a llevar su Cruz. Consideremos también las acciones de José de Arimatea: compartió generosamente un regalo material de la tumba que era suya, y dio el don del servicio a nuestro Señor dándole un entierro digno. Luego estaban las "dos Marías" que dieron a Jesús el regalo de su tiempo. Vigilando con tierna vigilia tras su muerte, "permanecieron sentados allí, mirando hacia la tumba."

Cada uno de estos eran simples actos de buena administración, pero Dios los usaba de maneras poderosas. Dios también nos invita a cada uno de nosotros a cooperar con Él en pequeñas formas a través del intercambio de nuestro tiempo, talento y dones materiales. Los pequeños dones pueden convertirse en grandes obras cuando se ponen al servicio de Dios. © Consultores de Gestión Católica, 2026.

Reflexión pastoral – Recientemente, la USCCB publicó una nueva traducción de *La Orden de la Unción de los Enfermos y de Su Cuidado Pastoral*. En consonancia con nuestra revisión de las últimas dos semanas, creo que sería bueno tener un recordatorio sobre cuándo es apropiado pedir recibir este maravilloso sacramento de sanación. Lo siguiente está adaptado de un artículo del padre Dylan Shrader, cuya versión editada apareció en la revista de la Society for Catholic Liturgy *Antiphon* 16, no. 1 (2012):52-61.

¿Unción de los enfermos antes de la cirugía: cuándo y por qué?

Muchos católicos se preguntan: "¿Puedo recibir la Unción de los Enfermos solo porque me operan?" Es una pregunta común en las parroquias. Algunos asumen que cualquier procedimiento que requiera anestesia general conlleva suficiente riesgo como para calificar para el sacramento. El claro artículo del padre Dylan Schrader (publicado en *Antiphon*, 2012) muestra por qué esta visión, aunque bienintencionada, no coincide con la enseñanza de la Iglesia.

El sacramento de la Unción de los Enfermos no es un "amuleto de la suerte" contra complicaciones quirúrgicas. Es un sacramento sanador que Cristo dio específicamente para

quienes **ya sufren una enfermedad corporal** peligrosa: una enfermedad grave, una lesión o la fragilidad de la vejez que les pone en peligro de *muerte ahora* mismo. Las Escrituras (Santiago 5:14) y los Concilios de Florencia y Trento son inconfundibles: este sacramento es para los *enfermos*, no para nadie que enfrente un peligro externo (batalla, viaje o cirugía próxima) si por lo demás está sano.

El Ritual oficial de la Iglesia dice que la unción *puede* realizarse antes de la cirugía, pero solo cuando "una enfermedad peligrosa es la causa de la cirugía en sí." El Catecismo refleja esto: es "apropiado" recibir la Unción antes de una operación seria *para quienes ya cumplen los requisitos* por su enfermedad. La cuestión es sabiduría pastoral, no una regla nueva: si alguien ya está lo suficientemente enfermo como para necesitar la unción, es mejor recibir el sacramento *antes* del estrés añadido de la cirugía que arriesgarse a retrasarla o perderla por completo.

La gracia especial de la Unción no "desaparece". Una vez recibida con fe, dura durante todo el periodo de esa misma debilidad, dando fuerza, paz, unión con el sufrimiento de Cristo, perdón de pecados (si es necesario) e incluso posible sanación física. Solo puede repetirse si la persona se recupera y vuelve a enfermar gravemente, o si la misma enfermedad empeora notablemente.

Orientación práctica para feligreses

- Si tu cirugía es por una enfermedad o lesión grave (por ejemplo, cirugía de cáncer, procedimiento cardíaco, complicaciones de un accidente), pregunta a tu sacerdote sobre la Unción con antelación. Lo celebrará encantado.

- Si tu procedimiento es electivo, preventivo o estético (extracción de muelas del juicio sin infección, reemplazo de rodilla para una condición estable, donación de órganos, etc.), aún no eres candidato para la unción. La Iglesia ofrece hermosas alternativas: la bendición de los enfermos, las oraciones del Libro de las Bendiciones o simplemente los sacramentos de la Penitencia y la Eucaristía.

- Siempre preparar espiritualmente con la Confesión y la Sagrada Comunión. Estos están disponibles para todos, estén sanos o enfermos.

Los sacerdotes están encantados de explicar el sacramento y resolver cualquier duda a favor de celebrarlo cuando se cumplan los requisitos. El objetivo nunca es retener la gracia, sino honrar el hermoso propósito que Cristo dio a este sacramento: fortalecernos precisamente en el sufrimiento que ya llevamos.

Cristo instituyó la Unción de los Enfermos para que, en nuestra debilidad, pudiéramos unirnos a Su Pasión y recibir toda la gracia que necesitamos para soportar la enfermedad como cristianos. Cuando entendemos su verdadero propósito, lo recibimos con mayor fe y experimentamos todo su poder. Si tú o un ser querido sufrís una enfermedad grave, no esperes. Llama a tu sacerdote hoy mismo. La Iglesia quiere que tengas este sacramento en el momento adecuado, por la razón correcta y con plena confianza en el amor sanador de Cristo.



Semana Santa

La Semana Santa nos invita a caminar con Cristo en los momentos más sagrados de nuestra fe, desde la Última Cena hasta la Cruz y la gloria de la Resurrección. No solo recordamos estos acontecimientos, sino que entramos en ellos como Iglesia.

Martes Santo

Misa Crismal, 3 pm
(Diócesis de Charlotte)

La iglesia estará cerrada de 8 am–2 pm. En esta Misa, el obispo bendice los santos óleos y los sacerdotes renuevan sus promesas.

Jueves Santo

Misa de la Cena del Señor: 7 pm (bilingüe)

Confesiones: 10 am–4 pm

Recordamos la institución de la Eucaristía y del sacerdocio. Después de la Misa, adoración en el Altar de Reposo hasta la medianoche. Permanezca con el Señor en oración.

Viernes Santo

Pasión del Señor y Veneración de la Cruz: 3 pm y 7 pm
(español)

Día de ayuno y abstinencia

Confesiones: 10 am–4 pm

Vía Crucis: 12 pm

Escuchamos la Pasión del Señor y veneramos la Cruz, acercándonos al misterio de su sacrificio.

Sábado Santo

Vigilia Pascual: 8:30 pm (bilingüe)

Confesiones: 10 am–4 pm

Bendición de alimentos: 3 pm

En esta noche santa, comenzamos en la oscuridad y celebramos la luz de Cristo Resucitado. Nuevos miembros son recibidos en la Iglesia.

Domingo de Pascua

Misa de la Resurrección del Señor

No habrá confesiones el Domingo de Pascua.

Celebramos con alegría que Cristo ha resucitado. ¡Aleluya!

St. Mark: 7 am, 9 am, 11 am, 1 pm (español)

Christ the King High School: 10 am

Novena de la Divina Misericordia

Comienza el Viernes Santo

Rece esta novena confiando en la infinita misericordia de Cristo revelada en su Pasión. Folletos disponibles en el nártex.

Domingo de la Divina Misericordia 2:45 pm (bilingüe)

Exposición del Santísimo Sacramento, Coronilla cantada (bilingüe), reflexión y veneración de la reliquia de Santa Faustina



Peregrinación a Tierra Santa

30 de agosto – 10 de septiembre de 2026

Disfruta de una peregrinación de 10 días a Tierra Santa con el padre **Christopher Angermeyer** y Christopher Cross. Celebraremos misa diaria en la mayoría de los lugares sagrados que visitemos. Vive 5 noches en Jerusalén y 3 noches en el Mar de Galilea. Mientras estamos en Jerusalén, celebraremos la misa matutina cada día en la Tumba de Cristo o en el Calvario. La mayoría de los peregrinos probablemente experimentarían esto, pero nosotros sí. Visitaremos la Iglesia de la Natividad en Belén y la Iglesia de la Visitación, donde María visitó a su prima Isabel.

Seguiremos el Vía Crucis y la ruta del Domingo de Ramos, además de tener una hora santa vespertina en el Jardín de Getsemaní. Daremos un paseo en barco por el mar de Galilea y celebraremos misa en el monte Tabor y en el monte de las Bienaventuranzas. Celebraremos la misa en Nazaret y renovaremos nuestros votos bautismales junto al río Jordán. Visitaremos todos los lugares misteriosos del Santo Rosario. Si tiene preguntas, por favor llame a Christopher Cross al 704-274-2031 o visite la página web en www.CatholicHolyland.com. Será un viaje que recordarás el resto de tu vida. El padre Putnam acaba de regresar de Tierra Santa con los seminaristas, y puede dar fe de que nuestra peregrinación espiritual a Tierra Santa fue muy segura en cada lugar que visitamos por todo el país. No dudes o nunca irás. Esta peregrinación afectará tu vida espiritual durante el resto de tu vida.

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Gracias a quienes ya han participado en la Campaña de Apoyo Diocesano. Su generosidad sostiene la misión de la Iglesia en toda la diócesis.

La DSA apoya la formación de seminaristas, la educación católica, la formación en la fe y la ayuda a los necesitados—respondiendo a necesidades que ninguna parroquia puede atender por sí sola.

San Marcos ha sido bendecido con muchos hombres que han discernido el sacerdocio. Su apoyo ayuda directamente a su formación.

Oren por quienes ya han sido ordenados, los que se preparan este año y los que siguen en formación, incluidos: Padre Christian Goduti, Padre Joseph Yellico, Patrick Martin*, Conor White* y Bradley Loftin*.

Serán ordenados diáconos en mayo.

Si aún no ha participado, puede hacerlo en la Misa o en línea en charlottediocese.org/dsa. Gracias por ayudar a formar discípulos y preparar futuros sacerdotes.






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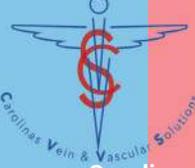
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