

A LIFE OF FAITH

Following Christ. Growing together.

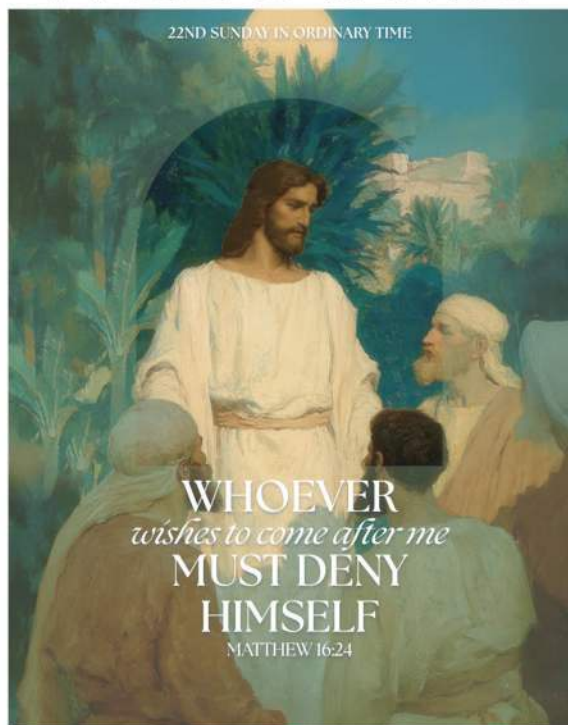


SAINT✠MARK

WELCOME TO ST. MARK!



22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Today is the 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time. The readings can be found in the music handouts or in the St. Augustine Hymnal on page 927. The Order of the Mass can be found on page 7; Mass prayers are on the last page of the hymnal.

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, 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 of any unconfessed mortal sin—this includes, if married, being married in a way recognized by the Catholic Church.
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 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 information.

Thank you for generously sharing your gifts with the parish.



Online Giving

DID YOU KNOW THAT YOU CAN GIVE YOUR OFFERTORY ONLINE?

*Planned
Proportionate
Intentional
Consistent*

sign up at stmarknc.org/online-giving

FROM THE PASTOR



Living the stewardship way of life is not easy. Dying to self and living for Christ and others requires sacrifice. It is the work of a lifetime. Yet it is also the only

work that truly matters and the only life that ultimately satisfies.

In today's Gospel from Matthew, Jesus tells His disciples, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross and follow me." At first, those words may sound difficult to accept. Why would anyone willingly embrace such a path?

Jesus immediately gives us the answer: "Whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it."

Everything comes down to love. Jesus loved us completely, giving Himself for us on the Cross. He continues to give Himself to us through His Word and, most especially, in the Eucharist.

Each day we are faced with a choice: to live for ourselves or to live for God and for others. The second path is more demanding, but it leads to lasting joy and the promise of eternal life. Christ assures us that He "will come with his angels in his Father's glory and then he will repay all according to his conduct."

May we choose each day to lose our lives for Christ's sake, offering them back to Him in grateful response to His immeasurable love. ©Catholic Stewardship Consultants, 2026

Pastoral Pondering – Two Italian dioceses (Rome and Ventimiglia-Sanremo) recently blocked planned Catholic funeral Masses for two prominent Freemasons after their Masonic affiliations became publicly known just before the ceremonies. This happened on August 7–8, 2026, and applies longstanding Church discipline rather than a new nationwide policy from the Italian bishops' conference. Since some folks asked about this, I thought it would be a good article.

The cases

- **Rome:** Bruno Battisti D'Amario (88), a classical guitarist and professor closely linked to Ennio Morricone's film work, died on August 5. His funeral Mass was scheduled for August 7 at Santa Maria in Montesanto (the "Church of the Artists" in Piazza del Popolo). The Grand Orient of Italy (GOI) publicly eulogized him as a "master brother," founder of the Roman Giuseppe Leti lodge, composer of the GOI's official anthem, and holder of senior positions (including twice president of the Lazio District College of Worshipful Masters). Cardinal Baldassarre Reina, Vicar General of the Diocese of Rome, consulted the diocesan legal office and denied authorization for the funeral Mass, allowing only a brief prayer as a gesture of Christian charity.

- **Ventimiglia-Sanremo** (Liguria): Mario Tarducci (73), a former Venerable Master of the local Mimosa lodge (no. 985, Orient of Bordighera), was scheduled for a funeral the next day at the parish church of San Marco in Camporosso. Bishop Antonio Suetta learned of the affiliation only after arrangements were made — via local news and public Masonic death notices. After consulting the family and pastor, and noting the simultaneous Rome case, he suspended the ecclesiastical funeral under the same principles, limiting it to simple prayers outside.

Canonical and doctrinal basis

Both decisions explicitly invoked **Canon 1184** of the *Code of Canon Law*. It denies ecclesiastical funerals to those who, without signs of repentance before death, are "notoriously apostate, heretical or schismatic" or "other manifest sinners" whose funerals would cause public scandal among the faithful.

This aligns with the Church's consistent teaching that Freemasonry is incompatible with Catholicism. The 1983 Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith declaration (under then Cardinal Ratzinger) reaffirmed that Catholics who join Masonic associations are in a state of grave sin and may not receive Holy Communion; the negative judgment on Masonic principles remains unchanged. Public, high-level membership without known repentance creates the "public scandal" element that triggers the canonical denial.

These were not blanket bans on all Freemasons but responses to *notorious* cases where the affiliation was openly proclaimed by the lodges themselves, making a Catholic funeral appear to endorse or ignore the incompatibility. Similar past applications have occurred (e.g., high-profile cases involving public scandal). Pastoral care for the grieving family is still encouraged — Mass intentions or a memorial Mass *sine corpore* (without the body present) can be offered.

In short, two bishops applied existing law firmly once the memberships became public and notorious. The episodes have drawn attention precisely because they reinforce the long-standing discipline amid ongoing tensions between the Church and Freemasonry in Italy. It also reminds all of us that one cannot present themselves as Catholic and live in a manner that contradicts longstanding teaching of the Church.



formed™
Forming Catholics for Life.

Mother Teresa: No Greater Love

Mother Teresa: No Greater Love is a soaring tribute to a spiritual icon, a powerful witness of authentic Christian charity, and a guidepost for all who seek hope in our turbulent times: Mother Teresa of Calcutta. This film reveals not just who Mother Teresa was, but how her singular vision to serve Christ in the poor continues to be realized through the Missionaries of Charity today.

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

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please Pray For...

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

Tom Addison	Charlie Donovan	The Kibbee and	Paul Sr. and Sally
Julie Andrews	Jane & William	Farnejad Family	Nealon
Donald Arrup	Dragoon	Dennis Koenig	The Ober Family
Maryann Bahret	James P. Durcan	Jackie Kopicki	Louise Painter
Lizzy Balzer	Joanne Errick	Aubrey Lamb	Donna Paniagua
Daisy Bayona	Jack Evans	Craig Leiker	Fernando Paverpai
Deidre Beck	Charles Fillipo	Carolina Liendo	Jack Parley
Barbara Benner	Al Fischlein	Marie Ligon	Doug Peterson
Richard Biddy	Padraic Foley	Peter R. Loew	Nicole & Bruce Preiss
Brian Blatchford &	Alan Friedl & Family	Kitty Long	Angela & Gianni
Family	Tom Fox	Wilfredo Lostaunau	Piraino
Virginia "Gini" Bond	April Gallo	David Luongo	Johnathan Rametta
Kathy Brandt	Valeria Gerbasi	Margaret Lynch	Joette Reid
Dave Breen	Daniel Gilbridge	Utelia Malwitz	Lindsay Remington
Lynne Bridges	Denny & Monica	Tom & Colette	Butch Remesch
Carman Butler	Golden	Manente	Natalie Roberts
Helen Sally Buff	Corbin Golightly	Sharon Marshall	Thomas Rynne
Carmen Cabranes	Tom Goodwin	Melissa McDonald	Jack Schneider
Anne Caestecker	Lucas Graf	Cathy Milligan	Phyllis Searles
Anthony Cain	Paige Grieshop	Terry Milstead	Mark Shields
Michelle Chicoine	Rachel Grieshop	Lucille Modica	Todd Singh
Rod Clair	Helen Haddad	Linda Morella	Bill Sirnack
Jim Clark	Victoria Hart	Mary Morgan	Robert Somerville
Beth Collins	Fran Hehn	Haleigh Moss	Betsy Spartz
William Conklin	Laura Hehn	Niall Mulkeen	Mike Tolbert
Vic Crognale	Allan Helmbrecht	Elizabeth Mulligan	Alston Torres
Ridge Curwood	Madeline Louise	Angeles Murphy	Mario Valinhas
Janice D'Angelo	Henwood	Maria Magdalena	Haley Velez
Sheila DeArmon	William Hille	Murphy	Julio Velez
Judy and Rich Deboer	Hannah Hopkins	Carl Muti	Karen Vogel
John Deluca	Frank Hunnicutt III	Emily Nash	Elise Weiss
Joan Demarco	Cathi Kalberier	Paul Nealon Jr.	Al Wiltz
Henry Diener	Mary Kate Knight		Patricia Zeggert

Mass Schedule Changes: Labor Day is Monday, September 7. The Parish Offices will be closed and only a 9 am daily Mass will be celebrated.

Construction Notice: Work has begun on a new fire hydrant along the Family Center exit drive.

The parallel parking spaces along that roadway are unavailable. **Please use other parking areas and keep the exit drive clear. PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN THE ADORATION SPACES.** They are reserved for scheduled adorers only. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

Air Force: C3C **Andrew Bauders**; Airman **Gregory Burke**; Airman **Antoinio Diaz**; Lt. Col. **Michael Dragoon**; Capt. **Stephen Hack**; Capt. **Ryan Loyd**; **Alejandro Martinez**; Sgt. **James McCormick**; SCANG Sgt. **John Andrew McCormick**; 2nd Lt **Connor Milligan**; Airman **Chloe Scott**; Airman **Michael F. Yellico**

Army: 1st Lt. **Amelia Andretti**; Capt. **Patrick Camatcho**; Capt. **Sarah Camatcho**; Maj. **Robert Caraccilo**; Sgt. Maj. **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**; 2nd Lt. **Drew Brenner**; Maj. **Matthew Santoli**; Cpl. **Ben Holden**; Cpl. **Baylin Prescott**; Capt. **Nathanael Rusciolelli**

Navy: MIDN 3C USNA **Kellan Azzopardi**; DCFN **Matthew J Bixler Jr**; LCDR. **Matthew Giannone**; SR Chase T. **Golden**; MIDN 3C USNA **Malerie Lague**; Lt. **Albert Remmey, Jr.**; LCDR. **Jordan Mayo**; LTJG. **Rory Moran**; OSSN. **Daniel Pressley**; LCDR. **Jenna Hehn Quist**; ENS. **Tyler Spear**; LCDR. **William Vey**; MIDN 3C USNA **Patrick Walsh**; CTT2. **Zachary Wortham**

..and all service members not listed.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, August 30

7:30 am	St Mark Parishioners
9 am	Emily & Chris Bixler
11 am	Mike & Jen Summinguit
1 pm	† Marco A. Aguilera
4:30 pm	† Georgiana Howe
5 pm	Denise Goncalves

Monday, August 31

7 am	† Paul A. Nealon Sr.
9 am	† Allison Roberts

Tuesday, September 1

7 am	† John Sampogna
9 am	† Frank Lorch

Wednesday, September 2

7 am	† Sharon Antoszyk
	† Jim Dunlavy
6:30 pm	† Arsenio Torres
	† Marilyn Hayes

Thursday, September 3

7 am	Brendan O'Conner
9 am	† Betty V. DeCamp

Friday, September 4

7 am	Liam Shields
9 am	† Edward R Regis
7 pm	† Manuel Roberto De Aguirre Rodas

Saturday, September 5

9 am	† Iris Sumner
5 pm	† Rose Madeline Tacconi

Sunday, September 6

7:30 am	† Melissa, Delphine, & Charles Lynch
9 am	Charlene Joese
11 am	† Phyllis Moore
1 pm	St. Mark Parishioners
4:30 pm	† Charles Newton
5 pm	† Rose Seeling

† Deceased

READINGS

Sunday	Jer 20:7-9; Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Rom 12:1-2; Mt 16:21-27
Monday	1 Cor 2:1-5; Ps 119:97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102; Lk 4:16-30
Tuesday	1 Cor 2:10b-16; Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13ab, 13cd-14; Lk 4:31-37
Wednesday	1 Cor 3:1-9; Ps 33:12-13, 14-15, 20-21; Lk 4:38-44
Thursday	1 Cor 3:18-23; Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 5:1-11
Friday	1 Cor 4:1-5; Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 27-28, 39-40; Lk 5:33-39
Saturday	1 Cor 4:6b-15; Ps 145:17-18, 19-20, 21; Lk 6:1-5
Sunday	Ez 33:7-9; Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9; Rom 13:8-10; Mt 18:15-20



Romans

The Gospel of Salvation

*It's finally here:
Small Groups
relaunch!*

ANDREW SWAFFORD and JEFF CAVINS

*An 8-week study may be
where it starts but the
friendships that grow
from Small Groups last
much longer.*



Small Groups

Welcome One Another

**8-WEEK STUDY OF PAUL'S LETTER TO THE ROMANS!
REGISTRATION OPENS MONDAY!**

FIND YOUR GROUP:

WOMEN
MEN
SINGLES
COUPLES
WIDOWS
YOUNG ADULT

**START YOUR
OWN GROUP!**

This fall, St. Mark Small Groups will come together for a study of St. Paul's Letter to the Romans for an opportunity to explore Scripture, grow closer to Christ, and build meaningful friendships within our parish.

And with 10 new groups added this year, there are more ways than ever to participate! Just go to the website, find a group that fits you, and join in!

Various days, times and locations are available. Or, if you don't see one, you can start your own!

You don't need to be a Scripture expert, and you don't need to know anyone before you come. Each week includes a video presentation, small-group discussion, prayer and fellowship.

Registering is easy: one website, one registration.
\$15/person; \$10 optional workbook. Go to
stmarknc.org/small-groups or scan the QR code.



WELCOME ONE ANOTHER, THEN, JUST AS CHRIST WELCOMED YOU. — ROMANS 15:7



Life Teen Schedule August and September

August 30: *Life Teen*

September 6: *No Life Teen*

September 13: *Color Games*

September 20: *Life Teen*

September 27: *Life Teen*

All High school students are invited to join us for another exciting year of Life Teen at St. Mark!

Life Teen gathers on Sunday evenings after the 5 pm Mass throughout the year with engaging talks, small group discussions, games, prayer, fun, and opportunities to serve others. Dinner is always included.

Stay Connected: REMIND App: Class code **smhsym2025**; **Instagram:**

@stmarknc.youth

Join our Email List:

augustine.free@stmarknc.org.

Little Traditions: Big Faith Starts at Home

Faith is often passed on in little ways: a blessing before dinner, a decade of the Rosary at bedtime, celebrating a patron saint's feast day, or making the Sign of the Cross on a child's forehead before sleep.

These simple practices may seem small, but over time they help make the Catholic faith part of the rhythm of family life. That's what we mean by "Little Traditions."

Throughout the year, we'll share simple prayers, practices and ideas that families can try at home. Some may already be part of your family's life. Others might inspire a new tradition.

And we want to hear yours! What does your family do to live the faith at home? Share your Little Traditions with us at stmarknc.org/little-traditions or scan the QR code.

St. Teresa of Calcutta: Feast Day: September 5

Did you know that Mother Teresa became a saint 10 years ago? On September 4, 2016, Pope Francis canonized her as St. Teresa of Calcutta.

Mother Teresa spent her life caring for people who were poor, sick, lonely and forgotten. She reminded the world that following Jesus doesn't always require doing something big. We can serve Him in the small things we do for the people around us each day.

Try it this week: In honor of the 10th anniversary of Mother Teresa becoming a saint, choose one small act of love you can do for someone who needs it.

St. Teresa of Calcutta, pray for us!

Find these words from this week's bulletin. They can be across, down, backward or diagonal: **Faith Formation, Small Groups, Romans, SeptemberFest, Life Teen, Catechists, Eucharistic Congress, Little Traditions, Young at Heart, Diaper Drive, Prayer and Praise, Newcomer, Widows, Mother Teresa, Adoration, Belmont Abbey**



FAMILY LIFE

Welcome Back, Faith Formation Families!

Classes begin August 30–September 1

A new year of Faith Formation is beginning at St. Mark!

As our children and young people return, we are grateful for everyone who makes their formation possible: our catechists and volunteers who generously share their faith, our staff who prepare and support them, and especially our parents, who are the first and most important teachers of the faith.



Learn the Faith

Each week, our children encounter Scripture, prayer and the teachings of the Church as they grow in their relationship with Christ and prepare to receive the sacraments.

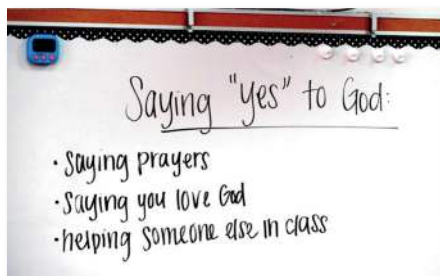
Live the Faith

But faith isn't something that

happens only in a classroom. It grows at Sunday Mass, around the dinner table, through prayer at home and in the little traditions that make being Catholic part of everyday family life.

More Than the Classroom

We also want St. Mark to be a place where children, teens and their families pray, serve, celebrate and have fun together. Throughout the year, watch for opportunities designed to help families build friendships and experience parish life together.



Coming This Fall

Eucharistic Congress • SeptemberFest • Middle & High School Fall Fest • Girls Craft Night & Boys Flag Football • Family Christmas Event • St. Nicholas Breakfast • Prayer & Praise • Wings and Trivia • and more!

To our catechists and volunteers: Thank you for saying yes.

To our parents: Thank you for entrusting your children to us and for continuing at home what begins here.

To our students: Welcome back! We are so glad you're here.



Save the Date! Annual Parish Family Social SeptemberFest 2026 September 26, 6-9 pm



Put It On Your Calendar!

August 30-September 1

Faith Formation Classes Begin

Monday, August 31

Small Groups Registration Opens

Wednesday, September 9

Young at Heart Luncheon

September 11 & 12

Eucharistic Congress

September 13-20

Diaper Drive

Tuesday, September 15

Coffee and Conversation

Saturday, September 19

Couples Adoration, Wine and Cheese Night

Saturday, September 26

SeptemberFest

Tuesday, September 29

Prayer and Praise

Sunday, October 4

Prayer Chain for Life

October 10 & 11

Coat/Blanket/Toy & Baby Drive

Saturday, October 17

Blue Mass

Wings and Trivia

October 24-November 1

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Sunday, October 25

New Member Meet & Greet

Middle/High School Fall Fest

Sunday, November 1

All Saints Day

Monday, November 2

All Souls Day

Mass of Remembrance

November 7-8

Men's Welcome Retreat

Saturday, November 14

Marriage Date Night

Wednesday, November 18

Young at Heart Luncheon

Friday, November 20

Middle School Craft & Football

Tuesday, November 24

Prayer and Praise

Sunday, November 29

Advent Begins

St. Nicholas Breakfast

Tuesday, December 8

Immaculate Conception

Saturday, December 5

Family Christmas Event

Thursday, December 10

The Vigil Project

Saturday, December 12

Rorate Mass, Our Lady of Guadalupe

December 15-23

Posadas

December 25

Christmas

Wednesday, January 6

Young at Heart Luncheon

January 15-17

Marriage Retreat



2025-2026 YEAR-END FINANCIAL REPORT & 2026-2027 BUDGET

The Finance Council is pleased to present St. Mark Parish's financial report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2026, along with the approved budget for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

As part of our commitment to responsible financial stewardship, the Parish maintains cash reserves equal to approximately three months of operating expenses. These reserves help provide financial stability and safeguard the Parish against unexpected declines in offertory income or unforeseen expenses.

Financial Highlights

For the 2025-2026 fiscal year, operating revenue exceeded budget projections by approximately 4%, while operating expenses were in line with budget. This resulted in a positive overall financial performance for the year.

For 2026-2027, the offertory budget reflects a 4.5% increase over actual offertory collected during the 2025-2026 fiscal year.



Capital Improvements

During the year, we continued to invest in our Parish facilities and infrastructure. Improvements included upgrades to the Family Center as well as enhancements to our computer systems and network infrastructure.

We also made significant progress on the construction of the new Rectory, which is expected to be completed by the end of 2026.

Growing Home Capital Campaign

In October 2024, St. Mark launched the Growing Home Capital Campaign to fund construction of the new Multipurpose Building, Adoration Chapel, and Rectory.

St. Mark Catholic Church Report to Parishioners June 30th, 2026

PARISH STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION	Fiscal Year Ending 06/30/2026 Actual	2025-2026 Budget	2026-2027 Budget
Operating Revenue			
General Parish Revenue	\$ 4,560,331	\$ 4,354,500	\$ 4,705,000
Ministry & Liturgy	\$ 27,198	\$ 12,000	\$ 27,550
Religious Formation	\$ 121,453	\$ 144,075	\$ 175,075
Charity/Outreach	\$ 13,388	\$ 20,000	\$ 15,000
Preschool	\$ 331,106	\$ 332,500	\$ 332,100
Other Parish Programs	\$ 4,872	\$ 3,000	\$ 4,500
Total Operating Revenue	\$ 5,058,348	\$ 4,866,075	\$ 5,259,225
Operating Expenses			
Ministry & Liturgy	\$ 1,036,244	\$ 1,004,136	\$ 1,131,436
Religious Formation	\$ 608,107	\$ 643,718	\$ 755,017
Charity/Outreach	\$ 233,713	\$ 278,250	\$ 250,000
School Subsidy	\$ 763,045	\$ 783,646	\$ 799,012
Preschool Program Expenses	\$ 328,446	\$ 339,020	\$ 351,614
Other Parish Program Expenses	\$ 11,804	\$ 10,300	\$ 10,550
Facilities Expenses	\$ 639,298	\$ 603,297	\$ 669,714
Diocesan Assessments	\$ 485,764	\$ 480,559	\$ 520,299
General & Administrative Expenses	\$ 745,693	\$ 722,873	\$ 771,325
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 4,852,115	\$ 4,865,799	\$ 5,258,968
Total Operating Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 206,233	\$ 276	\$ 257

PARISH STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION	Fiscal Year Ending 6/30/2026
Assets	
Checking Account Balances - Operating	\$ 445,253
Checking Account Balances - Restricted	\$ 544,997
Savings Accounts - Operating	\$ 3,478,423
Endowment Accounts	\$ 18,835
Receivables and other Current Assets	\$ 64,273
Property, Plant and Equipment	\$ 19,759,838
Total Assets	\$ 24,311,619
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Liabilities	
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	\$ 19,266
Custodial Obligations	\$ 168,195
Other Liabilities	\$ 45,050
Total Liabilities	\$ 232,511
Net Assets	\$ 24,079,108
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 24,311,619

Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of more than 1,800 Parish families, we have exceeded our \$9.7 million campaign goal, with pledges totaling more than \$10.5 million.

The new Rectory is nearing completion, and construction of the Multipurpose Building and Adoration Chapel is expected to begin in the spring of 2027. We are deeply grateful to everyone who has supported this important investment in the future of our Parish.

Ministries and Outreach

St. Mark continues to support more than 82 ministries and apostolates serving our Parish community. We also remain committed to supporting numerous charitable and outreach organizations that serve those in need throughout our community and beyond. Religious Formation expenses include our Faith Formation programs, Youth Ministry, Adult Education, and OCIA.

PARISH FINANCES

Online Giving and Stewardship

Online giving now represents approximately 54% of total Parish contributions. In addition, a growing number of parishioners have taken advantage of Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs), which allow eligible individuals to make distributions directly from their retirement accounts to the Church.

Our parishioners continue to demonstrate tremendous generosity through their support of the regular offertory, the Growing Home Capital Campaign, and numerous special and charitable collections.

For more information or to contribute online, please visit the St. Mark Parish Online Giving page.

The Finance Council extends its sincere appreciation to our parishioners for your continued generosity and faithful stewardship. Your support enables St. Mark to maintain a strong financial foundation, provide for our facilities, support our ministries, serve those in need, and prepare for the future.

Thank you for your continued commitment to helping St. Mark GROW, SERVE, SHARE, and CONNECT as one Parish community.

FINANCE COUNCIL

Pastor	Father John Putnam
Finance Director	Richard Cataldo
Director of Operations	Scott Bruno
Finance Council Chair	Amy Permenter
Council Member	Deacon Tom McGahey
Council Member	Mario Martinez
Council Member	Rick Szafran
Council Member	John Gentile
Council Member	John Moore
Council Member	John Panizza
Pastoral Council Rep.	Chris Fernandez

Special Collection This Sunday

On the weekend of August 29–30, our parish will take up a special second collection to support both Belmont Abbey College and The Catholic University of America, with undesignated gifts shared equally between the two institutions.

As the only Catholic college serving the Carolinas and neighboring states, Belmont Abbey College has been forming faithful Catholic leaders for 150 years, and this year's collection will help establish an endowment to provide tuition assistance for Catholic students from the Diocese of Charlotte.

Thank you for your prayerful generosity in supporting both our local Catholic college and the national university of the Catholic Church in the United States.

Belmont Abbey College has a direct donation link here: <https://belmontabbeycollege.givevirtuous.org/donate/recurring-gift-page>



Give at the weekend Masses or give online



Church and Kerin Center Maintenance Needs

Two significant maintenance needs are currently facing our parish.

Church Roof: After years of recurring leaks and repairs, it has become clear that the church roof needs to be replaced. Although a portion of the lower roof closest to the driveway has already been replaced, the remaining roof continues to require attention. After more than a year of pursuing an insurance claim, insurance will not cover the replacement. The estimated cost is approximately \$250,000, an expense that cannot currently be covered by parish reserves or the operating account.



Roof Fund
stmarknc.org/online-giving

Kerin Center Foundation: We are also continuing to address foundation instability at the Kerin Center related to water and drainage issues. Reinforcements were added to the school side of the building several years ago, and more recently we have seen concerns on the church side. We are monitoring the situation carefully and working with parishioners who have engineering expertise to determine the cause and appropriate repairs.



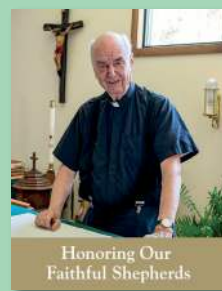
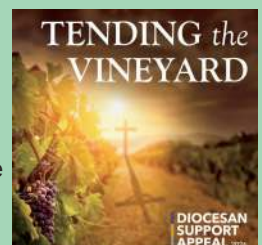
Family Center Fund
stmarknc.org/online-giving

For those who would like to help with either of these needs, separate Church Maintenance and Kerin Center Repairs funds are available through parish online giving. We are grateful for your generosity and support of our parish facilities.

Coming Up: Two Ways to Help

Diocesan Support Appeal

Your gift supports important ministries throughout the Diocese while helping St. Mark meet our annual DSA assessment. You can give anytime.



Priest Retirement Collection

Coming this fall, this collection supports our retired priests and helps St. Mark meet our required diocesan assessment. Any shortfall in either assessment must be paid from parish operating funds. Thank you for your generosity!

Give Online: stmarknc.org/online-giving

STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship Spotlight:

Widow's Support Group

Our spotlight this week highlights our bereavement support group for widows at St. Mark. This group seeks to love others by walking with those who mourn. "Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted." (Matthew 5:4) The St. Mark Widow's Support Group strives to help ease the pain of grief.

Ministry leader Karen Lynn told us, "... there is no clock or calendar that distinguishes how our grief will express itself." Regardless of how recent their loss is, this group welcomes all widows. Fellowship with others on the same journey encourages healing and moving forward at the pace that is most comfortable for each individual.

The Saint Mark Widow's Support Group meets every Thursday from 10 am to 12 pm in Kerin Center, room 204.

If you would like more information, contact Karen Lynn at cwik2016@aol.com.

Love Is... 2026 Ministry Fair

Thank you to the 51 ministries who participated in the St. Mark Ministry Fair August 15 - 16. The theme of the fair, "Love is... Discipleship and Stewardship" was evident in the activities and decor at all of the tables.

Parishioners enjoyed a game of Ministry Fair Bingo as they mingled at the tables and learned more about the opportunities to get involved at St. Mark.

There was a special Respect Life corner, which included 7 outside organizations.

Thank you to Debbie Fishbaugh and her team of social committee volunteers who served donut holes and hot dogs and to Mark Fishbaugh, our hot dog grill master.

We appreciate the Stewardship Committee for organizing and working this event every year. We especially thank those who contributed door prizes this year: Gardening and Grounds Ministry, Prayer Shawl Ministry, Rosary Makers Ministry, Women's Newcomer group, Millions of Monicas, Stewardship Committee, Debbie Hains, and Karen Petty.

To learn more about ways to Grow, Serve, Share and Connect at St. Mark, please see our new Stewardship Directory which can be found in the narthex, at the Welcome Desk in the Family Center or go to stmarknc.org/stewardship-directory.



PARISH LIFE

Women's Newcomer Ministry

When: Wed., Sep. 9 - Nov. 11; 10 - 11:30 am
Where: Family Center Room 200

The Women's Newcomer Ministry (After the Boxes) is a group that helps women connect during times of transition. We welcome women new to the area or the parish, and women going through a transition such as retirement or the loss of a spouse. Navigating times of transition can be stressful; this ministry is here to help you adjust and discover God's will for this time in your life.

The fall session series is a 10 session, small-group-type class and a great way to meet other parishioners, make new friends, and learn about the many things our parish and community offer.

Spaces are limited, so please sign up early to ensure your spot!

For more information, contact Catherine at 704-340-6234 or after-the-boxes@stmarknc.org.



Men's Bible Study: The Bible Timeline, The Story of Salvation

When: Most Wednesday evenings
7:15 - 8:45 pm; Sept. 9

Where: Room 200, Kerin Family Center

Join us as we continue this popular study, updated in 2025 and produced by Ascension Press, featuring the well-known Jeff Cavins and Fr. Mike Schmitz as presenters.

It is a powerful and immersive journey through Scripture beginning with the story of Creation and concluding with the establishment of the Church after Christ's Ascension. In the course, you'll explore the fourteen narrative books that tell the Bible's complete story.

You'll gain clear insights into how God's plan unfolds throughout history—and what it means for you today. Whether you're new to the Bible or looking to go deeper, *The Bible Timeline* will equip you to read and comprehend the entire biblical story—and discover your place within it.

Although this study began earlier this year, new participants can easily join. We will resume the course with a brief recap of prior lessons, then continue the story of salvation history from the Israelites' settlement in the Promised Land through our own journey to the eternal Promised Land.

For Registration & information: Ray FitzGerald
RFitzg@aol.com or 704-992-1702. There is a fee for the workbook or online access to the video and course materials.

**It becomes like
fire burning
in my heart**

Jeremiah 20:9



Young Adult Ministry



Looking to grow in faith and build friendships with other Catholic young adults? Join the St. Mark Young Adult Ministry this August! This group is open to anyone in their 20s and 30s.

Whether you're new to the parish or have been here for years, there's a place for you.



To be a part of this great group and learn about upcoming events, scan the QR code to register for the GroupMe.

Contact: Sean Meier: seanmeier1@gmail.com.

Widow's Ministry

When: Thurs., 10 am - 12 pm (weekly)
Where: Kerin Family Center, Room 204

We welcome you to join our widow's ministry, a caring and supportive community where widows come together to share experiences, offer encouragement, and support one another.

Through conversation, planning, and community, we walk alongside each other as we navigate grief and begin building new lives filled with hope and purpose.

Contact: Karen Lynn, 405-305-9380, cwik2016@aol.com

Singles 45+ Fellowship: Special One Year Anniversary Event!

When: Sun., Aug. 30; 5 - 8 pm
Where: Torrence and Knox, 20936 Torrence Chapel Road

Are you single? Are you over 45 years old (it doesn't matter how much older!)? Come celebrate with us as we join for our one-year meeting celebration! Bring a friend for a relaxed, fun afternoon of fellowship.

Enjoy wonderful conversation, a lively atmosphere and delicious food. Take this opportunity to connect, make new friends and build community. We'd love to see everyone again! Questions? Please RSVP to 45plussingles@gmail.com

PARISH LIFE

Healed and Restored: 4th Annual Hope for Healing Gala

When: Oct 2, 7 PM

Where: St. Mark Catholic Church - Parish Hall

Our mission: We assist women and girls who have experienced abuse, trauma, and exploitation in healing, rebuilding stability, and moving forward into thriving lives.

- Join us for the 4th Annual Hope for Healing Gala on Friday, October 2 at 7 PM at St. Mark Catholic Church.
- Come for a night of fellowship, cocktail hour, and hors d'oeuvres. Our keynote speaker is Christine Wisdom from Wisdom Integrated Counseling. Benefitting the women and girls served by Healed and Restored.
- Cocktail attire is recommended. This is a free event to attend that's also a fundraising night, guests will be invited to make a financial gift to Healed and Restored
- Scan the QR code below to register and reserve your seat

For more information visit our website at healedandrestored.org or email us at info@healedandrestored.org



Young at Heart Ministry Luncheon

invites you to come and celebrate

America's 250th Birthday Luncheon
Wednesday, September 9, 11 am
Monsignor Kerin Center Parish Hall

Cut Off Date for Reservations
Monday, August 31
Donation is \$15 per person

Please place your donation and envelope in the black box on the wall next to the Welcome Desk in the Family Center.



Second Annual SK David Calabrese MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2026



Event Details
Cowan's Ford Golf Club,
761 Club Drive, Stanley, NC 28164
18-hole Captain's Choice with cart and lunch
Sign-in: 8:30 am
Shotgun start: 10:00 am
Registration: \$160 per player / \$640 per foursome

Registration and Sponsorship Opportunities:

Please pre-register and submit payment for players, teams, and sponsorships by scanning the QR code or visiting tournevents.com/kofcgolf.

Contacts:
John Knight, 703.618.3779;
Rick Szafran, 704.564.2814;
Bill Pugh, 704.309.7466



Practicing the Virtues: Moderation

Moderation, found in the scriptural art in the right transept above Mary, is the virtue of keeping our desires and appetites properly ordered so that we are free to choose what is truly good.

The opposite is self-indulgence: allowing our desires, comforts or wants to take priority over what is good and what God asks of us.

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells His disciples, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." Moderation reminds us that following Christ sometimes means saying no to ourselves rather than seeking what is easiest or most comfortable.

By practicing moderation in the small choices of everyday life, we become freer to say "yes" to Christ when following Him asks something more of us.



ADORATION

I Want To Tell You All About My Friend Jesus...

By: Donna Fodale/Adoration Coordinator

Someone recently sent me a graph that shared the ratio of how many Catholics are in the United States to how many Catholics participate in Eucharistic Adoration.

Obviously, there are variables and many people that do spend time in Adoration aren't always scheduled Adorers.

However, that begs the question, what can we do to help increase the amount of people that spend time with the Lord in Adoration?

I remember growing up and having a friend that had a cousin that she continuously spoke about. She would say how much fun she was. How she would volunteer at an animal shelter, how great she was at sports and told the best jokes. She shared all about the times that she would visit her and how her cousin would listen to her problems and how she gave the best advice and hugs.

On one occasion she said to me that her cousin was visiting for the weekend and she would love me to meet her. After hearing so much about her, I couldn't wait to meet her. I was excited because I was able to get to know her and see her through my friend's eyes. You know what, she was and still is an amazing person. Both my friend and her cousin.

Remembering this after reflecting on the survey, I knew that I needed to share the love that I have for the Lord the same way my friend did with her cousin.

I need to invite others to come and meet my friend Jesus, to spend time with Him. Come and get to know Him because he is such a good friend. He is good, kind, loving and merciful. A friend who laid down his life for each of us. A friend who sees deep into our hearts. One that is a great listener and pours an abundant number of graces upon us. He is our teacher, a good Shepherd and gives us everything we need to obtain true happiness.

How would you describe Jesus? What could you share with others so that they get excited about spending time with Him? What has He done for you?

Looking ahead to when the new Chapel will be built, knowing that it will seat a significantly greater number of people, I can't help but think that it is up to each of us, starting now, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to encourage others to Adore the Lord.

Let us start praying for that, let's pray that people who are still grappling with the truth that the Eucharist is truly the body, blood, soul and divinity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ come to know this truth and in turn share it with others. So that they would not want to miss being in His presence.



Transferring the Blessed Sacrament to the newly remodeled Adoration Chapel August 2015.

I would like to invite you to pray the following prayer in Adoration. Think of it as seeds that the Holy Spirit is carrying out to all the people in our parish and beyond. Planting it firmly on their hearts. The Lord is the Master Gardener that will tend to the seeds that are planted. With His grace and mercy these seeds will bare much fruit.

Prayer for More Eucharistic Adorers

*Lord Jesus, present in the Most Holy Eucharist,
You are the source of our peace, our joy, and our life.
We thank You for the gift of Your abiding presence among
us. Kindle in many hearts a deep love for You in the
Blessed Sacrament.*

*Call forth new adorers who will keep You company,
who will listen to Your voice in the silence,
and who will intercede for the needs of the world.
Bless our parish with a spirit of devotion and generosity,
so that every hour may be filled with prayer and praise
before You.*

*May our adoration bring comfort to Your Heart
and draw many souls closer to Your mercy.
We ask this through the intercession of Mary,
Mother of the Eucharist, and in the name of the Father, and
of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

*Please prayerfully consider committing to a Holy Hour. Register
at: www.stmarknc.org/adoration TO BE A SUB PLEASE CONTACT
donna.fodale@stmarknc.org*



Called. Formed. Sent.
2026 EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

2026 Eucharistic Congress

Join thousands of Catholics from across the Diocese of Charlotte at the 2026 Eucharistic Congress, September 11-12 at the Charlotte Convention Center. This free, two-day event features nationally known Catholic speakers including **Katie Prejean McGrady, Ana Munley, and Erich Kerekes, co-founder of the Hallow prayer app.** Enjoy inspiring music from **The Scally Brothers, The Vigil Project, and Marieth Quintero**, along with Eucharistic Adoration, Confession, a Eucharistic Procession through Uptown Charlotte, and the closing Mass with Bishop Michael Martin.

Whether you attend for an hour or the entire weekend, come deepen your faith and celebrate the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. Visit GoEucharist.com for the full schedule and details

MARRIAGE MINISTRY



Couples ♥
ADORATION
&
OUTDOOR
WINE & CHEESE NIGHT

*Come rest in the presence of Christ,
reconnect with your spouse,
and enjoy an evening of
faith and fellowship.*

 **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19**

Couples Adoration and Outdoor Wine and Cheese Night

When: Sat., Sept. 19; 7–9 pm

Where: Church and outdoors

Married couples are invited to an evening of prayer, fellowship and time together, hosted by the St. Mark Marriage Ministry.

The evening begins with Couples Eucharistic Adoration from 7-8 pm in the church, with Confession available and time for peaceful music, prayer and placing your marriage before the Lord.

From 8-9 pm, couples are invited outdoors for a relaxed Wine and Cheese Reception with appetizers, light refreshments, conversation and fellowship. Couples may bring a favorite bottle of wine to share, if desired.

Come rest in the presence of Christ, reconnect with your spouse, and enjoy an evening of faith and fellowship. This is a free event.

Register: www.stmarknc.org/marriage-ministry

Invitation to Learn About the Annulment Process

When: Mon., Sept. 14; 7 pm

Where: Parish Hall

Are you or someone you know seeking clarity, healing, peace, or a fresh start after a divorce?

You are warmly invited to an informational meeting about the Catholic Annulment process on Mon., Sept. 14, at 7 pm in the Parish Hall.

Our presenters, Deacon Rich McCarron and Tribunal Advocate Rod Brostrom, will lead this gentle and supportive session.

They will demystify the process, explain the steps involved, and answer common questions about what an annulment is—and what it isn't. There is no cost to attend, no registration is required, and all conversation is strictly confidential. Whether you are divorced yourself or simply want to learn how to support a loved one, please join us.



Marriage Troubles? There is Help.

If your marriage has become troubled and stressed, unloving or uncaring; if you might have grown cold and distant; or even if you are divorced or separated, or are thinking about it, Retrouvaille can help...as it has already helped tens of thousands of others. Our next program begins **Oct 2-4, 2026**. For information, visit www.helpourmarriage.org, or call Bill & Lyn Folsom (727) 343-6701. *Not counseling or group therapy.* All contacts and names held in absolute confidence.



Together in Holiness Marriage Conference

When: Sat., Nov. 21; 8 am – 3:15 pm

Where: Charlotte, NC and Greensboro, NC

Married and engaged couples are invited to the 8th Annual Together in Holiness Catholic Marriage Enrichment Conference, presented by the St. John Paul II Foundation and the Diocese of Charlotte. Spend a day strengthening your marriage through dynamic speakers, quality time together, and opportunities for Mass, Adoration, and Confession. Childcare will also be available.

Cost: \$64 per couple • \$40 per individual

Early Bird Registration: Register by October 5 for a discounted rate. Visit TogetherInHoliness.org or use the QR code to register.

Diocese Wedding Anniversary Mass & Reception

When: Sun., Oct. 11; 2 pm

Where: Cathedral of St. Patrick, Charlotte

Couples celebrating their 25th or 50th wedding anniversary are invited to the Diocese of Charlotte's Wedding Anniversary Mass & Reception.

Join other couples from across the diocese in giving thanks for the gift of marriage and celebrating this special milestone together.

Registration is required. Scan the QR code for details and to register.



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. John Cuppett (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 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

Director of Parish Operations

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704-948-0231, Ext. 102

Sacristan

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sacristan@stmarknc.org
704-948-0231, Ext. 211

Baptism Coordinator

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704-948-0231, Ext. 121

Sacrament Admin/Adoration

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

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704-948-0231, Ext. 155

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704-948-0231

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704-948-0231, Ext. 124

Middle School Youth Ministry Coordinator

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704-948-0231, Ext. 105

High School Youth Ministry Coordinator

Augustine Free
augustine.free@stmarknc.org
704-948-0231, Ext. 122

Tribunal Advocate

Rod Brostrom
rnbrostrom@rcdoc.org

Angelo Sedacca
asedacca@rcdoc.org

Bulletin Team

bulletin@stmarknc.org

Mass Schedule

Mon/Tue/Thu: 7, 9 am
Wed: 7 am, 6:30 pm
Fri: 7, 9 am
7 pm (Spanish)
Sat: 9 am, 5 pm Vigil
Sun: 7:30, 9, 11 am, 1 pm (Español), 5 pm

All Masses may be watched live: stmarknc.org/livestream
Please use Online Giving or mail in your offertory
stmarknc.org/Online-Giving

Please do not attend Mass if you are sick, have a fever or are in a high-risk group.

Confessions

Confessions are held 45 minutes prior to the start of Mass for a 30 minute duration.

In addition, Wednesday: 6 pm – 7:15 pm and Saturday: 3 pm – 5 pm

Rosary in the Church

Tue: 7–7:30 pm
Wed: Immediately preceding 6:30 pm Mass
Sat: Immediately preceding 5 pm Mass
Sun: Immediately preceding 7:30 am Mass

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration

Available in the Monsignor Bellow Adoration Chapel in the Family Center. See stmarknc.org/adoration for complete details.

Hospitalization

If you or your loved one are in an area hospital, call the Parish Office to reach one of the Priests. The Priests offer Confession, bring the Holy Eucharist to you or administer the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick.

Baptisms & Weddings

The use of the Church for Baptisms, Weddings and other Sacramental events is available to active parishioners. Contact the Parish Office. (Please note that weddings and baptisms cannot be celebrated during Lent.)

Financial Counseling

Complimentary and confidential services are available to provide financial literacy training, personal financial coaching and/or advocacy support for you and your family. Contact the Parish Office.

Carolina Catholic Corner Gift & Book Store

Open daily in the Family Center

Coffee & Conversation Social Gathering

Tuesdays, 9:30 am, Parish Hall.

Cursillo

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

Natural Family Planning

Joe and Kathy Hack; Sympto-Thermal Method;
704-548-1834; hackhouse@bellsouth.net; ccli.org

Elisabeth Laskowski; Creighton Model;
creightonmodel@gmail.com; 484-332-9084

Crisis Pregnancy Help

Community Pregnancy Center of Lake Norman:
704-727-0535
Catholic Charities: 704-370-3262; Birthright:
704-975-8572; Post Abortion: 1-800-5-WE CARE
Poor prenatal diagnosis? You're not alone. There is help.
benotafraid.net
Taken Abortion Pill? It may not be too late: Abortion Pill
Reversal 877-558-0333 or abortionpillreversal.com

Parishioner Assistance

Financial:

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

Life Crisis: Stephen Ministry
stmarknc.org/stephen-ministry

Food Insecurity:

Parish Office
stmarknc.org/assistance or
Emily.Bixler@stmarknc.org or
704-948-0231, Ext. 102

Al-Anon

Ellen | 704-907-8555
Alcoholics Anonymous
Tom | 704-604-7739

Alateen program

Paul G. | 704-641-0654

Divorce Support Group

For anyone going through separation and/or divorce. Meetings Monday 7 pm, Room 204. If parish offices are closed, meetings are at Lowe's Foods, exit 23.
Contact: divorce.support@stmarknc.org

DEL PÁRROCO



Vivir de manera mayordoma no es fácil. Morir a uno mismo y vivir para Cristo y los demás requiere sacrificio. Es la obra de toda una vida. Sin embargo, también es la

única obra que realmente importa y la única vida que, en última instancia, satisface.

En el Evangelio de hoy de San Mateo, Jesús dice a sus discípulos: "Quien quiera venir después de mí, que se niegue a sí mismo, tome su cruz y me siga." Al principio, esas palabras pueden sonar difíciles de aceptar. ¿Por qué alguien aceptaría voluntariamente un camino así?

Jesús nos da inmediatamente la respuesta: "Quien quiera salvar su vida la perderá, pero quien pierda la vida por mí causa la encontrará."

Todo se reduce al amor. Jesús nos amó por completo, entregándose por nosotros en la Cruz. Sigue entregándose a nosotros a través de Su Palabra y, sobre todo, en la Eucaristía.

Cada día nos enfrentamos a una elección: vivir para nosotros mismos o vivir para Dios y para los demás. El segundo camino es más exigente, pero conduce a la alegría duradera y a la promesa de la vida eterna. Cristo nos asegura que "vendrá con sus ángeles en la gloria de su Padre y entonces pagará todo según su conducta."

Que elijamos cada día perder la vida por el amor de Cristo, ofreciéndosela de vuelta a Él en respuesta agradecida a Su amor inconmensurable.

©Consultores de Gestión Católica, 2026

Reflexión pastoral – Dos diócesis italianas (Roma y Ventimiglia-Sanremo) bloquearon recientemente misas funerales católicas planificadas para dos masones prominentes después de que sus afiliaciones masónicas se hicieron públicas justo antes de las ceremonias. Esto ocurrió del 7 al 8 de agosto de 2026 y aplica una disciplina eclesiástica de larga data en lugar de una nueva política nacional de la conferencia episcopal italiana. Como algunas personas preguntaron sobre esto, pensé que sería un buen artículo.

Los casos

- **Roma:** Bruno Battisti D'Amario (88), guitarrista clásico y profesor estrechamente vinculado a la obra cinematográfica de Ennio Morricone,

falleció el 5 de agosto. Su misa funeral estaba programada para el 7 de agosto en Santa Maria in Montesanto (la "Iglesia de los Artistas" en la Piazza del Popolo). El Gran Oriente de Italia (GOI) le elogió públicamente como "hermano maestro", fundador de la logia romana Giuseppe Leti, compositor del himno oficial del GOI y titular de cargos superiores (incluyendo dos veces presidente del Colegio de Maestros Venerables del Distrito del Lacio). El cardenal Baldassarre Reina, vicario general de la Diócesis de Roma, consultó a la oficina legal diocesana y denegó la autorización para la misa funeral, permitiendo solo una breve oración como gesto de caridad cristiana.

- **Ventimiglia-Sanremo** (Liguria): Mario Tarducci (73), antiguo Venerable Maestre de la logia local Mimosa (n.º 985, Oriente de Bordighera), tenía un funeral programado al día siguiente en la iglesia parroquial de San Marco en Camporosso. El obispo Antonio Suetta se enteró de la afiliación solo después de que se hicieron los arreglos—a través de noticias locales y avisos públicos de defunción masónica. Tras consultar a la familia y al párroco, y tomar nota del caso simultáneo de Roma, suspendió el funeral eclesiástico bajo los mismos principios, limitándolo a simples oraciones al aire libre.

Base canónica y doctrinal

Ambas decisiones invocaban explícitamente el **Canon 1184** del **Código de Derecho Canónico**. Niega funerales eclesiásticos a quienes, sin signos de arrepentimiento antes de la muerte, son "notoriamente apóstatas, heréticos o cismáticos" o "otros pecadores manifiestos" cuyos funerales causarían escándalo público entre los fieles.

Esto se alinea con la enseñanza coherente de la Iglesia de que la masonería es incompatible con el catolicismo. La declaración de la Congregación para la Doctrina de la Fe de 1983 (bajo el entonces cardenal Ratzinger) reafirmó que los católicos que se unen a asociaciones masónicas están en un estado de grave pecado y no pueden recibir la Sagrada Comunión; el juicio negativo sobre los principios masónicos permanece sin cambios. La membresía pública y de alto nivel sin arrepentimiento conocido crea el elemento de "escándalo público" que desencadena la negación canónica.

No se trataba de prohibiciones generales para todos los masones, sino respuestas a casos *notorios* en los que la afiliación era proclamada abiertamente por las propias logias, haciendo que un funeral católico pareciera respaldar o ignorar la incompatibilidad. Han ocurrido solicitudes similares en el pasado (por ejemplo, casos de alto perfil con escándalos públicos). Sigue fomentándose el cuidado pastoral para la familia en duelo: se pueden ofrecer intenciones de misa o una misa conmemorativa *sine corpore* (sin el cuerpo presente).

En resumen, dos obispos aplicaron con firmeza la ley existente una vez que las membresías se hicieron públicas y notorias. Los episodios han llamado la atención precisamente porque refuerzan la disciplina de larga data en medio de las tensiones continuas entre la Iglesia y la masonería en Italia.

También nos recuerda a todos que uno no puede presentarse como católico y vivir de una manera que contradiga la enseñanza de la Iglesia.

St. John



Planificación
Familiar
Natural



sábado 5 de Septiembre



9:30 AM - 3:00 PM

980 374 3431

Donación \$30
Incluye Material
y Almuerzo

Regístrese usando código QR



Ayudando a las parejas casadas a profundizar en el amor conyugal.

 Iglesia Católica Nuestra Señora de la Merced 1730 Link Rd. Winston-Salem NC 27103


THE SOCIETY FOR FINANCIAL AWARENESS


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

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

John Balcerzak
 Investment Advisor
 Representative,
 Certified Financial
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Shauntae Funkhouser
 Investment Advisor
 Representative,
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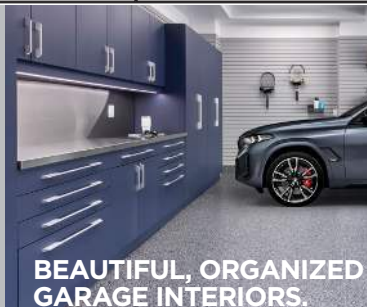
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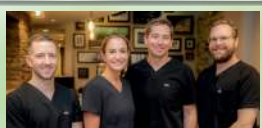
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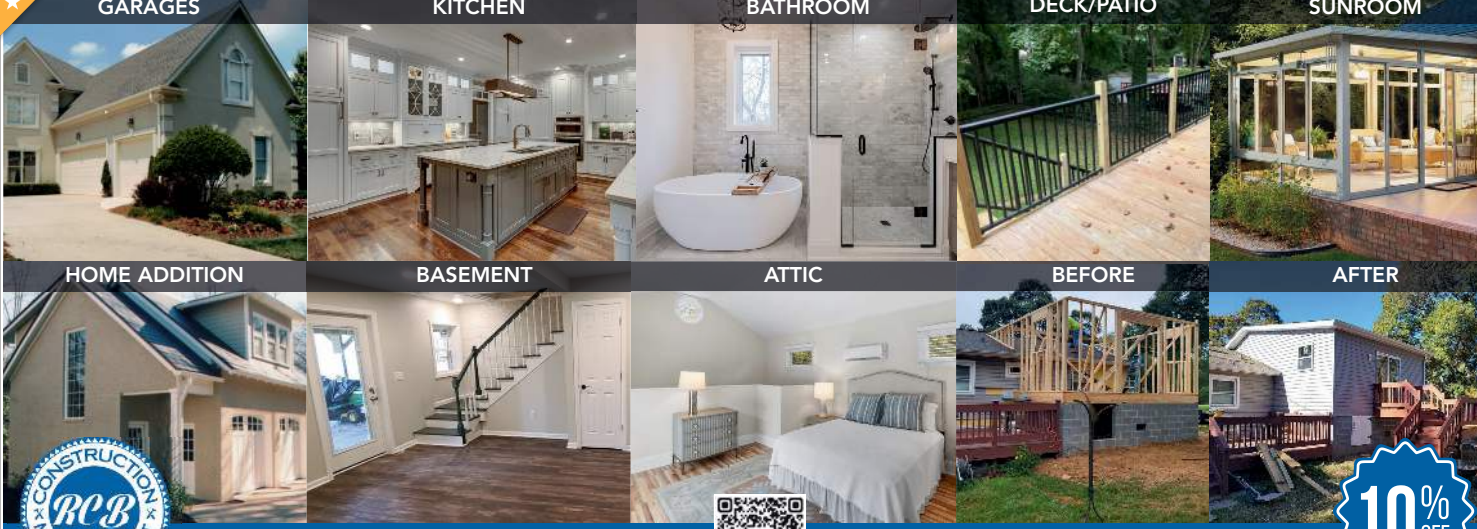
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