

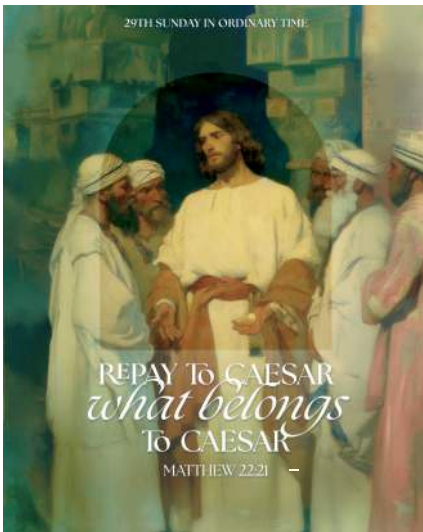


October, Month of the Holy Rosary

SAINT  MARK

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time • October 18, 2026 • Español Page 16

WELCOME TO ST. MARK!



Today we celebrate the 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time. The readings can be found in the music handouts or in the St. Augustine Hymnal on page 940. 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 becomes a steward 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.

Diocesan Priests' Retreat

Our priests will be on retreat October 19-23.

Please note the following changes to the schedule:

7 am Masses: Canceled

9 am daily Masses: Liturgy of the Word and Communion service instead of Mass

Wed., 6:30 pm Mass: Liturgy of the Word and Communion service instead of Mass

Confession: Canceled all week

Please keep our priests and all of the priests in the Diocese of Charlotte in your prayers as they have some much-deserved time for prayer, rest, and renewal.

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.



COMMUNION GUIDELINES 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 either 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.

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.

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



Today's readings remind us to be mindful not only of who we are, but also Whose we are.

In today's Gospel, the Pharisees attempt to trap Jesus by asking whether it is lawful to pay the tax to Caesar. Their question is meant to force Him into choosing sides. But Jesus refuses to be drawn into their narrow way of thinking.

Instead, He asks whose image appears on the coin. When they

answer, "Caesar," Jesus responds, "Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."

Those words remind us that while we have responsibilities in this world, our first allegiance belongs to God. Everything we have comes from Him, and through Baptism we have become His sons and daughters.

Our time, our talents, our treasure, and our very lives are gifts entrusted to us by the Lord. May we use them each day in grateful response to His goodness, remembering that we belong to Him above all else. © Catholic Stewardship Conference, 2026

Pastoral Pondering – With the mid-term elections coming up and early voting beginning this past week, I thought it would be a good idea to remind everyone the importance of Catholics voting and engaging in civil life.

On November 3 we will elect members of Congress, state officials, and many local officeholders. Midterm elections draw fewer voters than a presidential year, yet they shape the laws under which we live: the protection of human life, the freedom of the Church to teach and serve, the strength of the family, the care of the poor, and the education of the young. To stay home is not neutrality. It leaves those decisions to others.

The Church has long taught that citizenship is part of charity. The Catechism says that co-responsibility for the common good makes it "morally obligatory... to exercise the right to vote" (CCC 2240). Pope Francis put it plainly: a good Catholic does not stand apart from politics, but offers the best of himself so that

those who govern may serve the good of all. Voting is one ordinary way we do that.

It is also a moral act, not a team sport. Our identity in Christ comes before any party label. The U.S. bishops, in **Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship** (scan code), remind us that we form our consciences by the Gospel and the Church's teaching, then vote in light of that formation. A well-formed conscience does not support a program that contradicts the fundamental contents of faith and morals. Some acts are always gravely wrong: the direct taking of innocent human life, including abortion and euthanasia; attacks on the nature of marriage; religious persecution; and the deliberate degradation of the poor. Other issues—immigration, wages, housing, care of creation, criminal justice—also belong to the common good and require prudent judgment about what will help people. Not every issue carries the same moral weight, and rarely does one candidate embody the whole of Catholic social teaching. We weigh, we pray, and we choose the path that best protects human dignity and advances the common good.

A few practical steps help. Read the bishops' guidance and, where available, nonpartisan comparisons of candidates' records and stated positions. Pray before you vote, perhaps with the family. Discuss the issues with charity, remembering that the person across the aisle is also made in the image of God. Then vote. If you cannot get to the polls, use whatever law the state provides. Participation does not end at the ballot box: write your representatives, serve the poor, and keep the Church's voice in the public square after Election Day.

Here at St. Mark we will not tell you whom to support. That judgment belongs to your conscience, formed by the faith. We will urge you not to surrender that conscience to habit, fear, or party. The Lord who will judge nations also judges how we used the freedom we were given. May we use it well.

A handwritten signature in black ink.



<https://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/faithful-citizenship/forming-consciences-for-faithful-citizenship-part-one>

Election Novena

When: Mon., Oct. 26–Tues., Nov. 3;
Weekdays, 5:30–5:45 pm

Where: Church

As Election Day approaches, parishioners are invited to join in praying a short Election Novena for our country, our elected leaders and the protection of human life. We will gather in the church each weekday through Election Day to pray together for wisdom and guidance as voters prepare to cast their ballots.

Prayers can be found on page 11.



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

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

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Note: There will not be a 7 am daily Mass due to the Diocesan Priests' Retreat. There will be a Liturgy of the Word and Communion Service* during the weekday "No Mass" times.

Sunday, October 18

7:30 am † Rosalie Sternisha
9 am St. Mark Parishioners
11 am † Antoni Kalinowski
1 pm † Deacon Ron Sherwood
4:30 pm † Matthew Carns
5 pm † Marilyn Bissinger

Monday, October 19

9 am Priest Retreat - No Mass*

Tuesday, October 20

9 am Priest Retreat - No Mass*

Wednesday, October 21

6:30 pm Priest Retreat - No Mass*

Thursday, October 22

9 am Priest Retreat - No Mass*

Friday, October 23

7 pm Priest Retreat - No Mass*

Saturday, October 24

9 am † Rodney Clair
5 pm † Thomas Rihn

Sunday, October 25

7:30 am † Patricia Fall
9 am † Kathleen O'Sullivan
11 am St. Mark Parishioners
1 pm Mary Fernandez
4:30 pm † Dean Metz
5 pm † Rosa Elena Cediel

† Deceased

Stay Connected With St. Mark.
Find us on all social media platforms



or sign up for our weekly enewsletter at
stmarknc.org/emailnewsletter

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 Morelli; 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. Bobby 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

Coast Guard: BM2 Hannah Schramke

..and all service members not listed.

READINGS

For the Week of October 18, 2026

Sunday Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
45:1, 4-6; Ps 96:1, 3, 4-5, 7-8, 9-10; 1 Thes 1:1-5b;
Mt 22:15-21

Monday Memorial of Saints John de Brébeuf and Isaac Jogues, Priests and Companions, Martyrs
Eph 2:1-10; Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4ab, 4c-5; Lk 12:13-21

Tuesday

Eph 2:12-22; Ps 85:9ab-10, 11-12, 13-14;
Lk 12:35-38

Wednesday

Eph 3:2-12; Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6; Lk 12:39-48

Thursday

Eph 3:14-21; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 11-12, 18-19;
Lk 12:49-53

Friday

Eph 4:1-6; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 12:54-59

Saturday

Eph 4:7-16; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5; Lk 13:1-9

Sunday Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ex 22:20-26; Ps 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51; 1 Thes 1:5c-10;
Mt 22:34-40

Getting to know you... getting to know us.



You're Invited to a
NEW MEMBER
MEET & GREET
Sun., Oct. 25, 12-1:30 pm
after the 11 am Mass, in the Kerin Family Center

Are you new to St. Mark or still feeling new? We'd love to welcome you personally at our next New Parishioner Meet and Greet! Join us after the 11 am Mass for a relaxed reception and a light lunch where you'll meet fellow parishioners, connect with our clergy, staff, and ministry leaders, and discover all the ways you can get involved in parish life. Whether you're looking for spiritual enrichment, community events, volunteer opportunities, or just friendly faces, you'll find it here.

This is a perfect way to ask questions, learn more about the parish, and start feeling truly at home at St. Mark. Please RSVP at stmarknc.org/meet-and-greet.



*Go out into the main roads & invite
to the Feast Whomever You Find.*
Matthew 22:9



Estate Planning Awareness

Did you know that over 2/3 of American adults lack an up-to-date estate plan?

National Estate Planning Awareness Week starts October 19.

Having a will **is** good stewardship. Don't put off planning your estate.... for we know not the day nor the hour. Good stewardship dictates that we look ahead and make provisions for our family and our Church.

Make a will or revise the one you have if you haven't done so in the last five years.

Planning now will help those we love live peacefully in the future.



St. Mark Calendar of Events

October 24-November 1

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Sunday, October 25

New Member Meet & Greet

Middle/High School Fall Fest

Monday, October 26

Astralis Concert, 7 pm

Tuesday, October 27

Lord of Miracles, 7 pm

Saturday, October 31

Relic Veneration

Sunday, November 1

All Saints Day Donut Sunday

Christmas Giving Tree Kick Off

Monday, November 2

All Souls Day

Northlake Cemetery Mass, 12:10 pm

Mass of Remembrance, 7 pm

November 7-8

Men's Welcome Retreat

Wednesday, November 11

Veteran's Day Offices Closed

Saturday, November 14

Turkey Race

Marriage Date Night

Wednesday, November 18

Young at Heart Luncheon

Friday, November 20

Middle School Craft & Football

Tuesday, November 24

Prayer and Praise

Thursday, November 26

Thanksgiving, Offices Closed

Sunday, November 29

Advent Begins

Saturday, December 5

Family Christmas Event

Sunday, December 6

St. Nicholas Breakfast

Monday, December 7

Room in the Inn begins

Tuesday, December 8

Immaculate Conception Holy Day

Offices Closed

Thursday, December 10

The Vigil Project Concert

Stewardship Spotlight: Offertory

Every week at St. Mark, thousands of people come through our doors to worship, pray, learn, serve and connect with one another. Behind all of that parish life are the everyday expenses that make it possible.

Yes, that means keeping the lights on, maintaining our buildings, paying our staff and even providing the donuts after Sunday Mass!

But it also means supporting Faith Formation, parish ministries, outreach to families in need and the many ways St. Mark serves our community.

Our weekly offertory makes all of this possible.

Like our own households, St. Mark is facing rising costs. Utilities, insurance, maintenance, supplies and other operating expenses continue to increase.

When was the last time you reviewed your offertory giving?

Many parishioners generously give through automatic online contributions.

It's a wonderful way to support the parish consistently, but it's also easy to set an amount and forget about it.

If you haven't reviewed your giving in several years, we invite you to take another look.

Stewardship isn't about everyone giving the same amount. It's about prayerfully considering what we have been given and what we can share.

A small increase, given consistently by many families, can make a meaningful difference.

As our parish continues to grow, so do the needs of the people we serve.

Thank you for the many ways you already support St. Mark through your time, talents and treasure.

Together, we can continue to Grow in Christ, Serve One Another, Share Our Gifts and Connect in Faith.

Review or begin your offertory giving:
stmarknc.org/online-giving



A SEASON OF SHARING AND SERVING

Faith put into action through the everyday work of our parish!

Thank you to everyone who donated coats, blankets, toys, baby clothing and equipment last weekend.

Your generosity will help families throughout our community, and we are grateful to the volunteers who made the collection possible.

More Than Collecting Things

Our faith calls us to recognize the dignity of every person and respond with love. The Corporal Works of Mercy remind us that caring for our neighbors is not just something we talk about. It is something we do:

- A coat for someone who is cold.
- Groceries for a family's Thanksgiving dinner.
- A Christmas gift for someone who might otherwise go without.

These simple acts of generosity are part of the everyday work of our parish and our call to Share Our Gifts and Serve One Another.

What's Next?

- Thanksgiving Food Drive: Pick up a grocery bag after Mass this weekend and return it filled over the next two weekends. \$25 grocery store gift cards are also welcome.
- Christmas Giving Tree: Beginning Nov. 1, choose an ornament and help provide Christmas gifts for someone in need.

Volunteer: Help collect, sort and organize donations. Every effort depends on parishioners willing to give their time.

During Respect Life Month and throughout the year, we are called to care for one another at every stage of life.

Thank you for continuing to Share Our Gifts and Serve One Another, making Christ's love visible in our community.

ONE IN CHRIST, United in Mission

100 YEARS OF WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

World Mission Sunday October 18th, 2026

"Let us be charitable about the missions, remembering that the Lord who said: 'Go teach all nations' is the same Lord who bewailed: 'I have mercy on the multitudes.'"

— **Blessed Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen**
National Director
The Pontifical Mission Societies USA
(1950 - 1966)

Give by Text "MISSIONS26" TO 53555

Last year your gift helped:

- Form 48% of seminarians worldwide
- Build 751 new churches
- Support 1130 missions dioceses
- Train 843,785 missionary catechists
- Support 50% of all religious sisters worldwide

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE



NEED HELP?

If you are experiencing food insecurity and could use a little help this Thanksgiving to feed your family, please email stewardship@stmarknc.org.

Our annual Thanksgiving Food Drive starts this weekend! Please donate Grocery Store GIFT CARDS in the amount of \$25 and nonperishable, unopened FOOD items. **PLEASE NO GLASS!**

All donations will help families at St. Mark and the surrounding communities. Our goal is to give all adopted families a bag of groceries and a grocery store gift card so they can buy fresh meat and produce.

Volunteers will be available to collect donations after all Masses on the weekends of **October 24/25, and October 31/Nov. 1**

FOOD ITEMS can be dropped off before Mass each weekend in the wooden box located in the church Narthex from now until November 1. Gift Cards may be turned in at the Welcome Desk in the Family Center during business hours or given to collection volunteers before Mass.

REQUESTED DONATIONS:

Thanksgiving Food Items-Non-perishable

Stuffing * Instant Potatoes * Rice * Macaroni & Cheese * Canned Yams / Sweet Potatoes Canned Vegetables (Corn, Peas, Green Beans, Carrots) * Beans (Dried or Canned) * Gravy (Canned or Dried Mix) * Fruit (Canned, Fruit Cups, Applesauce) * Dessert Mixes (Cornbread, Brownies, Cookies, Cake Mix)

General Food Items – Non-perishable

Peanut Butter and Jelly * Pasta and Pasta Sauce * Canned Meat / Fish * Breakfast Foods (Oatmeal, Cereal) * Canned Soup * Juice boxes * Baking (Flour, Sugar) * Snacks (Crackers, Granola Bars, Cookies)

PLEASE CHECK EXPIRATION DATES ON ALL NON-PERISHABLES

Thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity. Please contact KC Shinnars 704-458-8783; nccnms1@yahoo.com with any questions.

A Reminder About Weekly Church Envelopes

Please remember to turn in your church envelopes every week, whether or not you are making a monetary contribution. Envelopes are an important tool for recording and tracking Mass attendance. These records are used when verifying active parish membership and preparing letters of good standing, as well as godparent and Confirmation sponsor eligibility forms.

Your weekly envelope also helps us maintain accurate attendance records. Thank you for your cooperation and for being an active part of our parish community!

If you would like to receive envelopes, please email Sue.Bruce@stmarknc.org.



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

PARISH LIFE

Lunch and Learn: Breaking Down Ageism for Awareness and Action

When: Mon., Nov. 2; 11 am-1 pm

Where: Parish Hall

Ageism refers to the stereotypes (how we think), prejudices (how we feel), and discrimination (how we act) toward others or ourselves on age. It can exist in many forms and influences everything from personal interactions to public policy, impacting us at every age.

Do you view aging as the glass HALF-EMPTY: pessimism, weakness, fear, sadness, loneliness, regret or HALF-FULL: optimism, adventure, opportunity, friendship, health, purpose, passion?

A complimentary lunch is included. Registration required.

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



New Altar Server Training

When: Sun., Oct. 18; 2:30 pm

Where: Church

Training for new Altar Servers will be held at 2:30 pm on Sunday, October 18 in the Church. Students who are rising 4th grade or older are welcome to learn to serve the Lord. Contact: Emily Bixler, Emily.Bixler@stmarknc.org



WHAT
MATTERS
MOST?

WHO IS
GOD
CALLING
YOU
TO BE?

THERE IS
MORE TO
LIFE.

 **DynamicCatholic.com**
Be Bold. Be Catholic.

MEN, THERE IS MORE TO LIFE.

MEN'S WELCOME RETREAT NOVEMBER 7-8

Maybe you've asked yourself: What am I here for? What matters most? Am I becoming the man God is calling me to be?

Sometimes we need to step away from the demands of everyday life long enough to ask the questions that matter.

The St. Mark Men's Welcome Retreat is a 1½-day experience created by Dynamic Catholic and led by men of our own parish.

Through personal witness, fellowship, prayer, Mass, Adoration and time for reflection, Welcome offers an opportunity to look more deeply at your life, your faith and your relationship with God. It is a time to build genuine friendships with other Catholic men along the way.

Since 2020, more than 400 men of St. Mark have attended a Welcome Retreat. This fall, we invite you to be part of our eighth Men's Welcome Retreat.

You don't need to be at a particular place in your faith.

Welcome is for the man who feels close to God, the man who feels far away, and everyone in between.

Come as you are.

There is no cost to attend, but space is limited.

REGISTER TODAY:

Please use the QR code or go to
stmarknc.org/welcome-retreat



Welcome.
There is More to Life

45+ Singles October Fellowship Event

When: Sun., Oct. 25, 5-8 pm

Where: H2 Public House, 19906
N. Cove Road, Cornelius

Ready to meet some new faces?

Join singles ages 45 and older for a night out at H2 Public House in Jetton Village. Relax, enjoy good conversation and grab a bite from their excellent food menu. Bring a friend along!

Please RSVP so we can reserve a table with enough room for everyone.

We look forward to an evening of good company and wonderful conversation!

Questions? 45plussingles@gmail.com





Stephen Ministry: Help, Hope, Healing

*Are you going through a difficult time
and wishing you had someone to
talk to?*

*You don't have to face life's challenges
alone. Sometimes having someone who
will listen, pray with you, and walk
alongside you can make all the
difference.*

Life brings seasons when we all need someone to listen, encourage, and pray with us. Whether you are grieving the loss of a loved one, facing illness, caring for a family member, experiencing divorce or separation, struggling with loneliness, unemployment, parenting challenges, or another difficult life circumstance, you don't have to walk through it alone.

Stephen Ministers are trained parishioners who provide one-on-one, confidential Christian care to those who are hurting. They offer a compassionate presence, a listening ear, and ongoing support rooted in Christ's love.

If you or someone you know could benefit from the care of a Stephen Minister, please contact Leanne Vaccaro at leanne.vaccaro@stmarknc.org or Rich Kull at rkull@columbus.rr.com.

Learn more at:

stmarknc.org/stephen-ministry.

Astralis Returns to St. Mark: Masters of the Baroque

When: Mon., Oct. 26; 7 pm

Where: St. Mark Church

We are pleased to welcome the Astralis Chamber Ensemble back to St. Mark for the third time this year, this time for Masters of the Baroque. The award-winning ensemble features Angela Massey, flute; Seeun Baek, violin; Edward Luengo, cello; and Alexandra Dunbar, harpsichord.

The evening will feature works by some of the great composers of the Baroque period, including Bach, Telemann, Handel, C.P.E. Bach and Vivaldi.

These concerts have become an important part of the cultural and musical life of our parish. The Church has long recognized the value of beauty and the arts, and offering excellent music in our church gives us an opportunity to slow down, listen and experience something beautiful together. Whether the music is explicitly sacred or simply beautifully composed, it can lift our hearts and remind us that our faith has always made room for beauty, creativity and the gifts of the artist.

If you have not attended one of the Astralis concerts at St. Mark, this is a wonderful opportunity to experience chamber music right here in our own church.

ASTRALIS
CHAMBER ENSEMBLE

Angela Massey
FLUTE

Seeun Baek
VIOLIN

Edward Luengo
CELLO

Alexandra Dunbar
HARPSICHORD

Masters of the Baroque

The award-winning musicians of the Astralis Chamber Ensemble have been described as "scary good" and "truly riveting." Angela Massey (flute), Seeun Baek (violin), Edward Luengo (cello), and Alexandra Dunbar (harpsichord) present "Masters of the Baroque." The concert will feature virtuosic works by substantial composers from the Baroque period, including JS Bach, Telemann, Handel, CPE Bach, and Vivaldi. Join us for a brilliant evening of music with the Astralis Chamber Ensemble.

October 26, 2026

St. Mark Catholic Church
14740 Stumptown Rd
Huntersville, NC 28078

7:00 PM

Coffee & Conversation

Every Tuesday after
9am Mass in the
Kerin Family Center

Meet new people.
Enjoy old friends.
Connect to the community.

GROW IN CHRIST

The Month of the Holy Rosary

October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary, an invitation to spend time in prayer reflecting on the life of Jesus and Mary.

At St. Mark, our stained glass windows depict all 20 Mysteries of the Rosary, from the Annunciation to the Coronation of Mary, featured on this week's cover. Take a little time before or after Mass to walk through the church, look closely at the windows and reflect on the mysteries they represent.

To help you pray, Rosary prayer guides featuring our windows are available in the Narthex and online at www.stmarknc.org/mysteries-of-the-rosary.

We are also blessed with our Rosary Makers Ministry, Our Lady Undoer of Knots, whose members meet monthly to make rosaries for others. Through their work, they help bring the gift of prayer to people far beyond our parish.

Whether you pray the Rosary every day or haven't picked one up in years, October is a wonderful time to begin again. Pick up a prayer guide, spend a few quiet moments with our windows, or join fellow parishioners in praying the Rosary at church.

The Rosary is prayed in the church on Tuesdays at 7 pm and before the Wednesday 6:30 pm, Saturday 5 pm and Sunday 7:30 am Masses.

The Coronation of Mary

The Month of the Holy Rosary, offers us a unique an time to look more closely at St.

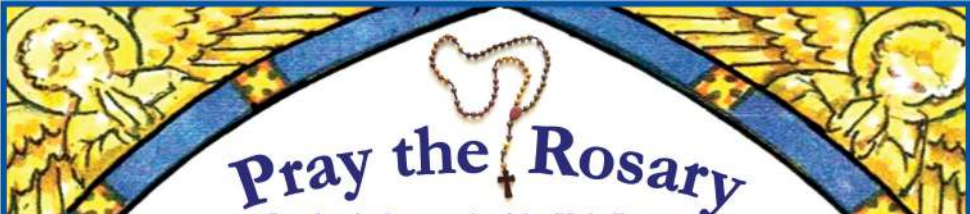


Mark's Coronation of Mary window, featured in detail on this week's cover.

One of the most distinctive windows in our church, it was installed on a cold day in February

2021 and depicts the fifth Glorious Mystery: Mary crowned as Queen of Heaven and Earth.

The imagery recalls the woman in Revelation 12:1, clothed with the sun, with the moon beneath her feet and a crown of twelve stars upon her head. The intertwined M and R at the center stand for Maria Regina, Latin for "Mary, Queen." In the full window, buildings rise above



Pray the Rosary

October is the month of the Holy Rosary.

The stained glass windows in the church represent each of the 20 Mysteries of the Rosary. Please come, pray and reflect on the life, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Pray privately, or join us on Tuesdays at 7 pm in the church to pray with a group.

Start by making the sign of the Cross:
In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Then recite the Apostle's Creed:
I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son Our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into Hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God, the Father almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen.

Then say: 1 Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, then 1 Glory Be:
Our Father, Who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of death. Amen.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Pray the Rosary Proper
The traditional Rosary is divided into four parts, each having five mysteries: Glorious, Joyful, Sorrowful and Luminous.

For those who wish to say all 20 decades at once during the course of a day, they may be said in the following order: Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful and Glorious.

For those who wish to say only 5 decades per day, Pope St. John Paul II proposed the following schedule:

Monday	Joyful
Tuesday	Sorrowful
Wednesday	Glorious
Thursday	Luminous
Friday	Sorrowful
Saturday	Joyful
Sunday	Glorious

While meditating on the Mysteries, recite:
1 Our Father (large beads)
10 Hail Marys (small beads)
1 Glory Be (before the next large bead)

After each decade the Fatima Prayer may also be said: O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven, especially those who are in most need of Thy mercy.

Concluding Prayers
After the completion of the set of mysteries the following is customarily said:
Hail, holy Queen, mother of mercy, our life, our sweetness, and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve. To thee do we send up our sighs mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us, and after this our exile show us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary. Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ. Let us pray.

O God, whose only begotten Son, by His life, death, and resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal salvation. Grant, we beseech Thee, that while meditating on these mysteries of the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, that we may both imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mary, suggesting the heavenly city. Angels surround her, while a hand reaches down from above, a traditional symbol of God's presence. The clouds, lightning, and droplet-shaped glass recall the dramatic opening of God's sanctuary amid lightning and thunder in Revelation 11:19.

The heaviest and most intricate of our stained glass windows, it incorporates many kinds of glass. This week's cover brings the varied textures of its gold and white panels into closer view.

Praying the Rosary invites us to reflect on the mysteries, even as we repeat familiar prayers. This month, let the window help you pause at the final Glorious Mystery, contemplating Mary's coronation and the hope of sharing eternal life with God.

Rosary Maker's Ministry

When: Sat., Oct. 24; 10 am

Where: Parish Hall Room 204

Would you like to be a part of the ministry devoted to making rosaries? Everyone is Welcome!

Whether you are a beginner (we will teach you) or someone who has been making Rosaries for years, we need you!

If you enjoy making things with your hands, have a devotion to the Blessed Mother and the Rosary please consider becoming part of this Ministry.

If you plan on joining us, please call or email Sharon Torczynski, rosaryblessing@aol.com.

ADORATION

"Those who spend time in the presence of Christ are recognized by others as having been with Him." -- Blessed Fulton Sheen

By: Donna Fodale/Adoration Coordinator

A few weeks ago, Bishop Fulton Sheen was made a Blessed. I remember as a young child visiting my Grandparents and his show, Life is Worth Living would be on the television.

There was something about him that would make me stop and listen to him speak, even as a young child.

Finding out, that not only did he have a devotion to Eucharistic Adoration but that he actually made a daily Holy Hour, and he did this for over 60 years, has been inspiring!

He described the Holy Hour not merely as a devotion but as a sharing in Christ's redemptive work, offering reparation for those who do not pray and uniting with the innocent suffering of Christ for the salvation of humanity. Fulton Sheen believed that through this intimate time with the Eucharist, one grows increasingly into the likeness of Christ.

From his First Communion, Fulton Sheen felt a calling to the priesthood, recognizing even at a young age that the Eucharist was central to the Church and the priestly vocation.

One of the things that he said that truly set my heart on fire was how he encouraged everyone to make a Holy Hour, noting that those who spend time in the presence of Christ are recognized by others as having been with Him.

It reminded me of how as a child my grandmother would often watch me after school or when I was home sick. My grandmother wore a particular perfume that I just loved. After hugging her and

spending the day with her I would smell just like her! It was wonderful! My brothers would often remark that they knew that I was with my grandmother. They would say that they could smell her perfume on me. I loved hearing that because not only did I love my grandmother, but I wanted to be like her in many ways.

This is what I imagine that Bishop Sheen was illuding to. When we spend time with the Lord we become more like him. An abundance of grace pours forth from Jesus in the Monstrance. Each time we come before Him we are changed, transformed and healed.

Blessed Fulton Sheen also said, **"Everyone, make the Holy Hour, and you will discover as you leave the divine Presence that if you move among people in the world, they will say of you as the maid said of Peter, 'You have been with Christ.' And then at the end of a lifetime spent in adoration of the Lord, and in love of the Blessed Mother, of the Blessed Sacrament, when you come before the Lord do you know what He will say to you? He will say, 'I heard my Mother speak of you.'**

How profound! I pray that Blessed Fulton Sheen intercedes for all of us, asking for us to be stirred up with a Holy Divine Love for the Eucharist. I pray that the desire to spend time with the Lord in Adoration consumes our hearts and that one day we too, God willing become the Saints that the Lord is calling each one of us to be. Viva Cristo Rey!

Please prayerfully consider signing up to be a weekly Adorer or a Sub. register at: www.stmarknc.org/adoration

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

Holy Face Election Novena Prayer

by Bl. Pope Pius IX

The Novena begins

Monday, October 26 through Election Day Tuesday, November 3

You can pray the below novena each at home or together in the church weekdays at 5:30 pm. On the weekend of October 31/November 1, please pray both prayers at home privately.

Oh my Jesus! Cast upon us a look of mercy. Turn Thy Face towards each one of us even as Thou didst turn to Veronica, not that we may see It with the eyes of our body, for we do not deserve to do so. But turn It towards our hearts, that being sustained by Thee, we may ever draw from that powerful source, the vigor necessary to enable us to wage the combats we have to undergo. Amen.

Through the merits of Thy Precious Blood and Thy Holy Face, O Jesus, grant us our petition:

May voters choose elected leaders who will uphold the dignity of every human life, sanctity of marriage, liberty of the Church and her members; and may the newly elected officials be guided by the Holy Spirit as they fulfill their positions.

Mary, our Mother, and St Joseph, pray for us. Amen.

Prayer for the Election: Consecration of the Election to the Blessed Virgin Mary

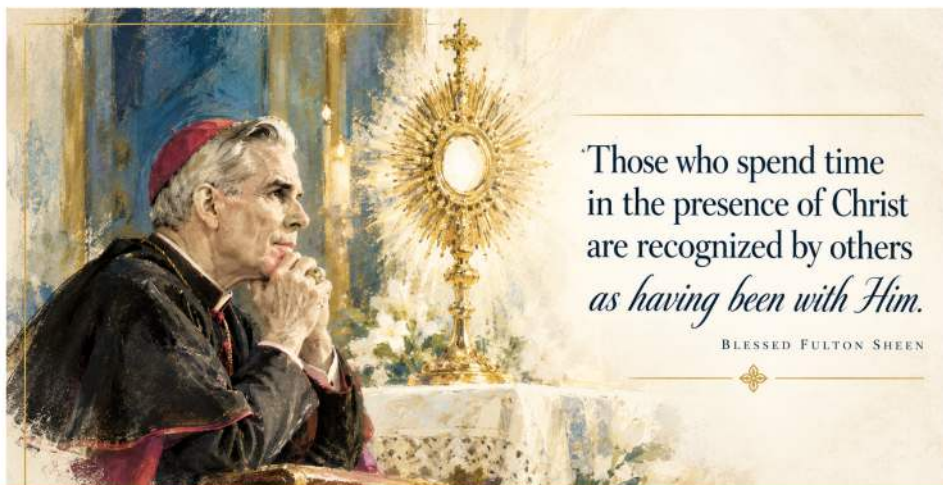
Mary Immaculate, living tabernacle of the Divinity, where the eternal Wisdom lies hidden to be adored and served by angels and men, Queen of heaven and of earth, beneath whose sway are subject all things that are lower than God, Patroness of the United States of America, sorrowful and mindful of our own sinfulness and the sins of our nation, we come to thee, our refuge and hope.

Knowing that our country cannot be saved by our own works and mindful of how much our nation has departed from the ways of thy Son, we humbly ask that thou wouldst turn thine eyes upon our country to bring about its conversion.

We consecrate to thee the integrity of the upcoming election and its outcome, so that what is spiritually and morally best for the citizens of our country may be accomplished, and that all of those who are elected would govern according to the spiritual and moral principles which will bring our nation into conformity with the teachings of thy Son.

Give grace to the citizens of this land so that they will choose leaders according to the Sacred Heart of thy Son, that His glory may be made manifest, lest we be given the leaders we deserve. Trusting in the providential care of God the Father and thy maternal care, we have perfect confidence that thou wilt take care of us and will not leave us forsaken.

O Mary Immaculate, pray for us. Amen.
(Composed by exorcist Fr. Chad Ripperger)



*"Those who spend time
in the presence of Christ
are recognized by others
as having been with Him."*

BLESSED FULTON SHEEN



St. Mark Catholic Church
FIRST INAUGURAL
TURKEY RACE
SAVE THE DATE!

CHRIST THE KING
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14 | RACES BEGIN AT 10:00 AM | CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL PRACTICE FIELD

RACES BY AGE GROUP (AGES 5-18) | AWARDS FOR PARTICIPANTS AND TOP FINISHERS | FAMILY ACTIVITIES | TURKEY THEMED FUN | FAITH FELLOWSHIP & COMMUNITY

FIRST PLACE WINS A TURKEY > FOR THEIR HOUSEHOLD! <

For more information, contact:
Emilio Gomez | egomez@rcdoc.org

St. Mark's First Annual Turkey Race: Save the Date!

When: Sat., Nov. 14; 10 am

Where: Christ the King Catholic High School Practice Field

Mark your calendars for St. Mark's first Turkey Race! Children and teens ages 5-18 are invited to participate in races by age group, with awards for participants and top finishers. First-place winners will take home a turkey for their household!

Enjoy family activities, Thanksgiving-themed fun and parish fellowship.

More details coming soon!

Information: Emilio Gomez,
egomez@rcdoc.org

MARRIAGE
Date Night

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2026
6:00 – 9:00 PM

Make time for the two of you.

Join us for an evening of dinner, laughter, fellowship, and meaningful connection. Discover a simple Daily Check-In you can take home and use to strengthen your marriage—one conversation at a time.

DINNER | LAUGHTER | FELLOWSHIP | MEANINGFUL CONNECTION

\$50 PER COUPLE
DINNER INCLUDED

REGISTER AT
stmarknc.org/marriage-ministry

*Come as you are.
Leave a little more connected.*

SAINT LUKE
the EVANGELIST

WITH DR. BEN AKERS
AND TAYLOR KEMP

SAINT FEAST DAY | OCTOBER 18

formed
Forming Catholics for Life.

St. Luke | Catholic Saints

Known as the beloved physician and faithful friend of St. Paul, St. Luke is a crucial figure for the Church's knowledge of Christ's earthly ministry and the early Church. Join Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp as they explore the life and legacy of the author of the Gospel according to Luke and the Acts of the Apostles.

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



High School Life Teen

All high school students are invited to join us for another exciting year of Life Teen!

Life Teen gathers on Sunday evenings after the 5 p.m. Mass for engaging talks, small-group discussions, games, prayer, fun and opportunities to build friendships. And dinner is always included!

Coming Up:

October 18: No Life Teen

October 25: Harvest Festival for Middle & High School

Stay Connected! Sign up for Life Teen emails and texts through Flocknote. Scan the QR code or visit stmarknc.flocknote.com/lifeteen.



For more information, contact Gus Free at augustine.free@stmarknc.org.



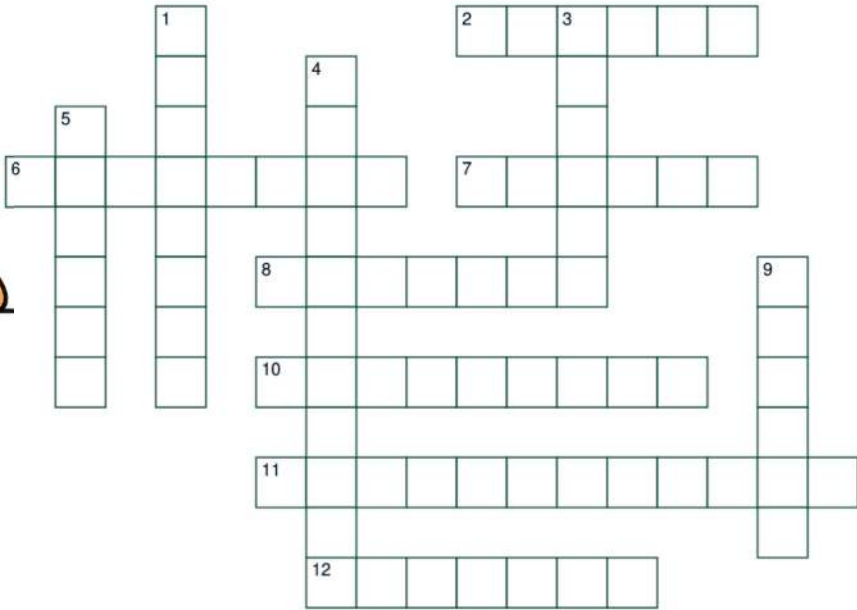
ST. MARK BULLETIN CROSSWORD

Look through this week's bulletin for clues. How many can you solve?



A Pumpkin Is Hiding in This Bulletin!

Somewhere in these 16 pages, a little pumpkin is hiding. Can you find it? Look carefully. It could be almost anywhere!



ACROSS

- 2. The prize for first place at our November race.
- 6. What many children wear on Halloween.
- 7. We celebrate them on November 1.
- 8. The five Georgia missionaries being beatified.
- 10. Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.
- 11. The holiday featured in our food drive.
- 12. Find the hidden one somewhere in this bulletin!

DOWN

- 1. Youth Ministry's fall celebration on October 25.
- 3. Reminders of the saints displayed at All Saints Masses.
- 4. Sharing our time, talent and treasure.
- 5. October is the month of the Holy ____.
- 9. Nine days of prayer, including one for the election.

ALLHALLOWTIDE... MAKE HALLOWEEN HOLY!

Make Your Halloween Holy!

Did you know Halloween comes from All Hallows' Eve, the evening before All Saints Day? Costumes, pumpkins and candy can all be part of the fun while remembering the Catholic roots of the celebration!



Five Ways to Make Halloween Holy!

Dress the part! Trade a superhero cape for a saint's costume. Who's your favorite saint?

Carve with a purpose! Try a cross or Rosary design on your pumpkin.

Share the sweetness! Be generous with candy and kindness to your neighbors.

Remember someone! Say a prayer for a loved one who has died.

Celebrate the saints! Come to Mass on All Saints Day and see the relics at St. Mark!

What's in a Name?

Oct. 31 | Halloween: All Hallows' Eve, the evening before All Saints Day.

Nov. 1 | All Saints Day: Celebrating all the saints in heaven, known and unknown.

Nov. 2 | All Souls Day: Praying for the faithful departed.

Together, these three days are known as Allhallowtide, a time to remember the saints, pray for those who have died and reflect on our hope of eternal life.



What Do the Saints Have to Do with Sunday Mass?

This year, the answer will be right in front of us at St. Mark!

With All Saints Day falling on Sunday, relics of the saints will be displayed in the sanctuary throughout the Saturday Vigil and Sunday Masses.

Our theme, "With All the Angels and Saints," reminds us of a beautiful truth of our Catholic faith: every time we celebrate Mass, we join the worship of heaven.

Learn more about the relics, the saints and their connection to the Mass in next week's bulletin.

Another Historic Beatification: In the South

Just last month, the Church celebrated the beatification of Archbishop Fulton Sheen. Now, another historic moment is approaching, this time much closer to home.

On Saturday, Oct. 31, Pedro de Corpa and four fellow Franciscan missionaries, killed for their faith along the Georgia coast in 1597, will be beatified in Savannah.

It will be the first beatification celebrated in the American South, a fitting occasion as we prepare to celebrate All Saints Day.





Mass of Beatification
PEDRO DE CORPA AND FOUR COMPANIONS

Saturday, October 31, 2026, at 11 a.m. | Savannah Convention Center
Doors open at 8 a.m.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Visit theGeorgiaMartyrs.org



All Souls Remembrance Mass

When: Mon., Nov. 2; 7 pm

Where: St. Mark Church

Each year on All Souls' Day, the Church remembers and prays for all the faithful departed, entrusting them to God's mercy and the promise of eternal life.

At our All Souls' Remembrance Mass, we will remember in a special way St. Mark parishioners and loved ones who have died during the past year. Families who have experienced a loss are invited to join us as we pray together for those we love and commend them to the Lord.

If you would like a loved one who died during the past year to be remembered at this Mass, please submit their name using the form on our website or scan code.

Information:
stmarknc.org/all-souls-remembrance-mass



All Souls Day Spiritual Remembrance

In celebration of All Souls Day, we will remember our deceased loved ones during our All Souls Day Masses on Monday, November 2, and throughout November. You can turn your envelope in

the Offertory baskets in the Narthex, to the office, or you may submit an online version at www.stmarknc.org/AllSouls.



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

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Manuel Mora

manuel.mora@stmarknc.org

704-948-0231, Ext. 130

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704-948-0231, Ext. 116

Director of Parish Operations

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Sacrament Admin/Adoration

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948-0231, Ext. 105

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704-948-0231, Ext. 122

Preschool Director

Amanda Rametta

704-948-8015

amanda.rametta@stmarknc.org

Tribunal Advocate

Rod Brostrom rnbrostrom@rcdoc.org

Angelo Sedacca aasedacca@rcdoc.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

Al-Anon

Ellen | 704-907-8555

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

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

DEL PÁRROCO



Las lecturas de hoy nos recuerdan que debemos ser conscientes no solo de quiénes somos, sino también de quién somos.

En el Evangelio actual, los fariseos intentan atrapar a Jesús preguntando si es lícito pagarle el impuesto a César. Su pregunta pretende obligarle a tomar partido. Pero Jesús se niega a dejarse arrastrar por su forma de pensar tan estrecha.

En cambio, pregunta de quién aparece la imagen en la moneda. Cuando responden: «César», Jesús responde: «Devuélvele a César lo que le pertenece a César y a Dios lo que le pertenece a Dios».

Esas palabras nos recuerdan que, aunque tengamos responsabilidades en este mundo, nuestra primera lealtad pertenece a Dios. Todo lo que tenemos viene de Él, y a través del Bautismo nos hemos convertido en Sus hijos e hijas.

Nuestro tiempo, nuestros talentos, nuestro tesoro y nuestras propias vidas son dones que el Señor nos ha confiado. Que los usemos cada día en respuesta agradecida a Su bondad, recordando que le pertenecemos por encima de todo. © Conferencia de Administración Católica, 2026

Reflexión pastoral – Con las elecciones de mitad de mandato a la vuelta y la votación anticipada comenzando la siguiente semana, pensé que sería buena idea recordar a todos la importancia de que los católicos voten y participen en la vida civil.

El 3 de noviembre elegiremos a miembros del Congreso, funcionarios estatales y muchos funcionarios locales. Las elecciones de mitad de mandato atraen menos votantes que un año presidencial, pero moldean las leyes bajo las que vivimos: la protección de la vida humana, la libertad de la Iglesia para enseñar y servir, la fortaleza de la familia, el cuidado de los pobres y la educación de los jóvenes. Quedarse en casa no es neutralidad. Deja esas decisiones a otros.

La Iglesia ha enseñado durante mucho tiempo que la ciudadanía forma parte de la caridad. El Catecismo dice que la corresponsabilidad por el bien común hace que sea "moralmente obligatorio... ejercer el derecho al voto" (CCC 2240). El Papa Francisco lo expresó claramente: un buen

católico no se aparta de la política, sino que ofrece lo mejor de sí mismo para que quienes gobiernan puedan servir al bien de todos. El voto es una forma ordinaria en la que lo hacemos.

También es un acto moral, no un deporte de equipo. Nuestra identidad en Cristo está por encima de cualquier etiqueta partidista. Los obispos estadounidenses, en **Formando conciencias para la ciudadanía fiel**, nos recuerdan que formamos nuestra conciencia según el Evangelio y la enseñanza de la Iglesia, y luego votamos a la luz de esa formación. Una conciencia bien formada no apoya un programa que contradiga los contenidos fundamentales de la fe y la moral. Algunos actos siempre son gravemente erróneos: la toma directa de vidas humanas inocentes, incluyendo el aborto y la eutanasia; ataques a la naturaleza del matrimonio; persecución religiosa; y la degradación deliberada de los pobres. Otros temas —inmigración, salarios, vivienda, cuidado de la creación, justicia penal— también pertenecen al bien común y requieren juicio prudente sobre lo que ayudará a las personas. No todos los temas tienen el mismo peso moral, y rara vez un candidato encarna toda la doctrina social católica. Sopesamos, oramos y elegimos el camino que mejor protege la dignidad humana y promueve el bien común.

Unos pasos prácticos ayudan. Lee las directrices de los obispos y, cuando esté disponible, comparaciones no partidistas de los registros y posturas declaradas de los candidatos. Ora antes de votar, quizás con la familia. Habla sobre los temas con la caridad, recordando que la persona del otro lado del pasillo también está hecha a imagen de Dios. Luego vota. Si no puedes acudir a las urnas, usa lo que el estado proporcione legalmente. La participación no termina en las urnas: escribe a tus representantes, sirve a los pobres y mantén la voz de la Iglesia en el espacio público después del día de las elecciones.

Aquí en San Marcos, no os diremos a quién apoyar. Ese juicio pertenece a vuestra conciencia, formada por la fe. Os instaremos a no entregar esa conciencia al hábito, al miedo o a la fiesta. El Señor que juzgará a las naciones también juzga cómo usamos la libertad que se nos concedió. Que la usemos bien.

Misa de Conmemoración de Todos los Fieles Difuntos

Cuándo: Lun., 2 de noviembre; 7 pm

Dónde: Iglesia de St. Mark

Cada año, en el Día de los Fieles Difuntos, la Iglesia recuerda y ora por todos los fieles difuntos, encomendándolos a la misericordia de Dios y a la promesa de la vida eterna.

En nuestra Misa de Conmemoración de Todos los Fieles Difuntos, recordaremos de manera especial a los feligreses de St. Mark y a nuestros seres queridos que han fallecido durante el último año.

Invitamos a las familias que han sufrido la pérdida de un ser querido a acompañarnos mientras oramos juntos por aquellos a quienes amamos y los encomendamos al Señor.

Si desea que un ser querido que haya fallecido durante el último año sea recordado en esta Misa, por favor envíe su nombre utilizando el formulario en nuestro sitio web.

Información: stmarknc.org/all-souls-remembrance-mass

Conmemoración Espiritual del Día de los Fieles Difuntos

Con motivo del Día de los Fieles Difuntos, recordaremos a nuestros seres queridos fallecidos durante las Misas del Lunes 2 de noviembre y a lo largo de todo el mes de noviembre.

Puede entregar su sobre en las canastas de la colecta en el nártex, llevarlo a la oficina parroquial o enviar su solicitud en línea en www.stmarknc.org/AllSouls.



Primera Carrera del Pavo de St. Mark: ¡Reserva la fecha!

Cuándo: Sábado, 14 de noviembre; 10 am

Dónde: Campo de práctica de Christ the King

¡Marquen sus calendarios para la primera Carrera del Pavo de St. Mark! Invitamos a niños y jóvenes de 5 a 18 años a participar en carreras organizadas por grupos de edad. Habrá premios para los participantes y para quienes obtengan los primeros lugares. ¡Los ganadores del primer lugar se llevarán un pavo a casa!

Disfruten de actividades familiares, diversión con temática del Día de Acción de Gracias y convivencia con nuestra comunidad parroquial.

¡Próximamente compartiremos más detalles!

Información: Emilio Gomez, egomez@rcdoc.org






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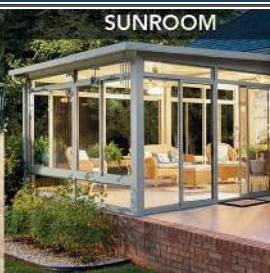
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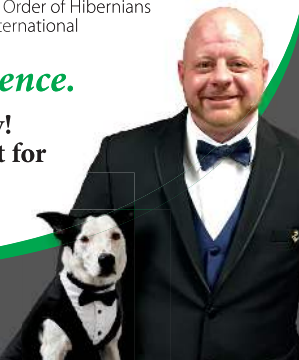
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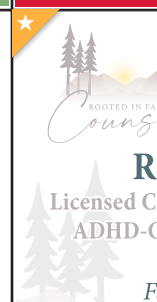
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