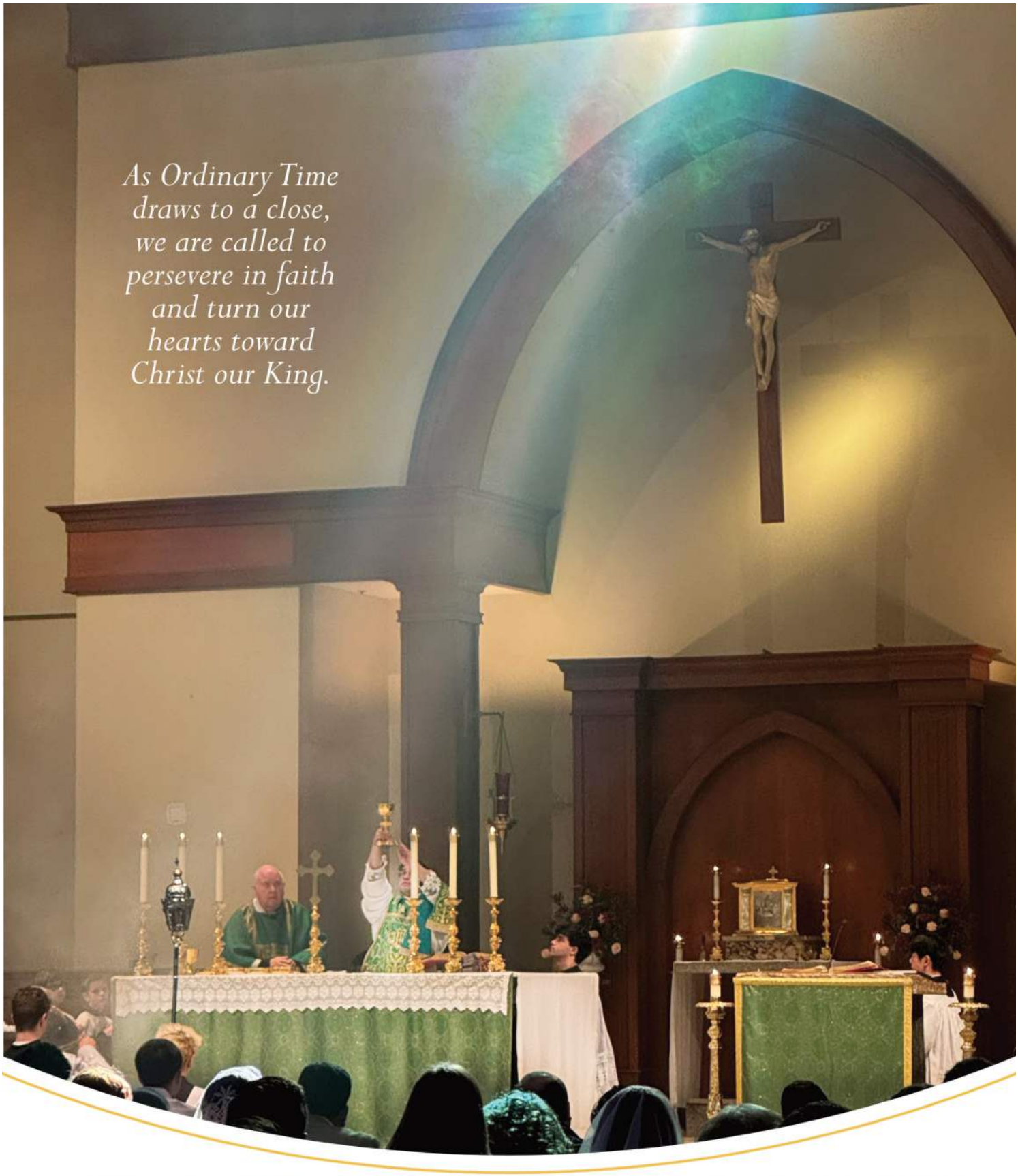
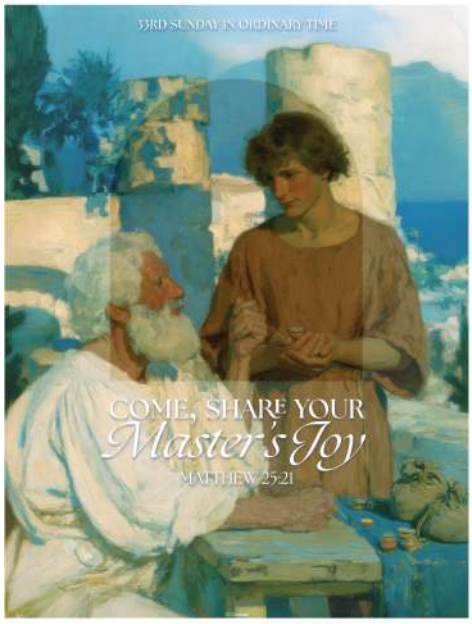


SAINT MARK

November 15, 2026 • Español Page 15

WELCOME TO ST. MARK!



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.

Today we celebrate the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. The readings can be found on page 948 in the St. Augustine Hymnal or in the music handouts. The Order of the Mass can be found on page 7; Mass prayers are on the last page of the hymnal.

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.

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.*

A Reminder About Active Parish Membership

Being an active, registered parishioner is an important part of parish life, especially when preparing for sacraments, enrolling in Catholic school, becoming a godparent or Confirmation sponsor, or requesting a letter of good standing.

Your ***weekly offertory envelopes, online giving, and/or registration for parish events***, help us to keep a record of your participation at Mass.

Whether you're new to St. Mark, have attended for years, or are an adult still registered under your parents' membership, we encourage you to make sure your parish registration is up to date. We're so thankful you are a part our parish family!

To request envelopes, contact Sue.Bruce@stmarknc.org. To register, visit stmarknc.org/registration.

Thank you for generously sharing your gifts with the parish.



FROM THE PASTOR



Today's readings remind us that one day each of us will give an account for the gifts God has entrusted to us, including the gift of time itself.

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells the familiar parable of the talents. Before leaving on a journey, a wealthy man entrusts portions of his wealth to three servants according to their abilities. Two of the servants immediately put those gifts to work and are rewarded for their faithfulness. The third, acting out of fear, buries what was entrusted to him and returns only what he had received.

The tragedy is not that the servant lacked ability. It is that he failed to recognize the privilege he had been given. His master invited him to share in his work, but fear kept him from responding. God extends that same invitation to us. He entrusts each of us with unique gifts and invites us to use them for His glory and for the good of others.

May we live each day so that, when our work is finished, we too may hear those joyful words: "Well done, my good and faithful servant... Come, share your master's joy." © Catholic Stewardship Conference, 2026

Pastoral Pondering – As we approach the end of the Liturgical year and prepare for the beginning of Advent, we are provided with a good opportunity to look back over our year of faith and ask ourselves, "how am I doing?"

For most of us, we can find a landscape of positives and negatives, and that is ok. You might say that there is no surprise there because that is simply part of life. Our task, of course, is to always look for ways to grow in holiness and grow our relationship with the Lord.

This point is always brought home to me when I attend a funeral, especially the funeral of a priest, which I did earlier today. The priest in question, Father Edward Sheridan, was my pastor at St. Aloysius in Hickory when I was in High School. He was also one of the priests that help build up the newly formed Diocese of Charlotte in the 1970s. Fr. Ed loved people and always tried to be a source of encouragement to me and others. As I reminisced at this morning's funeral, the thought came that death is the great equalizer. Regardless of who we are, what we have or where we have come from, we are all going to die. This life is transitory, so we need to be ready. Certainly, the Scriptures that we will here over the coming weeks will try to impress that reality upon us.

As we encounter God's word and that particular message, let's each of us ask for wisdom to see what we need to see to make next year more fruitful and spirit filled as well as well as asking the Lord to give us the courage to strive to do even better in the coming year.



Eternal Rest: Understanding Death Through the Eyes of Faith

Featured on FORMED This November

November is the month when the Church especially remembers and prays for the faithful departed. As the liturgical year draws to a close, it is also a fitting time to reflect on what our Catholic faith teaches about death, judgment and eternal life.

Eternal Rest: The Art of Dying Well, a four-part series from the Augustine Institute, explores these questions with compassion and hope.

The episodes examine the origin of death and Christ's victory over it, what awaits us after death, the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, and how we can continue to care for and pray for those who have died.

Did you know that our parish provides FORMED free of charge to all parishioners?

FORMED offers Catholic movies, documentaries, Bible studies, children's programs and much more, with content available in English and Spanish.

To get started, visit formed.org/signup, find our parish by searching for St. Mark, Huntersville, and create your free account. You can watch online, stream, or download the FORMED app to enjoy these programs on your phone, tablet or television.

Take advantage of this wonderful parish resource and discover something new about your faith!

formed™
Forming Catholics for *Life*.



The Afterlife | Eternal Rest | Episode 2

What happens after the moment of our death? Once the soul has been separated from the body, then what? What is heaven, hell, and purgatory? This session looks at the truth about what awaits the human person on the other side of death.

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
Maryann Bahret
Lizzy Balzer
Daisy Bayona
Barbara Benner
Brian Blatchford & Family
Marlene Bombay
Virginia "Gini" Bond
Lynne Bridges
Carman Butler
Anne Caestecker
Anthony Cain
Michelle Chicoine
Ridge Curwood
Joan Demarco
James P. Durcan
Joanne Errick
Jack Evans
Frances & Kai Ferell & Family
Al Fischlein
Louie Flores
Padraic Foley
Tom Fox
April Gallo
Valeria Gerbasi
Daniel Gilbridge
Denny & Monica Golden
Corbin Golightly
Lucas Graf
Ron Haley
Victoria Hart
Fran Hehn
Allan Helmbrecht
Bill Hille
Mary Kate Knight
The Kibbee and Farnejad Family
Aubrey Lamb
Joan Lesch
Carolina Liendo
Wilfredo Lostaunau
David Luongo
Phil Lyons
Utelia Malwitz
Sharon Marshall
Rose Mauceri
Melissa McDonald
Terry Milstead
Linda Morella
Angeles Murphy
Emily Nash
Sarah Obermiller
Louise Painter
Donna Paniagua
Jack Parley
Angela & Gianni Piraino
Tom Quist
Johnathan Rametta
Joette Reid
Natalie Roberts
Jack Schneider
Phyllis Searles
Fernando Suclupe
Alexander Tarquinio
William and Sharon Tumidanski
Mario Valinhas
Haley Velez
Julio Velez
Elise Weiss
Al Wiltz
Patricia Zeggert

Stay Connected With St. Mark.
Find us on all social media platforms or sign up for our weekly enewsletter at stmarknc.org/emailnewsletter

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, November 15
7:30 am St Mark Parishioners
9 am † Mary Louise Koehl
11 am Peter Loew
1 pm † Hugo Arturo Rangel
4:30 pm Megan Carpenter
5 pm Thomas Garberina
Monday, November 16
7 am † Ellen Leavea
9 am † Mary Joanne Laise
Tuesday, November 17
7 am † Richard P. Hammond
9 am Gerald & Eileen Corkery
Wednesday, November 18
7 am † Joseph Saccomanno
† Johnny Ocampo Hernandez
6:30 pm Fr Dominic Ngo
† Carolyn Cascarano
Thursday, November 19
7 am Kaia Jade Cruz
9 am † Michael Mulready
Friday, November 20
7 am † Ernesto Marrero
9 am † Kevin Herman
7 pm † Gilberto Martinez
Saturday, November 21
9 am † Helena Solanilla
5 pm The Ober & Cascarano Families
Sunday, November 22
7:30 am † Luz Maria Torres
9 am † Father George H Moreau
11 am St. Mark Parishioners
1 pm † Esperanza Rodriguez Trujillo
5 pm † John Wingert

† Deceased

SCRIPTURE READINGS

For the Week of November 15

Sunday	**Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time** Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5; 1 Thes 5:1-6, Mt 25:14-30 or Mt 25:14-15, 19-21
Monday	Rev 1:1-4; 2:1-5; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6; Lk 18:35-43
Tuesday	**Memorial of Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious** Rev 3:1-6, 14-22; Ps 15:2-3a, 3bc-4ab, 5; Lk 19:1-10
Wednesday	Rev 4:1-11; Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6; Lk 19:11-28
Thursday	Rev 5:1-10; Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6b, 9b; Lk 19:41-44
Friday	Rev 10:8-11; Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131; Lk 19:45-48
Saturday	**Memorial of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary** Rev 11:4-12; Ps 144:1, 2, 9-10; Lk 20:27-40
Sunday	**The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe** Ez 34:11-12, 15-17; Ps 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6; 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28; Mt 25:31-46

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. **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.*



As the Liturgical Year Draws to a Close

Looking Toward Eternity and the Coming of Christ As the Liturgical Year Draws to a Close

Looking Toward Christ Our King

As we approach the final Sunday of the liturgical year, the Church turns our attention toward the return of Christ in glory and the fulfillment of God's promises.

Throughout November, the readings at Mass remind us that our earthly lives are temporary and that our true home is with God. But the Church does not ask us to contemplate the end of time with fear. Rather, we are called to live with hope, trusting in the victory Christ has already won through His death and Resurrection.

Next Sunday, November 22, we celebrate the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. Established by Pope Pius XI in 1925, this feast reminds us that Christ's kingship extends beyond earthly nations, governments and the passing concerns of this world. His kingdom is eternal, and His reign is one of truth, justice, love and peace.

Christ the King also reminds us that history is moving toward a destination. Our faith teaches us that Christ will come again in glory, that the dead will be raised, and that God will bring His work of salvation to its fulfillment.

This hope gives meaning to our prayers for the faithful departed throughout November. We remain united with them in the Communion of Saints, praying for those undergoing purification and looking forward to the day when God will be all in all.

The following Sunday, November 29, we begin Advent and a new liturgical year. Fittingly, Advent opens with the same promise that closes the Church's year: Christ will come again.

As we prepare to honor Christ our King, may we remember that the passing things of this world are not our final destination. We belong to a kingdom that will never end.

Held in the Hands of God

November: Month of the Holy Souls in Purgatory

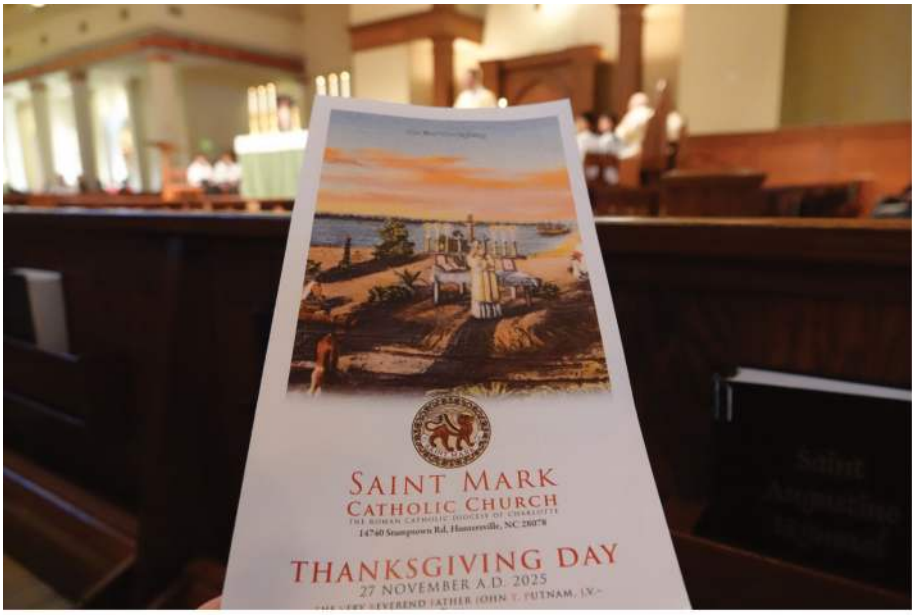
“Those who die in God's friendship are not lost. They are held. Purgatory is a reality of mercy, not of despair.”

These words from Fr. John's homily at our All Souls' Day Mass of Remembrance offer a beautiful reminder of why the Church dedicates November to praying for the faithful departed.

Reflecting on the Book of Wisdom, Fr. John reminded us that the souls of the just are in the hands of God. Even in death, they are not forgotten or abandoned. Christ, the Good Shepherd, walks with us through the darkest valleys, and through His Resurrection, promises eternal life to those who belong to Him.

As we approach the end of the liturgical year, when the readings turn our attention toward eternity, we continue to pray for the Holy Souls in Purgatory. Our prayers, Masses and sacrifices are acts of charity for those awaiting the fullness of Heaven.

Death does not have the final word. God's mercy and the hope of the Resurrection remain at the heart of our faith.



Include Mass in Your Thanksgiving Traditions

THANKSGIVING DAY MASS
AND
BLESSING OF THE BREAD

Thursday, November 26, 9 am

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



Stewardship Spotlight:

A Grateful Heart Changes Everything

As Thanksgiving approaches, we are reminded that gratitude is much more than good manners or a holiday tradition. It is one of the most important habits we can cultivate in our spiritual lives.

Fr. John often reminds us of the importance of recognizing God's blessings. Gratitude begins with the understanding that everything we have, our lives, our families, our abilities, our faith and even the time we are given, is a gift from God. This is also the foundation of stewardship. When we recognize how much we have received, we become more willing to share those gifts with others.

Blessed Solanus Casey, the humble Capuchin priest known for his extraordinary faith and trust in God's providence, frequently offered this simple advice: "Thank God ahead of time!"

What a remarkable way to approach life. It is easy to thank God when prayers are answered and things are going well. But Blessed Solanus encouraged people to give thanks even before knowing the outcome, trusting that God would remain faithful through whatever lay ahead.

St. Paul offered a similar instruction: "In all circumstances give thanks" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). Notice that he did not say to give thanks only when life is easy.

The saints understood that gratitude changes the way we see the world. St. Thérèse of Lisieux recognized that even our efforts toward holiness depend upon God's grace. A grateful heart helps us see His hand at work in the ordinary moments of our lives, as well as in times of difficulty.

This Thanksgiving, as we gather around our tables and count our blessings, may we remember that gratitude is not something we practice just once a year. It is a way of living our faith every day.

For Our Lives: Begin and end each day by thanking God for three blessings, including one you might ordinarily overlook.

And when facing something uncertain, remember the wisdom of Blessed Solanus Casey: "Thank God ahead of time!"

No duty is
More Urgent
than that of
Returning
Thanks
SAINT AMBROSE

OCIA: ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS



A New Journey of Faith Begins: On November 1, 42 inquirers participated in the Rite of Acceptance, publicly expressing their desire to continue their journey toward the Catholic Church. Accompanied by their sponsors, they received the Sign of the Cross and the prayers of our parish community. These men and women will continue their preparation in 2027, while a separate group of 34 adults prepares to enter the Church next Sunday.

A Growing Church, A Joyful Welcome

Celebrating New Catholics on Christ the King Sunday

What a blessing to see so many people answering God's call to the Catholic faith!

On Sunday, November 22, the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, we will welcome 34 adults into the Church at a special 2:30 p.m. Mass. These men and women have been preparing through the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) since 2025, and their journey is now approaching a joyful milestone.

Traditionally, our parish welcomed new Catholics primarily at Easter and Pentecost. With our year-round OCIA program, adults now have opportunities to enter the Church at other times during the liturgical year as they complete their preparation.

Among those being welcomed are eight catechumens, who have not yet been baptized, and 26 candidates, who have already been baptized and are preparing to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church.

And while one group prepares to complete its journey, another is just beginning.

The photographs accompanying this article are from the Rite of Acceptance celebrated on November 1, when 42 inquirers publicly expressed their desire to continue growing in the Catholic faith.

During the rite, catechumens and candidates were welcomed by the Church and marked with the Sign of the Cross, a reminder of Christ's love and their commitment to follow Him. Their sponsors stood alongside them, while the parish community was called to support them through prayer and encouragement.

Those attending the 9 am Sunday Mass may have noticed members of OCIA leaving after the homily. This dismissal allows them to spend additional time reflecting on the Scriptures and deepening their understanding of God's Word.

The November 1 group will continue its formation toward the next stages of initiation in 2027. They are not the same group that will be received into the Church on November 22.

Our OCIA program currently includes 94 adults, with another 15 to 20 inquirers expected to begin this month. What a beautiful sign of faith growing in our parish!

As we celebrate Christ the King, we give thanks for these men and women and all who have accompanied them on their journeys. Please keep them in your prayers, and join us on November 22 as we welcome our newest Catholics into the life of the Church.



Please Join Us!
Mass of Christian Initiation

When: Sun., Nov. 22, 2:30 pm

Where: In the Church

On the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, we will celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation and welcome 34 adults into the Catholic Church.

All parishioners are invited to attend!

This Mass will fulfill your Sunday Mass obligation.

Please pray for these men and women as they prepare for this special day.

Catechumens

Preparing for Baptism, Confirmation and First Holy Communion

Jeffrey Bowllan
Ryann Kelly
Moani Lomax
Felicitas Tucker
Janzen McKinney
Stephen Balok
Andrew Fries
Jessica Jones

Candidates

Preparing for full communion with the Catholic Church

Britni Alatorre
Thomas Gallagher V
Haley McKinney
Lucas Kistel
Caleb Tucker
Marcus Moore
Pamela Rivera
David Maruna
Christopher McDonnell
Joshua Mertzlufft
Cheyenne Boone
Carey Balok
Reese Balok
Carson Dahl
Elizabeth Dahl
Derek Davis
Jeffrey (Scott) Hendricks
William (Bill) Lawler II
Cynthia Martin
Tara Olds
Michael Romps
Dustin Shepard
Nicole De La Barrera
Darrien "Cole" Brown
Rachael Hasson
Bella Bowman

Please keep them in your prayers as they take this important step in their journey of faith.







Knights of Columbus Christmas Tree & Wreath Sale: Order Now!

Order Deadline: Sat., Nov. 28

Pickup: Sat., Dec. 5, 8 am-2 pm, St. Mark Parking Lot

There's nothing quite like the fragrance of a fresh Christmas tree to welcome the season!

For more than a decade, our Knights of Columbus have helped parish families prepare for Christmas with their annual Christmas Tree and Wreath Sale. This favorite tradition is back, and orders are now being accepted!

Beautiful Fraser fir Christmas trees are available in three sizes: 6-7 ft. ($80), 7-8 ft. ($95) and 8-9 ft. ($125). Fresh wreaths are also available in 22-inch, 26-inch and 30-inch sizes, with decorated and undecorated options ranging from $25 to $55.

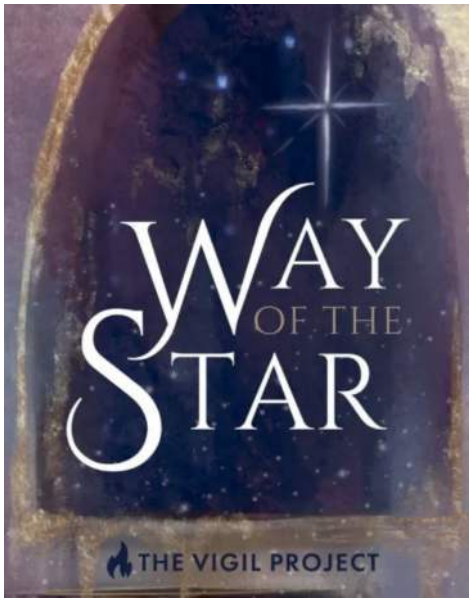
Orders may be picked up on December 5 in the church parking lot. Home delivery is also available within 15 miles of the church for an additional $25.

Proceeds support the charitable programs and good works of Knights of Columbus Council #12654. Order your Christmas greenery, support the Knights and share this longtime parish tradition with family and friends!

Order: Use the online order form or scan the QR code to select your items, quantities and delivery preference. Payment may be made in advance by check or Zelle, or by check at pickup.

Questions? Contact Edmund Ippolito at edmund.ippolito@gmail.com or 631-682-0121 (text preferred).





Save the Date! The Vigil Project Returns to St. Mark

When: Thurs., Dec. 10, 7-9 pm
Where: In the Church

One of our most beloved parish events returns this Advent! The Vigil Project, a talented collective of Catholic musicians dedicated to drawing people closer to Christ through music and prayer, will return to St. Mark for a special evening on Thursday, December 10.

Their Way of the Star Advent experience invites us to journey toward Bethlehem through beautiful music, Scripture, prayer and reflection on the birth of our Savior. The evening will culminate in Eucharistic Adoration, offering an opportunity to encounter Christ and prepare our hearts for Christmas.

Whether you have joined us for The Vigil Project's previous visits or will be experiencing their music for the first time, mark your calendar for this special Advent evening.

Free admission. All are welcome!

Info: thevigilproject.com.



formed™
Forming Catholics for Life

Catholic Guide to the Advent Wreath – Finding Purpose in the Waiting | Ep. 2

The Advent wreath is an invitation to enter into the waiting and preparation for the birth of our Savior! As we explore the meaning of the Advent wreath – its light, colors, and components – we can better grasp how we should be preparing our hearts. As the light from the candles grows brighter and brighter throughout the four weeks of Advent, so too grows our longing for the coming Light of Christ.

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

An offering from the Augustine Institute

Room in the Inn (RITI)

Room in the Inn (RITI) is a ministry that serves the homeless, or neighbors, in the Charlotte area by providing meals and overnight accommodations in the Parish Hall at St. Mark. We offer a safe place to sleep, hot breakfast, a bag lunch, and laundry service. RITI operates in the winter months, from December through March. The program is coordinated by Roof Above in Charlotte, an organization that serves the homeless in many ways.

St. Mark has been a active participant in RITI since 2013, having served hundreds of people during that time with the help of hundreds of volunteers.

For 2026-2027 we will serve on MONDAYS about twice a month. Our first date will be Monday, December 7.

We are in need of some donations. The following items can be left in the Narthex bin, labeled RITI, or brought to the Office.

- Sweatpants and sweatshirts for men and women, sizes L through 2XL
- Ladies' underwear, sizes 6 through 10
- Warm hats and gloves
- Men's plain white t-shirts, sizes L through 2XL
- Travel size deodorant and lotion
- Toothbrushes and razors
- New Pillows

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

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



Thank You, Men's Welcome Retreat Team!

What a wonderful weekend of faith, fellowship and friendship at our Men's Welcome Retreat, November 7 and 8! This was our eighth Welcome Retreat since the program began in 2020, continuing a tradition that has helped so many parishioners deepen their faith and build lasting friendships.

A heartfelt thank you to our Welcome Team leaders and all the men who chose to spend their weekend growing in faith and strengthening their relationship with Christ. Special thanks to Clint Schaney and his kitchen crew for preparing and serving meals throughout the weekend, and to our priests for celebrating Mass and offering the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Taking time away from our busy lives for a retreat is a gift we give ourselves and our relationship with God. Whether attending a retreat with other men or women, as a couple, with family members or on our own, stepping away from everyday responsibilities gives us time to pray, listen and reconnect with what matters most.

Often, the blessings of a retreat extend well beyond the weekend.

Please continue to pray for these men and for the lasting spiritual fruits of this retreat. May the friendships formed, faith renewed and graces received continue to bear fruit in their lives, families and our parish.

Our second Marriage Retreat is coming January 2027 and our Women's Welcome Retreat is coming in February 2027!

We encourage the couples and women of the parish to to take this time for yourselves and your faith.



Prayer & Praise Night

When: Tues., Nov. 24; Rosary 7 pm; Prayer and Praise 7:30-8:30 pm
Where: In the church

Jesus said in Mathew 18: 19-20: *"Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."*

Come to gather in Jesus' name and to ask Him for more of Himself in our lives and for healing. We have seen wonderful things happen as people receive prayer for healing.

Future dates: To be announced.

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

ADORATION

Week three, praying for the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

By: Donna Fodale/Adoration Coordinator

As we enter into the third week of praying for the Holy Souls in Adoration, I would like to share with you a beautiful Litany that I found.

As you say the words Lord have mercy, trust that it is in that moment, our Lord, truly present in the Monstrance, pours out an abundance of His graces upon these Holy Souls, refreshing them, comforting them and God willing releasing them from their suffering, so that they can be with him in heaven for all eternity!

Let us pray...

The just shall be in everlasting remembrance;
He shall not fear the evil hearing.

V. Absolve, O Lord, the souls of the faithful departed from every bond of sin,
R. And by the help of Thy grace may they be enabled to escape the avenging judgment, and to enjoy the happiness of eternal life.
Because in Thy mercy are deposited the souls that departed in an inferior degree of grace, *Lord, have mercy.*
Because their present suffering is greatest in the knowledge of the pain that their separation from Thee is causing Thee, *Lord, have mercy.*
Because of their present inability to add to Thy accidental glory, *etc.*

Not for our consolation, O Lord; not for their release from purgative pain, O God;
but for Thy joy and the greater accidental honor of Thy throne, O Christ the King,
For the souls of our departed friends, relations and benefactors, *Grant light and peace, O Lord.*

For those of our family who have fallen asleep in Thy bosom, *O Jesus, grant light and peace, O Lord.*
For those who have gone to prepare our place, *etc.* (For those who were our brothers [or sisters] in Religion,)
For priests who were our spiritual directors,
For men or women who were our teachers in school,
For those who were our employers (or employees),
For those who were our associates in daily toil,
For any soul whom we ever offended,
For our enemies now departed,
For those souls who have none to pray for them,
For those forgotten by their friends and kin,
For those now suffering the most,
For those who have acquired the most merit,
For the souls next to be released from Purgatory,
For those who, while on earth, were most devoted to God the Holy Ghost,
to Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament, to the holy Mother of God,
For all deceased popes and prelates,
For all deceased priests, seminarians and religious,
For all our brethren in the Faith everywhere,
For all our separated brethren who deeply loved Thee,
and would have come into Thy household had they known the truth,
For those souls who need, or in life asked, our prayers,
For those, closer to Thee than we are, whose prayers we need,
That those may be happy with Thee forever, who on earth were true exemplars of the Catholic Faith, *grant them eternal rest, O Lord.*
That those may be admitted to Thine unveiled Presence,
who as far as we know never committed mortal sin,
grant them eternal rest, O Lord.
That those may be housed in glory, who lived always in recollection and prayer, *etc.*
That those may be given the celestial joy of beholding Thee, who lived lives of mortification and self-denial and penance,
That those may be flooded with Thy love, who denied themselves even Thy favors of indulgence and who made the heroic act for the souls who had gone before them,
That those may be drawn up to the Beatific Vision,
who never put obstacles in the way of sanctifying grace and who ever drew closer in mystical union with Thee,
V. Eternal rest give unto them, O Lord,
R. And let perpetual light shine upon them.

To become a weekly adorer: www.stmarknc.org/adoration

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





Middle School Craft & Football Night

When: Fri., Nov. 21, 6–8 pm

Where: Parish Hall and Parish Lawn

All middle school students are invited to a fun evening with friends! Girls will enjoy a variety of crafts and creative activities in the Parish Hall, while boys will head outside for flag football and other sports on the parish lawn. Dinner and snacks will be provided.

Faith formation doesn't happen only in the classroom. Events like these give our young people opportunities to make friends, build a sense of belonging and experience the joy of being part of a Catholic community. As they navigate the middle school years, friendships rooted in faith can help them grow in confidence, character and their relationship with Christ.

Bring a friend and join the fun! Please register using the QR code in graphic so we can prepare enough food for everyone.

High School Life Teen

All high school students are invited to join us!

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

November 15-29, Life Night 6-8 pm

November 22, Thankgiving Party

All high school students are invited to celebrate Thanksgiving with Life Teen!



For those who would like to play, casual flag football will take place on the Parish Lawn from 5–6 pm. No cleats, please. Teams will be randomly assigned when players arrive.

Help make the feast!

Families are invited to contribute a side dish. Please email Gus to let us know what you can bring: augustine.free@stmarknc.org.

Annual Pie Baking Competition

Teens and families are invited to enter their favorite homemade pies, brought pre-sliced and ready to share. Store-bought pies are also welcome for the dessert table, but only homemade pies will be judged.

Whether you're a Life Teen regular or joining us for the first time, we'd love to see you there! Stay Connected! Sign up for Life Teen emails and texts through Flocknote. Visit stmarknc.flocknote.com/lifeteen.

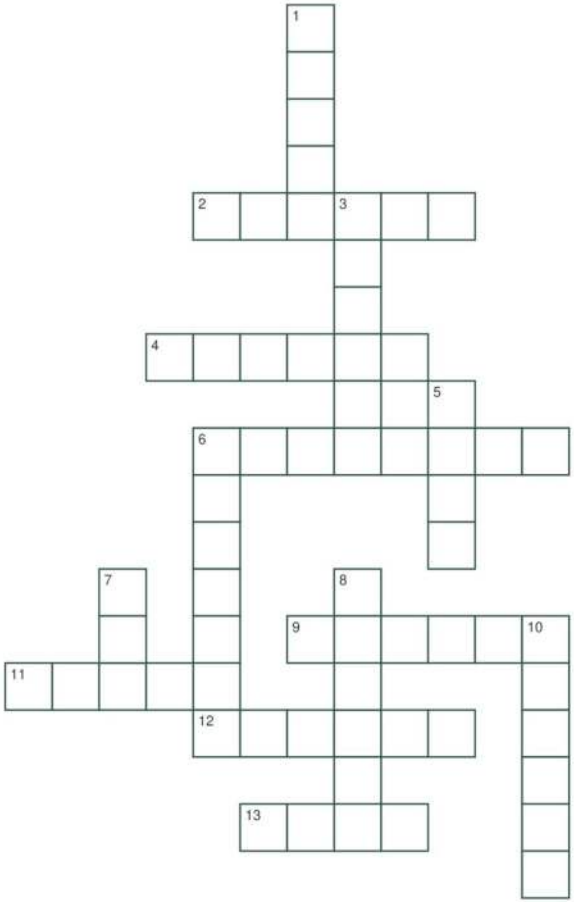
For more information, contact Gus Free at augustine.free@stmarknc.org.

FAMILY LIFE



Faith, Friends & Thanksgiving Crossword

Fill in the words using the clues below.



ACROSS

2. A prayer with beads
4. Talking with God
6. A sport played on the parish lawn
9. Where we go to Mass
11. Food blessed at Thanksgiving Mass
12. Holy people in Heaven
13. We celebrate this together on Sundays

DOWN

1. Presents collected for families at Christmas
3. The season before Christmas
5. The mother of Jesus
6. People we enjoy spending time with
7. A sweet Thanksgiving dessert
8. What we give to God for our blessings
10. Our forever home with God



Mary: A Little Girl with a Very Special Mission

The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

November 21

Before Mary became the Mother of Jesus, she was a little girl, just like other little girls. But God had a very special plan for her! He had chosen Mary to be the Mother of His Son, Jesus.

God gave Mary an extraordinary gift called the Immaculate Conception. This means Mary was free from original sin from the very first moment of her life.

Mary's parents, Saints Joachim and Anne, brought her to the Temple in Jerusalem when she was very young. There, they dedicated her life to God.

As Mary grew older, she prayed, trusted God and tried to do what was right. Years later, when the angel Gabriel told her she would become the Mother of Jesus, Mary said yes! "May it be done to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38).

For Our Lives: God has a special plan for your life, too! You don't have to wait until you're grown up to follow Him. Every time you pray, help someone or choose to do what is right, you are saying yes to God!

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Pilgrimage to the National Shrine of St. Dymphna

When: March 14–16, 2027
Where: Massillon, Ohio



Join Fr. Benjamin Roberts of the Catholic Community of Waxhaw for a three-day bus pilgrimage to the National Shrine of St. Dymphna in Massillon, Ohio. The pilgrimage includes Holy Mass, a tour of the shrine and the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, and time for prayer before the relics of St. Dymphna and all twelve Apostles.

Cost: $199 per person

The cost includes round-trip transportation aboard a luxury motor coach and all meals.

For more information, visit stdymphnapilgrimage.org, email StDymphna2013@gmail.com or contact Sue at 704-431-2861.

21st Annual March for Life Charlotte

When: Fri., Jan. 8
Where: Uptown Charlotte

Join Catholics and others from across the Charlotte area for the 21st Annual March for Life Charlotte, a day of prayer and public witness to the dignity of every human life.

The day begins with Mass for the Unborn at 10 am at the Cathedral of St. Patrick. Participants will gather at 11 am across from the Diocese of Charlotte offices at 1123 S. Church St., with the march beginning at noon toward Trade and Tryon Streets. Fr. Nicholas Kramer will be the guest preacher, followed by the Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet.

Parking at the gathering location is very limited, so participants should plan to find parking elsewhere in Uptown Charlotte.

For the complete schedule and additional information, visit marchforlifecharlotte.com.

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 30 minutes.
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*

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
Rev. Msgr. John T. Putnam, V.G., J.V.
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
Scott Bruno
scott.bruno@stmarknc.org
704-948-0231, Ext. 118
Liturgy Coordinator/Office Manager
Emily Bixler
emily.bixler@stmarknc.org
704-948-0231, Ext. 102
Sacristan
Sr. Mary Philomena
sacristan@stmarknc.org
704-948-0231, Ext. 211
Baptism Coordinator
Sr. Mary Jacinta
mjacinta@stmarknc.org
704-948-0231, Ext. 121
Sacrament Admin/Adoration
Donna Fodale
Donna.fodale@stmarknc.org
704-948-0231, Ext. 104
Annulments, OCIA
Rev. Mr. Rich McCarron
deacon.rich@stmarknc.org
704-948-0231, Ext. 113
Hispanic Ministry Coordinator
Emilio Gómez
emilio.gomez@stmarknc.org
704-948-0231, Ext. 117
Bulletin Team
bulletin@stmarknc.org

Stewardship Coordinator
Karen Donahue
karen.donahue@stmarknc.org
704-948-0231, Ext. 136
Calendar Management
Sue Bruce
sue.bruce@stmarknc.org
704-948-0231, Ext. 123
Public Relations Coordinator
Amy Burger
amy.burger@stmarknc.org
704-948-0231, Ext. 155
Marriage Enrichment Coordinator
Christine Wisdom
christine.wisdom@stmarknc.org
704-948-0231, Ext. 125
Director of Faith Formation
Becca Spurgeon
becca.spurgeon@stmarknc.org
704-948-0231, Ext. 137
Faith Formation Admin Asst
Sharon Torczynski
sharon.torczynski@stmarknc.org
704-948-0231, Ext. 103
Elementary Faith Formation Coordinator
Maddie Torres
maddie.torres@stmarknc.org
704-948-0231, Ext. 124
Middle School Youth Ministry Coordinator
Olivia DiGiovanni
olivia.digiovanni@stmarknc.org
704-948-0231, Ext. 105
High School Youth Ministry Coordinator
Augustine Free
augustine.free@stmarknc.org
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

Alcoholics Anonymous
Theresa 704-654-6915
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

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

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

DEL PÁRROCO



Las lecturas de hoy nos recuerdan que algún día cada uno de nosotros dará cuentas de los dones que Dios nos ha confiado, incluido el don del tiempo mismo.

En el Evangelio de hoy, Jesús cuenta la parábola familiar de los talentos. Antes de partir de viaje, un hombre adinerado confía porciones de su riqueza a tres siervos según sus capacidades. Dos de los siervos ponen inmediatamente en práctica esos dones y son recompensados por su fidelidad. El tercero, actuando por miedo, entierra lo que le han confiado y solo devuelve lo que ha recibido.

La tragedia no es que el sirviente careciera de capacidad. Es que no reconoció el privilegio que se le había otorgado. Su amo le invitó a compartir su obra, pero el miedo le impidió responder. Dios nos extiende esa misma invitación. Confía a cada uno de nosotros dones únicos e invita a usarlos para Su gloria y para el bien de los demás.

Que vivamos cada día para que, cuando terminemos nuestro trabajo, también podamos escuchar esas palabras alegres: "Bien hecho, mi buen y fiel servidor... Ven, comparte la alegría de tu amo." © Conferencia de Administración Católica, 2026

Reflexión pastoral – Al acercarnos al final del año litúrgico y prepararnos para el comienzo del Adviento, tenemos una buena oportunidad para mirar atrás en nuestro año de fe y preguntarnos: "¿cómo lo estoy haciendo?"

Para la mayoría de nosotros, podemos encontrar un panorama de aspectos positivos y negativos, y eso está bien. Podrías decir que no es ninguna sorpresa porque eso es simplemente parte de la vida. Nuestra tarea, por supuesto, es siempre buscar maneras de crecer en santidad y fortalecer nuestra relación con el Señor.

Este punto siempre me viene claro cuando asisto a un funeral, especialmente al funeral de un sacerdote, que hice hoy más temprano. El sacerdote en cuestión, el padre Edward Sheridan, fue mi párroco en St. Aloysius en Hickory cuando yo estaba en el instituto. También fue uno de los sacerdotes que ayudaron a construir la recién formada Diócesis de Charlotte en los años 70. El padre Ed amaba a la gente y siempre intentaba ser una fuente de ánimo para mí y para los demás. Mientras recordaba el funeral de esta mañana, me vino el pensamiento de que la muerte es el gran igualador. Independientemente de quiénes seamos, de lo que tengamos o de dónde venimos, todos vamos a morir. Esta vida es transitoria, así que debemos estar preparados. Sin duda, las Escrituras que escucharemos en las próximas semanas intentarán imponernos esa realidad.

Al encontrarnos con la palabra de Dios y ese mensaje en particular, pidamos sabiduría para ver lo que necesitamos ver y hacer que el próximo año sea más fértil y lleno de espíritu, así como pedimos al Señor que nos dé el valor para esforzarnos por hacerlo aún mejor en el año que viene.



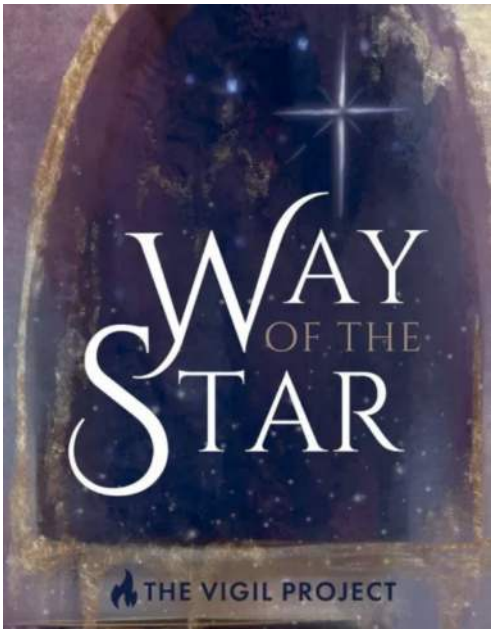
¡Reserve la fecha! The Vigil Project regresa a St. Mark

Cuándo: Jueves 10 de diciembre, de 7 a 9 pm

Dónde: En la iglesia

¡Uno de los eventos más queridos de nuestra parroquia regresa este Adviento! The Vigil Project, un talentoso grupo de músicos católicos dedicados a acercar a las personas a Cristo a través de la música y la oración, estará nuevamente en St. Mark el jueves 10 de diciembre para una velada especial.

Su experiencia de Adviento, Way of the Star (El Camino de la Estrella), nos invita a emprender un camino hacia Belén a través de hermosa música, lecturas de la Sagrada Escritura, oración y reflexiones sobre el nacimiento de nuestro Salvador. La velada culminará con la Adoración Eucarística, una oportunidad para encontrarnos con Cristo y preparar nuestros corazones para la Navidad.



Ya sea que haya participado en las visitas anteriores de The Vigil Project o que vaya a disfrutar de su música por primera vez, ¡reserve esta fecha para vivir una noche especial de Adviento!

La música será en inglés, pero todos están invitados a disfrutar de esta hermosa experiencia de oración y adoración.

Entrada gratuita. ¡Todos son bienvenidos!

Más información: thevigilproject.com.

Prepárese para el Adviento en Carolina Catholic Corner

Dónde: Kerin Family Center

Horario: Todos los días, de 7 am a 9 pm

¡El Adviento comienza el domingo 29 de noviembre! Carolina Catholic Corner tiene todo lo necesario para preparar su hogar para este tiempo especial de oración y espera. Encontrará coronas y velas de Adviento, calendarios, libros navideños, adornos y otros regalos católicos para toda la familia.

Al comprar en Carolina Catholic Corner, también apoya a nuestra parroquia, ya que una parte de las ventas se destina a St. Mark.

¡Compre localmente, apoye un negocio católico y ayude a nuestra parroquia!





Misa de Acción de Gracias y Bendición del Pan

Cuándo: Jueves 26 de noviembre, 9 am

Dónde: En la iglesia

¡Incluya la Santa Misa entre sus tradiciones del Día de Acción de Gracias! Antes de reunirse con familiares y amigos para celebrar, los invitamos a comenzar el día dando gracias a Dios por las muchas bendiciones que hemos recibido.

Durante la Misa también se realizará la tradicional Bendición del Pan. Las familias están invitadas a traer el pan que compartirán en su cena de Acción de Gracias para recibir una bendición especial.

¡Celebremos juntos este día con gratitud, fe y oración!

Ningún deber es
Más Urgente
que el de
Devolver
Las Gracias
SAN AMBROSIO



Reflexión sobre la Corresponsabilidad:

Un corazón agradecido lo cambia todo

Al acercarse el Día de Acción de Gracias, recordamos que la gratitud es mucho más que una muestra de buenos modales o una tradición de esta celebración. Es uno de los hábitos más importantes que podemos cultivar en nuestra vida espiritual.

El Padre John nos recuerda con frecuencia la importancia de reconocer las bendiciones de Dios. La gratitud comienza cuando comprendemos que todo lo que tenemos, nuestra vida, nuestra familia, nuestras capacidades, nuestra fe e incluso el tiempo que se nos concede, es un regalo de Dios. Este es también el fundamento de la corresponsabilidad. Cuando reconocemos cuánto hemos recibido, estamos más dispuestos a compartir esos dones con los demás.

El beato Solanus Casey, humilde sacerdote capuchino conocido por su extraordinaria fe y confianza en la providencia de Dios, solía ofrecer este sencillo consejo: «¡Den gracias a Dios por adelantado!»

¡Qué manera tan extraordinaria de afrontar la vida! Es fácil dar gracias a Dios cuando nuestras oraciones son escuchadas y todo marcha bien. Pero el beato Solanus animaba a las personas a dar gracias incluso antes de conocer el resultado, confiando en que Dios permanecería fiel, sin importar lo que les esperara.

San Pablo nos dio una enseñanza semejante: «Den gracias en toda ocasión» (1 Tesalonicenses 5,18). Notemos que no dijo que diéramos gracias solamente cuando la vida fuera fácil.

Los santos comprendieron que la gratitud transforma nuestra manera de ver el mundo. Santa Teresa de Lisieux reconocía que incluso nuestros esfuerzos por alcanzar la santidad dependen de la gracia de Dios. Un corazón agradecido nos ayuda a reconocer Su presencia en los momentos cotidianos de nuestra vida, así como en los tiempos difíciles.

En este Día de Acción de Gracias, al reunirnos alrededor de la mesa y recordar nuestras bendiciones, tengamos presente que la gratitud no es algo que practicamos solamente una vez al año. Es una manera de vivir nuestra fe todos los días.

Para nuestra vida: Comienza y termina cada día dando gracias a Dios por tres bendiciones, incluyendo alguna que normalmente pasarías por alto. Y cuando enfrentes una situación incierta, recuerda la sabiduría del beato Solanus Casey: «¡Den gracias a Dios por adelantado!»

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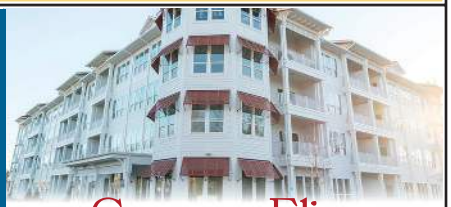
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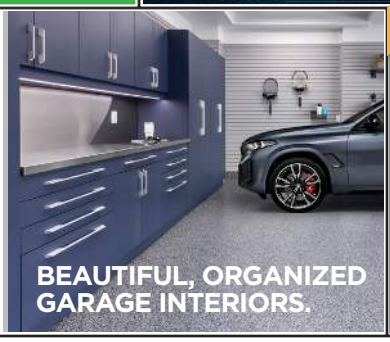
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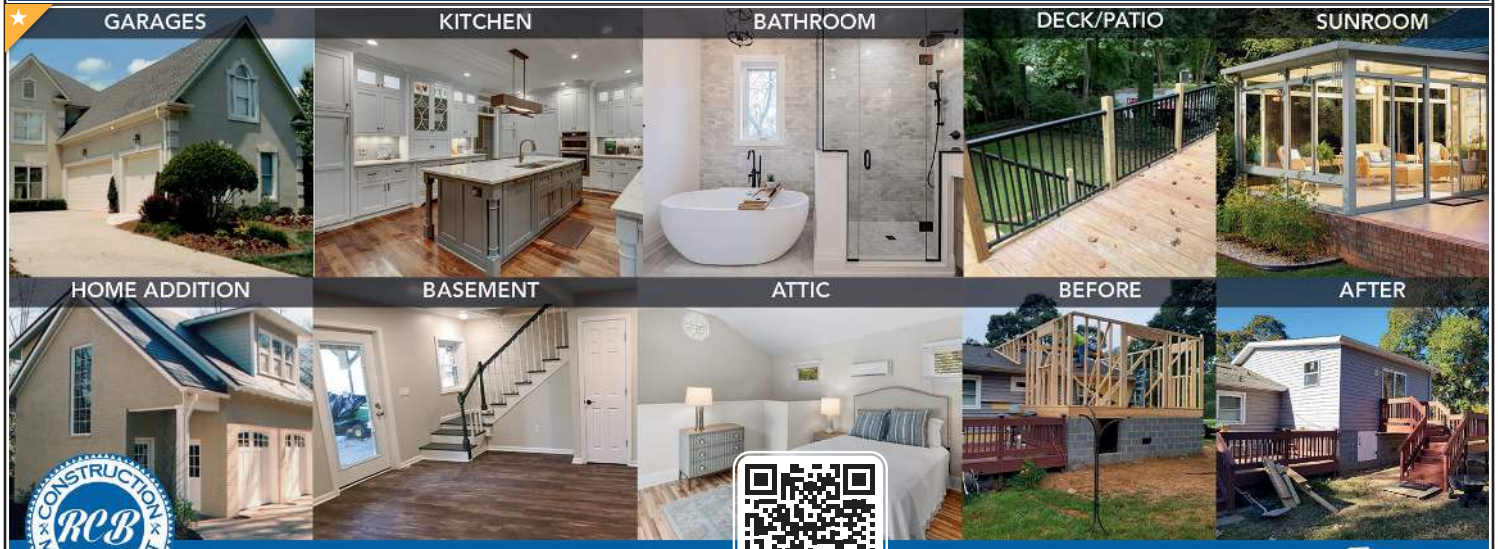
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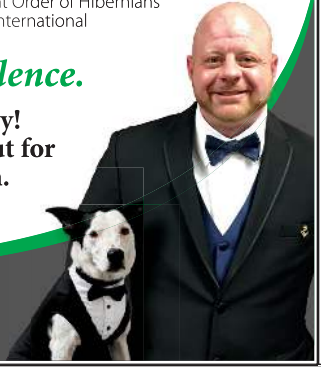
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