

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF

Saint Mark

Mission Statement

Rooted in the Word...Nourished by the Sacraments... Guided by the Holy Spirit....We, the people of St. Mark, are united in our desire to serve those who are in need, to give our gifts and talents... to build the Kingdom of God by imaging Jesus Christ.

Established 1978

1505 Kempsville Rd. • Virginia Beach, VA 23464-7201

Phone: 757-479-1010 • Fax: 757-479-9453 Website: www.stmark-parish.org

Parish Office Hours

Monday-Thursday: 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Sunday 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.



LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:30 p.m. • Sunday: 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. Tuesday & Thursday: 8:30 a.m. • Wednesday: 7:00 p.m. Check inside bulletin for possible changes. Nursery available for 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. Masses.

PARISH STAFF

- Rev. Anthony Mpungu..... Pastor franthony@stmark-parish.org Michael Johnson & John Kren..... Deacons Mike Johnson Pastoral Associate deacon_mike@stmark-parish.org Mary Ellen Cussen Parish Bookkeeper bookkeeper@stmark-parish.org MJ Sargent..... Parish Secretary secretary@stmark-parish.org Michael K. Williams Director of Music musicdirector@cox.net Laura Ishmael..... Pianist Marlene Games..... Nursery Supervisor Brian Gridley..... Maintenance / I.T.Coordinator George Dillon III..... Parish Council Chairman William McMican Finance Council Chairman

RELIGIOUS FORMATION STAFF

- Sharon Katzman..... Director of Religious Formation Rachel Rudman..... Coordinator of Religious Formation Fe Guzman..... Youth Minister Arleen Spenceley Administrative Assistant

RELIGIOUS FORMATION OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Wednesday 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Sunday 9:30a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Phone: 757-479-9897 • Fax: 757-479-9453 Email: sharon@stmark-parish.org

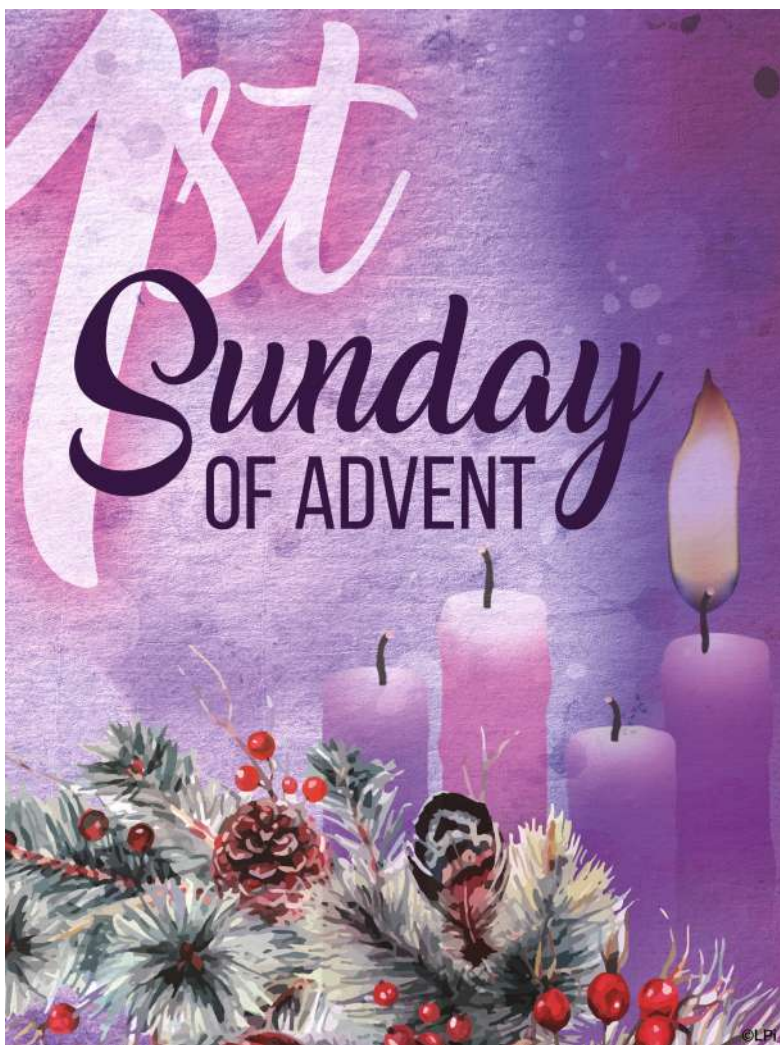
BAPTISM: Celebrated the 1st weekend of the month except during Lent. Contact Religious Formation Office for Baptism classes prior to the Sacrament.

MATRIMONY: Couples required to give 6 months notice before planning a wedding in the Parish. Please do not set date before contacting the Priest.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK & HOMEBOUND: If you know someone who cannot attend Mass or desires a visit or the Sacrament of Anointing, call the Office.

RECONCILIATION: Celebrated 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month at 4:00 p.m. Advent Reconciliation service on Thursday, December 14th at 7:00pm.

COLUMBARIUM: Parishioners interested in procuring a Columbarium niche, call the Parish Office.



MASS INTENTIONS & DAILY READINGS...

MON	12/04		IS 2:1-5; MT 8:5-11
TUES	12/05	8:30am	WALTER VALLEY + NICHOLAS J. DARDANO, JR. + IS 11:1-10; LK 10:21-24
WED	12/06	7:00pm	REV. PHAM THUY + MAYO WOOD + IS 25:6-10A; MT 15:29-37
THU	12/07	8:30am	JOSE SANTOS + ESTER LAPENA + IS 26:1-6; MT 7:21,24-27
FRI	12/08	8:30am 7:00pm	PEGGY RYBARCZYK + CELESTE MENDOZA + GN 3:9-15,20; LK 1:26-38
SAT	12/09	5:30pm	MARIA DIAZ + FRANK & BLANCH STILL + JOSEPH & THELMAREE PENTECOSTE + IS 30:19-21,23-26; MT 9:35-10:1,5A,6-8
SUN	12/10	8:30am	MYRNA SCHLOSSBERG + ROSEMARY SUNDERLAND + 10:30am
			JULIA COMIA + FRANK KOMLJENOVICH + IS 40:1-5,9-11 PS 85:9-10-11-12,13-14 2 PT 3:8-14 MK 1:1-8

SUNDAY REFLECTION from Father Anthony...



I WELCOME EVERYONE TO THIS NEW SEASON OF ADVENT! We have begun a new liturgical year and today is the First Sunday of Advent. Advent means “coming” – the coming of Jesus, who we know already has come and will come again. This is a season of waiting and preparation for the coming of the Lord. This is a time that leads us to the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. So we are required to make adequate preparations that the big celebration of Jesus' birth may find us very ready. In the Gospel reading today, Jesus said to his disciples: “Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know the time...” What does this mean? We know that Jesus already has been born, but this time of Advent gives us an opportunity to go back in time and renew ourselves as those before us did. We also have a moment to focus on Jesus' coming again in the future as he promised. For that matter, Advent is a journey toward something very important in our lives as Christians: the coming of the Savior. Let us then be grateful for yet another season of God's gifts of hope, peace, joy, and love. Amen. Happy Sunday!

Prayer REQUESTS

Alex Cooke, Alberto Duque, Judy Kiplinger, Nancy Tennin, Mark Larson, Evelyn Malana, Katie Sluder, Micah Pulvermacher, Kayla Soccio, Paula Silvia, Florabel Larson, Shawn Perine, Brian Sunderland, Patty & Alton Russell, Bernice Kenczewicz, Mario Gabuyo

Names will remain on the Prayer List for one month, after which they will be entered into the Parish Book of Intercessions, the intentions of which are prayed for each weekend during all the Masses.



HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION:

THE SOLEMNITY OF
THE IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION OF THE
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Mass will be offered on
Friday, December 8th at
8:30am & 7:00pm

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK

DECEMBER 4 - 10

MON	10:00am 7:15pm	Food Pantry RCIA
TUE	8:30am 9:30am 7:00pm 7:30pm	DAILY MASS Bible Study Liturgy Committee Meeting Bible Study
WED	10:00am 6:30pm 7:00pm 7:30pm	Food Pantry Rosary DAILY MASS St. Mark Chorale Parish Life Meeting
THU	8:30am 9am-6:30pm 6:00pm 6:30pm 7:00pm	DAILY MASS Eucharistic Adoration Confirmation Prep Rosary K of C Officer Meeting Benediction
FRI	Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
	8:30am 9:30am 10:00am 12:30pm 7:00pm	MASS Mom's Group Food Pantry Wisdom Seeker's Christmas Luncheon MASS
SAT	5:30pm 6:30pm	WEEKEND MASS K of C Christmas Party
SUN	8:30am 9:30am 10:30am 12:00pm 12:30pm 6:00pm 7:00pm	WEEKEND MASS RF 1 & RCIC WEEKEND MASS Angels & Cherubs Rehearsal RF 2 Teen Formation 1 Event: Lessons & Carols

Justice & Peace

FOOD PANTRY: This week the Food Pantry is in need of **Canned Spaghetti Sauce.**

"Solidarity is not a feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress at the Solidarity misfortunes of so many people, both near and far. On the contrary, it is a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to the common good."

-The Social Concerns of the Church
(Sollicitudo Rei Socialis) Pope John Paul II 1988

REMINDER Our Justice & Peace Committee will NOT meet in December. Our next meeting will be Monday, January 15th at 7pm. Please join us and bring a friend as we work together to live out our Justice & Peace Mission Statement: *"As a faith-community within the Catholic Church of St. Mark, the Justice and Peace committee, using our gifts and talents, desire to image Jesus Christ by fostering the values of Jesus Christ and to promote the Social Teachings of the Catholic Church."*

PLARN We will take a break from our "PLARNING" gatherings for a few weeks in December. Our last day will be Thursday, December 7th and we'll start back on January 4th, 2018. Join us Thursday mornings from 9:30am to 11:00am as we turn unwanted plastic bags into bedding for the homeless. No crocheting experience needed! To all who donated plastic bags for our Plarners; your response has been amazing- THANK YOU! For more information on PLARN contact Chris McGrath at mcgrathcm24@gmail.com or 233-0790

FAIR TRADE FESTIVAL The 16th Annual Fair Trade Festival will be held at O'Connor Brewery, 211, W. 24th St. in Norfolk, VA this weekend on December 2nd, 12-8pm and 3rd, 12-5pm. Their theme this year is "Gifts CAN make a difference!". Handmade gifts of all kinds, chocolate, coffee, and beer are available for purchase! For more information please visit <https://www.facebook.com/FairTradeFestival/>



ANNUAL CHRISTMAS GIVING TREES The Giving Trees are in the Commons brimming with Angels and Stars to help our community in sharing their blessings during this season of giving. Please take time to select that perfect Angel or Star. Each should have a tag explaining who the gift is going to and any special instructions. **All donations must be returned by 11am on Sunday December 17th.** If you

have any questions or would like to help in this ministry, please contact Pat Bernier at 757-575-5211.

CAST

Chesapeake Area Shelter Team

SAVE THE DATES: FEBRUARY 21 - 28, 2018

On line sign ups go live on January 5, 2018.

For more information, please contact Karina Turkiewicz or Judy Wood at 757-578-4990 or stmarkcast@gmail.com.

ST. MARK PARISH NEWS



40th PARISH DIRECTORY – NEW DATES! Many of you have inquired about an opportunity to have family pictures taken after Christmas. January 3 and 4, 2018 Wednesday and Thursday are now additional days. 30 sign-ups total for the two days are required for the sessions. Sign-up will be again on-line (<https://bookknowlifetouch.appointment-plus.com/y6n0ny3k/>) OR by contacting MJ in the office. If you had your family had its picture taken already the new image will be used in the directory. As a result the arrival of the Parish Directory will be delayed.

THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS GIVING TREES The Giving Trees are in the commons brimming with Angels and Stars to help our community in sharing their blessings during this season of giving. Please take time to select that perfect Angel or Star. Each should have a tag explaining who the gift is going to and any special instructions. If you have any questions or would like to assist please call Pat Bernier at 575-5211. All donations must be returned by the morning of December 17th.

LESSONS & CAROLS ON DECEMBER 10TH AT 7PM Come together in prayer this Advent Season to prepare our hearts and minds for Christmas through song and scripture. Our community celebrates an evening of Lessons and Carols. The Festival of Lessons and Carols is a service of Scripture and song that dates to the late 19th century. In this service, we listen to nine Scripture lessons which recount the Fall, the promise of a Messiah, the Incarnation, and the Great Commission to preach the Good News. Each lesson is followed by a carol or song that reflects on the lesson's message and a brief prayer.

2017 SIMBANG GABI The Office of Asian Ministry invites you to join the Filipino Community for a nine-day novena to the Blessed Mother. Simbang Gabi, which means Mass at Dawn, is a journey of spiritual preparation to welcome and receive the Child Jesus. The kick off mass will be Saturday, December 9, 2017, 5:30pm at Church of Redeemer, 8275 Meadowbridge Rd., Mechanicsville. The first day of the novena will be Friday, December 15 at various locations. Please see the flyer for more information. You can also visit our website at www.richmonddiocese.org for a full schedule. Please come out and support our Filipino Brothers and Sisters. For more information please contact Devin Jones, Office of Asian Ministry, asianministry@richmonddiocese.org or (804) 622-5262.

UPDATE ON LIVING OUR MISSION We have just received another check from the Living Our Mission Campaign in the amount of \$8,764.34. Thank you so much for your faithful contributions!

A note from the Diocese on the Living Our Mission mailing address: The Richmond mailbox for Living Our Mission has been closed. The correct mailing address for Living Our Mission Donations is: Catholic Diocese of Richmond, Living Our Mission, P O Box 79160, Baltimore, MD 21279-0160

FINANCIAL BOX SCORE

Family Count: 1235

Families using envelopes: 355

Families using online donation: 81

Fiscal Year July-June	November 19	Offertory Year to Date	Needed Year to Date	Excess/ Short
Offertory	\$14,908	\$314,443	\$331,800	(-17,357)

It is with sadness that we share that three more of our family members have passed to eternal life...

Michael Dussia, beloved husband of Patricia Dussia (daughter of Mary Kramer, one of our original parish members).

Norman Walter Arthur, beloved husband of Carolyn Arthur, Norm was a regular at the 5:30pm Mass and one of our original founding members of the parish. Norm loved working in the Food Pantry as well as serving the homeless at the Judeo-Christian Outreach Center when his health allowed.

Bernice Kenczewicz, mother of Janice Bockert.

May perpetual light shine upon Michael, Norman and Bernice and may they rest in peace!





MARCH FOR LIFE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

01.19.2018



2018 ANNUAL MARCH FOR LIFE IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

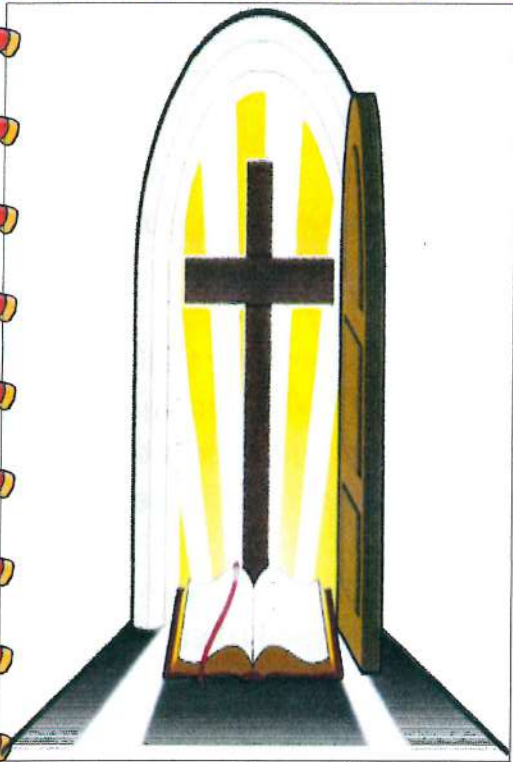
The Knights of Columbus have found a charter bus with open seats to participate in the Annual March For Life in Washington, D.C. on **Friday January 19, 2018** Cost is \$30.00 per person which includes bus fare, snacks and drinks on the trip up & back. The bus will depart from Church of the Ascension 4853 Princess Anne Rd, Virginia Beach, VA 23462 parking lot at 6:30 a.m. and return approximately 9:00 p.m.

We will stop for dinner on the way home – Cost for dinner is at each riders own expense.

Come Join Us in an active show of faith and support for the Right To Life !

If you are interested or would like more information please contact

Dave Michalak dmich15@yahoo.com or Joyce Gridley justiceandpeace@stmark-parish.org



MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Open the door to a teen's faith formation today!

SPONSOR A YOUTH

*Help send our young people
to work camps, retreats and conferences.
To grow more in their faith formation,
our young people need opportunities
to excite them about their
faith, social action, prayer and learning.*

For more details, contact Fe Guzman

fe@stmark-parish.org

757-479-9897

FIND EASY WAYS TO HONOR

Advent

VISIT THE RF
BULLETIN BOARD IN
THE GREAT HALL!

