

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.

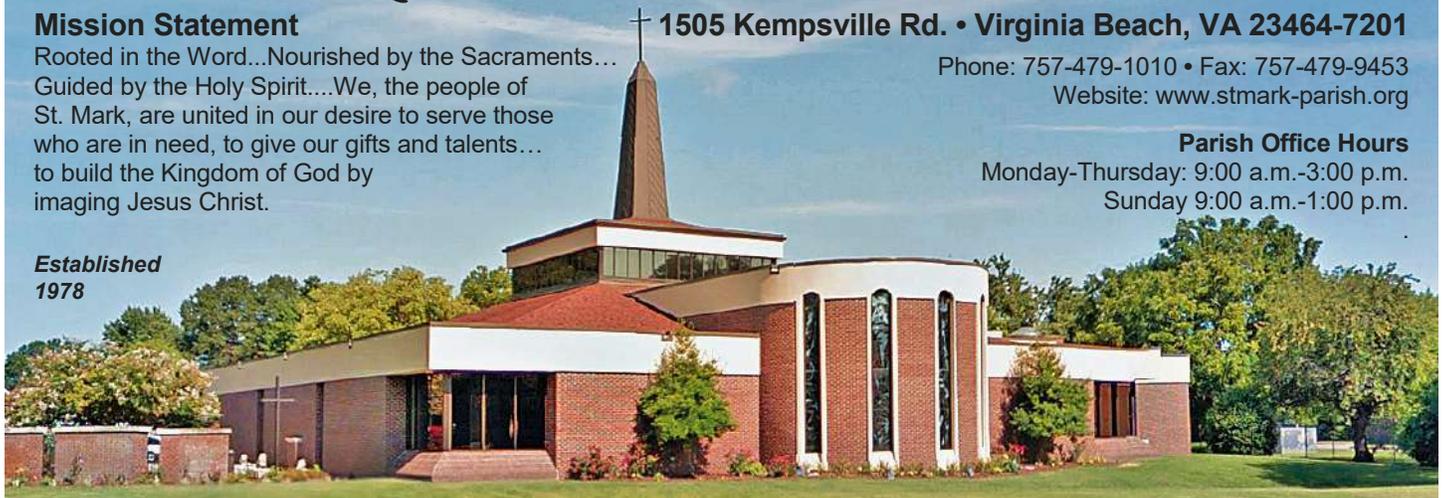
1505 Kempsville Rd. • Virginia Beach, VA 23464-7201

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.

Established 1978



LITURGY SCHEDULE

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

Nursery available for 8:30 a.m. & 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/IT 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

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.

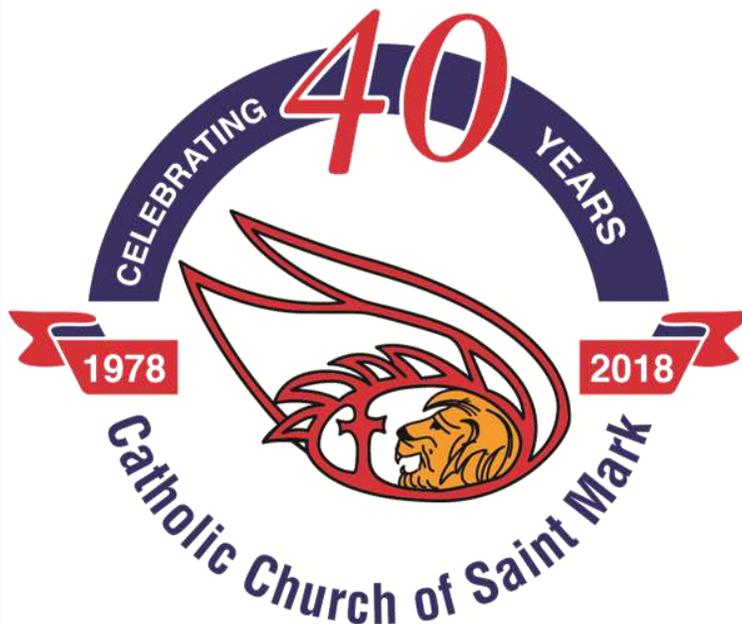
MINISTRY TO THE SICK & HOMEBOUND: If you know someone who cannot attend Mass or desires a visit or the Sacrament of Anointing, call the Office.

RECONCILIATION: Celebrated 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month at 4:00 p.m.

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

Order forms for St. Mark 40th Anniversary golf shirts are available in the office!

St. Mark 40th Anniversary stickers and static cling window decals are available in the commons after all masses and Parish office.



- April 29th – Anniversary Mass May 19th – Mass & Celebration September 8th – Anniversary Parish Picnic

Epiphany OF THE LORD

*Nations shall walk
by your light,
and kings by your
shining radiance.*

ISAIAH 60:3



Sunday Reflection

from Deacon Michael Johnson

A blessed New Year's greeting to all as we welcome 2018 and pray that this year will be filled with peace and joy. This weekend, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Epiphany with the Gospel of Matthew. Epiphany means the manifestation of the essential nature of someone or something. In our celebration, it is the manifestation of the divinity of Jesus. We hear the story of the coming of the Magi in their search for the newborn king of the Jews, guided by the light of a star. Matthew's gospel shows how Jesus is the fulfillment of the prophets, even in his humble birth; even through the searching of these Gentiles. It is interesting that the Son of God first reveals himself as a human being to the poor shepherds in the field in Luke's gospel, while this special manifestation is accomplished through Magi (Gentiles) from the east. Even their gifts share the meaning and glory of this newborn king - gold for royalty, frankincense for his priesthood and divinity and myrrh for his ultimate death for all. Despite the joy the Magi share with the discovery, following their long journey, guided by the star; there are those who are "greatly troubled" by this news as shared by King Herod and his court. It shows as we heard last week in the message of Simeon that this child will be the rise and fall of many in Israel. In the example of the Magi, may we be always guided by the light to the glory of God in our lives. Then we too, can live out the prophecy of Isaiah - we will be "radiant at what we see" and what we experience. May this experience always fill our hearts, so much so that we need to share this experience with others. This manifestation that Jesus truly is the God who became one of us, because he loved humanity so much that we all might have life with him forever.

*Please note the Daily Mass changes
through the end of January:*

Communion Services on Tuesdays at 8:30 a.m.
Daily Mass on Wednesdays at 7 p.m.
No service on Thursdays

Mass
INTENTIONS

and Daily Readings

MON	1/8		IS 42:1-4,6-7; MK 1:7-11
TUES	1/9	8:30am	1 SM 1:9-20; MK 1:21-28
WED	1/10	7:00pm	1 SM 3:1-10,19-20; MK 1:29-39 SUSAN REMIAS (HEALING INTENTION) THE SCOLLY & GALEWSKI FAMILY +
THU	1/11		1 SM 4:1-11; MK 1:40-45
FRI	1/12		1 SM 8:4-7,10-22A; MK 2:1-12
SAT	1/13	5:30pm	DANTE ACEDO + PHILLIP CALABRESE + 1 SM 9:1-4,17-19;10-1; MK 2:13-17
SUN	1/14	8:30am	WALTER VALLEY + LEONILA TORRES +
		10:30am	ARMANDO SENCIO + TEODORO CALIMLIM + NAT MICHON + 1 SM 3:3B-10,19 PS 40:2,4,7-8,8-9,10 1 COR 6:13C-15A,17-20 JN 1:35-42

Please Keep In Your Prayers...

Evelyn Malana, Katie Sluder, Micah Pulvermacher, Kayla Soccio, Paula Silvia, Florabel Larson, Shawn Perine, Brian Sunderland, Patty & Alton Russell, Aurora Balino, Anna Wilson, Helen Wilkerson, Catherine Cannon, Thomas Trail, Rosalie Stock, Lorenzo Fuller, Jim Thomas

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.

Justice & Peace

FOOD PANTRY: This week the Food Pantry is in need of **Grape and Strawberry Jelly.**

If a brother or sister has nothing to wear and has no food for the day, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well," but you do not give them the necessities of the body, what good is it? So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

- James 2:15-17

More than 43 million Americans live in poverty. Our faith demands of us a loving response to poverty, hunger, homelessness, unemployment, and other community issues that affect the poor. According to Pope Benedict XVI, a fundamental principle of the life of our Church is that "within the community of believers, there can never be room for a poverty that denies anyone what is needed for a dignified life." We must reach out and alleviate the suffering that we encounter directly in the face of poverty, homelessness, hunger, unemployment and all the other injustices that we see in our community. We must also work to shape laws and institutions that allow all people to flourish and to achieve their potential. This can all be accomplished by engaging in direct services and advocacy efforts of Catholics in the Commonwealth and beyond. During this month, please be generous to those who are in need and ask the Lord to show you how you can love your neighbor, especially the poor, in a more authentic way.

OUR NEXT JUSTICE AND PEACE MEETING will be Monday, January 15th 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."*

THANK YOU for all your hard work Pat Bernier and Nancy Hewlett; our coordinators for the Giving Tree and Holiday Food Bags. A HUGE THANK YOU to all who donated gifts, Food for Food Bags and their time to help sort, prepare and distribute for our Christmas Giving Tree and Thanksgiving/Christmas Food baskets this year. Through your generosity we were able to help those in need with 305 bags of food along with gift cards for turkeys and over 475 gifts for Christmas to 110 families. A special Thank you to the individuals and organizations that reached out to help us provide food and gifts this year: Rose & Womble, Lauren Pulvermacher/BB&T, Cox Communications, and MaryAnne Blaum (stuffed bears) – THANK YOU!

CAST- 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.

HOW DO WE LIVE OUT THE MESSAGE OF CHRISTMAS IN THE NEW YEAR, RATHER THAN PACK IT AWAY WITH THE ORNAMENTS? Each year the Octave Day of Christmas falls on the first day of the New Year, on which we also celebrate the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. Her open heart and courageous "yes" to God show us how to live year-round—with hearts open to the Lord, following where He leads. We are called to place our trust in Him, to enter compassionately into the suffering of others, and to love one another as Christ loves us. Like Our Blessed Mother welcomed Jesus, we are called to cherish and protect the gift of human life, at every stage and in every circumstance.

One way to live out the message of Christmas and follow Our Lady's example is to join 9 Days for Life, a digital pilgrimage of prayer and charitable action. The U.S. Catholic bishops invite you to join thousands of Catholics nationwide from Thursday, January 18 – Friday, January 26. Join today at www.9daysforlife.com!



This Week at St. Mark January 8-14

MON	10:00am 6:30pm 7:00pm	Food Pantry K of C Meeting RCIA Team & Sponsor Meeting
TUE	8:30am 9:30am 7:30pm	Communion Service Bible Study Bible Study
WED	10:00am 6:30pm 7:00pm 7:30pm	Food Pantry Rosary 40th Planning Meeting DAILY MASS St. Mark Chorale Rehearsal
FRI	9:30am 10:00am 2:00pm	Mom's Group Food Pantry Installation of Bishop Barry Knestout at Richmond Cathedral
SAT	5:30pm	WEEKEND MASS
SUN	8:30am 9:30am 10:30am 6:00pm	WEEKEND MASS RF 1 & RCIC WEEKEND MASS Teen Formation

JANUARY 8, 2018

St. Mark Parish News

CHANGES TO TAX STATEMENTS Our donations software was converted to a newer diocese mandated software in June. This will be the first time using this software to generate yearend tax statements and I ask that you bear with me, as turnaround time will be a bit slower as I learn. I will no longer be able to generate "on demand" statements for those who come to the office in person, as all work will need close inspection before being released. As always, a box is in the commons for SASE dropoff. If you notice any discrepancies, please call the office or email me at bookkeeper@stmark-parish.org and I will respond as soon as possible. Thanks for your patience. - Mary Ellen Cussen, Bookkeeper

SAVE THE DATE: ANNUAL K OF C MONTE CARLO NIGHT FUNDRAISER The Knights of Columbus Monte Carlo Night is Saturday, February 10th. Come out and enjoy an evening of great food, fun games, and a silent auction. Doors open at 6:45 pm. Tickets are \$20 for a single ticket; and \$17.50 each for two or more tickets. This event is the Kempsville council's biggest fund raiser, with proceeds directly supporting all our charitable activities. Additionally, the council is donating \$5/ ticket to the St. Mark Youth Program's 2018 Summer Work Camp Ministry. The Knights will be selling tickets in the Great Hall after all weekend masses starting January 13th through February 4th. Questions can be emailed to Dan Wood at dan9663@gmail.com or call 757-647-2135.

WANTED: CUSTODIAN FOR THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF SAINT MARK This is a 25 hour a week daytime position, Monday to Thursday and on Sunday. It requires experience in commercial cleaning. This position assures the Church complex (worship space, commons, social hall, meeting rooms, kitchen, nursery, bathrooms and chapels) is maintained in a clean and orderly manner. This a physically demanding position which requires familiarity with proper cleaning procedures using commercial cleaning materials. Works closely with our Maintenance Coordinator. Background check is required. Please submit resumes to Deacon Mike Johnson at deacon_mike@stmark-parish.org. For additional information please contact Deacon Mike at 757-479-1010 or by mail to The Catholic Church of Saint Mark, 1505 Kempsville Rd, Virginia Beach, VA 23464.

JOIN US FOR OUR 5th ANNUAL WOMEN'S RETREAT This year's theme is Seaside Escape and the retreat will be held at the Virginia Conference Center. You'll experience a time of renewal, fellowship, fun, and delicious food! The retreat starts on January 26th at 5:30pm and ends on January 27th at 4pm. The price, \$150, includes the retreat, lodging and meals for a double room. If you would like a single room there is a supplement cost of \$60. This retreat is open to all women who are 18 years old or older. **REGISTRATION IS OPEN UNTIL JANUARY 19th.** Register at <https://registrations.planningcenteronline.com/events/98208>. If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Katzman at Sharon@stmark-parish.org or call 757-479-9897.

WISDOM SEEKERS LUNCHEON Friday, January 12, 2018, 12:30 pm at Chiba Hibachi Grill & Sushi Bar, 5294 Fairfield Shopping Center, Virginia Beach 23464. This is at the corner of Providence Rd and Kempsville Rd. Restaurant is on the far side of shopping center by Lord Dunmore Dr. Please RSVP to Annette Welch, (757) 495-1445 by Friday, January 5th.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT FOR HEALING AFTER ABORTION A Rachel's Vineyard Weekend Retreat will be held January 27-29, 2018 in Toano, VA sponsored by Saint Joan of Arc Church in Yorktown. The weekend retreat includes, spiritual exercises, the sacrament of reconciliation, a Memorial Service and a Mass of Entrustment and is available to women, men and any person who may have been adversely impacted by an abortion. Participation is strictly confidential and offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness and mercy. To register contact Linda Riva at 757-887-3144 or email her at lindajr2@yahoo.com. The cost is \$185 for meals, a private room and all retreat materials. Financial assistance is available!

FINANCIAL BOX SCORE

Family Count: 1233

Families Using Envelopes: 283

Families Using Online Donation: 74

FISCAL YEAR JULY-JUNE	DEC. 24	OFFERTORY YEAR TO DATE	NEEDED YEAR TO DATE	EXCESS/ SHORT
Offertory	\$12,986	\$397,926	\$410,800	(-12,874)

9 DAYS FOR LIFE

PRAYER • PENANCE • PILGRIMAGE

YOUR PRAYERS MATTER.
YOUR SACRIFICES MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

JANUARY 18-26

9 Days for Life is a “digital pilgrimage” of prayer and action focused on cherishing the gift of every person’s life. A multi-faceted novena highlighting a different intention each day provides reflections, bonus information, and suggested actions. Join and learn more at www.9daysforlife.com!

Join thousands across the country coming together in prayer and action!

4 WAYS TO JOIN



Secretariat of
Pro-Life Activities

9daysforlife.com

GET READY FOR THE GREAT

CHILI COOK-OFF

Grab an apron and prepare for battle!

***Or grab a napkin and prepare for an evening of over-
whelming deliciousness!***



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2018

6:30 PM

ST. MARK GREAT HALL

**Tickets on sale after all Masses starting
January 13!**

\$7 per person * \$3 for 5yrs and under

**Proceeds to benefit youth retreats,
work camp, and conferences.
Seating is limited so get tickets early!**

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@stmark-parish.org
757-479-9897**

Summer 2018 Youth Opportunities

Interest Meeting: January 10, 6pm

One Bread, One Cup

- St. Meinrad Seminary & School of Theology, St. Meinrad, IN
- June 20-26
- Rising 10th-12th grade



ONE
BREAD
ONE
CUP
St. Meinrad

This five-day liturgical conference focuses on teaching on Word, Sacraments, and Mission of the Catholic Church. Participants go through liturgical, spiritual, and theological formation during the week to learn how to participate in ministry with the intent of serving Christ. They also experience Benedictine life among the monks!



McKee Work Camp

- St. Paul Catholic Church, McKee, KY
- July 7-14
- Rising 7th-12th grade

Join us for our annual work camp! Participants spend their mornings leading Vacation Bible School, and then break off into various service projects and activities in the afternoon. This is a great program to get to know your youth group and leaders, while learning and building a community for the love of Jesus!

For more information, contact fe@stmark-parish.org