

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

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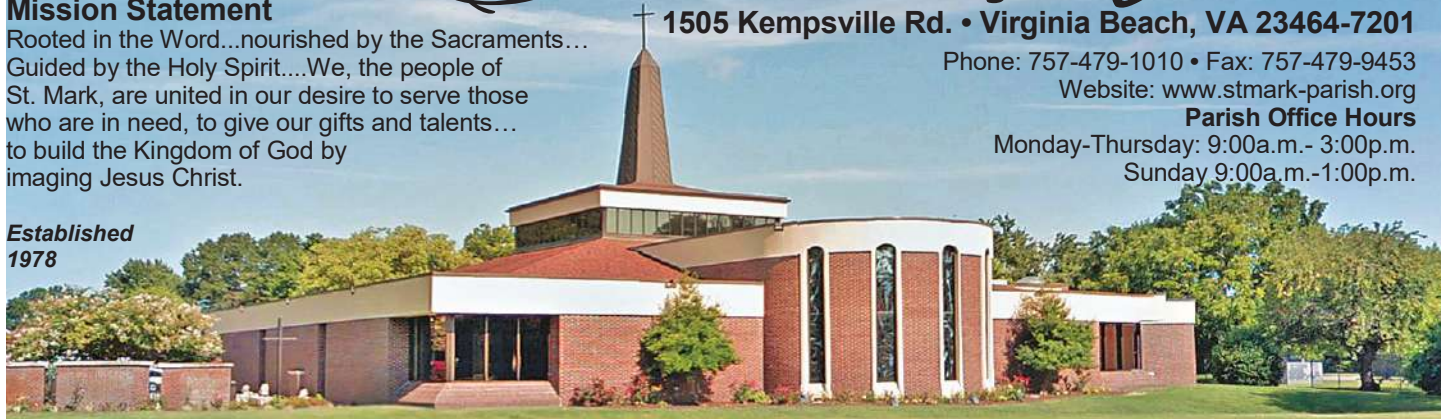
Phone: 757-479-1010 • Fax: 757-479-9453

Website: www.stmark-parish.org

Parish Office Hours

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

Sunday 9:00a.m.-1:00p.m.



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LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:30 p.m. • Sunday at 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

PARISH STAFF

- Rev. Anthony Mpungu.....Pastor
franthony@stmark-parish.org
Revs. Mr. Mike Johnson & John Kren.....Deacons
Rev. Mr. Mike Johnson.....Pastoral Associate
deacon_mike@stmark-parish.org
Mary Ellen Cussen.....Parish Bookkeeper
bookkeeper@stmark-parish.org
Michelle Mocco.....Parish Secretary
secretary@stmark-parish.org
Mark Smeland.....Music Coordinator
msmeland@gmail.com
Vikki IgnacioLiturgical Musician
Brian Gridley.....Maintenance/IT Coordinator
Faith Daxton.....Housekeeping
Renee McCroskey.....Nursery Supervisor
Hank Harzold.....Parish Council Chairman
William McMican.....Finance Council Chairman

RELIGIOUS FORMATION STAFF

- Sharon Katzman.....Director of R.F.
Fe Guzman.....Youth Minister
Samantha KriegCoordinator of R.F.

RELIGIOUS FORMATION OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday 9:00a.m.-3:00p.m.
Sunday 9:00a.m.-2:00p.m.
Phone: 757-479-9897 • Fax: 757-479-9453
Email: sharon@stmark-parish.org

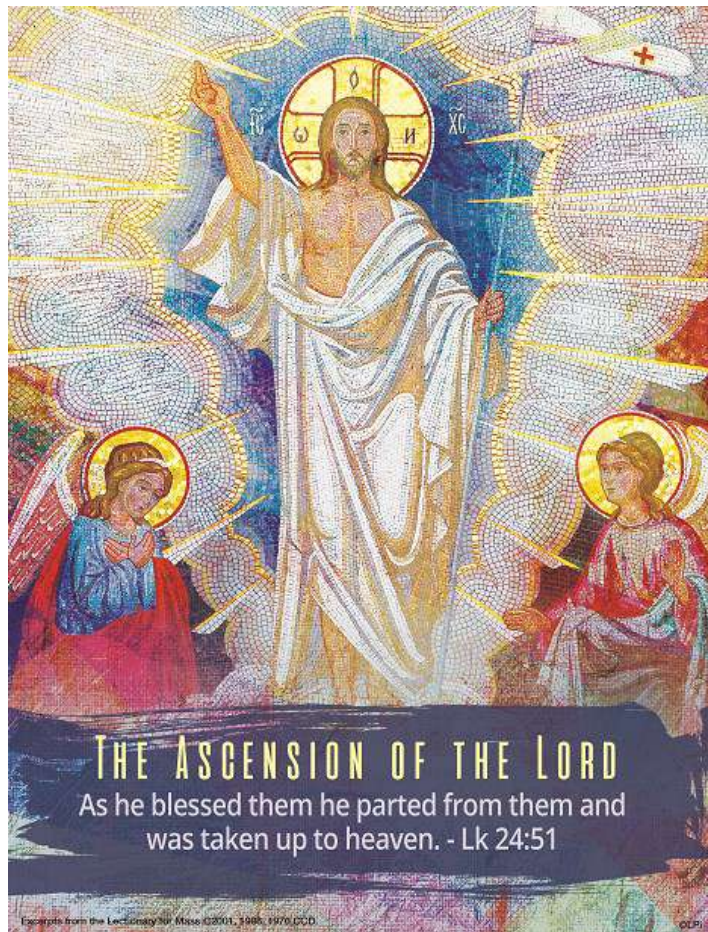
BAPTISM: Celebrated the 1st weekend of the month except during Lent. Contact Religious Formation Office for Baptism classes prior to the Sacrament.

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.



FATHER ANTHONY'S REFLECTION

"He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father" This is what we profess every time we recite the Creed!

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of the Ascension of our Lord. It is over forty days since we celebrated Easter and this was the last act of Jesus, before his disciples, after he had risen from the dead. The glorious ascension of Jesus would signify the completion of his time here on earth. Ascension is the feast of our faith, the faith that we profess every Sunday. Having been with them for a while, he often reminded them that he would go away from them. The question from his disciples was where he was going and why? We must know that Jesus had to go to where he came from so that we also may one day join him. Our Lord, Jesus Christ had a mission of redeeming humanity from sin and death, not according to his will, but to the will of His Father. He accomplished this mission perfectly and now he is being exalted on high with God the Father. So, his going from us is with hope of the fulfillment of the promise that he will send the advocate who will continue his mission among us. This means that our duty is to focus to where he has gone and wait for the Holy Spirit. It is the joy of every parent to see their children come home! We, as Christians, must know that our homeland is in heaven and every day we work and walk towards that homeland. In the meantime, we must be loyal to our Lord if we want to gain from His glory. He is also entrusting us with a task to lead others into the same glory. Let's do it!

DAILY READINGS AND MASS OFFERINGS/INTENTIONS

Catholic Daily Bible Reading



MONDAY 5/30	EASTER WEEKDAY Acts 19:1-8; Jn 16:29-33
TUESDAY 5/31	THE VISITATION OF THE B.V.M. Zep 3:14-18a; Lk 1:39-56
WEDNESDAY 6/1	SAINT JUSTIN, MARTYR Acts 20:28-38; Jn 17:11b-19
THURSDAY 6/2	SAINTS MARCELLINUS AND PETER, MARTYRS Acts 22:30, 23:6-11; Jn 17:20-26 † Benjamin Berbano
FRIDAY 6/3	SAINT CHARLES LWANGA AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS Acts 25:13b-21; Jn 21:15-19
SATURDAY 6/4	EASTER WEEKDAY Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Jn 21:20-25 † Roman Kotlarz
SUNDAY 6/5	PENTECOST SUNDAY Acts 2:1-11; Jn 20:19-23 † Rosario Ocampo Cobunias † Luis L. Marano

† Offerings for the Deceased



The month of May, dedicated to **Mary**, is a fitting time to begin to recite the **rosary** daily. ~ Pope Francis



Paul Caddies, Molly Kibble, Abelino Santiguel, Janet Wright, Brittany Cochran Yokley, Pat Byrne, Dawn Boroden, Patricia MacCartney, McBride Family, LaDonya Bradley, Trish Simpson, David McElheney, Evelyn Harzold, Antonio & Gloria Fernando, Billie Dudley, Rose Sunderland, Rose Fisher, Kenneth Delorenzo, Perry Francisco

AFRICAN MASS - UNITY IN SOLIDARITY

Holy Rosary Catholic Church
3300 R Street
Richmond, VA 23223

Saturday, June 4, 2022
11:00 am



NEVER FORGET

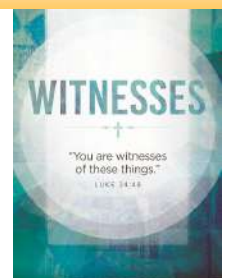


Memorial Day

Formally Decoration Day, it is a holiday, in the United States, that honors those who have died in the nation's wars.

WORD OF THE WEEK

Those who are present, bear testimony, and furnish evidence or proof.



JUSTICE AND PEACE

Visit the Justice & Peace page on our St. Mark web site for more information on our ministries and current focus, please visit our website at www.stmark-parish.org/ministries/justice-and-peace or email us at justiceandpeace@stmark-parish.org.

Foods of the Month

May: 9-15oz. boxed Instant Mashed Potatoes
Individual meals: tuna snack kits, pop-top soup/pasta

June: \$10 Gift Cards or any item (s) from our Food Pantry List
Individual Fruit Cups or snack crackers



Hope4Life Baby Bottle Drive

We are collecting monetary donations for the "Hope4Life" mobile pregnancy Center in large baby bottles located in the Commons next to the Food Pantry bin and in the Great Hall. Your dona-

tion assists women and families with free ultrasounds, counseling services, educational programs, maternity/baby/child items and



Spiritual Adoption

THANK YOU to all who attended our Spiritual Adoption "Birth Day" party last weekend. A special thank you to all who Spiritually Adopted a baby; over 240 babies have been prayed for

and loved these past nine months. We encourage you to continue to pray for our Spiritually adopted babies and their families. Please stop by Great Hall and fill out your Spiritually adopted baby's birth certificate.



Myth: Labor trafficking is only or primarily a problem in developing countries.

Reality: Labor trafficking occurs in the United States and in other developed

countries but is reported at lower rates than sex trafficking.

Myth: Human trafficking only happens in illegal or underground industries.

Reality: Human trafficking cases have been reported and prosecuted in industries including restaurants, cleaning services, construction, nail salons, factories and more.



Plastic Yarn (PLARN)

Our PLARN ministry group have completed and delivered 27 blessed mats and 8 tote bags to our homeless brothers and sisters at PIN Ministry. In addition, the bench donated to PIN

has arrived looks wonderful. Thank you to all who donated plastic and our PLARN group for all their hard work!



Hope 4 Life Eighth Annual Banquet
St. Mark is proud to be a sponsor of this event on June 4, 2022, at Basilica of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Norfolk, Mass - 5:00 p.m. Reception - 6:15 p.m. Banquet - 6:45 p.m. Rever-

end Dean Nelson will be the keynote speaker. RSVP early to Louantha Kerr @ louantha@gmail.com. The banquet will be live streamed for those unable to attend. Tune in to our website at hope4lifeva.com to view this event. We extend a heartfelt thank you for your support and prayers.

THIS WEEK AT SAINT MARK



May 30th - June 5th

Parish Office Hours
Mon-Thurs 9am - 3pm
Sunday 9am - 1pm

MONDAY

OFFICE CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY

TUESDAY

830am

NO COMMUNION SERVICE

WEDNESDAY

10am-1pm
630pm
7pm

Food Pantry in the Great Hall
Rosary in the Daily Chapel
COMMUNION SERVICE in the Daily Chapel

THURSDAY

830am
930am-630pm
9-11am
9am-12pm

630pm
7pm
715pm

WEEKDAY MASS in the Daily chapel
Adoration in the Daily Chapel
PLARN in the Great Hall
Tidewater Director of Religious Formation Meeting in the Conference Room
Rosary in Daily Chapel
Benediction in Daily Chapel
Lector Training in the Conference Room and Sanctuary

FRIDAY

No Events Today

SATURDAY

4pm
5pm
530pm

Reconciliation in the Daily Chapel
Rosary in the Sanctuary
WEEKEND MASS in the Sanctuary with Baptism

SUNDAY

8am
830am
10am
1030am

6pm
730pm

Rosary in the Sanctuary
WEEKEND MASS in the Sanctuary
Rosary in the Sanctuary
WEEKEND MASS in the Sanctuary with Facebook Live Stream and Baptisms
Baccalaureate Mass in the Sanctuary
Reception in the Great Hall

LITURGY MINISTRY

The Mission of the Baptized

This weekend we celebrate the Solemnity of the Ascension, as Jesus ascended into heaven he sent the disciples on mission around the known world. We too, are called on mission with our Baptism, please read Maureen Kelly's article for insight.

"A friend of mine often uses the phrase "I am on a mission." When she says those words, I know with certainty that whatever the mission is, it is something urgent. She will be singularly focused and nothing, no matter how seductive, will distract her from accomplishing her task. She is on fire! My friend would probably never think of herself as a poster child, but she could serve as one for the concept of mission.

The word "mission" comes from the Latin word *mittere*, which means to send. In its most general sense, a mission is an assigned duty or task. A mission can be a simple task like being sent to clean the yard, or it can be something quite serious such as being sent to relieve hunger in a poverty-stricken area.

When we use the term mission in reference to the Church and the baptized, we are talking about something serious, because we are talking about being sent to accomplish God's mission. The Church is missionary by its very nature because it exists to continue the work of the risen Lord through the power of the Holy Spirit. The Church continues the response to Jesus' words: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age" (Matthew 28:19-20).

The Church accomplishes its mission through the ministry of the baptized. Through the sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist), each of us is empowered for mission. We are sent forth from the baptismal waters to "walk always as a child of light" and to keep the flame of faith alive in our hearts. In Baptism we put on Christ, in Confirmation we are strengthened with the fullness of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, and each week as we celebrate the Eucharist we are nourished with the body and blood of Jesus and sent forth to love and serve the Lord in others.

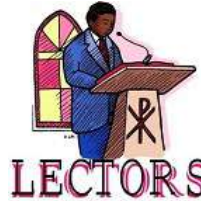
While some of the baptized are sent to mission lands or hear an awe-inspiring call to service, each of us is called to witness to the person and message of Jesus in the daily tasks of our lives. All of us are sent to act as my friend does: to have a sense of urgency, to be singularly focused and live in the fire of Pentecost. This is the kind of witness that will accomplish the mission and it is everyone's responsibility.

Questions for Reflection:

- In what ways do you see yourself carrying out the mission of your Baptism?
- In what circumstances do you find it easy to share your faith with others?
- What does the phrase "walking as a child of light" mean to you?

Actions to Take:

- Set aside some time each day in the nine days before Pentecost to pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance and enlightenment about your own mission.
- Volunteer to become part of a parish or local neighborhood activity where you can use your talents to serve others.



Lectors Needed

Ever thought about proclaiming the Scripture readings at Mass? You are invited to explore the lector ministry at our information and training session on Thursday, June 2, 2022. Current lectors are welcome to attend. We will begin around 7:15 pm in the daily chapel, following the Rosary at 6:30 pm and Benediction at 7 pm. Questions? Contact Mike Kassel at

SUMMERTIME SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

Do you ever set out to do something great with your day, or maybe even just your free hour or two, and suddenly find you've spend over half that time staring at stranger's Facebook profile or watch cat videos? Our phones have that strange power to draw us in and take us on rabbit trails. Many of us have visions of summer as a time to be outside, relaxing with family or going on adventures. And then the summer seems to slip by without any of those dreams being realized. It's not too late to jump into your summer bucket list! Here are 16 ideas that are far better than staring at your phone.

1. Go on a road trip.
2. Spend a day at the pool.
3. Create a peaceful spot in your own backyard.
4. Plant flowers.
5. Visit a farmer's market.
6. Read a book or two per month.
7. Unplug every Saturday.
8. Grow your own food.
9. Go tent camping in the backyard.
10. Host a neighborhood party.
11. Make s'mores.
12. Gaze at the stars.
13. Try a new recipe.
14. Set up a movie theater in your backyard.
15. Go to a concert in the park.
16. Go berry picking.

RCIA - WELCOME TO THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

WHAT IS RCIA?

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process in which adults become full, participating members of the Catholic Church. Participants, known as catechumens go through a process of studying the Gospel, nurturing their relationship with God, becoming familiar with the Catholic teachings and practices, professing their faith in Jesus and the Church, and receiving the sacraments of initiation: Baptism, Communion, and Confirmation.



For more information on how to start your journey, contact Dcn. Mike Johnson @ 757-479-1010 or Deacon_Mike@stmark-parish.org.

FROM THE FINANCE OFFICE



Collections for the week
of 5/22/2022: \$18,953

Fiscal Year July-June	Needed Year to Date	Offertory Year to Date	Excess/ Short
Offertory	\$816,500	\$ 876,538	\$ 60,038

Family Count: 890 Envelopes: 175 Online: 151

Online Donations

If you currently do not give online, but would like to, please sign up at:

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stmarkvb>.

MEN'S RETREAT



"Lead to Serve, Serve to Lead"

Catholic Men's Retreat (Free)
Sat, June 4th, 8:45am – 6:30pm
New Creation Community Center
1600 Elbow Rd., Chesapeake, VA 23320

For more information and to register visit St. Mark's homepage. <https://stmark-parish.org>



PARISH LIFE

Spring Theme - Celebrate and Serve!

June is typically the most popular month for weddings. Here at St. Mark we have an abundance of long marriages. Let us celebrate those who have honored their vows for so many years. Please sign up at the table under the Parish Life Bulletin Board in the Great Hall. There will be sheets for each decade of years - 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 and beyond! We will post all those wonderful couples during June on our bulletin board.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Marriage is a Journey!!!!

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience can help you enrich your marriage and add some pizzazz to your journey. Whether you've been married 1 year or 50, a Marriage Encounter Experience may be just the thing you need to put a breath of fresh air into your relationship. Our next in-person experience is September 23-25, 2022, at the Crowne Plaza in Reston VA

Only 20 spots available so sign up early! To register, go to WWME.org, click "Apply" and search on Virginia. Feel free to contact Mark and Cathy Stangler at 703-378-4150 or mstang1987@aol.com with any questions.

RELIGIOUS FORMATION

Our Catholic Family

Sharing the Gospel,
Growing Together
Luke 24:46-53

The Ascension of the Lord - Seventh Sunday of Easter



Today, Jesus returns to his Father in heaven. He gathered his disciples and told them go out into the world to witness to all they had seen and heard about Jesus and his Father, God.

What is a witness? A witness is someone who speaks the truth about things they have seen and heard. A good witness can be believed. We were not with Jesus, but we still learn about him – here at Saint Mark and at home! So, we are witnesses. Are you a good witness for Jesus? What things do you know about him? What would you share about him?

On the Way Home: Today we remember Jesus leaving the apostles and returning to his Father in heaven. Have you had a friend who moved away? How did you feel when they left?



Into His Likeness

Session 4: Transformed by Fire - Prayer & Sacraments

This session introduces four essential habits that set the early Church on fire for the Lord and explains how to put two of them into practice in daily life.

WISDOM SEEKERS

Our Annual Potluck Picnic/Luncheon - plus BINGO is in the Great Hall, on Friday, June 10th, at 12:00 pm. This year we will provide ice cream and all the trimmings - yummy. Come join the fun. This is our last get-together until September. As always, these meetings are open to everyone in the parish. If you have any questions, please call Sandy Barczak at 757-963-8598.

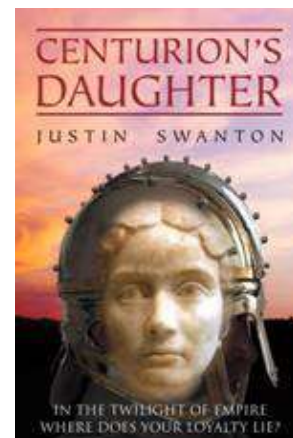
WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

When: July 12, 2022

Where: Library

Centurion's Daughter is a thoughtful and compelling journey to the tumultuous last gasp of the Roman Empire in the West.

Written and illustrated by master storyteller Justin Swanton, the book sheds light on a little known period of history when an empire fell and a powerful new Catholic kingdom emerged.



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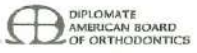
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