

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 at 8:00 & 11:00 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
Kathryn Flannigan.....Parish Secretary
secretary@stmark-parish.org
Mark Smeland.....Music Coordinator
Vikki Ignacio.....Liturgical Musician
Marlene Games.....Nursery Supervisor
Brian Gridley.....Maintenance/IT Coordinator
Hank Harzold.....Parish Council Chairman
William McMican.....Finance Council Chairman

RELIGIOUS FORMATION STAFF

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



28th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son." - Mt 22:2

Fr. Anthony's Reflection

As we come towards the end of this liturgical year, Jesus' teaching is focused on the Kingdom of God and what it is like.

In today's Gospel reading, he compares the Kingdom of Heaven to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son and invited guests to the feast. As expected, some invited guests gave excuses and didn't turn up for the feast. Since everything was already set up and ready to go, the king couldn't afford the embarrassment of a sparse crowd, so he sent his servants to invite whoever they found on the main roads.

Among those that turned up was a man without a wedding garment, so the king asked that the man be thrown out of the party! He was invited to the feast but he didn't bother to get the right garment and this caused him to be thrown out.

We all know that being invited to a special occasion has its own rules and requirements and there is no argument about that. We must always do everything in our means to follow those guidelines.

As believers, we are always asked to follow God's commandments and do his will and this is the only way we will be able to have the right fitting garment for the banquet. Therefore, as we come close to the end of this year, we are all reminded to use the remaining time to be ready for the banquet prepared for us. Let us get to know the requirements by listening the Word of God, as well as, to follow it in our day to day lives. When that day comes, we will deserve to be part of the wedding feast and enjoy the presence of God. Amen.



Mass Intentions and Daily Readings

MONDAY 10/12	Gal 4:22-24, 26-27, 31—5:1; Lk 11:29-32
TUESDAY 10/13	FRED POLLI+ Gal 5:1-6; Lk 11:37-41
WEDNESDAY 10/14	Saint Callistus I, Pope, Martyr FLORENCE HARVEY+ Gal 5:18-25; Lk 11:42-46
THURSDAY 10/15	St Teresa of Jesus, Virgin, Doctor of the Church CLARK MACKES+ Eph 1:1-10; Lk 11:47-54
FRIDAY 10/16	Saint Hedwig, Religious; Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin Eph 1:11-14; Lk 12:1-7
SATURDAY 10/17	Saint Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop, Martyr SARAH CASAOL+ Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
SUNDAY 10/18	JOSEPH BLANCO+ ROBERT & MARGARET DUFFY+ Is 45:1, 4-6; Thes 1:1-5b; Mt 22:15-21

(+) Indicates Deceased



Nancy Tennin, Steven Barkow, Hadley Hewlett, Emma & Jeff Madrigal, Alice & George Volz, Don DeGroot, Bryan Mendoza, Dawn Boroden, Leonardo V. Corpez, Rose Kmetz, Emy Balmaceda, Jim Thomas, Jean Morgan, Chandler Jacob, Christian & Dana Brewer, Diane Esposito, Connie Collins, Suzie Neely, Chantal Rose Denman, Yolanda Santiagué, Abelino Santiagué, Beth Park, Susan Parr, Paula Turgeon, Sarah Harrington, Harry Tennin, Mike Turner, Norma Comia, Margarita Qualle, Olive Stanley, Marlene Slate, Osbaldo Toledo, Alex Cooke, Jun Cruz, Fay Harrington, Ralph Knappa, Erlinda Mariado, Marge Kube, John King, Judy Kiplinger, Mary Kramer, Lantz Claudill, Mary Szalach, Suzi North Sheehan, Aurora Young, Val Kandis, Angelita V. Cruz, Nikole Zabataite, Robby Comia, Helen Allen, Michael Kmetz, Roger Guerrero, Marianna Gable, Faye Vassiliou, Dick Guevin, Thomas DeNio, Vanessa Miner, Angel Rindfleisch, Chuck McCoy, Joel Cossette, Teresita Mendez-Ozabal, Joy Solmerano, Jan & Roger Kilb, Jodi Lee, Norbert Robb, Tim Helmstetter, Marlene Games, Jim Behan, Fred & Rose Sunderland, Pat Byrne, Elaine Casterline, Julie Allen, Perry Francisco, Jean Burke

Justice and Peace

Visit the Justice & Peace page on our St. Mark parish web site for more information on our current ministries and other J & P focus.

www.stmark-parish.org/ministries/justice-and-peace

or contact: justiceandpeace@stmark-parish.org

Food of the Month:

OCTOBER

\$10 Gift Cards

Individual Fruit Cups



Catholics Care. Catholics Vote. Register to vote. In their statement on Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship, the U.S. Catholic bishops remind Catholics, "We are called to bring together our principles and our political choices, our values and our votes, to help build a better

world" (no. 14). For more information please be sure to visit Faithful Citizenship For All Catholics .

For more voter information from our Diocese and the USCCB on "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship" and "Civilize It": Dignity beyond the Debate" please visit A Different Kind of Political Engagement, a pre-election letter by Bishop Burbidge and Bishop Knestout and A Presidential Candidate Comparison, compiled jointly by a number of state Catholic conferences, including the Virginia Catholic Conference. In Virginia, the voter registration deadline is October 13th. For information on how and where you can register to vote visit: <https://www.elections.virginia.gov/registration/>. Links are also available under the Justice & Peace link on our parish website:

<https://www.stmark-parish.org/ministries/justice-and-peace>



Snack Bag Ministry/Food Pantry Update: To date 2575 bagged meals have been delivered to our homeless brothers and sisters at P.I.N. Ministry. We are so very thankful for the generosity of our St. Mark family and we continue to grow this ministry that provides to the least of these in our community.



Food Pantry Update: Our Food Pantry continues to grow! For the month of September our Food Pantry served 137 adults, and 86 children, for a total of 223 individuals. We are so very thankful for your generous donations both food and monetary. We ask you please donate only items on our Food Pantry list and check expiration dates.



Take a stand for life: Being sure to practice social distancing and mask regulations from September 23rd - November 1st. We pray that, with God's help, this will mark the beginning of the end of abortion in our city — and beyond. Where: Public right-of-way outside Planned Parenthood 515 Newtown Road. When: St. Mark will take part in 40 Days for Life standing vigil on Tuesday evenings from 5-6pm. Please contact Joyce Gridley justiceandpeace@stmark-parish.org or 675-6486 for more information or to sign up to attend.

This Week at Saint Mark

October 12th—October 18th

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 9am-3pm

Sunday 9am-1pm

MONDAY

11am-3pm

Sanctuary Open for Individual Prayer and Reflection

7:15pm

RCIA Formation (GH and Virtual)

TUESDAY

8:30am

Daily Mass In Sanctuary

9am-3pm

Sanctuary Open for Individual Prayer and Reflection

WEDNESDAY

9am-3pm

Sanctuary Open for Individual Prayer and Reflection

6:30pm

Rosary in Sanctuary

7:00pm

Daily Mass In Sanctuary

THURSDAY

8:30am

Daily Mass In Sanctuary

9am-3pm

Sanctuary Open for Individual Prayer and Reflection

7:00pm

Safety Committee Meeting Great Hall

7:00pm

Finance Council Meeting (Virtual)

FRIDAY

5:00pm

Virtual Rosary

SATURDAY

8am-12pm

Building & Grounds

4:00pm

Reconciliation

5:30pm

Weekend Mass In Sanctuary

SUNDAY

8:00am

Weekend Mass In Sanctuary

10:00am

Virtual Mass

11:00am

Weekend Mass in Sanctuary

Announcements

Religious Formation Registration

Grades 1-5 Religious formation starts Sunday October 11th. If you have not had a chance to pick up your child's book please come by the office during office hours to pick it up.

Building and Grounds (B&G) Spruce up!

It's time to start thinking about Christmas. Pardon the pun. There is cleaning and light maintenance to do in and around the campus.

Tasks fit all skill levels. Our next monthly gathering is Saturday October 17 from 8:00 – 12:00. Contact Deacon John.

MASS INTENTIONS 2021

The 2020 Mass Intention calendar is full and the 2021 calendar is available to reserve a mass intention. Only January through April are open for reservations, and ONLY 4 INTENTIONS PER YEAR PER HOUSEHOLD may be reserved. Our intention is to give a chance to as many parishioners to pray for their dear ones.

Thank you for your understanding.

Why is Mary so important to Catholics?

Why have so many people been devoted to her over The centuries? What can we learn about her from Sacred Scripture? What do Scripture, the life of Christ, and the early Church reveal about Mary? The connections between the Old and New Testaments will intrigue you and allow you to understand more clearly the life and identity of Mary, Our Mother. Visit the St Mark website to sign-up for a small group.

Annual Christmas Tree Sale Fund Raiser

This year more than ever before, we need your active support in order to make this annual fund raiser a success! The Covid-19 pandemic restrictions adversely impacted not only our ability to meet and worship together, but also limited many of our community outreach ministries. Our ministries are not only affected by the meeting restrictions but are experiencing financial shortfalls too. This is our only parish wide fund raiser, and its success is important to whomever comes to St Mark seeking help through our ministries, such as our Food Pantry and the CAST Outreach program.

We will continue to follow the Commonwealth's and the Diocesan guidelines for social distancing for all planned outdoor activities related to the Tree Lot sales. The specific guidelines will mirror those in place when the lot opens. We need Lot Managers & Assistants for all lot sale shifts.

The Lot Managers are responsible for collecting cash and checks and working with the Lot Assistants. Lot Assistants help our customers select and trim their trees. All are encouraged to participate! Teenage volunteers 17 & under must be accompanied by a parent.

Questions can be emailed to Dan Wood at dan9663@gmail.com or call: 757-647-2135 (M) Visit out volunteer signup web page at:

http://stmarkhelps.ivolunteer.com/treelot_2020

Lot Set Up: Saturday Nov 21st 8am – 10:30am

Tree Delivery: Tues Nov 24th 3pm – 4:30pm

Lot Take Down: Sunday Dec 20th 1 pm – 2:30pm

Lots Sales Starts Fri Nov 27th through Sat Dec 19th

Liturgy Corner

"The Word of God Transforms - The Second Vatican Council called for a great opening up of Scripture in the reformed liturgy. Prior to Vatican II, the readings for Mass were from a one-year cycle of readings and consisted of an epistle and the Gospel text. Since the reforms, the Lectionary (the book that contains the readings for Mass) provides three readings for Sunday: one from the Old Testament, an epistle or reading from the Acts of the Apostles or Revelation, and a Gospel, along with a psalm.

There are two cycles to the Lectionary. The first cycle is a three-year ordering of readings for Sundays and solemnities. The second cycle contains the readings for weekday liturgies over a two-year period. Today, in many parishes, lectors or readers are trained to proclaim the readings at Mass. This preparation is not only on techniques but how to pray with the Scriptures. Lectors, deacons, or priests who are skilled and prayerful proclaimers can draw the liturgical assembly into the biblical stories.

The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy (the Second Vatican Council document that guided the renewal of the liturgy) states that when the Word is proclaimed in liturgy, it is Christ himself who speaks. Christ imbues the words with his very presence. We take these words into our heads and hearts and begin to live what Christ desires (transformation). Though the stories we hear over and over do not change, we change. The power of Christ working through the proclamation of Scriptures can open us to his transforming presence and help us to grow and deepen our knowledge and relationship to Christ.

The Scriptures are powerful stories when proclaimed in the liturgy because they are imbued with Christ himself. Aided by the homily, we are called to actively live the Word as we pray for the needs of the world, governments, people who are ill, and various other needs in the Prayer of the Faithful. For many of us, these words reveal the power of the Storyteller, Christ Jesus, the one we want to know more and with whom we seek to enter into deeper communion."

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Interested In Learning More About The Catholic Faith or Becoming Catholic?

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults or RCIA is a process to learn and grow in the Catholic Christian Faith. It begins with Inquiry, where you come to ask questions and determine if this is right for you. It is open to those who have never been Baptized or are coming from a different Christian Faith experience or not fully formed in the Catholic Faith. Formation sessions are conducted on Monday evenings, starting at 7:15pm. If you are interested please contact Deacon Mike Johnson at 479-1010 or deacon_mike@stmark-parish.org

Welcome!

As we gather again for the celebration of Mass, we are all asked to do our part to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Out of an abundance of caution for others gathered, please be aware, prior to entering the church, an usher will ask you a series of questions. Please be patient and wait for their instructions regarding seating, as we must comply with social distancing guidelines. We ask that everyone takes the following precautions:

- ◇ Stay home if you are ill, elderly, anxious, or immunocompromised. Bishop Knestout has dispensed all Catholics in the Diocese from their Sunday Mass obligation. **Our virtual Mass is at 10am!**
- ◇ Maintain six feet of social distance from others who are not from the same household at all times while in the church or on church property.
- ◇ All those aged 10 and up and those to receive Communion must wear a face mask or face covering. Be sure the mask covers your nose and mouth.
- ◇ Refrain from physical contact, such as holding hands during the Our Father and shaking hands during the Sign of Peace.
- ◇ Sanitize hand when entering and leaving church. Bring personal supply of hand sanitizer to use before receiving Communion, if possible.
- ◇ Consider receiving Holy Communion in the hand.

If you have a fever or symptoms of COVID-19 or not wearing a facemask, you will not be permitted to enter the building.

FROM THE BOOKKEEPER

St Mark New Budget and Annual Report

Our 2020-2021 Budget and the 2019-2020 Annual Report are now posted for your review on www.stmark-parish.org click on 'About, 'Finance', and reports are there.

Attention Online Donors

Thank you for your patience and cooperation switching over to our new online donation platform. If you currently do not give online, but would like to, please sign up at <https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stmarkvb>

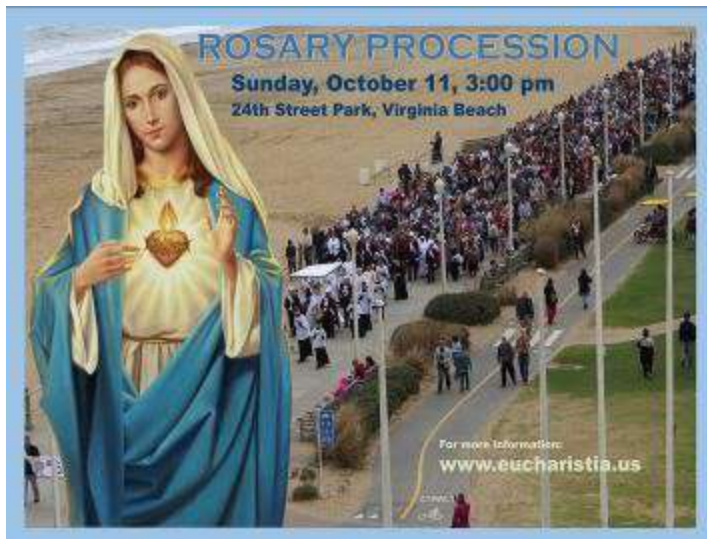
Fiscal Year July20 June21	Oct 4th	Offertory Year to Date	Needed Year to Date	Excess/ Short
Offertory	\$20,650	\$212,181	\$228,000	(\$15,819)

Family Count: 970/ Envelopes: 121/ Using online donation: 202



Bring a framed photo of your departed loved one(s) to share with your Saint Mark family.
November 2 / Mass @ 8:30 am & 7 pm

*photos will be displayed for the weeks leading up to Advent. Please plan to pick-up your photo the week of Nov 30



To the point, we will have a procession on the boardwalk this year on October 11 at 3pm; however, we have had to make some changes to the format as listed below. Since we are prohibited from using a church, we have changed the format to a Marian Rosary Procession to be lead by a statue of the Blessed Mother. In order to obtain approval for our event permit from the City and Health Department we have developed the following COVID mitigation plan:

- The entire event will be held outdoors to prevent too many individuals from gathering in a closed space. We will begin at 24th Street Park and process down the boardwalk to Rudee Inlet, then turn around and return along the same route to 24th Street Park.
- To prevent crowding, the prayer service that is usually held at 24th Street Park has been removed from the program and the park will be only used as a starting and ending point for the procession.
- No printed materials will be distributed. A digital program will be posted online that participants may access with their personal electronic devices and/or print in advance to bring with them.
- Everyone participating in the procession will be required to comply with the Governor of Virginia's Executive Orders and the "Safer at Home: Phase Three" guidelines. If you are unable to maintain a minimum of six feet distance from those not of your household, you are required to wear a mask. Those who are unable or unwilling to comply with these requirements are asked not to participate. Please follow the direction of the Sheriff's Deputies and ushers.
- Please bring your own masks and hand sanitizer as none will be provided at the event.

Family Mass: November 1st at 1 pm: Celebrate All Saints Day
The Saints are our brothers and sisters in Heaven. We ask them to intercede for us based on their patronage. What's a patronage? A patronage is something which is reflected in or associated with the saint's life. When we are in need of patronage-based assistance, we ask the saint to intercede for us. We want to celebrate them this November 1 with our second Family Mass. As a part of the Mass, we ask the children to dress up as their favorite saint!

Watch for ideas about saints on-line: St Mark website, Facebook and Flocknote in the coming days/weeks!

How to Pick a Saint !!!!!!!

Try looking at your child's birthday – what saints celebrate their feast on your child's special day?





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