

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

Established 1978



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 Office Hours

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

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
Renee McCroskey.....Nursery Supervisor
Hank Harzold.....Parish Council Chairman
William McMican.....Finance Council Chairman

RELIGIOUS FORMATION STAFF

- Sharon Katzman.....Director of R.F.
Maegan Valmeo.....Coordinator of R.F.
Fe Guzman.....Youth Minister

RELIGIOUS FORMATION OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday 9:00a.m-1:00p.m. (summer hours) Sunday 9:00a.m.-2:00p.m. Phone: 757-479-9897 • Fax: 757-479-9453 Email: sharon@stmark-parish.org

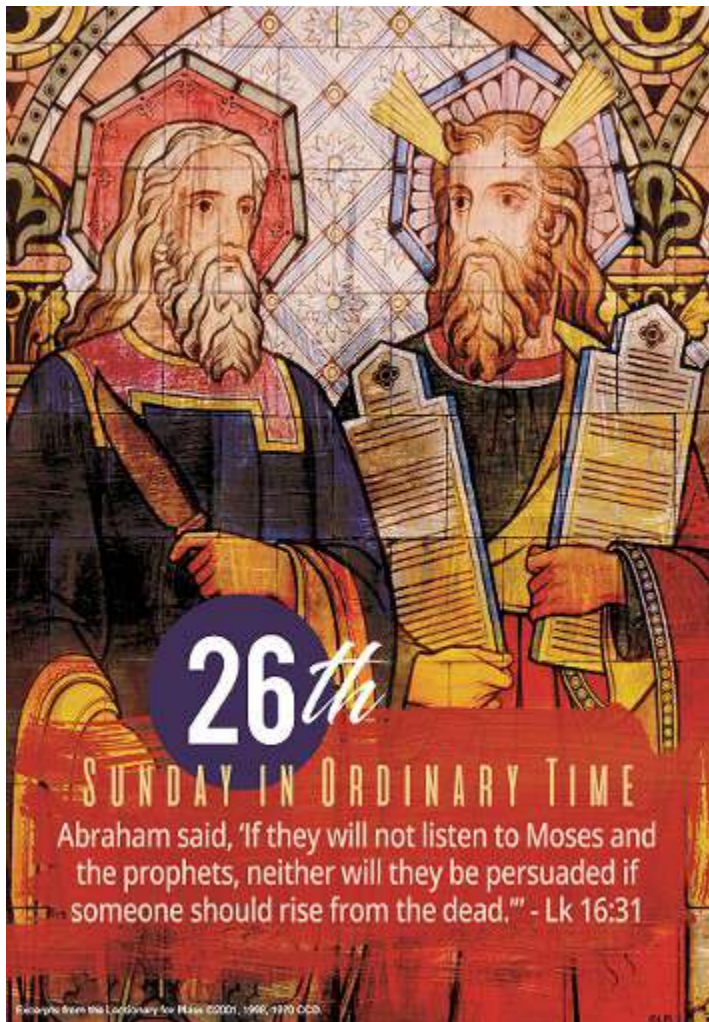
BAPTISM: Celebrated the 1st weekend of the month except during Lent. Contact Religious Formation Office for Baptism classes prior to the Sacrament.

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

Today we celebrate the 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C! I believe by now I may notice how close we are to the end of the Liturgical Year. This means that we must begin to focus on how accountable we have been and if there is something more we need to do, it must be now. Today in the Gospel reading, Jesus is presenting a story about a rich man who dressed in purple garments and fine linen as well as dining sumptuously every day. On the other side was Lazarus the poor man who was covered with sores with nothing to eat other than what fell from the rich man's table. The story goes on to show what happened when both finally died and each one of them had to be "rewarded" accordingly! This story teaches us that among Jesus' listeners were two groups of people the rich and the poor. There is no doubt that the poor formed the majority of them because it is for the poor that Jesus came. Yet the rich and their wealth are those who occupied places of authority and their scrupulous observance of the Law of Moses, while punishing the common people with poverty for not doing so. Jesus therefore warns against their false opinion regarding their wealth. Being rich can cause pride if one is not careful and this was the sin of the rich man who thought had everything! Yet the poor man Lazarus, a destitute and covered with sores kept his trust in the Lord. At the point of death, the comforts of life are reversed. Peace and joy came to Lazarus, while torment and sorrow came to the rich man. We learn that wealth of the earthly is short lived yet the wealth of God is for all eternity. We can therefore conclude that being humble before God and our trust along with concern for the poor will lead us to the Kingdom of God! Amen.



With Mass Intentions and Offerings

MONDAY	SAINTS COSMAS AND DAMIAN, MARTYRS
9/26	Jb 1:6-22; Lk 9:46-50
TUESDAY	SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL, PRIEST
9/27	Jb 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23; Lk 9:51-56 Filipe Rosario (†)
WEDNESDAY	SAINT WENCESLAUS, MARTYR; SAINT LAWRENCE RUIZ AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS
9/28	Jb 9:1-12, 14-16; Lk 9:57-62
THURSDAY	SAINTS MICHAEL, GABRIEL, AND RAPHAEL, ARCHANGELS
9/29	Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; Jn 1:47-51 Martin Artemio Gammad (†)
FRIDAY	SAINT JEROME, PRIEST, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH
9/30	Jb 38:1, 12-21; Lk 10:13-16
SATURDAY	SAINT THERESE OF THE CHILD JESUS, VIRGIN, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH
10/1	Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17; Lk 10:17-24 Anna & Joseph Wargo (†)
SUNDAY	TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
10/2	Hb 1:2-3, 2:-2-4; 2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14; Lk 17:5-10 Jessica Lee (†) Guillermo Temelo (†)
(†)	Deceased
(l)	Intentions

PRAYER REQUESTS

Mike Turner, John Chomas, Connie Blanco, Rose Delds Santos, Mae Pearson, Ida Payne, Maria Still, Kerry Allen, Rose Marie Branier, Ryan Steele, Jan Johnston, Paul Caddies, Molly Kibble, Abelino Santiguel, Janet Wright, Pat Byrne, Brittany Cochran Yokley, Dawn Boroden, McBride Family, Patricia MacCartney, LaDonya Bradley, Trish Simpson, David McElheney, Evelyn Harzold, Billie Dudley, Antonio & Gloria Fernando, Rose Sunderland, Rose Fisher, and Kenneth Delorenzo

WORD OF THE WEEK

The Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus

To take, as something that is offered, given, committed, sent; to accept.



JUSTICE & PEACE

For more information on our ministries and current focus, visit the Justice & Peace page on our website at www.stmark-parish.org/ministries/justice-and-peace or email us at justiceandpeace@stmark-parish.org.

Food of the Month For September:

9 -15oz. boxed Instant Mashed Potatoes
Individual Meals: Tuna Snack Kits, Pop-Top Soup/Pasta

Food of the Month For October:

\$10 Gift Cards/Individual Fruit Cups

Any item from our Food Pantry List or Shelf Stable Food Items

Note: Please check expiration dates as we are unable to accept expired food items.



Our Justice & Peace Ministry is reaching out to help those in need as the chilly weather approaches in need this winter. We are collecting listed items through the end of October. Requested items are

Men's and Women's: Gloves/Mittens, Winter Hats (knit caps), Scarves and Socks. We will distribute them to the P.I.N. Ministry, and Catholic Worker Breakfast Line. *Please only new or clean/gently used items** Please place donated items in the collection bin in the Great Hall next to Justice & Peace Bulletin Board. For more information contact justiceandpeace@stmark-parish.org.



Human Trafficking: In October 2000, the United States Congress passed a pivotal piece of legislation – the **Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA)** – that provided increased protections for

trafficking victims in the United States, established human trafficking and related offenses as federal crimes, and strengthened the U.S. Government's service provision and prevention efforts. This Act has served as the catalyst of rapid expansion of federal efforts to eradicate human trafficking and uphold the rights of survivors.

The U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) remains committed to working in partnership with other federal agencies and the business and nongovernmental organization (NGO) communities to end human trafficking, both at home and abroad. USDOL has an important role to play in the fight against trafficking in persons.



Our parish recently joined two wonderful efforts: one via US Catholic Conference of Bishops **Walking with Moms in Need (WWMN)** and the other through partnering with our Knights of Columbus **Aid and**

Support After Pregnancy (ASAP). These efforts will help us increase outreach and support for pregnant and parenting mothers, fathers, and babies in need. This month members of our parish community will begin the process of inventorying pregnancy and life assistance resources in our area. Once completed, the results of the inventory will be shared with our parish community. Join us in praying that our efforts will help ensure pregnant women, fathers and babies in need know that they can turn to our parish for support and assistance. **INTERESTED?** If you would like to be part of this effort justiceandpeace@stmark-parish.org.



September 26th - October 2nd

Parish Office Hours

Mon-Thurs 9am - 3pm
Sunday 9am - 1pm

MONDAY

715pm

RCIA Formation in the Conference Room/
Great Hall

TUESDAY

830am

WEEKDAY MASS in the Daily Chapel

WEDNESDAY

10am-1pm

Food Pantry in the Great Hall
Rosary in the Daily Chapel

630pm

7pm

WEEKDAY MASS in the Daily Chapel

THURSDAY

6am

Men of St Joseph in the Great Hall

830am

WEEKDAY MASS in the Daily Chapel

930-11am

PLARN in the Great Hall

FRIDAY

515pm

Novena in the Daily Chapel

6pm

Rosa Blanco Memorial Mass in Sanctuary

630pm

Reception in the Great Hall



SATURDAY

4pm

Reconciliation in the Daily Chapel

5pm

Rosary in the Sanctuary in the Sanctuary

530pm

WEEKEND MASS in the Sanctuary

SUNDAY

8am

Child Care in the Nursery

8am

Rosary in the Sanctuary

830am

WEEKEND MASS in the Sanctuary

10am

Child Care in the Nursery

10am

Rosary in the Sanctuary

1030am

WEEKEND MASS in the Sanctuary

with Facebook Live Stream

1230 - 2pm

Children's Formation in the Great Hall Classrooms

Please join us for a night and learn how
we serve people in need.



October 13, 2022
From 5 to 7:30 pm
1164 Millers Lane
Virginia Beach VA 23451



**Collections for the week
of 9/18/2022: \$20,063**

Fiscal Year July-June	Needed Year to Date	Offertory Year to Date	Excess/ (Short)
Offertory	\$208,500	\$206,262	(\$2,238)

Family Count: 883 Envelopes: 202 Online: 195

Online Donations

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

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



**THE CASE
FOR JESUS**
DR. BRANT PITRE



Dr. Brant Pitre, Scripture scholar and bestselling author, uses biblical and historical evidence to bolster the "case for Jesus" by exposing the problems with the

many false theories that have been introduced over the past hundred years, resulting in widespread skepticism about the reliability of Christian Faith. He tackles head-on questions like: Were the four Gospels written anonymously? Did Jesus claim to be God? Did Jesus fulfill the Jewish prophecies of the Messiah? and many more.

Adult Formation Sessions Begin October 11

9:30 a.m.

7:00 p.m.

Registration is open in Commons

Participant Guide \$5



WELCOME TO THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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, Eucharist, and Confirmation.**

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

UPCOMING EVENTS



St. Mark Harvest Festival

Saturday, October 15th from 11am - 3pm

Mark your calendars! Our Harvest Festival is quickly approaching! St. Mark will sponsor Uncle Al's Famous Hot Dogs but parishioners are welcome to bring Fall foods to share! Drinks provided. Knight and parishioner Justin Newby will spin music, and a Face Painter will be available 1-3 pm for kids of all ages.

There will also be a pumpkin painting contest! Bring a pumpkin or **purchase a pumpkin from the Knight's Pumpkin Patch**. Attendees can paint during the Festival up to judging time at 2 pm, when prizes will be awarded. Plastic covered tables and paint will be provided.

Last but not least, we will have a scarecrow making area for families. You may bring your own supplies but we will have raggedy clothes, straw, string and other supplies available for your creation.

Bring a chair!!! If you would like to help set up, clean up or have any other event ideas, please contact Linda Major at 757-615-0763 or email majormail@verizon.net.

Vendors and Events Schedule

- 11am - 2pm: Pumpkin Painting Contest
- 11am - 3pm: Famous Uncle Al's Hot Dogs
- 11am - 3pm: DJ - Justin Newby
- 11am - 3pm: Turners Family Scarecrow Creations
- 1-3pm: Face Painting



Pumpkin Patch Fundraiser

The Knights of Columbus will operate a **Pumpkin Patch** from **15 thru 31 October** to raise funds for their Family

Programs supporting charities and ministries like the St. Mark Food Pantry and Holiday Food Baskets, and our Keep Christ in Christmas programs. The Pumpkin Patch will be open **Noon to 8pm - Monday thru Friday, and 9am to 8pm, Saturday & Sunday** and includes over 1,400 pumpkins of different varieties. Come by and pick out those special pumpkins for your home. The Knights invite parishioners to volunteer at the Pumpkin Patch. All are welcome to participate! Teenage volunteers 17 & under must be accompanied by a parent. **Volunteer registrations are made through the iVolunteer website at: http://stmarkhelps.ivolunteer.com/pumpkin_2022. Please include a valid email address & good contact phone number** to keep you informed of any event changes. **Contact either Mike King @ 646-851-8334 (M) or Dan Wood @ 757-647-2135 (M).**



LITURGY CORNER

Our Call to Participation

As we begin our Formation Year for our children and youth, as adults we never stop our Formation in faith. Below is reflection on our participation in the Liturgy.

"Pope Emeritus Benedict noted occasionally that the liturgy is a "school." In other words, liturgy trains us to grow in discipleship. We can understand the liturgy as a "school" in two ways. First, liturgy catechizes or educates us. Various parts of the liturgy relay information to us. Our intellects grow as we take in the meaning of the homily, the proclamation of the readings, the hearing of the prayers, and so forth. In this sense, our minds are nourished.

Secondly, the liturgy concerns our bodies. Liturgy not only uses words, but also "the works of our hands" or elements from nature, that is, material objects. Liturgy makes use of water, fire, oil, bread, and wine. These material objects touch bodies (though in the case of fire, it touches us through its heat and light). From a theological perspective, God's work of sanctifying these elements imparts more than intellectual knowledge; they mediate, or we might say, make tangible, God's loving touch to and within us.

The healing anointing by the priest with the oil of the sick touches us physically. Likewise, in the use of holy water, whether at Baptisms or when we bless ourselves upon entering the worship space, our body is touched by God's purifying, cleansing, and life-giving Spirit. Therefore, the liturgy "schools" us to shape our minds, bodies, souls, and hearts into a deeper living out of God's desires for each person. But to achieve the holiness that God offers us, and indeed calls us to, we must be open to the power of God's transforming "touch."

In liturgy, we are called to participate. Participation requires our investment in the liturgy. It requires our openness to God's acting through words, gestures, music, prayers, and material objects. Participation is not, however, utilitarian, that is, it is not only about showing up or doing things; rather, participation may lead to transformation.

Though participation requires showing up and doing things, another level allows what happens (the actions of liturgy or the actions of the Triune God) to shape us. Our participation in liturgy may allow us to grow in our knowledge of and union with God, who seeks and desires our growth in holiness. The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy says we are called to "full, conscious, and active participation in liturgical celebrations". As students of the liturgy, our schooling is shaped by our level of participation. The effect of that participation is the active living out—through our minds and bodies—of God's healing and loving touch in, to, and through us."

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OUR CATHOLIC FAMILY

Luke 16: 19-25

Notice this week's gospel and the use of names. In Jewish culture, a name is very important (for example, Abraham means *father of many nations*; Israel means *he who wrestles with God*). A name, then, gives purpose and meaning. Jesus conveys who is important in the parable of a poor named Lazarus and a rich man who is unnamed. The rich man has every physical thing he needs but no meaning or purpose to his life. A very poor man lives at his doorstep, but the rich man doesn't seem to concern himself with him. The rich man has chosen to live his life for himself, not for God, not for others. We are called to choose better. Jesus is our example of how to love and how to live our lives for God.

Action: this week take time to look at the things in your life which might be keeping you from living your life for Jesus and for others (for example: habit, items). How will you choose/change so as to give Jesus the "gold" place in your life?

Love and Support Catechists

Although the first and most essential catechists, especially for children and youth, are the parents and other adults who live in a household, catechists expand and enhance that first catechesis by sharing their faith in small groups.

In many cases, catechists play a remedial role, mindful that many parents fall short in sharing the basics of the faith at home with the younger ones.

At the same time, we should avoid taking our catechists for granted. Our faith communities need to cultivate a permanent culture of support for our catechists.

Here are four practical ways in which we can support this important group.

Pray for our catechists. This is perhaps the easiest way of supporting them. Pray for their wisdom and wellbeing. Pray for their families. Pray for their holiness.

Approach a catechist in your faith community and say, "Thank you." It does not take much effort or time. A word of gratitude is always the best way to encourage others to move forward in what they are doing.

Sponsor a catechist or your parish religious education program. Catechists are very generous with their time and expect nothing in return. Yet, we can be gratefully supportive.

Buy a book for them, bring a gift certificate, contribute to a fund to buy coffee or tea when they catechize. Make an annual or monthly donation to support their meetings and retreats.


Support the continuing education of your catechists. Catechists need constant training. Support a formation program for catechists in your parish or diocese. Some may be ready to study theology at a local seminary or university, and they need scholarships.

YOU CAN HELP. PRAY FOR OUR CATHECHISTS.

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