

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.-1:00 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.



23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother." - Mt 18:15

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 SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

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

Fr. Anthony's Reflection

I welcome you to this 23rd Sunday in the Ordinary Time. Today more than ever before, it is very important to reach out to others whenever there is a constraint in a relationship between persons. Conflicts and disagreements even among Christians are everywhere, but if they can be dealt with in a Christian and amicable way, the better it will turn out.

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus talks about a situation where a brother sins against a brother and he guides him on how well the misunderstanding can be dealt with! Whenever faults arise in Christian communities, they begin with individuals and if they are not handled with care, the situation can get worse or even destroy the whole community. The first step in dissolving conflict is to do the best in reconciling with our brothers and sisters. If this fails, this is not the end. The second step is to involve some members of the community, and if at all this too fails, then the third step is to involve the entire community.

You can tell that all three steps are so important because they bring about the fact that sin affects the whole community. If we are able to embrace that, then it is worth rebuilding and reconciling with the whole community.

This process is intended to bring peace to all the members of the community, those around them and God. It is, therefore, very important that the community serves and should always work together for a common purpose. It is equally of great value if any of our members is at fault; it is our duty to bring them back in the most prudent way minimizing harm. Have a blessed Sunday!



Mass Intentions and Daily Readings

MONDAY 09/07	1 Cor 5:1-8 ; Lk 6:6-11
TUESDAY 09/08	The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary WAYNE SEIM+ Mi 5:1-4a ; Mt 1:1-16, 18-23
WEDNESDAY 09/09	Saint Peter Claver, Priest Deceased Members of the QUERNEMOEN Family 1 Cor 7:25-31 ; Lk 6:20-26
THURSDAY 09/10	BOB BASON+ 1 Cor 8:1b-7, 11-13 ; Lk 6:27-38
FRIDAY 09/11	1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27 ; Lk 6:39-42
SATURDAY 09/12	The Most Holy Name of the Blessed Virgin Mary THERESA GUEVIN+
SUNDAY 09/13	Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time CONRADO DOMINGO+ BETTY WEMHOFF+ Sir 27-30—28:7 ; Rom 14:7-9 ; Mt 18:21-35

(+) Indicates Deceased



Nancy Tennin, Steven Barkow, Hadley Hewlett, Emma & Jeff Madrigal, Alice & George Volz, Don DeGroot, Bryan Mendoza, Dawn Boroden, Sherry Savage, 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 Santiaguell, Beth Park, Susan Parr, Abelino Santiaguell, 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, Carol Seim, Fred & Rose Sunderland

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:

SEPTEMBER

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



Catholics Care. Catholics Vote.

Form your Conscience.

In their statement on *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, the U.S. Catholic bishops urge Catholics to form their consciences through being open to truth, studying

Scripture and Church teaching, examining facts and background information, and prayerful reflection (no. 18). Visit

www.faithfulcitizenship.org to learn about the steps you can

take to form your conscience, watch videos and access other great resources on conscience formation for faithful citizens.



Maison Fortune Orphanage (MFO) – Thank you to all who donated items for the Sea Container to the orphanage. If you still have items to donate please be sure to drop them off before 10am tomorrow morning (September 7th) as we will be boxing up and

preparing to ship items to MFO. Again, thank you to all who donated and watch the bulletin for an update on your efforts to help the children at Maison Fortune Orphanage.



Snack Bag Ministry/Food Pantry Update:

To date, 2150 bagged meals have been delivered to our homeless brothers and sisters at P.I.N.

Ministry and we are still going strong. Our Food Pantry has served 32 families last month. As the word is spread we will continue to grow these ministries. We are thankful for all who have donated and volunteered for both of these vital ministries that help to feed the most vulnerable in our community.

This Week at Saint Mark September 7th—September 13th



MONDAY LABOR DAY– OFFICE CLOSED

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**
6pm-8pm Confirmation Class in Great Hall

FRIDAY
12:30pm Wisdom Seekers Memorial Mass
Grandparent Gathering (Pavilion Following the Mass)
3:00pm Virtual Rosary

SATURDAY
5:30pm **Weekend Mass In Sanctuary**

SUNDAY
8:00am **Weekend Mass In Sanctuary**
10:00am Virtual Mass
11:00am **Weekend Mass in Sanctuary**

Announcements

Wisdom Seekers Mass

On Friday, September 11, at 12:30 pm, The Wisdom Seekers will continue the tradition of our Annual Memorial Mass. This year we will join Father Anthony in the main church as we remember our dearly departed members. You do not have to sign up to attend, but you do need to wear a mask when you enter the building.

You will be asked health questions before you are seated in accordance with social distancing. We look forward to seeing you for this special event. Please call Sandy Barczak at 963-8598.

Grandparents Day

CALLING ALL GRANDPARENTS!

Come and celebrate in the Picnic Area behind the church after the Wisdom Seeker Mass (12:30) on Friday, September 11 (weather permitting). Due to social distancing guidelines, you must bring your own bag lunch. This is a perfect opportunity for all St. Mark Grandparents to get together and talk about their favorite little people. For more information, contact Linda Major @ 757-615-0763.

VOUNTEERS NEEDED

Religious Formation: We Can't Do It Without You!

We are in need of a few more catechists for our 3rd and 5th grade. A catechist "echoes" his/her faith. It is not so much about "teaching" as about being a witness to your love of Jesus and his Church. We provide you all you need to succeed: teacher guide, online resources, our RF staff to assist you with ideas, resources and encouragement!

Religious Formation Registration is ongoing!!

We are preparing a unique formation experience for our children as well as their parents. Please register by going to the Religious Formation tab on the website and select online registration.

The Saint Mark Book Club: September 8 at 6:30 pm.

White Fragility: by Robin DeAngelo

"Why It's so Hard for White People to Talk About Race"

From The Bookkeeper:

Annual Diocesan Appeal 2020

I am so very proud to let you know that St. Mark has reached \$49,684 in donations to the Appeal, some 95.25% of our goal of \$52,160! Thank you SO much!

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	August 30th	Offertory Year to Date	Needed Year to Date	Excess/ Short
Offertory	\$11,665	\$130,016	\$146,000	(\$15,984)

Family Count: 977: envelopes: 136/Using online donation: 177
Collection for CRS Beirut: \$1600.00

Liturgy Corner

"Catholic parents and grandparents everywhere wonder how to hand on the faith they have received. When a child is baptized, the parents promise to bring them up in the practice of the faith. But how? Interestingly, the social sciences tell us what parents have known for generations: actions speak louder than words.

Researchers at the National Study of Youth and Religion (directed by Professor Christian Smith at the University of Notre Dame) tell us that the strongest determining factor in the faith practice of teens and young adults is the faith practice of their parents. As we think about why this is the case, it may be helpful to consider the word practice. When we hear it in a religious context we think "Joe is a practicing Catholic" or "My cousin Ed was raised Catholic, but he no longer practices." In this context, we might think about the word practice in the way that someone practices the cello.

Being Catholic is much more than a skill. It is a gift and an identity as a child of God. Even so, what if, as we think about forming children in the faith, we think about them as practicing being Catholic, that they might acquire the skills they need to live in the freedom of the children of God? How can they acquire those skills? They look to their first teachers as models of how they are to live. This is one reason it is important to bring young children to Mass. The child under six is in a period of development that is marked by imitation. By watching parents, grandparents, and other significant adults, they learn when to sit, kneel, and stand. They learn to make the Sign of the Cross. They learn the responses even before they know the meanings of the words. At home they learn to say grace, to pray at bedtime, to say the Rosary.

When children grow older, they hunger for role models. It is good for them to see lots of examples of what mature faith looks like while they are in this stage because eventually they will need to discern what mature faith looks like for them. We only have to look at the variety of the saints to see that the path of discipleship is not monolithic. In offering them relationships with other adults who live out their faith on the soup line, in parish ministry, and by bringing the values of the Gospel into the world, we show them what is possible in their lives.

Ultimately, our example as parents will have the greatest impact. If you want to raise children in the practice of the faith, show them what it looks like. Take them to Mass. Pray in front of them, pray with them, pray for them. Feed the hungry. Forgive and then forgive again. Pope Francis says the family is a school of mercy. Go to Reconciliation. Read the Bible. When you see God at work in your life, tell your children. You may find that your example is more powerful than you expect."

(Text by Kathryn Ball-Boruff. Art by Bandelin-Dacey Studios. © 2020 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, 3949 South Racine Avenue, Chicago, IL 60609; 800-933-1800; www.LTP.org. Pastoral Liturgy® magazine, May/June 2020, www.Pastoral Liturgy.org.)

Interested In Learning More About 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.



USHERS NEEDED

Please pray and consider being an Usher for one of our Weekend Mass Settings. If you feel the call and want to do something for our Church, please join us!

We are in need of volunteers to step forward and serve our Parish. Men, Women, Husband and Wife Teams, Family Teams, Young Adults, all are welcome.

"For a Day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I'd rather be a doorkeeper in the House of the Lord." (Psalm 84:10)

You can either sign up at the information desk or contact our Usher Coordinator, Steve Schlossberg at st.mark.usher.coordinator@gmail.com



The Church has celebrated Mary's birth since at least the sixth century. A September birth was chosen because the Eastern Church begins its Church year with September. The September 8 date helped determine the date for the feast of the Immaculate Conception on December 8.

Scripture does not give an account of Mary's birth. However, the apocryphal Protoevangelium of James fills in the gap. This work has no historical value, but it does reflect the development of Christian piety. According to this account, Anna and Joachim are infertile but pray for a child. They receive the promise of a child who will advance God's plan of salvation for the world. Such a story, like many biblical counterparts, stresses the special presence of God in Mary's life from the beginning.

Saint Augustine connects Mary's birth with Jesus' saving work. He tells the earth to rejoice and shine forth in the light of her birth. "She is the flower of the field from whom bloomed the precious lily of the valley. Through her birth the nature inherited from our first parents is changed." The opening prayer at Mass speaks of the birth of Mary's Son as the dawn of our salvation, and asks for an increase of peace. (franciscanmedia.org)

The Story of the Most Holy Name of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Saturday, September 12th

This feast is a counterpart to the Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus; both have the possibility of uniting people easily divided on other matters.

The feast of the Most Holy Name of Mary began in Spain in 1513 and in 1671 was extended to all of Spain and the Kingdom of Naples. In 1683, John Sobieski, king of Poland, brought an army to the outskirts of Vienna to stop the advance of Muslim armies loyal to Mohammed IV of Constantinople. After Sobieski entrusted himself to the Blessed Virgin Mary, he and his soldiers thoroughly defeated the Muslims. Pope Innocent XI extended this feast to the entire Church. (franciscanmedia.org)



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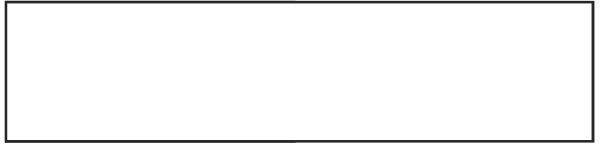
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