

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.

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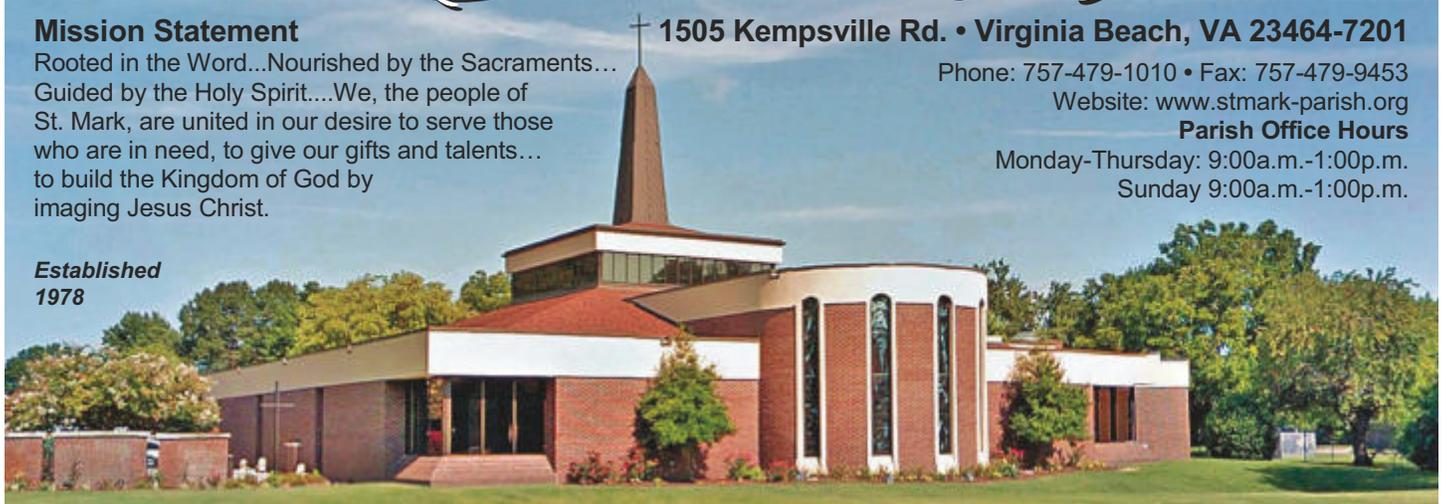
Website: www.stmark-parish.org

Parish Office Hours

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

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

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 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
msmeland@gmail.com
Vikki Ignacio.....Liturgical Musician
Brian Gridley.....Maintenance/IT Coordinator
Debbie Farrell.....Janitor
Anne-Marie Easter.....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 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.



27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



He said to them in reply, "What did Moses command you?" They replied, "Moses permitted a husband to write a bill of divorce and dismiss her." But Jesus told them, "Because of the hardness of your hearts he wrote you this commandment. But from the beginning of creation, God made them male and female." - Mk 10:3-6

Fr. Anthony's Reflection

I welcome you to this Sunday! From the Gospel reading, the Pharisees approached Jesus with a crucial question, "Is it lawful for a husband to divorce his wife?"

In actuality, they were testing Jesus on the issue they knew so well about. Jesus also took this as an opportunity to challenge them about what Moses had commanded them. From the appearance of things, this was going to cause a serious argument. That is why Jesus immediately refers them to the very intention of God at creation.

The issues regarding divorce were as sensitive then as they are today and that is why Jesus deals with this issue by taking his listeners back to the beginning of creation and God's plan for the human race. God's intention was that the two people who choose to marry each other must become one flesh and no human being must separate them.

Jesus explains that Moses permitted them to divorce because of their failure to live to the ideal expectations of marriage. This kind of permission cannot become the standard. Jesus comes to set the high ideal standard of married life to those who are willing to accept his commands.

To live a married life or a consecrated life to priesthood and religious life is a call from God. Much as these come with a lot of challenges, God gives the grace to those who truly commit to these vocations. It is our duty to support and pray for all those discerning married life as well as religious life.

In our world today, which is so thirsty and desires true examples of the life of commitment, these vocations become the source of strength and the richness of our Christian life.



Mass Intentions and Daily Readings

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| MONDAY 10/04 | Saint Francis of Assisi Jon 1:1—2:2,11; Lk 10:25-37 JEAN BURKE + |
| TUESDAY 10/05 | Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, Priest Jon 3:1-10; Lk 10:38-42 KENDAL HARRIS + |
| WEDNESDAY 10/06 | Saint Bruno, Priest ; Blessed Marie Rose Durocher, Virgin Jon 4:1-11; Lk 11:1-4 STEVEN & SUSAN ZAPATOK + |
| THURSDAY 10/07 | Our Lady of the Rosary Mal 3:13-20b; Lk 11:5-13 THERESA GUEVIN + |
| FRIDAY 10/08 | Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2; Lk 11:15-26 |
| SATURDAY 10/09 | Saint Denis, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs, Saint John Leonardi, Priest REMELITO COMPUESTO + Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time Wis 7:7-11; Heb 4:12-13; Mk 10:17-30 |
| SUNDAY 10/10 | ODILON & JUANITA FLORES + EMERITO ARRIOLA + |

(+) Indicates Deceased



Pat Byrne, Dawn Boroden, Patricia MacCartney,
Jack Mackenzie, McBride Family, LaDonya Bradley,
Priscilla Mackes, Trish Simpson, Dick Guevin,
Bobbi Drewiske, David McElheney, Mechele Johnson

Thank you For Your Prayers:

Bill & Tere Gustavson want to thank everyone who has continued to pray for them on the prayer list.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of

Rose Kmetz

Let perpetual light shine upon her, may she rest in peace!
Please keep the Kmetz Family in your prayers.

Justice and Peace

Visit the Justice & Peace page on our St. Mark parish website 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
October: \$10 Gift Cards, Individual Fruit Cups



October is Respect Life Month: Today is Respect Life Sunday! This kicks off Respect Life Month. We consider more deeply why every human life is valuable and reflect on how to build a culture that protects it. Join Catholics nationwide in celebrating Respect Life Month!

www.respectlife.org/celebrate



Spiritual Adoption—Your spiritually adopted baby has been quite active over the past month. Already, your baby is 10,000 times bigger than at conception. Your baby has developed the

foundations of their brain, spinal cord, and nervous system by the 20th day. Their heart began to beat on the 21st day, pumping blood through their own circulatory system and the blood type can be different from their mother's. Your baby is most vulnerable during the next month of being aborted. Pray that the Lord of life might move the heart of their mother to give them the most precious gift of all- the gift of life. There is still time to "Spiritually Adopt" an unborn child and share the love for life that God has given you. Prayer pledge cards and resources are available at our Mary Mother with Child display in the Commons. We provide monthly updates and resources to assist you with your prayer pledge. If you would like more information, please contact justiceandpeace@stmark-parish.org



Our Religious Formation Classes and Justice & Peace Ministry are teaming up to help the homeless and those in need this winter. For the month of October, we will be collecting Men's and Women's: Gloves/ Mittens, Winter Hats (knit caps), and Scarves to distribute to the P.I.N. Ministry, Catholic Worker Breakfast Line, and Migrant Worker Ministry. *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



PLARN: Bring your plastic bags to help us make mats for the homeless and to earn this beautiful park bench. We are at 208 lbs out of 500! Please place bags in Food Pantry bin or white recycle bins by Food Pantry. For more information contact Chris McGrath at: 757-404-7141



Lack of Education: A lack of education can lead to decreased opportunities for work at a living wage, and it can also lead to a decreased

knowledge in rights. Both outcomes can cause people to be at a greater vulnerability for human trafficking. Lack of education pushes people into forced labor and slavery. Almost 21 million people worldwide are victims of forced labor. In prevention of trafficking, education can also empower children to make changes in their community as they grow older that will prevent situations and vulnerabilities of which traffickers take advantage. More information is available on the Justice & Peace table in the Great Hall or email justiceandpeace@stmark-parish.org

This Week at Saint Mark

October 4th- October 10th

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

MONDAY

5:30pm
7:00pm

Blessing of Animals at Church Pavilion
Mass for St Francis of Assisi in Daily Chapel

TUESDAY

8:30am
9:30am
7:00pm

WEEKDAY MASS in Daily Chapel
Adult Formation - Large Classroom
Liturgy Meeting in Great Hall

WEDNESDAY

10am-1pm
6:30pm
7:00pm

Food Pantry
Rosary in Sanctuary
WEEKDAY MASS in Daily Chapel

THURSDAY

8:30am
9am-6:30pm
9:30am-11am
11am
6:30pm
7:00pm

WEEKDAY MASS in Daily Chapel
Adoration in Daily Chapel
Plarn in Great Hall
USCCB Audit of Safe Environment
Rosary followed by Benediction
Adult Formation in Large Classroom

FRIDAY

9:30-1130am
930-1130am
12pm

Mom's Group in large classroom
Adult Formation in Library & Zoom
Wisdom Seekers Pot Luck Luncheon followed by speaker: Fr Charles Breindel

SATURDAY

9am-12pm
5:30pm

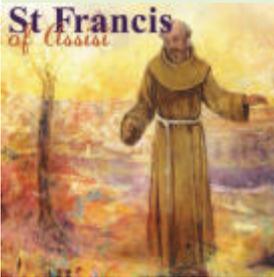
Reconciliation Prep in Great Hall
WEEKEND MASS In Sanctuary

SUNDAY

8:30am
10:30am
12:30pm-2pm

WEEKEND MASS In Sanctuary
WEEKEND MASS in Sanctuary (Also Live-Streamed)
Formation Classes in Great Hall Classrooms

Announcements



St. Francis of Assisi Feast Day Oct 4

Blessing of the Animals will take place in the pavilion area at St Mark at 5:30pm.

Mass will be at 7pm in the Daily Chapel

Catholic High– Crusader 5K October 16th

Join us Saturday, October 16, 2021 at our Annual Crusader 5k and Mini Crusader Mile Run, sponsored by Matthew J Kirk with The Seim Kirk Team of Atlantic Bay Mortgage!
Visit www.chsvb.org and register today!
Proceeds from the race will go directly to support the students of Catholic High School.

Scam Alerts-Vigilance is Key

Please be aware if you ever receive an email or text requesting gift card purchases or money from Fr. Anthony, please ignore the request and do not respond. If you have a question regarding a communication from St Mark, please call us at 757-479-1010. Thank you for your vigilance and cooperation as we continue to ward off these scams.

"Cybercrime is hitting dioceses nationwide. If/when you receive an email that shows a parish's pastor or a parish priest as the sender requesting you to purchase a gift card, rest assured it is a scam. Parishioners can and should contact the parish to verify the legitimacy of any suspicious request received through email.

All cybercrime should be reported to the FBI at <https://www.ic3govdefault.aspx>. It is up to the victim of cyber-crimes to file complaints."

Liturgy Corner

Young People Seek Room to Grow, Engage with Faith

"Pope Francis believes today's young people have a lot to teach us. Calling them "the now of God," the pope understands the impact young people can have on the future of the Catholic Church. He is so concerned about their involvement in the Church that the 2018 Synod of Bishops on "Young People, the Faith, and Vocational Discernment" was preceded by a process that sought to provide a response to young people, their connection to their faith, and their vocational calling.

While the terms youth and young adults are used interchangeably, the age range the synod designated included those born between 1980–1995, as well as adolescents 16 and older. Pope Francis followed the synod with the apostolic exhortation *Christus vivit*, Latin for Christ is Alive. In his exhortation, the pope said that engaging young people means meeting them with open arms wherever they are.

"Room should be made for "all those who have other visions of life, who belong to other religions or who distance themselves from religion altogether. All the young, without exception, are in God's heart and thus in the Church's heart." (235)

Synod members recognized that the Church doesn't always listen to young people and instead offers them ready-made answers without allowing their questions to be heard, something the pope cautioned against. "A Church always on the defensive, which loses her humility and stops listening to others, which leaves no room for questions, loses her youth and turns into a museum" (41).

Cindy Caughman, high school youth minister at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church in Alpharetta, Georgia, said that young people, especially teens, want to make a difference. "They hate hearing 'We've always done it this way.' They want their voices to be heard, and that's why we have to keep trying new things."

Pope Francis is calling the Church to be creative. "Rather than being too concerned with communicating a great deal of doctrine, let us first try to awaken and consolidate the great experiences that sustain the Christian life" (212).

The pope states that creating new opportunities for young people to experience the person of Jesus will go further than only teaching about Jesus in a classroom. He notes, "Young people frequently fail to find in our usual programs a response to their concerns, their needs, their problems and issues" (202).

Paul Jarzembowski, who serves at the Secretariat of Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), said it's important to know the distinctions between millennials and teens.

"Across the generational and age spectrum, teenagers today are generally more pragmatic, while young adults are often seen as more idealistic—which means they require different approaches. Teenagers like to work more individually while young adults are more team-focused, which means they prefer different pastoral settings to process faith and life."

This is one reason the pope encourages the entire community to be involved in evangelizing youth. The pope asserts, "A mentor should therefore nurture the seeds of faith in young people, without expecting to immediately see the fruits of the work of the Holy Spirit" (246).

Jarzembowski said the pope's exhortation underscores the importance of mentors who can accompany the youth. "The best way to know what youth and young adults are looking for is to engage with each person individually. To walk with them one by one is how we will learn what they seek."

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ROSARY PROCESSION
ON THE BOARDWALK

"O MARY, CONCEIVED WITHOUT SIN, PRAY FOR US WHO HAVE RECOURSE TO THEE."

SUNDAY, 3:00 PM
OCTOBER 10TH 2021
VIRGINIA BEACH

PROCESSION BEGINS AT
24TH STREET
OCEANFRONT
CITY PARK

Parish Life

October 22- Family Game Night 6pm-9pm



On Friday, October 22 Parish Life will host Game Night in the Great Hall from 6pm-9pm. Board games will be provided for every age in addition to action games for children and live jeopardy for both children and adults.

Bring your own finger foods and snacks. Drinks will be provided. Please sign up in the commons if you plan to attend.

Upcoming Family Fun Nights

November 28 -Crafternoon 3-6pm

December 10 -Parent's Night Out & Gift Wrapping 6-9pm

Wisdom Seekers -Oct 8th Wisdom Seekers Potluck Luncheon

Join us in the Great Hall on October 8th at Noon for potluck lunch followed by a special guest speaker, Fr Charles Breindel. Fr Charles is a retired priest who resides at Marian Manor and occasionally fills in for Fr Anthony. Come hear his words of wisdom. If you are interested in joining this wonderful group please contact Sandy Barczak at (757)-963-8598.

Sunday Hospitality- Volunteers needed to make coffee and serve donuts! Please contact Tony Montemurno at: montemurnot@gmail.com

Mom's Group - Expecting and current moms are welcome to join us for friendship and fellowship in the large classroom on Fridays from 930am-1130am. Please contact Kerri Drake at (914) 850-2765 for more information.

Heavenly Chefs - Do you like to cook? Our chefs volunteer their time and ingredients for funeral receptions. If you would like to be "heavenly" please contact Susan Deml at (757)-705-7196 for more information.

Samaritan Meals - This ministry provides meals 2 to 3 times a week to parishioners who have had surgery or have given birth. Meals are scheduled for two weeks unless circumstances require longer assistance. Please call Linda Major at 757-615-0763 if you are interested in serving this ministry

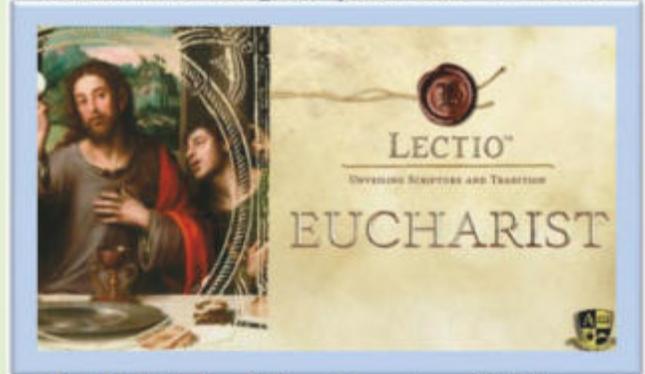
Parish Life meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm in the Great Hall. All are welcome

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

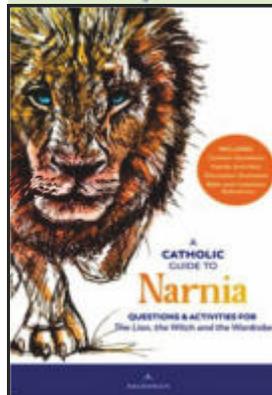
Adult Formation

Lectio- Unveiling Scripture and Tradition



Lectio Fall Schedule -Now thru Mid December

| | | |
|-----------|--------|----------------------|
| Tuesdays | 9:30am | Great Hall Classroom |
| Thursdays | 7:00pm | Great Hall Classroom |
| Fridays | 9:30am | Library |



Saint Mark Women's Book Club

November 9, 2021

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis

For more information, contact

kdimichele76@gmail.com

We will be incorporating "A Catholic Guide to Narnia" from Ascension Press

Children's Liturgy of the Word is Ready to Open... But We Need Volunteers for 8:30 & 10:30am Mass

- We provide the lesson – you share your love of Jesus
- We require two non-related adults per Mass each Sunday
- To get involved contact **samantha@stmark-parish.org**

Saint Mark—Weekend Nursery Supervisor & Attendants

St Mark is seeking a qualified Nursery Supervisor & Attendants to work 2-4 hours a weekend working in the nursery during our 2 Sunday Masses. Two attendants per Mass are required. Must be at least 18 years of age, with some child care experience, along with first aid knowledge. Background check and VIRTUS training will be required upon hiring. Please email your resume to Deacon Mike Johnson. deacon_mike@stmark-parish.org

FROM THE BOOKKEEPER

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

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

| Fiscal Year | Offertory | Year to Date | Needed Year to Date | Excess/Short |
|--------------------|-----------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|
| July 21 June 22 | Sept 26 | | | |
| Offertory | \$13,212 | \$208,095 | \$219,000 | (\$10,905) |

Family Count: 907/envelopes: 181/ Using online donation: 161



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