

May 25th 2025

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF Saint Mark

1505 Kempsville Rd. • Virginia Beach, VA 23464-7201
Phone: 757-479-1010 • Fax: 757-479-9453 • Website: www.stmark-parish.org



✠ Catholics are encouraged to make pilgrimages to their local cathedral during the 2025 Jubilee year.

✠ Bishop Barry C. Knestout has named four churches in the diocese as pilgrimage sites for the Jubilee Year 2025:

1. The Basilica of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Norfolk
2. The Cathedral of the Sacred Heart
3. The Basilica of St. Andrew, Roanoke
4. The National Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, Williamsburg

Bulletin Publication date: 3/8/25

E- Giving



6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

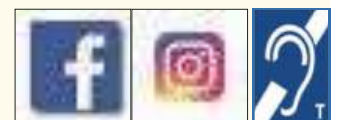
[Jesus said to his disciples:] "The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you." - Jn 14:26-27a

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

GLPI

MASS SCHEDULE:

**Saturday: 5:30pm/ Sunday at 8:30am and 10:30am/
Tuesday and Thursday at 8:30am/
Wednesday at 7:00pm**



“Rooted in the Word...”

This Week at Saint Mark May 26th - June 1st

MONDAY	Memorial Day No Christian Formation
TUESDAY	
8:30am	Daily Mass/ Sanctuary
9-11:00am	Mothers' Group/ Sanctuary/ Nursery
9:30am	Adult Bible Study/GH
6:00-8:00pm	Seasons of Hope/ Library
WEDNESDAY	
10-1:00am	Food Pantry/ Great Hall
6:30pm	Fr. Habets Assembly/ Great Hall
6:30pm	Rosary/ Sanctuary
7:00pm	Daily Mass/ Sanctuary
THURSDAY	
6:00am	Men of St. Joseph/ Conference Room
8:30am	Daily Mass/ Sanctuary
9-11am	PLARN/Library
7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal/ Sanctuary
FRIDAY	
5:30pm	End-of-Year Catechist Gathering/ Pavilion
SATURDAY	
10:00am	Altar Server Training/ Great Hall
11:30am	KofC Awards Picnic/ Pavilion
4:00am	Reconciliation/ Daily Chapel
5:30pm	Mass/ Sanctuary
6:45pm	Plant Sale/ Great Hall
	*KofC Church Drive after mass
SUNDAY	Seventh Sunday of Easter
8:30am	Mass / Sanctuary
10:30am	Mass/ Sanctuary with Face Book Livestream
11:45am	Plant Sale/ Great Hall
	*KofC Church Drive after masses

Mass Intentions and Daily Readings

MONDAY 5/26	Mem. of St. Phillip Neri, Priest Acts 16:11-15; John 15:26—16:4a
TUESDAY 5/27	Acts 16:22-34; John 16:5-11
WEDNESDAY 5/28	Acts 17:15, 22 - 18:1; John 16:12-15
THURSDAY 5/29	Acts 18:1-8; John 16:16-20
FRIDAY 5/30	Acts 18:9-18; John 16:20-23
SATURDAY 5/31	Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Zephaniah 3:14-18a; Luke 1:39-56 Aurora Agustin (Intention of Birthday Blessing) Roberta Bernardini † Deceased members of Mayr-Quernemoen-Fitzpatrick Family † Sol of the Ascension of the Lord Acts 1:1-11; Ephesians 1:17-23; Luke 24:46-53 Elaine Perez † Marge and Roland Harrison †
SUNDAY 6/1	



The Catholic Church of Saint Mark is excited about our Junior Usher Ministry!

The usher ministry is looking for children ages 6-15 to join our Junior Usher Ministry! One weekend a month we invite your child to assist our ushers in greeting and distributing worship aids, helping with the offertory collection and handing out bulletins. Contact Nicole Brimer at 757-479-9897 for more details.



Elinore De Bobes, Angie Hudson, Brian Lazo, Caroline Padilla, Carol Brown, Gigliola Kamp-Casto, Erlinda Mariado, Lorraine Stambaugh, Christine Gordon, Helen Robb, Herminio Lazo, Su Byles, Susan Colonna, Lexie Murray, Adriane Pennington, Rosendo Ibanez, Reynaldo Francisco, Annora Steiner, Julie Bellinger, Chandler Brewer, Val Kandis, Jay Davis, Olivia Wiggins, Armida Valmeo, Nikolas Pakkidis, Jeremiah Macaraeg, Sarada Kapuwatte, Connie Blanco, Ida Payne, Ryan Steele, Paul Caddies, Molly Kibble, Patricia MacCartney, Trish Simpson, Billie Dudley, Antonio and Gloria Fernando, Kenneth Delorenzo, Marilyn Briggs, Henry Wolkling, Mary Wolkling, Dana Reid, Joe Bennett, Reynaldo and Virginia Corsino, Margaret Schmidt, Virginia Creencia, John and Patty Allen, Maniya Riddick, Montana Riddick, Dale Polfleit

Seasons of Hope

“Life After Loss, A spiritual approach to dealing with grief. God as our comforter.” Sessions: Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 pm in the St. Mark Library. If interested, please contact Pat Winner at 757-615-2259 or Dale Mullin at 757-647-6994.



Nourished by the Sacraments



A Reflection on the Sixth Sunday of Easter By Fr. Eric Asamoah

As our celebration of the Easter season is coming to an end, the liturgy reminds us that Jesus remains with us through the Holy Spirit, who teaches us everything we need to know, reminds us of all that Jesus taught, and brings us peace. Jesus our Master returns to the Father, which should fill the hearts of believers with peace, especially in the light of Jesus' promise of sending the Holy Spirit whose other name is the Paraclete, that is, the Comforter. This Comforter leads us along the way to eternal union with the Blessed Trinity: Father, Son, Holy Spirit.

As Christians, there are so many intrigues, perplexities, and dilemmas that we must contend with within our world today. Only those who pay attention to the Holy Spirit understand these and where they are leading us to. So, this time calls for a special relationship with the Holy Spirit. At no time in the history of the world is the need to listen to the Holy Spirit more important than our own time.

God's Holy Spirit comes to us as teacher and guide, not only regarding matters of doctrine in the case of the Church's magisterium, but also as regarding situations of daily life, which require light and strength, in order to make concrete decisions. In the first reading and the whole of Acts of the Apostles, the Apostles did not make any decisions without consulting the Holy Spirit. Also, they could not carry out any severe mission without the Holy Spirit. "The Holy Spirit and we have decided," they said. They concluded the meeting in the first reading in this way: *"It is the decision of the Holy Spirit and of us not to place on you any burden beyond these necessities, namely, to abstain from meat sacrificed to idols, from blood, from meats of strangled animals, and from unlawful marriage. If you keep free of these, you will be doing what is right..."*

This decision inspired by the Holy Spirit becomes one of the earliest doctrines ever enacted by the early Church. By prioritizing a relationship with the Holy Spirit, we can receive wisdom, discern God's will, and be empowered to fulfill our purpose in the world.

Do Stay blessed.



"Let us fervently pray for our new Holy Father, that the Holy Spirit inspires and guides him in shepherding the flock entrusted to him, and that his pontificate will be one that truly inspires in the world the peace and justice that can only be found in Christ Jesus." Bishop Barry Knestout

Month of Mary

May Crowning is a cherished tradition in the Catholic Church that honors the Virgin Mary, Mother of Jesus. Thanks to all those who participated in this special ceremony at St. Mark on May 2nd and 3rd where a crown of flowers was placed on the statue of Mary as a symbol of love and devotion. St. Mark's statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary will remain in the sanctuary throughout the month of May.



Altar Server Training

Thanks to those who attended the Altar Server Training session held on Saturday, May 17th. Another training session will be held on **Saturday, May 31st** at 10:00am to noon at St. Mark. (Pizza lunch included!). **Current Altar Servers are required to attend only one of the two training dates, however if your youth is new it would be beneficial to attend both sessions if possible.** If you have questions about this special, service ministry opportunity for your youth please reach out to Michael Archibeque, St. Mark Altar Server Coordinator for more details at marchibeque@me.com

Sacraments at St. Mark

BAPTISM: Celebrated the 1st weekend of the month except during Holy Week. Requirement: Families must be registered. 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.

RECONCILIATION: Celebrated 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month at 4:00 p.m.

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 at 757-479-1010.

"Building the Kingdom of God by Imaging Christ"

Justice Peace

For information on our Justice & Peace Ministries visit:
www.stmark-parish.org/ministries/justice-and-peace, or email:
justiceandpeace@stmark-parish.org



June: \$10 gift Cards / 9-15oz. boxed Instant Mashed Potatoes / **Individual Snack Crackers/Cookies**



FORGOT to turn in your filled rice bowl? Please drop it off at the Parish office this week.



Hope 4 Life 10th annual banquet: Saturday, June 7th @ 6:30 pm St. Matthew Catholic School, Keynote speaker Dr. John Bruchalski MD founder Tepeyac ob/gyn center. To reserve your spot or more information: justiceandpeace@stmark-parish.org

HOPE 4 LIFE Baby Bottle Drive: It's not too late! If you have not returned your Hope 4 Life baby bottle, we are still collecting them, FULL OR EMPTY! It is not too late to go to www.hope4lifeva.com or scan QR code to support women and families in our area. Thank you!



Migrant Ministry: For the month of June, we are collecting items for the Eastern Shore Migrant Ministry male workers. Items needed are new or gently used Men's baseball or sun Hats, men's socks, men's sneakers, or work shoes sizes 6-10, men's long sleeve shirts, dark colored men's boxer briefs and full-size toiletries for men. Please place items in the marked bin in Great Hall next to the Justice & Peace table. Contact Justice & Peace via the links above for more information. **Deadline for donations is Sunday, July 5th.**



Baby Layettes: Our Baby layette item collection is ending please place items in wooden bins in the Great Hall next to the Justice & Peace table by June 8th.

Parish Life

"I am the vine, you are the branches."

Upcoming Parish Life Events and Announcements

- **St. Mark will celebrate Father Eric's Silver Ordination Anniversary on Saturday, June 28th with a Parish Picnic!** The Knights will grill hamburgers and hot dogs and serve ice cream. Parishioners should bring a side dish or dessert to share. More information will be available as we move closer to the date! All are welcome!
- **Join us for a special Ordination Anniversary dinner for Father Eric after the 5:30 mass on June 28th.** Two lechon (grilled pigs) will be provided, and parishioners will bring side dishes and desserts. There will be a sign up sheet for attendees and dishes in the next few weeks. POC is Linda Major 757-615-0763 and Marylou Huling 757-553-7385.
- **We are in need of Samaritan Chefs!** Samaritan Chefs deliver meals they have prepared to those who have had surgery or babies. Most chefs are called only a few times in a calendar year. POC is Linda Major at 757-615-0763.
- If you have not yet registered your anniversary, please sign in the Anniversary Booklet on the Parish Life table in the Great Hall!
- **Happy Anniversary to the following St. Mark parishioners recently celebrating a May wedding anniversary!**
 - Joe and Linda Lessick - May 26, 1973 (52 years)**
 - Al and Vicki Baxter- May 27, 1973 (43 years)**
- **Wisdom Seekers group monthly luncheons** (2nd Friday of the month September thru June) for parishioners and friends 50+ years of age. **Potluck luncheon June 13th, 12 pm, in the Great Hall.** Dish to share: last name begins A-M protein or salad dish, N-Z fruit or desert dish. Please contact Mary Shaw, (757) 348-4460, for general group questions.

St. Mark's Mothers Group

Join our community of young Catholic mothers as we encourage each other in our vocations as the first catechists in the home.

Mothers and children meet on Tuesdays at 9:00am in the sanctuary for prayer and then head to the nursery for community and play until 11:00am.

Text Megan O'Shea at (509)930-1226 with questions
Our Lady Undoer of Knots
~Pray for Us~



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Announcements/ Giving/ Contact Information



Annual K of C Monte Carlo Night Fund Raiser

SAVE THE DATE: The Knights of Columbus MONTE CARLO NIGHT is Saturday June 14th, 2025.

Join us for an unforgettable evening filled with delicious food, exciting games, and a thrilling 50/50 raffle. Doors open at 6:45 pm. Tickets are \$20 for a single ticket; and \$17.50 each for two or more tickets, with payment by cash, check or credit card. This is Kempsville Council's premier fundraising event, with 100% of proceeds directly supporting our charitable programs. Your participation makes a difference. We hope to see you there!

The Knights will be selling tickets in the Great Hall after all weekend masses starting Saturday May 17th through Sunday June 8th. Tickets will be sold at the door on June 14th immediately following the 5:30pm Saturday Vigil Mass. Questions can be emailed to GK Dan Wood (dan.wood.va@gmail.com) or DGK Dave Fritsch (deputydave10515@gmail.com).

Quilt Raffle for Charity

The Knights of Columbus are excited to announce a special raffle featuring a stunning handmade quilt, generously donated by Carol Donnelly, wife of Brother Knight James Donnelly and a St. Mark parishioner.

Only **100 tickets** will be sold at **\$10 each**, offering a limited and exciting opportunity to win this beautiful quilt. Tickets will be sold after all weekend Masses starting on May 11th. The drawing will take place at **9:00 PM on June 14th** during our lively **Monte Carlo Night** festivities. While we'd love ticket holders to join in the fun, attendance is not required to win. **100% of the raffle's proceeds** will go directly toward supporting the council's many charitable initiatives.

The quilt will be displayed in the Commons until **June 8th**, unless all tickets are sold sooner—so don't wait! Please see PGK Mike King for more information or to purchase raffle tickets.



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

giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stmarkvb or donate on the Parish Giving QR code.

For more details or to donate, contact Parish Bookkeeper, MaryEllen

Cussen, at bookkeeper@stmark-parish.org or call the parish office at 757-749-1010.



Fiscal Year July-June	May 4th	Needed Year to Date	Offertory Year to Date	Excess/ (Short)
Offertory	\$18,788	\$898,000	\$869,959	(\$28,041)

Family Count: 855

Families using envelopes: 208

Families using online donation: 211

Annual Appeal Goal Amount Raised: \$71,354 of \$61,900 goal. 115% of the goal achieved!! We passed our goal!!!!



UPCOMING MISSION CO-OP

On the weekend of May 31-June 1 St Mark will host Fr Francis Boateng from the missionary parishes of St. Mary, Wytheville, and St. Edward, Pulaski. Please help us welcome him to St Mark and offer our support for our brothers and sisters in the western part of the state.

There will be a second collection at all masses on that weekend which will go directly to those parishes. if you wish to donate online, there will be an online donation category opened on May 15th through June 8th entitled **Missionary Priest Second Collection**.

Please check the Lost and Found table in the Great Hall for any recently lost items. The basket is overflowing, and will be emptied after Sunday, June 1st. Thank you for your assistance.

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Fr. Eric Asamoah.....	freric@stmark-parish.org
Rev. Mr. John Kren.....	Acting Pastoral Associate
	deacon_john@stmark-parish.org
Sherry Smeland.....	Parish Secretary
	secretary@stmark-parish.org
Mary Ellen Cussen.....	Business Manager
	bookkeeper@stmark-parish.org
Mark Smeland.....	Music Director
	music.director@stmark-parish.org
Vikki Ignacio	Assistant Music Director
Brian Gridley.....	Facility/IT Coordinator
Renee McCroskey.....	Nursery Supervisor
Hank Harzold.....	Parish Council Chairman
Tom Smith	Custodian
William McMican.....	Finance Council Chairman

RELIGIOUS FORMATION STAFF

Fe Guzman.....	Director of Religious Formation/Youth Minister
Nicole Brimer.....	Coordinator of Religious Formation

RELIGIOUS FORMATION OFFICE HOURS

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

Saint of the Week!

St. Philip Neri was known as the "Happy Saint" because he loved to laugh and make others smile! We celebrate his feast day tomorrow, May 26th. He believed that being joyful was one of the best ways to show God's love to the world. He even played little jokes to remind people not to take themselves too seriously. Try to share a smile with someone today - it's a small way to spread God's joy! Here's a riddle you can use: When young cow's go out to eat, where do they go? To a calf-arterial!



Kid's Corner



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