

June 1st, 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:
5/10/25

E- Giving



7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

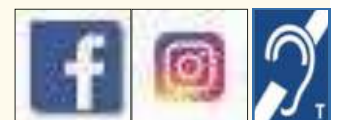
Jesus prayed saying: "Holy Father, I pray not only for them, but also for those who will believe in me through their word." - Jn 17:20

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

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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 June 2nd– June 8th

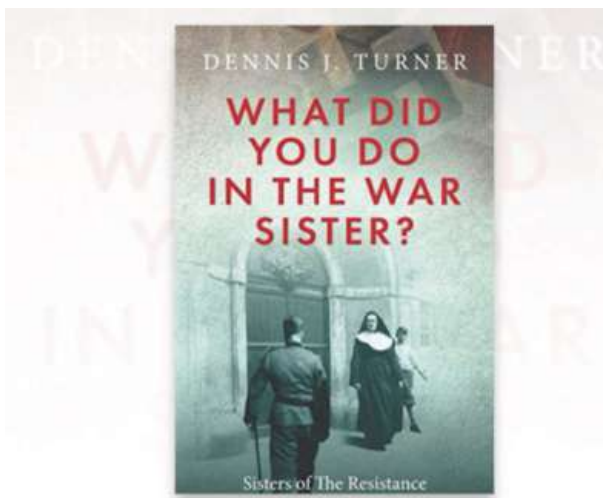
MONDAY 7:15pm	Christian Formation OCIA Meeting/ CR
TUESDAY 8:30am 9-11:00am 9:30am 6:30-8:30pm	Daily Mass/ Sanctuary Mothers' Group/ Sanctuary/ Nursery Adult Bible Study/GH Seasons of Hope/ Library
WEDNESDAY 10-1:00am 6:30pm 7:00pm	Food Pantry/ Great Hall Rosary/ Sanctuary Daily Mass/ Sanctuary
THURSDAY 6:00am 8:30am 9-11am 6:00pm 6:15pm 6:30pm 7:00pm	Men of St. Joseph/ Conference Room Daily Mass/ Sanctuary PLARN/Great Hall Adoration/Sanctuary Evening Prayer/ Sanctuary Benediction/ Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal/ Sanctuary
FRIDAY 7:00pm	First Friday Rosary
SATURDAY 4:00pm 5:30pm	Reconciliation/ Daily Chapel Mass/ Sanctuary
SUNDAY 8:30am 10:30am	Pentecost Sunday Mass / Sanctuary Mass/ Sanctuary with Face Book Livestream *No Children's Formation/ Classrooms *No Teen Formation/Great Hall

Mass Intentions and Daily Readings

MONDAY 6/2	Acts 19:1-8 ; John 16:29-33
TUESDAY 6/3	Mem of St. Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs Acts 20:17-27; John 17:1-11a
WEDNESDAY 6/4	Acts 20:28-38; John 17:11b-19
THURSDAY 6/5	Mem. of St. Boniface, Bishop and Martyr Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; John 17:20-26
FRIDAY 6/6	Acts 25:13b-21; John 21:15-19
SATURDAY 6/7	Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; John 21:20-25 Bobbi Drewiske†
SUNDAY 6/8	Pentecost Sunday Acts 2:1-11; Romans 8:8-17 ; John 20:19-23 Tom and Frances Kumalae † Rizal F. Manaois †

Women's Book Club June 10th at 6:30 pm St. Mark's Library

We have also created a group on the Book Club platform below. Meeting and book information can be found there:
<https://bookclubs.com/clubs/6078427/join/be07b3/>



What Did You Do In The War, Sister?: Belgian Sisters in the Nazi Resistance

To learn more about our parish, visit our website at: stmark.parish.org or visit: <https://www.facebook.com/CatholicChurchOfStMark>



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 Bellingier, 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, Maniaya 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 Ascension Sunday By Fr. Eric Asamoah

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of Ascension. With His Ascension into heaven, the presence of the “historical Christ” comes to an end, and the presence of the Body of Christ, the Church, is inaugurated.

I am moved when I think that, in an excess of love, Jesus has remained with us, even when he has gone away. He has gone to heaven, and, at the same time, he gives himself to us as our nourishment in the Sacred host, the Eucharist. This feast presents us with an invitation to examine the relationship between the faith we profess every Sunday in the Creed and its manifestation in our daily lives. St. Paul encouraged Christians in his second letter to the Corinthians, to take such an examination regularly; *“Examine yourselves to see whether you are living in faith. Test yourselves. Do you not realize that Jesus Christ is in you? —unless, of course, you fail the test.”* (2 Cor 13:5).

Jesus goes to heaven, but he does not leave us alone on earth. He goes away, but he does not leave us behind. In the first reading today, we hear Jesus tell his disciples “not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise” of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. He sends us the Holy Spirit, who directs and sanctifies our souls.

Pope St. Leo the Great reflected on the joy the disciples experienced on that glorious day in these words: *“That blessed company had a great and inexpressible cause for joy when it saw man's nature rising above the dignity of the whole heavenly creation, above the ranks of angels, above the exalted status of Archangels. Now would there be any limit to its upward course until humanity was admitted to a seat at the right hand of the eternal father, to be enthroned at last in the glory of him to whose nature it was wedded in the Person of the Son?”*

Ascension of Jesus is indeed a time to remember the Great Commission, which calls all Christians to share the Good News of Christ with the world. This also includes helping mission Churches to stay in Evangelization. Thank you then for your support for the Mission Co-op, for the Churches in SW Virginia, where Fr Francis Boateng is the Pastor. Blessed you.



For Pope Leo XIV...

“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



Is OCIA for You?

If you are an individual who has not yet been baptized, or if you have been baptized but have not received Eucharist or Confirmation, and are looking to deepen your faith, we invite you to learn more about the process through which you are welcomed into the Catholic Church.

If you are interested in learning more and/or beginning OCIA, please contact the Formation Office (nicole@stmark-parish.org) and a member of the OCIA Team will contact you.

Catholic Church of St. Mark RELIGIOUS FORMATION PROGRAM 2025-2026



We are excited to welcome new and returning families to register for the 2025–2026 Religious Formation year! Our program is dedicated to nurturing faith, deepening understanding of Catholic teachings, and guiding children, youth, and adults on their spiritual journey. Through prayer, community, and instruction, we grow together in Christ.



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 for a reception hall before contacting the Pastor.

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!

Mr. and Mrs. Ernesto Soriano - May 10, 1970 (55 years)
Dan and Judy Wood - May 15, 1982 (43 years)
Paul and Janet Vater - May 19, 1984 (41 years)
John and Mary Ellen Cussen - May 22, 1983 (42 years)



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JULY 21-25
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\$40 / Child, \$70 / 2 Children, \$100 / 3+ Children

Safe Restroom Use by Children

In compliance with Office of Safe Environment requirements, children under the age of 12 should be accompanied by an adult when using restroom facilities. At St. Mark, parents are encouraged to provide this supervision as needed.

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~

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

Fun Faith Fact!

June is the month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus! The sacred Heart reminds us of how much Jesus loves us - with His **WHOLE** heart! I'm sure you've seen pictures of Jesus pointing to His heart, which is glowing with love and sometimes surrounded by a crown of thorns. We can honor the Sacred Heart by loving others, praying and trusting Jesus with our joys and worries.

Think of ways this month that you can show love like Jesus!



Kid's Corner



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Dan Wood 757-647-2135

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