

June 22nd, 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 Parish Pilgrimage: Dec. 13, 2025**
4. The National Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, Williamsburg

E- Giving



THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

Then taking the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he said the blessing over them, broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. They all ate and were satisfied. And when the leftover fragments were picked up, they filled twelve wicker baskets. - Lk 9:16-17

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**

Bulletin Publication date:
6/17/25



Nourished by the Sacraments



A Reflection on A Reflection on the Solemnity of Saints. Peter and Paul, Apostles By Fr. Eric Asamoah

Saints Peter and Paul, two important figures in the Catholic Church, offer powerful lessons about conversion, mission, and unity.

Peter, originally a fisherman, was chosen by Christ to be the "rock" upon which the Church would be built. His story shows us the incredible transformative power of God's grace. He went from impulsively denying Jesus to becoming a steadfast leader. His journey emphasizes the importance of repentance and divine mercy in shaping a holy life.

Paul, formerly Saul the persecutor, experienced a dramatic change after encountering the Risen Christ. He became the "Apostle to the Gentiles." His extensive missionary journeys and deep theological insights in his Apostolic Letters highlight the universal call for all of us to share the Gospel.

Together, Peter and Paul embody the dual nature of the Church. Peter represents the visible leadership and protector of tradition, while Paul is the passionate evangelist and interpreter of doctrine. Their lives remind us that despite different personalities and paths, everyone is called to serve Christ and build up His Church. The Feast of Saints Peter and Paul celebrates this fundamental unity and their legacy for all believers. Ultimately, their lives inspire us to embrace our own conversions, commit to sharing our faith, and work towards the unity of faith through love.

On my silver jubilee as a priest, I am grateful to God for the unique and profound grace of Knowing, loving, and serving Him and His people in sharing in the ministry of St Peter and Paul entrusted to them by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I am thankful for the extraordinary gift of twenty-five years of priestly ministry. God bless you all.



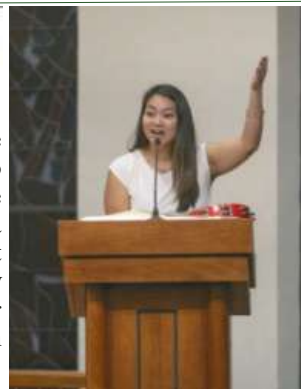
For Pope Leo XIV...

"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



Interested in participating in the liturgy of the Mass, contributing to the solemnity and beauty of the celebration through music? If a weeknight rehearsal does not fit your schedule, **Summer Choir** may be the perfect way to share your musical talents at St. Mark. Sing on the weekends that you are available!

Summer Choir will begin July 6th and will continue every Sunday until Labor Day. Singers High School through Adult can meet for rehearsal in the Music Room 30 minutes before each mass. For more information, contact Mark Smeland, Music Director at music.director@stmark-parish.org



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.

Celebrate Mass with Father Andrew Clark
Newly ordained Richmond Diocese Priest

Join us in welcoming back Fr. Andrew Clark, a former parishioner of St. Mark, as he returns to celebrate Mass with us for the first time as a newly ordained priest!

Let us gather in joy and prayer as we support Fr. Andrew on this blessed beginning of his priesthood!

Sunday, June 22
8:30a & 10:30a Mass

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.

**St. Mark's
MOTHER'S GROUP**

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

Mothers and children meet Tuesday mornings, 9:00-11:00am at the church for prayer and play.
Drop in whenever nap time allow!

Text Megan O'Shea at (509)930-1226 with questions

Our Lady Undoer of Knots
-PRAY FOR US-

"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**



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 6th.**



Thank you to all who participated, we raised **\$1031.00** for the 2025 CRS Rice Bowl. A special thank you to our Religious Formation classes for their efforts in helping to raise awareness and funds.



Our **Hope 4 Life Baby Bottle** drive has ended. Please watch the bulletin for an update on our drive. If you still have a bottle empty or full, please drop it off at the parish office.



Thanks to all who supported the Knights of Columbus KOVAR collection after all masses this weekend. If you have questions or missed the opportunity to donate, please contact John Cochran at jcochran10515@gmail.com.



TRUE NORTH
Trusting Jesus in a Wild World

CRAFT NIGHT

JOIN US FOR A FUN AND CREATIVE EVENING AS WE PREP FOR TRUE NORTH VBS! HELP US CUT, PAINT, AND CRAFT OUR WAY TO AN AWESOME WEEK FOR THE KIDS.

JULY 7 FROM 5:00-8:00PM IN THE GREAT HALL

Parish Life

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

Upcoming Parish Life Events and Announcements

• Father Eric's Silver Jubilee! All are invited to Father Eric's Silver Jubilee pot luck dinner on Saturday, June 28th at 6:30pm in the Great Hall. This is a family event! Free tickets will be distributed after each mass or you can ask for tickets at the info desk. Please take one for each family member who is attending. If you would like to bring a dish to share, please sign up at the info desk OR at the Parish Life table in the Great Hall. A roasted pig, celebratory cake and beverages will be provided. POC is Linda Major at 757-615-0763.

• **On Sunday, June 29th**, there will be breakfast after the 8:30 and 10:30 masses. Please come and continue to celebrate the Silver Jubilee weekend! No tickets are necessary for the breakfasts.

• If you have not yet recorded your anniversary, please add your special day in the **Anniversary Booklet** on the Parish Life table!

Happy Anniversary to the following St. Mark parishioners celebrating a June wedding anniversary this week!

Randall and Sharon Wisinger - June 23, 1990 (35 years)



Women's Book Club
August 12th at 6:30 pm
St. Mark's Library

A Grand Slam for God: A Journey from Baseball Star to Catholic Priest, by Burk Masters is a Fr. Burke's story is a powerful reminder that God's plan for us is so much greater than our own, for a grand slam for God. For more details, contact Kendra DiMichele at kdimichele76@gmail.com.



TRUE NORTH VBS

JULY 21-25
9:00A-12:00P

VBS is for kids rising Kindergarteners through rising 5th Grade.

Register Now



\$40 / Child, \$70 / 2 Children, \$100 / 3+ Children

Parish Office Hours: Sunday-Thursdays: 9:00am – 1:00pm

Announcements/ Giving/ Contact Information

The cost to purchase a Columbarium Niche at St Mark will rise from \$1500.00 to \$1750.00 effective July 1, 2025. Niches are for St. Mark parishioners ONLY and can be purchased by appointment. For more information, call the office at 757-479-1010.

NOTE: Columbarium Niches are not transferrable or able to be resold once purchased. All sales become final and non-refundable 30 days after purchase.



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	June 8	Needed Year to Date	Offertory Year to Date	Excess/ (Short)
Offertory	\$17,153	\$990,000	\$957,648	(\$32,352)

Mission Co-Op Second Collection: \$10,249

Family Count: 811

Families using envelopes: 185

Families using online donation: 180

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

Draw near to *God*
& he will draw near to you.
James 4:8

Early bird Special:

**One week left until
June 30th!**

1 child- \$40.00

2 children-\$80.00

3 or more-\$120.00

After June 30th:

1 child- \$50.00

2 children-\$100.00

3 or more-\$150.00

Additional Sacramental Preparation Fees: \$50 Fee + \$50.00 Retreat Fee

****Catechists receive a 100% discount on Formation Fees (excludes Sacramental Preparation Fees)**

Scan QR
Code to
register
NOW!



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



“Photographing Our Catholic Faith” at St. Mark

Interested in sharing your photography skills at church? Join St. Mark’s team of photographers! Learn more about using your talent “Photographing Our Catholic Faith” at St. Mark.

For more information about upcoming training sessions, contact Parish Secretary, Sherry Smeland, in the Parish Office at 757-479-1010.

Saint Meinrad

**PRAY FOR OUR TEENS ATTENDING
“ONE BREAD, ONE CUP” THIS SUMMER**

Please reach out to fe@stmark-parish.org to learn how you can support the growth of our young disciples.

Kid's Corner

Have You Ever?

...heard an announcer on the radio or TV? Well this Tuesday is the feast day of a very special **announcer** - St. John the Baptist. Before Jesus began his work on earth, God gave John the very special job of announcing or telling everyone that Jesus was coming! John went from town to town, and many people listened to him. When they decided they were ready to welcome Jesus, John baptized many of the. Suppose YOU were an announcer with the job of telling people about Jesus for the very first time! What would you say to describe Jesus?





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757-935-8842 for an appointment.



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