

June 29th, 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



E- Giving



STS. PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES

"I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." - Mt 16:19

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 GCD, ©LPi

MASS SCHEDULE:

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

✠ 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

Bulletin Publication date:
6/23/25



“Rooted in the Word...”

This Week at Saint Mark June 30th – July 6th

MONDAY	
7:15pm	OCIA Christian Formation / CR
TUESDAY	
8:30am	Daily Mass Daily Chapel
9:00am	Mothers' Group/ Sanctuary/ Nursery
2:00pm	Daughters of Fatima Prayer Group/DC
5:00pm	VBS Craft Night/Great Hall
7:00pm	Liturgy Meeting/Conference Room
WEDNESDAY	
10-1:00am	Food Pantry/ Great Hall
6:00pm	Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena/ DC
6:30pm	Rosary/ Daily Chapel
7:00pm	Daily Mass / Daily Chapel
THURSDAY	
6:00am	Men of St. Joseph/ Conference Room
8:30am	Daily Mass / Daily Chapel
9-11am	PLARN/Great Hall
9-6:00pm	Adoration/Sanctuary
6:15pm	Evening Prayer/Sanctuary
6:30pm	Benediction/Sanctuary
FRIDAY	
7:00pm	First Friday Rosary/ Daily Chapel
SATURDAY	
4:00pm	Reconciliation/ Daily Chapel
5:30pm	Mass / Sanctuary
SUNDAY	
8:30am	Mass / Sanctuary
10:30am	Mass / Sanctuary with Face Book Livestream



Join Our Children's Liturgy of the Word!

We're looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help bring our Children's Liturgy to life! No experience? No problem! We'll provide all the training you need. If you love working with kids and want to make a difference, come join the fun! Contact Nicole Brimer for details at (nicole@stmark-parish.org).

Samaritan Ministry

Would you like to be part of St. Mark's Samaritan Ministry? Volunteers visit the sick and those unable to get to mass on a regular, short-term or long-term basis. Training will be provided. If you would like to be a Samaritan Ministry volunteer, or to receive a visit from a Samaritan Ministry volunteer, contact Ann-Marie Cochran at 757-621-0699 for more details.

Mass Intentions and Daily Readings

MONDAY	
6/30	Genesis 18:16-33; Matthew 8:18-22
TUESDAY	
7/1	Genesis 19:15-29; Matthew 8:23-27 Izuegbunam Family - Intention of Thanksgiving and Petition
WEDNESDAY	
7/2	Genesis 21:5, 8-20a; Matthew 8:28-34 Izuegbunam Family - Intention of Thanksgiving and Petition
THURSDAY	
7/3	Fest of St. Thomas, Apostle Ephesians 2:19-22; John 20:24-29 Izuegbunam Family - Intention of Thanksgiving and Petition
FRIDAY	
7/4	Genesis 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67; Matthew 9:9-13
SATURDAY	
7/5	Genesis 27:1-5, 15-29; Matthew 9:14-17
SUNDAY	
7/6	Isaiah 66:10-14c; Galatians 6:14-18; Luke 10:1-12, 17-20 Fr. Patrick J. McLaughlin † Judith Hickey † Paulo Manugo † Izuegbunam Family - Intention of Thanksgiving and Petition Cleose Laxa - Intention of Healing



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

Please pray for the repose of the soul of the following St. Mark parishioner:

Mark Walker

Let perpetual light shine upon him; may he rest in peace! Keep the Walker family in your prayers.

Nourished by the Sacraments

A Reflection on the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul Matthew 16:13-20 by Jerome J. Sabatowich

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus first asks his disciples what others are saying about him and then he asks them for their own opinions. The various answers to this question tell us there must have been some debate about the meaning of Jesus' ministry.

Some people believed he was John the Baptist. Although King Herod killed John, many people who saw the signs and miracles Jesus performed wondered if he might really be John resurrected. Other people thought Jesus was Jeremiah or Elijah.

Jeremiah was a great Old Testament prophet who took the Ark of the Covenant (the box in the Temple containing the Ten Commandments) and hid it in a cave on Mt. Nebo just before the Babylonians conquered Jerusalem in 586 B.C. (Maccabees 2:4-8). Since no one ever found the Ark of the Covenant, some Jews believed Jeremiah would return to the earth just before messiah's arrival to reveal where he hid it. Thus, Jeremiah's reappearance would indicate that the time of the messiah is near.

Elijah was the greatest of the Old Testament prophets. According to the second book of Kings, Elijah never died, but went to heaven in a fiery chariot. Some people believed Elijah would one day return to the world to prepare the way for the messiah. When Elijah appears, the messiah will not be far behind.

The people showed great respect for Jesus when they compared him to these three great men, but they did not recognize him as the long awaited messiah. Only Simon Peter understood that Jesus was even more important than the greatest of these Old Testament figures and his belief in Jesus as the messiah earned him a place of honor in the early church. Simon Peter's faith is the sturdy rock on which the Church is built.

For Reflection

Close your eyes and imagine Jesus asking *you* who you think he is. What is your answer? Be honest.



Is OCIA for You?

Becoming a catholic is a joyous experience! Some receive this gift while they are infants, while others come into the catholic community later in life.

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 you are looking to deepen your faith, we're so glad you're here!

We invite you to learn more about the process through which we welcome or reconnect you with the Catholic Church. The journey is guided by members of our parish community, but is ultimately a personal journey in which you will grow in your identity as a Catholic. OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults) meets Monday nights.

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.



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 on a regular basis, **Summer Choir** may be the perfect way to share your musical talents at St. Mark for a short time. Sing on the weekends that you are available!



Summer Choir will begin July 6th and will continue every Sunday until Labor Day. Singers from high school age 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.

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.



Much thanks to newly ordained priest and former St. Mark parishioner, Fr. Andrew Clark who presided at St. Mark's June 22nd Sunday Masses, substituting in Fr. Eric's absence. Thanks to all who welcomed Fr. Andrew, and those who hosted the special "donut" reception in honor of Fr. Andrew's time at St. Mark. Continue to pray for Fr. Andrew as he begins his priestly journey as Parochial Vicar at the Basilica of St. Andrew in Roanoke, VA.

"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.**



School Supplies: For the months of July/August we will be collecting school supplies. Please place donations in the marked bin in Great Hall next to the Justice and Peace Table. Supplies will be distributed to children in need within our parish, our Food Pantry guests and at Parkland, Indian Lakes, and Tallwood Elementary, Brandon and Salem Middle Schools, and Green Run High School. Our Vacation Bible School (VBS) participants will also be collecting school supplies.

School Supply List: Pens, Pencils, Spiral Notebooks, Composition Books, Rulers, Glue Sticks, Loose Leaf Paper, 3 Ring Binders (all sizes), Tabbed Dividers, Safety Scissors, Colored Pencils, Highlighters, Pocket Folders, Erasers, Crayons, Tissues, Back Packs. *This list is not inclusive; please feel free to include other items you know that may be needed. Lists are also available on the Justice and Peace table and website. If you are a parishioner or know of a parishioner who is in need of help with school supplies, please contact justiceandpeace@stmark-parish.org or Joyce Gridley 675-6486.

****Food Pantry Closure on Wednesday, July 23, 2025** is due to Vacation Bible School. Pantry will reopen on July 30, 2025.

Parish Life

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

Upcoming Parish Life Events and Announcements

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!

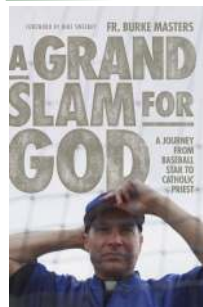
Happy Anniversary to the following St. Mark parishioners celebrating a July wedding anniversary this week!

Rodel and Jenifer Rivera- July 2, 1998 (26 years)

Larry and Marilyn Torgenson - July 4, 1970 (54 years)

Bob and Karen Joyner - July 5, 1986 (38 years)

Joe and Gigi Schuler - July 6, 1985 (39 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. 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.



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.

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

Announcements/ Giving/ Contact Information



“Photographing Our Catholic Faith” at St. Mark

Interested in sharing your photography skills at church? Join St. Mark’s team of photographers. Shown to the right are photographers Tim Pline and Cris Guzman.

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.



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 15	Needed Year to Date	Offertory Year to Date	Excess/ (Short)
Offertory	\$15,224	\$1,007,000	\$972,872	(\$34,128)

Family Count: 818

Families using envelopes: 188

Families using online donation: 192

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.

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

Kid's Corner

Fun Fact!

Today is the feast of a fisherman! In fact, this is a DOUBLE feast – a day honoring both St. Peter, the fisherman and Church leader, and St. Paul, the preacher. This would be a good day to go fishing OR to have a tuna fish sandwich for lunch! It would also be a good day to say a prayer for all of today's Church Leaders who “fish” for people – to bring them into God's Church. Let's pray especially for Father Eric, Bishop Knestout and Pope Leo XIV!

