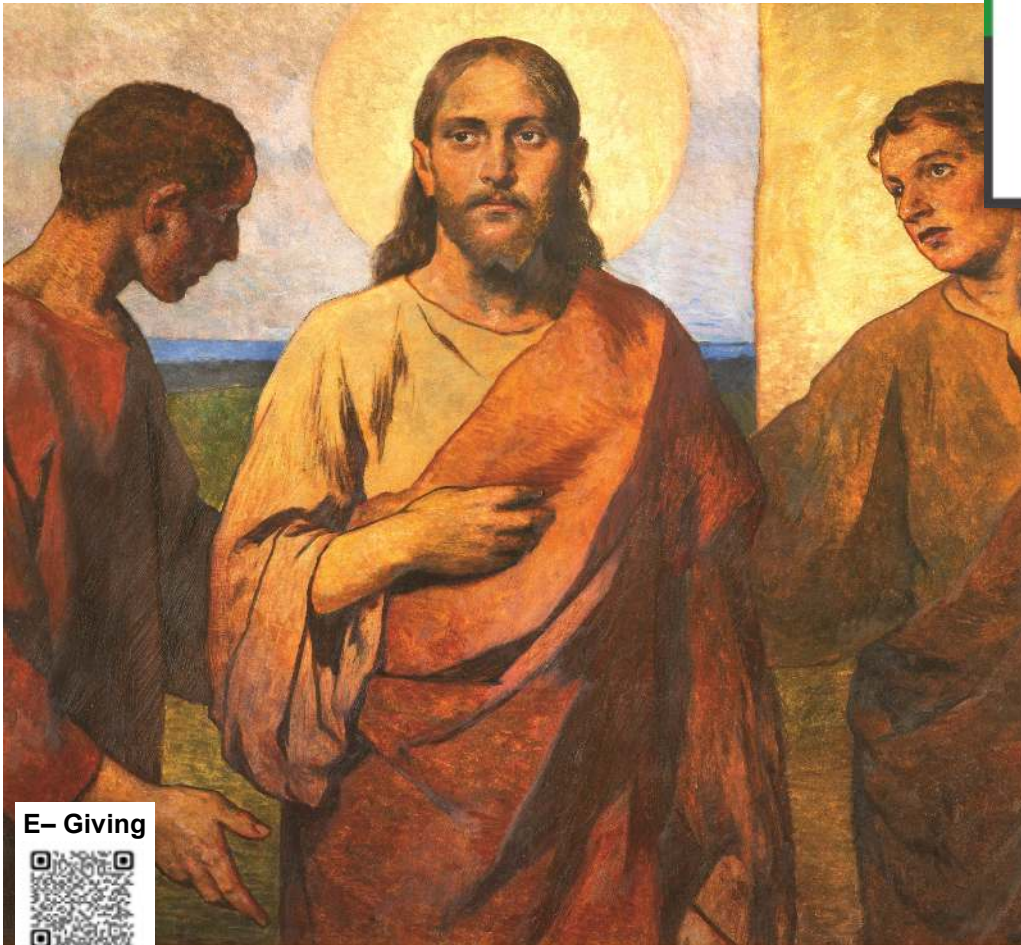


July 6th, 2025

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



14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Whatever town you enter and they welcome you, eat what is set before you, cure the sick in it and say to them, 'The kingdom of God is at hand for you.'" - Lk 10:8-9

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

@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:
6/27/25



“Rooted in the Word...”

This Week at Saint Mark July 7th - July 13th

MONDAY 7:15pm	OCIA Christian Formation / CR
TUESDAY 8:30am 9:00am 10:00am 2:00pm 7:00pm	Daily Mass Daily Chapel Mothers' Group/ Sanctuary/ Nursery Seasons of Hope Grief Group/ Library Daughters of Fatima Prayer Group/DC Liturgy Meeting/Conference Room
WEDNESDAY 10-1:00am 6:00pm 6:30pm 7:00pm	Food Pantry/ Great Hall Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena/ DC Rosary/ Daily Chapel Daily Mass / Daily Chapel
THURSDAY 6:00am 8:30am 9-11am	Men of St. Joseph/ Conference Room Daily Mass / Daily Chapel PLARN/Great Hall
FRIDAY 5:30pm	VBS Volunteer Training/Great Hall
SATURDAY 5:30pm	Mass / Sanctuary
SUNDAY 8:30am 10:30am 11:45am	Mass / Sanctuary Mass / Sanctuary with Face Book Livestream Baptism In— person Session/Sanctuary

Save these Dates:

- Sept. 5-6 - Women's Retreat at Founders' Inn
- October 11 - Catholic Fest, a diocesan event at the Diamond Baseball Stadium, Richmond
- December 13 - St. Andrew Parish Pilgrimage, Roanoke



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).

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... (Established 1978)

Daily Readings

MONDAY 7/7	Genesis 28:10-22a; Matthew 9:18-26
TUESDAY 7/8	Genesis 32:23-33; Matthew 9:32-38
WEDNESDAY 7/9	Genesis 41:55-57; 42:5-7a, 17-24a; Matthew 10:1-7
THURSDAY 7/10	Genesis 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5; Matthew 10:7-15
FRIDAY 7/11	Mem. of St. Benedict, Abbot Genesis 46:1-7, 28-30 Matthew 10:16-23
SATURDAY 7/12	Genesis 49:29-32; 50:15-26a; Matthew 10:24-33
SUNDAY 7/13	Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Deuteronomy 30:10-14; Colossians 1:15-20; Luke 10:25-37

Mass Intentions

Guillermo E. Temelo †
Judith Hickey †
Izuegbunam Family - Intention of Thanksgiving and Petition
Scott Hennis - Intention of Thanksgiving
Cleofe Laxa - Intention of Healing



Tere Gustafson, Cleofe 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 Bellinger, 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 McCartney, 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

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.

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

Nourished by the Sacraments

A Reflection on the Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Luke 10:1-12, 17-20 by Jerome J. Sabatowich

Today's Gospel begins with Jesus sending seventy-two men to preach and heal "in his name." Someone who speaks or acts in someone else's name has authority and power from that person so the actions and the words of the representative becomes the actions and the words of the person who sent him. That's why Jesus tells his disciples in verse 16 (a verse not in today's reading) that whoever hears them also hears him and whoever rejects them also rejects him.

Exaggeration was a teaching technique rabbis often used in Jesus' day to stress an important point. We find an example of exaggeration in today's Gospel story when Jesus tells the seventy-two they should not greet anyone on the way.

Most Jewish people readily entertained strangers because there were many instances in the Bible in which angels disguised as travelers from distant lands blessed those who showed them hospitality. Therefore, the Jews routinely offered strangers something to eat because there was always the possibility a stranger was really an angel who would bless them for their generosity.

The host often slaughtered, skinned and the roasted an animal like a sheep or a calf over an open pit or in an earthen oven delaying the visitor's journey by several hours. When Jesus said the seventy-two should not greet anyone, he was thinking of the delay that would result if someone wanted to show them hospitality. Therefore, Jesus was telling the disciples their mission to preach the Gospel was so urgent, they were not to postpone it.

The number of men Jesus sends on this mission is also significant. In Genesis 10, we find a list of the nations of the earth. Since there are seventy-two nations on this list, the number seventy-two became symbolic of all the nations of the world. Therefore, Jesus chose seventy-two men to symbolically say his followers had to preach the Gospel to all people.

When Jesus tells the seventy-two he is sending them out like lambs among wolves he is warning them that this task is not going to be easy. This means they are going to experience hostility because of the Gospel and they will be threatened with physical harm.

For Reflection

The professional religious, like priests and ministers are not the only ones responsible for preaching the Gospel. Because Jesus also needs you to bring his word to others, your mission is just as urgent as that of the seventy-two. Make up your mind to tell someone about Jesus sometime this week.



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.

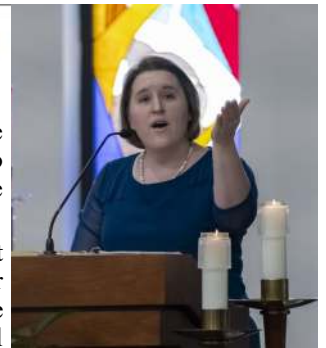
If you are interested in learning more and/or beginning OCIA, please contact the Formation Office (nicole@stmark-parish.org) and a member of the OCIA Team will contact you.



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 details, 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.



One Bread, One Cup 2025

Four St. Mark youth attended OBOC this year, along with RF Dir./Youth Minister, Fe Guzman and chaperone, David Fritch, shown here traveling to Saint Meinrad Archabbey, Seminary and School of Theology in Indiana. OBOC attendees focus on the Word, Sacrament and Mission of the Roman Catholic Church for high school youth groups and their campus and youth ministers. **Conference workshops engage participants in community building, leadership development, catechesis, liturgical and spiritual formation, and theological reflection.** Watch the bulletin and St. Mark Social Media for more details about experiences at this truly inspirational conference! Thanks so much for your prayers and generosity! Please pray for them!

"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



July: 19-30 oz. Plastic Jar Grape Jelly, Individual Tuna/Chicken Salad Snack Kits



Migrant Ministry: Our item collection for the Eastern Shore Migrant Ministry male workers is over. Thank you to all who donated much needed items for the Eastern Shore Migrant Ministry. If you still have items to donate, please drop them off to one of the bins in Great Hall.



Thank you to all who donated to Maison Fortune Orphanage (MFO) this past fiscal year. Through your generosity we raised \$3705.00 for the children at MFO. Thank you!



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.

"I PLACE MUCH OF MY HOPE FOR THE FUTURE IN MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER". (Pope Saint John Paul II)



Your honeymoon was a special time. Wherever you went, the things you saw and did were secondary. Just being together was most important. The Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend has the same focus. The weekend centers entirely on your relationship. It is a positive, simple common sense, private experience between you and your spouse, that revitalizes marriage by helping you to see again those loving qualities in each other that you may be taking for granted.

Upcoming experience are:

- September 12-14, 2025 - Richmond VA
- October 24-26, 2025 - Jessup MD
- November 7-9, 2025 - Rehoboth Beach DE
- February 13-15, 2026 - Waynesboro VA
- March 6-8, 2026 - Hampton VA

For more information please call 757-690-1369 or to register, go to WWME.org, click "Apply" and search for your desired location.

Parish Life

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

Upcoming Parish Life Events and Announcements:

- Thank you all for making Father's Silver Ordination Anniversary a beautiful celebration! We love you Father Eric!
- Parish Life will take a meeting vacation in July. Our next Parish Life meeting will be on Tuesday, August 8 at 6pm in the Great Hall!
- Celebrate Marriage! Congratulations to all who have anniversaries in June and July! We certainly have many, many marriages of longevity! Please continue to verify and add your anniversary dates in the booklet on the Parish Life table. • If you have not yet recorded your anniversary, please add your special day in the **Anniversary Booklet** on the Parish Life table!

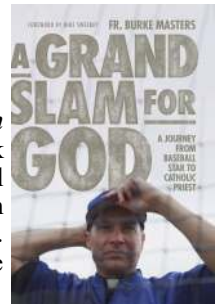
Happy Anniversary to the following St. Mark parishioners celebrating a July wedding anniversary this week!

Pete and Jacqee Stuhldreher - July 8, 2006 (18 years)

David and Danny Feret - July 9, 2011 (13 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, 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 Kindergarten through rising 5th Grade.
Register Now
\$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.

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 22	Needed Year to Date	Offertory Year to Date	Excess/ (Short)
Offertory	\$20,774	\$1,024,000	\$993,646	(\$30,354)

Family Count: 818

Families using envelopes: 183

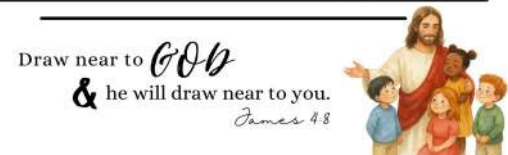
Families using online donation: 186

The Church of St. Thérèse in Chesapeake is seeking a full time Director of Music. Applicants should hold a master’s degree in music (preferred) or equivalent education and experience. Interested candidates should send a resume and diocesan application to Fr. Rolo B. Castillo at: RBCastillo@sttheresechesva.org. For additional information, call the Church office at 757-488-2553. Full job description posted on Diocesan website. Applications accepted until position filled.

General Ministers Meeting

A ministers meeting will be held on Thursday, July 31, 2025 at St Mark at 7pm in the sanctuary. We expect this get-together to last about 90 minutes. All church ministries are invited. We will have breakout sessions for Coordinators/Leads to review key items with their ministers. There will be time for questions and answers, and for prospective ministers to be trained. We encourage all ministers to bring a friend, either current or prospective ministers. Our meeting will be followed by with a wine and cheese reception with additional refreshments. We need a good count for refreshments, so please RSVP to Earl Reid at egreid3@cox.net.

Catholic Church of St. Mark RELIGIOUS FORMATION PROGRAM 2025 2026



“We’re excited to begin another year of faith formation! Register now to secure your spot. Volunteers are always welcome - and as a thank you, they receive a special discount. Join us in helping our young people grow in faith!”



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 IgnacioAssistant Music Director
 Brian Gridley.....Facility/IT Coordinator
 Renee McCroskey.....Nursery Supervisor
 Hank Harzold.....Parish Council Chairman
 Tom SmithCustodian
 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

Did You Know?

On July 4th, 1884, the people of France gave the people of America a wonderful gift? It was the Statue of Liberty! Wouldn't it be nice if somebody gave you a very special gift - something you could enjoy and treasure enough to make you careful to keep it safe? Well, somebody DID give you a gift like that - God made the world and gave it to you! Think of all the “treasures” of the world today and thank God for them.

