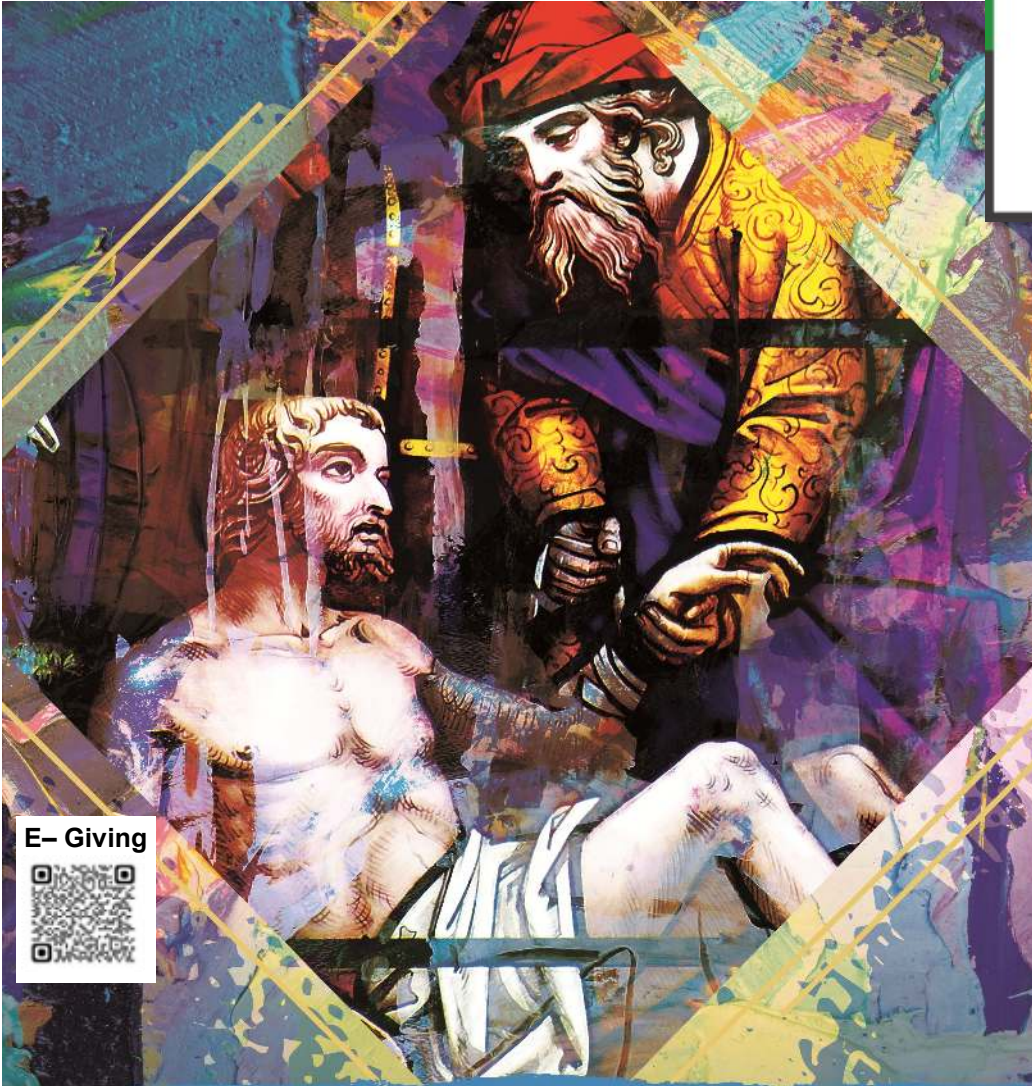


July 13th, 2025

# 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](http://www.stmark-parish.org)



E- Giving



## 15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"A Samaritan traveler who came upon him was moved with compassion at the sight." - Lk 10:33

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: 7/8/25



## “Rooted in the Word...”

### This Week at Saint Mark July 14th - July 20th

|                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>MONDAY</b><br>7:15pm                                                          | OCIA Christian Formation / CR                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>TUESDAY</b><br>8:30am<br>9:00am<br>10:00am<br>2:00pm                          | <b>Daily Mass/Daily Chapel</b><br>Mothers' Group/ Sanctuary/ Nursery<br>Seasons of Hope Grief Group/ Library<br>Daughters of Fatima Prayer Group/DC                                           |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b><br>10-1:00am<br>11:00pm<br>6:00pm<br>6:30pm<br>6:30pm<br>7:00pm | Food Pantry/ Great Hall<br>Divine Mercy Chaplet/ Sanctuary<br>Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena/ DC<br>KofC Council Audit/ Library<br>Rosary/ Daily Chapel<br><b>Daily Mass/ Daily Chapel</b> |
| <b>THURSDAY</b><br>6:00am<br>8:30am<br>9-11am                                    | Men of St. Joseph/ Conference Room<br><b>Daily Mass/ Daily Chapel</b><br>PLARN/Great Hall                                                                                                     |
| <b>FRIDAY</b><br>7:00pm<br>7:30pm                                                | KofC Rosary/Great Hall<br>KofC Business Mtg/Great Hall                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>SATURDAY</b><br>4:00pm<br>5:30pm                                              | Reconciliation/ Daily Chapel<br><b>Mass/ Sanctuary</b>                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>SUNDAY</b><br>8:30am<br>10:30am<br>4:30pm                                     | <b>Mass / Sanctuary</b><br><b>Mass/ Sanctuary</b> with Face Book Livestream<br>KofC Installation Ceremony/ Great Hall                                                                         |

#### Save these Dates:

- **Sept. 5th-6th** - Women's Retreat at Founders' Inn, VB
- **Oct. 11th** - Catholic Fest, a diocesan event at the Diamond Baseball Stadium, Richmond
- **Dec. 13th** - St. Andrew Parish Pilgrimage, Roanoke, VA



**Thank You!** A heartfelt thank you to everyone who came out for our VBS Craft Night! We had 25 wonderful volunteers join us to help prepare decorations and materials for our upcoming *True North VBS*. *Your time, creativity, and joyful spirit made the evening a great success. We are so grateful for your support as we get ready to share the love of Jesus with our kids in just a few weeks!*

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

**Teresita Cambas**

Let perpetual light shine upon her; may she rest in peace! Keep the Cambas family in your prayers.

### Daily Readings

|                          |                                                                                                    |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>MONDAY</b><br>7/14    | <b>Mem. of St. Kateri Tekawitha, Virgin</b><br>Exodus 1:8-14, 22; Matthew 10:34 -11:1              |
| <b>TUESDAY</b><br>7/15   | <b>Mem of St. Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</b><br>Exodus 2:1-15a; Matthew 11:20-24 |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b><br>7/16 | Exodus 3:1-6, 9-12; Matthew 11:25-27                                                               |
| <b>THURSDAY</b><br>7/17  | Exodus 3:13-20; Matthew 11:28-30                                                                   |
| <b>FRIDAY</b><br>7/18    | Exodus 11:10—12:14; Matthew 12:1-8                                                                 |
| <b>SATURDAY</b><br>7/19  | Exodus 12:37-42; Matthew 12:14-21                                                                  |
| <b>SUNDAY</b><br>7/20    | <b>Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b><br>Genesis 18:1-10a; Colossians 1:24-28; Luke 10:38-42    |

### Mass Intentions this Week

Janet McCormack †  
Izuegbunam Family - Intention of Thanksgiving and Petition  
Florescia Mendoza †  
Heather Taylor Bess †  
Gregory Calabrese †  
Dan and Aurora Agustin - (Intention of Thanksgiving for 52nd Wedding anniversary)



Joy Lepere, Tere Gustafson, Cleofe Laxa, Justin Harzold, Gina Cruz, 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,

### 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: [stmarkparish.org](http://stmarkparish.org) or visit: <https://www.facebook.com/CatholicChurchOfStMark>

# Nourished by the Sacraments

## A Reflection on the Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time From Fr. Eric Asamoah

In the Gospel, a scribe asked Jesus a very basic religious question: "What should I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus responds by directing the scribe's attention to the Sacred Scriptures and emphasizing **the importance of loving God and expressing it by loving one's neighbor.**

However, to the scribe, the word "neighbor" meant another scribe or Pharisee and never a Samaritan or a Gentile. Jesus, therefore, used the parable of the Good Samaritan to illustrate the most important quality he wants in his followers. It is in answering the specific question: "Who is my neighbor?" A "neighbor" is anyone who needs help. And in fact, everyone without exception must be treated with love and respect. A good neighbor does not say, "I do what I want to do," or even, "I do what I have to do," but **"I do what I ought to do."** The scribe's question, "Who is my neighbor?" reveals that he was self-centered.

In the second reading, St. Paul reminds the Colossians, and us, that just as Christ Jesus is the "visible image of the invisible God," so our neighbors are the visible image of Christ living in our midst. Jesus, the Heavenly Good Samaritan, gave us a final commandment during the Last Supper, "Love one another as I have loved you," because the invisible God dwells in every human being, our neighbor.

It is well to remember that Deuteronomy's law of love in the first reading was given while the Israelites were on their journey to the Promised Land, and that the Gospel parables were told while the disciples were still on their way to Jerusalem. Perfect charity is a challenge all through life. Along that journey there can be stops and even wrong turnings, but if we remember the Good Samaritan story, we can renew our desire to follow his example of love.

The Samaritan shows the virtues of humanity, even in people of whom a little good was expected. The Jews were meant to take special care of the stranger, the widow, and the orphan. These were the groups most in need of charity, and so whoever came to help them would be helpful to all, without exception. The parable makes us realize that every human person is our neighbor.

How have we been good neighbors this week? Here at St Mark, the Samaritan ministry among many other volunteering ministries offers faithful volunteers another way to express God's love to our neighbors. Consider helping as a volunteer in any way possible. God bless you all.

### 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. Confirm Baptism date and time with Parish Secretary.

**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.



Congratulations to the Norino family who celebrated the Sacrament of Baptism for their child at St. Mark on Sunday, June 29th. Please pray God's blessings for this little one and his family as he begins his new life in Christ. Glory to God.



### One Bread, One Cup 2025

Four St. Mark youth attended OBOC this week, along with RF Dir./Youth Minister, Fe Guzman and chaperone, David Fritch, shown here at Saint Meinrad Archabbey, Seminary and School of Theology in St. Meinrad, 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](http://www.stmark-parish.org/ministries/justice-and-peace), or email:  
[justiceandpeace@stmark-parish.org](mailto: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.



**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](mailto: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.

## 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)

## Parish Life

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

### Upcoming Parish Life Events and Announcements:

- Parish Life will take a meeting vacation in July. Our next Parish Life meeting will be on Tuesday, August 12 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!**

**Caber and Chenayla Welch - July 12, 2014 (11 years)**

**Mike and Nena Nerino - July 13, 1985 (40years)**

**John and Loretta Ray - July 13, 1968 (57 years)**

**Bill and Hu Jung Dalton - July 20, 1972 (53 years)**

### 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](mailto:nicole@stmark-parish.org)) and a member of the OCIA Team will contact you.

**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](mailto:kdimichele76@gmail.com).



Congratulations to Fr. Eric on his 25th Sacerdotal Anniversary!! Fr. Eric's Silver Jubilee Weekend Celebration was a huge success from Parish Life's lovely Silver Jubilee Dinner on Saturday night with roast pork with all the delicious "fixins" and the beautiful three-tiered anniversary cake, to the two after-mass breakfasts hosted by the Knights of Columbus! Thanks to all who participated in so many ways to make Fr. Eric's Silver Anniversary so very special.

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

## Announcements/ Giving/ Contact Information

### St. Gregory the Great School Business Manager Position Available/ Job Description:

Eligible candidates must hold a bachelor's degree in accounting and/or finance; CPA is desired. A minimum of 5 years of experience in school finance/business administration is preferred. Previous experience in a parochial school is desired. This is a full-time exempt position 35 hours per week with benefits. Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, Diocesan Application, and resume to Leanna Landry, Principal to [llandry@sggsvb.org](mailto:llandry@sggsvb.org)

### Liturgical Ministers Meeting

A Liturgical Ministers meeting will be held on Thursday, July 31, 2025 at St Mark at 7pm. We expect this get-together to go no longer than 90 minutes. All Liturgical ministers are invited. We will have breakout sessions that will give the coordinators/leads time to review key items with their ministers. We encourage all ministers to bring a friend, either current or prospective ministers. There will be time for questions and answers, and for prospective ministers to be trained. Our get together will be followed by with wine, cheese, crackers and fruit as refreshments. We need a good count for refreshments, so please sign up in the Commons. Contact Earl Reid with questions at [egreid3@cox.net](mailto:egreid3@cox.net).



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](https://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](mailto:bookkeeper@stmark-parish.org) or call the parish office at 757-749-1010.



| Fiscal Year<br>July-June | June 29  | Needed Year to Date | Offertory Year to Date | Excess/ (Short) |
|--------------------------|----------|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Offertory                | \$14,354 | \$1,041,000         | \$1,008,000            | (\$33,000)      |

Family Count: 813

Families using envelopes: 193

Families using online donation: 167

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

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



"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!"

Scan QR  
Code to  
register  
NOW!



### PARISH STAFF

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

### RELIGIOUS FORMATION STAFF

Fe Guzman.....[Director of Religious Formation/Youth Minister](mailto:Director of Religious Formation/Youth Minister)  
Nicole Brimer.....[Coordinator of Religious Formation](mailto: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](mailto:fe@stmark-parish.org)

### Kid's Corner

### Meet St. Kateri!

Did you know St. Kateri Tekakwitha is the first Native American saint? She was born in 1656 and became known as the "Lily of the Mohawks" for her gentle spirit and strong faith. Even though she faced many challenges, Kateri stayed close to God and loved nature. Her feast day is July 14th — so this week is a great time to learn more about her and ask her to pray for us!

