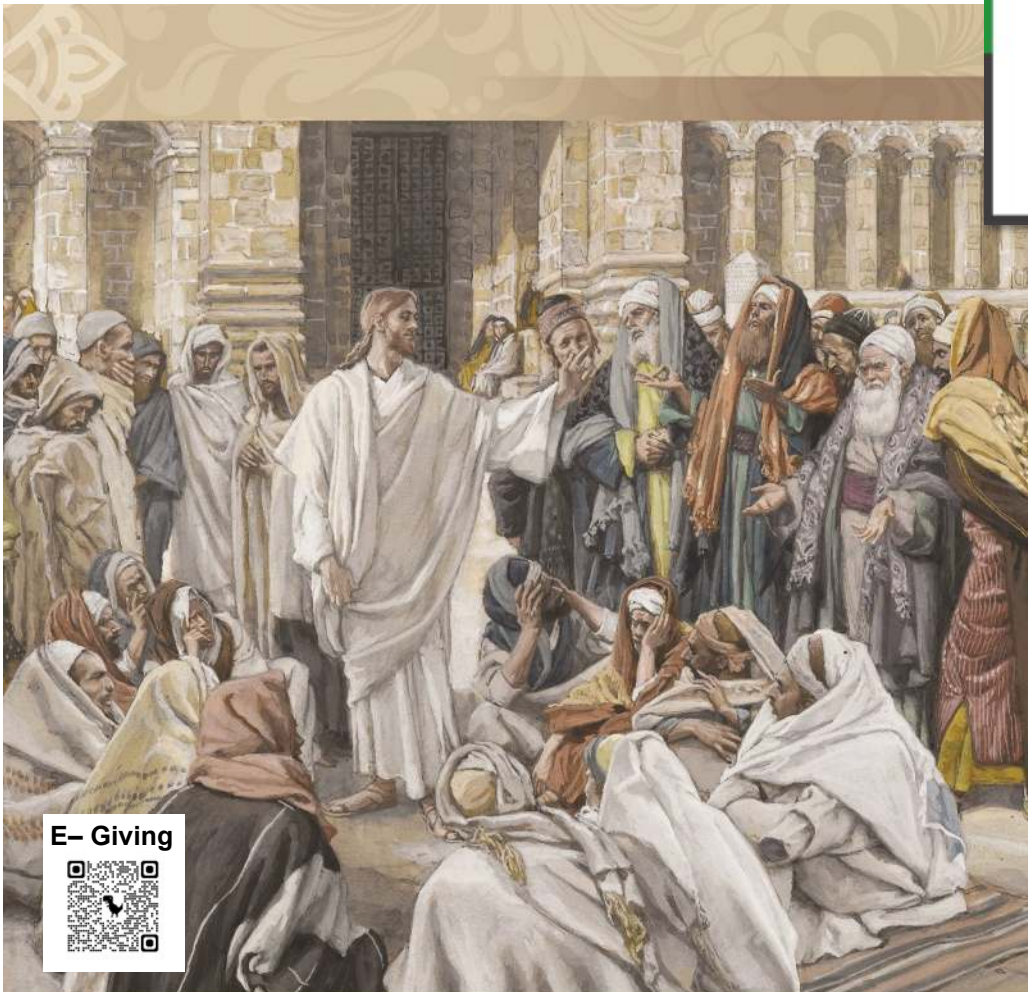


August 3rd 2025

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



18th Sunday

IN ORDINARY TIME

[Jesus] said to the crowd, "Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one's life does not consist of possessions." - Lk 12:15

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**

✠ 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
Bus Sign-up available In the Commons.

4. The National Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, Williamsburg
- Bulletin Publication date: 7/29/25



“Rooted in the Word...”

This Week at Saint Mark August 4th, 2025

MONDAY 7:15pm	OCIA Christian Formation / CR
TUESDAY 8:30am 9:00am 10:00am 2:00pm 7:00pm	Daily Mass/Daily Chapel Mother's Group/ Sanctuary/ Nursery Seasons of Hope/ 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 Feast of Transfiguration and Mem. Mass for Founding Pastor Very Rev. Fr. Joseph Clark
THURSDAY 6:00am 8:30am 9-11:00am 9-6:00pm 6:15pm 6:30pm 7:00pm	Men of St. Joseph/ Conference Room Daily Mass/ Daily Chapel PLARN Adoration/ Sanctuary Evening Prayer/ Sanctuary Benediction/ Sanctuary Lector Training/ Sanctuary
FRIDAY SATURDAY 5:30pm	Mass/ Sanctuary * KofC Church Drive after all Masses/GH
SUNDAY 8:30am 10:30am 11:45am	Mass / Sanctuary Mass/ Sanctuary with Face Book Livestream In-Person Baptism Class/ Sanctuary

Sacraments at St. Mark

Contact Parish Secretary in the Parish Office to begin the processes of BAPTISM or MARRIAGE.

BAPTISM: Celebrated the 1st weekend of the month except during Holy Week.

MATRIMONY: A date may only be set following a meeting with the Priest. Couples are required to give a six- month notice before planning a wedding at the Parish.

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.

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.

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 8/4	Mem of St. John Vianney, Priest Numbers 11:4b-15; Matthew 14:13-21
TUESDAY 8/5	Numbers 12:1-13; Matthew 14:22-36
WEDNESDAY 8/6	Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Peter 1:16-19 Luke 9:28b-36
THURSDAY 8/7	Numbers 20:1-13; Matthew 16:13-23
FRIDAY 8/8	Memorial of St. Dominic, Priest Deuteronomy 4:32-40; Matthew 16:24-28
SATURDAY 8/9	Deuteronomy 6:4-13; Matthew 17:14-20
SUNDAY 8/10	Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Wisdom 18:6-9; Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19; Luke 12:32-48

Mass Intentions this Week

Fr. Joseph L. Clark †
Marvin Peralta †
Izuegbunam Family - Intention of Thanksgiving and Petition
Lennie Flores Torres †
Frances Kumalae †
Tommy Aguilar †
Modesto Fernando †
Carmelita Morales †
Deceased Members of the Fritsch Family



Maribeth Baumgartner, Dare O'Ravitz, Joy Lepere, Teresita Gustafson, Angie Hudson, Brian Lazo, Caroline Padilla, Carol Brown Gigliola Kamp-Casto, Erlinda Mariado, Lorraine Stambaugh, 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 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

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

Helen Robb

Let perpetual light shine upon her; may she rest in peace! Keep the Robb-Gordon families in your prayers.

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

Nourished by the Sacraments

A Reflection on the Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Our reading from Ecclesiastes today declares, “vanity of vanities, all is vanity.” “Vanity” comes from the root of a word meaning to exhale, to evaporate. Vapor is something transient and insubstantial. The author sees our earthly pursuits and possessions as transitory and ultimately meaningless. St Paul in his letter to the Colossians urges us to move beyond vanity, illusion, and set our hearts on what pertains to higher realms, the Kingdom of God.

Jesus, in today’s Gospel tells the parable of the rich man, who experienced abundance and then acted greedily. This parable gives us a warning as well as an invitation. Jesus warns us against all types of greed, because greed takes our life’s focus away from God and away from serving and loving Him in Himself and in other people.

Our earthly achievements and pleasures, when separated from our relationship with God, do not offer lasting satisfaction and fulfillment. Satisfaction and security in life does not come from wealth, but from the way we relate to each other, the care we have within our family, the loyalty we have in relationships, the work we do in the community.

We belong to a stewarding community as Christians. A stewarding community is a community of serious gratitude and overflowing generosity. We must be generous in sharing our time, our treasure, and our talents in Christian stewardship. Christian stewardship is called into being by God, entrusted and empowered with God’s compassion to gratitude, generosity, hospitality, and service among others. For Eternal life does not consist of earthly possessions (Lk 12:15). Eternal life comes from our relationship with God and how we choose to live our lives of service to help our neighbor. We are invited to share our blessings with others. God be with you all.

**Memorial Mass for the Founding Pastor, Fr. Joe Clark,
All Deceased Founding Members,
and All Our Beloved Dead
on the Solemn Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord
at St. Mark Catholic Church, Virginia Beach,
on August 6th at 6:00pm**

The Feast of Transfiguration celebrates Jesus's divine glory, which is a source of hope and comfort for the living and a promise of eternal life for the dead. Offering a Memorial Mass on this feast is a way to remember the deceased while also finding hope and solace in the promise of Christ's transfiguration and eventual return, especially in the Pilgrimage Year of Hope. **Join us for:**

- **Candlelight Rosary procession** from the back parking lot (near gazebo) to the Commons at 6:20pm with fifth decade in front of the Crucifix in the Commons and Fr. Joe Clark’s picture.
- **Votive candles** for each parishioner to light for all our beloved dead.
- **Mass at 7:00pm** with candlelight procession and recession.



One Bread, One Cup: A Sacred Experience Like No Other *by Rachael M. (12th Grade)*

This year marked my third time attending **One Bread, One Cup**, and each experience has deepened my faith in unique ways. After studying cantoring and chant in previous years, I focused this time on **preaching for the Liturgy of the Hours**. The formation was both enriching and transformative.

What sets One Bread, One Cup apart is the sacred environment it offers—something rarely found in other retreats. Instead of staying in hotels or gathering in multipurpose convention centers, we live within the **monastery itself**, immersed in the rhythm of monastic life. Each morning begins with the sound of church bells rung by the **Benedictine monks**, and every hallway is adorned with Catholic art and photographs that reflect the vibrant life of the **archabbey**.

In our preaching group, we explored the deeper meanings of Scripture and learned how to communicate those insights effectively to our fellow participants. Having the opportunity to share my reflections with the entire congregation was a profound privilege—one that I will always cherish.

My biggest takeaway this year was realizing how powerful our voices can be when rooted in Scripture and shared with love. Preaching isn’t just about speaking—it’s about connecting, encouraging, and allowing God to work through us. I left the retreat feeling more confident in my ability to serve and more inspired to live out my faith in everyday life.

Given another chance, I would love to participate again next year—**my final year of eligibility**. I also encourage younger students to take part in this incredible experience. While we’re often called the *future* of the Church, we are also the **young Church—the Church of today**.



Congratulations to the Stegner family who celebrated the Sacrament of Baptism for their child at St. Mark on Saturday, July 26th. Please pray God’s blessings for him and his family as he begins his new life in Christ. Glory to God.

"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



August: 15-18oz. Creamy Peanut Butter /Snack Pack Cookies/Crackers



SCHOOL SUPPLIES: We continue to collect school supplies for our parishioners and area schools. Supply lists are on Justice & Peace table in Great Hall and on parish website. Please place donations in marked bin in Great Hall next to Justice & Peace Table by **August 17th**. If you are a parishioner or know of a parishioner who is in need contact justiceandpeace@stmark-parish.org



Red Cross Blood Drive: Justice & Peace Ministry and the Knights of Columbus are hosting our semi-annual American Red Cross Blood Drive here at St. Mark on **Tuesday, September 16th from 11am-5pm**. We will be working together to give back to the community in a truly life changing way. Every donation we collect can save up to three lives. Please visit www.RedCrossBlood.org and enter: CCSM to schedule an appointment or at the sign-up table beginning August 16th in the Commons.



Parish Life

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

Upcoming Parish Life Events and Announcements:

- For many, summer is a vacation from the busy school year routines and jam-packed schedules. Take time this summer to relax, refresh and ponder spiritual renewal. Stay spiritually hydrated by reading scripture, praying and meditating, and getting involved in St. Mark's Parish Life! We need you! Many hands make light work. Join us at our next meeting on Tuesday, August 12th or call Linda Major at 757-615-0763 for more information.
 - Celebrate Marriage! Congratulations to all who have anniversaries in 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 an August wedding anniversary this week!**
- Mell and Gina Yalung - August 4, 1973 (52 years)**
Harry and Debbie Morgan - August 5, 1978 (47 years)

Thank You, VBS Volunteers & Supporters!

We want to extend a huge **thank you** to everyone who helped make this year's **Vacation Bible School** a big success! To our amazing **volunteers**—your time, energy, and love made a lasting impact on every child who attended. To those who **donated snacks, purchased items from our wishlist, and loaned trees for decorations**—your generosity brought our theme to life and kept our campers happy and energized.



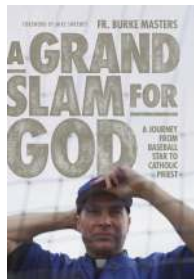
Parish Office Hours: Sunday-Thursday: 9:00am – 1:00pm

Announcements/ Giving/ Contact Information

St. Mark Budget Update

A copy of the St. Mark Budget for the year 2025-2026 is now available for review in a binder at the Information desk.

Contact St. Mark Business Manager, Mary Ellen Cussen, for questions.



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 info, contact Kendra DiMichele at: kdimichele76@gmail.com.



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



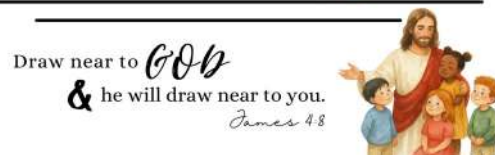
Fiscal Year July-June	July 20	Needed Year to Date New Fiscal Year	Offertory Year to Date	Excess/ (Short)
Offertory	\$15,130	\$57,500	\$52,623	(\$1,377)

Family Count: 813

Families using envelopes: 156

Families using online donation: 168

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!"

Scan QR
Code to
register



Proclaim the Word: Become a Lector!

Are you interested in sharing your unique gifts to enrich our liturgies? Please consider becoming a **Lector**, a vital ministry that brings the "Word of the Lord" to life for our St Mark community. As a dedicated member of our liturgy ministry, you can expect to be scheduled once a month to prepare for and proclaim the Word.

Interested in finding out more? We are conducting a **Lector Information & Training Session** in the Sanctuary on Thursday **August 7th at 7:00 PM.** Current lectors are encouraged join us and share their experiences and insights with our new members. For more information or if you have any questions about the lector ministry, please contact **Dan Wood** at dan.wood.va@gmail.com.

Kid's Corner



Did You Know?

August is the month of the Immaculate Heart of Mary? That means we take extra time to remember how much Mary, the mother of Jesus, loves God and loves us too! Her heart is full of kindness, faith, and love. This month, let's try to be more like Mary by showing love to others, praying often, and saying "yes" to God just like she did!



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