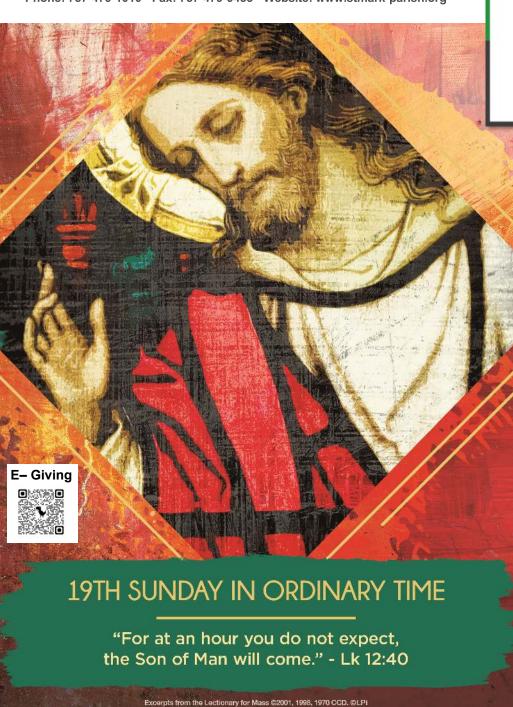
THE CATHOLIC Saint Mark

1505 Kempsville Rd. • Virginia Beach, VA 23464-7201 Phone: 757-479-1010 • Fax: 757-479-9453 • Website: www.stmark-parish.org



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:

- 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: 8/5/25







"Rooted in the Word..."

This Week at Saint Mark **August 11th, 2025**

OCIA Christian Formation / CR		
Daily Mass/Daily Chapel		
Mother's Group/Sanctuary/Nursery		
Seasons of Hope/ Library		
In-person Virtus Training/ Great Hall		
Daughters of Fatima Prayer Group/DC		
Parish Life Meeting/ Conference Room		
Women's Book Club/ Library		
KofC Fr. McGivney Birthday Mass/ DC		
Food Pantry/ Great Hall		
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena/ DC		
Rosary/ Daily Chapel		
Daily Mass/Sanctuary		
Men of St. Joseph/ Conference Room		
Daily Mass/ Daily Chapel		
PLARN/Great Hall		
Kof C Membership Meeting/Great Hall		
Sol. of the Assumption of the Blessed		
Virgin Mary Mass/ Sanctuary		
Sol. of the Assumption of the Blessed		
Virgin Mary Mass/ Sanctuary		
Building and Grounds Meeting/ GH		
Catechist Training/ Great Hall		
Reconciliation/ Daily Chapel		
Mass/ Sanctuary		
35 / G		
Mass / Sanctuary		
Mass/ Sanctuary with Face Book Livestream		

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.

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

Mem. of St. Clare, Virgin MONDAY 8/11 Deut.10:12-22; Matthew 17:22-27 -21

TUESDAY

8/12 Deut. 31:1-8; Matthew 18:1-5, 10, 12-14

WEDNESDAY

8/13 Deut. 34:1-12; Matthew 18:15-20

THURSDAY Mem. Of St. Maximilian Kolbe, Priest 8/14

and Martyr

Josh. 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17; Matt. 18:21-19:1

FRIDAY Solemnity of the Assumption of the 8/15 **Blessed Virgin Mary**

Rev. 11:19A; 12:1-6A, 10AB; 1 Cor.15:20-27; Luke 1:39-56

SATURDAY

8/16 Joshua 24:14-29; Matthew 19:13-15

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time SUNDAY 8/17 Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10; Hebrews 12:1-4;

Luke 12:49-53

Mass Intentions this Week

Mildred and Bernard Drewiske † Policarpio Baylon † Radolfo Mariano † Izuegbunam Family - Intention of Thanksgiving and Petition Rose and Michael Kmetz † Jude and Vianney Vater †



Louisa Morrison, 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.

Harold Tibbetts

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

Nourished by the Sacraments



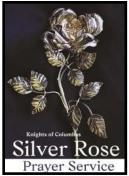
A Reflection on the Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time From Fr. Eric Asamoah

Today's readings call us to live with trust and to stay ready. They remind us that God keeps His promises as found in the first reading. The people of Israel waited for God to act. They knew He would save them, so they stayed strong and faithful. We are all part of God's plan with His promises like the people in the Bible. Let us also, like them, remain hopeful, trusting in God's promises for us.

In the Second Reading, we heard of the faith and patience of Abraham, his wife Sarah, Isaac and Jacob. Abraham for instance, trusted God and left his homeland for the promised land. Such faith and patience is the model that all Christians should strive to imitate. And today in Heaven, Abraham is rejoicing in his inheritance of the promises of God.

Today's Reading from the Gospel of Luke tells us to be prepared in the sense of, "persevering in our living faith." We must live with care and take our responsibilities seriously. Our faith is not only what we believe, but what we do out of that belief. It is about how we live our faith each day.

Jesus said, "It is the Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom." In other words, the Kingdom of God has been created for us, for our eternal joy and peace in the continuous presence of God. The joy of the Lord and His angels is to see each one of us finding our way home to the spiritual Kingdom. Let us take a few moments to review our personal faith and patience. Amen



Join us for the Silver Rose Prayer Service August 28th and 29th at 6:00pm in the Daily Chapel. As we think in terms of 'One Life, One Rose,' it is most appropriate that we turn to Our Lady of Guadalupe who made known her will through Juan Diego and the miracle of the roses." This tradition spreads devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe and embodies international brotherhood as jointly nurtured

across the continent.

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.



One Bread, One Cup: A Journey of Faith, Friendship, and Service ~ Gabe Villasis, 11 th Grader

First and foremost, I want to extend my deepest thanks to everyone who generously gave their time and resources to support our trip. Without your help, this incredible experience would not have

been possible.

Over the five days of One Bread, One Cup, plus one extra due to flight delays, I experienced a profound deepening of my faith and sense of belonging. Not only did I grow closer to God and my Catholic faith, but I also formed meaningful connections with my peers and friends.

During the retreat, I served in the Stewardship and Hospitality track, helping with meals and greeting others at Mass. Though I've always enjoyed community service, this experience helped me see it in a new light. Serving others, whether through a warm smile, a plate of food, or a quiet act of Kindness, became a powerful way to encounter Christ. I realized that every small gesture matters, and that we never truly know how deeply a simple act can impact someone's day. or even their life.

One Bread, One Cup pushed me out of my comfort zone in the best way. I made new friends, strengthened old bonds, and most importantly, grew in my relationship with God. Whether it was through midnight prayers, morning worship, or silent moments of reflection, I felt God's presence in every part of the retreat. Each quiet moment became an opportunity to build a deeper connection with Him. "Just because it's small doesn't mean it's insignificant. Kindness, especially in silence, can echo louder than words." This retreat reminded me that serving others is a form of worship, and that hospitality is more than a task; it's a ministry of love and dignity. My role wasn't just to serve food; it was to make others feel seen, valued, and welcomed.

To everyone who made this journey possible: thank you. Your support allowed me to experience something truly life-changing. This retreat has left a lasting mark on my heart, strengthened my faith, and inspired me to continue serving both in and beyond the Church.



Congratulations to the Salinas-Guzman family who celebrated the Sacrament of Baptism for their child at St. Mark on Saturday, August 2nd 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

Red Cross Blood Drive: At St. Mark on Tuesday, September 16th from 11am-5pm. 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 in the Commons.

Through the month of September our Justice & Peace Ministry is collecting Men's and Women's: Gloves/Mittens, Winter Hats (knit caps), Scarves and Socks for P.I.N. Ministry, Catholic Worker Breakfast Line, and our Food Pantry guests. *Please only new or clean/gently used items** Place donated items in the collection bin in the Great Hall next to Justice & Peace Bulletin Board.

Take a stand for life: September 24th- November 2nd our community will take part in 40 Days for Life. Where: Public right-of-way outside Planned Parenthood 515 Newtown Road. Our St Mark group will stand vigil and pray on Mondays from 1-2pm. Please join us as we pray for an end to abortion. For more information justiceandpeace@stmark-parish.org



We have a date! We will be hosting CAST February 18th-25th 2026 at their new Steppingstone facility. Please watch the bulletin for updates.





"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!

Ray and Catherine Kallman- August 4, 1973 (52 years) Juston and Alice Talley - August 14, 1999 (26 years) Roger and Mary Esteban - August 16, 2003 (22 years)

• The Wisdom Seekers group monthly luncheons are back (2nd Friday of the month September thru June) for parishioners and friends 50+ years of age. First potluck luncheon is September 12th, 12 pm, in Great Hall. Please bring a dish to share (Last name begins A-M protein or salad dish, N-Z fruit or desert dish). Please contact Mary Shaw (757) 348-4460 for general group questions.



Join Bishop Knestout, and the entire diocese at a FREE one-day festival in Richmond. The day will be full of music, food, fun, fellowship, faith, and celebrating the Mass as the Diocese of Richmond. Check out the events and details on the QR Code link for this very special diocesan event.

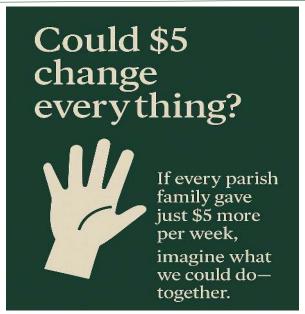
Sign up in the Commons if you plan to attend. Carpooling is encouraged! Watch for more exciting details in the bulletin and Flocknotes.

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.



Inflation touches everyone, even churches. At St. Mark, only \$5.00 per family added to your weekly donation would correct this inflationary trend in a positive way for our parish. Yes, imagine that... just \$5.00 weekly... no more than the cost of one your favorite beverage. Start now! For more details or to donate, contact Parish Bookkeeper, MaryEllen Cussen, at bookkeeper@stmark-parish.org or call the parish office at 757-479-1010.



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.

Who Was?

St. Lawrence... was a joyful and brave saint who lived a long time ago. He helped take care of the poor and sick people in his church. When the Roman leaders asked him to bring them the "treasures of the Church," St. Lawrence brought the people he had helped and said, "These are the real treasures!" He knew that loving and caring for others is what matters most to God.







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 27	Needed Year to Date New Fiscal Year	Offertory Year to Date	Excess/ (Short)
l	Offertory	\$14,589	\$75,000	\$67,342	(\$7,658)

Family Count: 805

Families using envelopes: 168
Families using online donation: 196

Catholic Church of St. Mark RELIGIOUS FORMATION PROGRAM

- 2025 **(8)** 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



PARISH STAFF

D E E : A 1	6 : 6 4 1 :1
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	
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