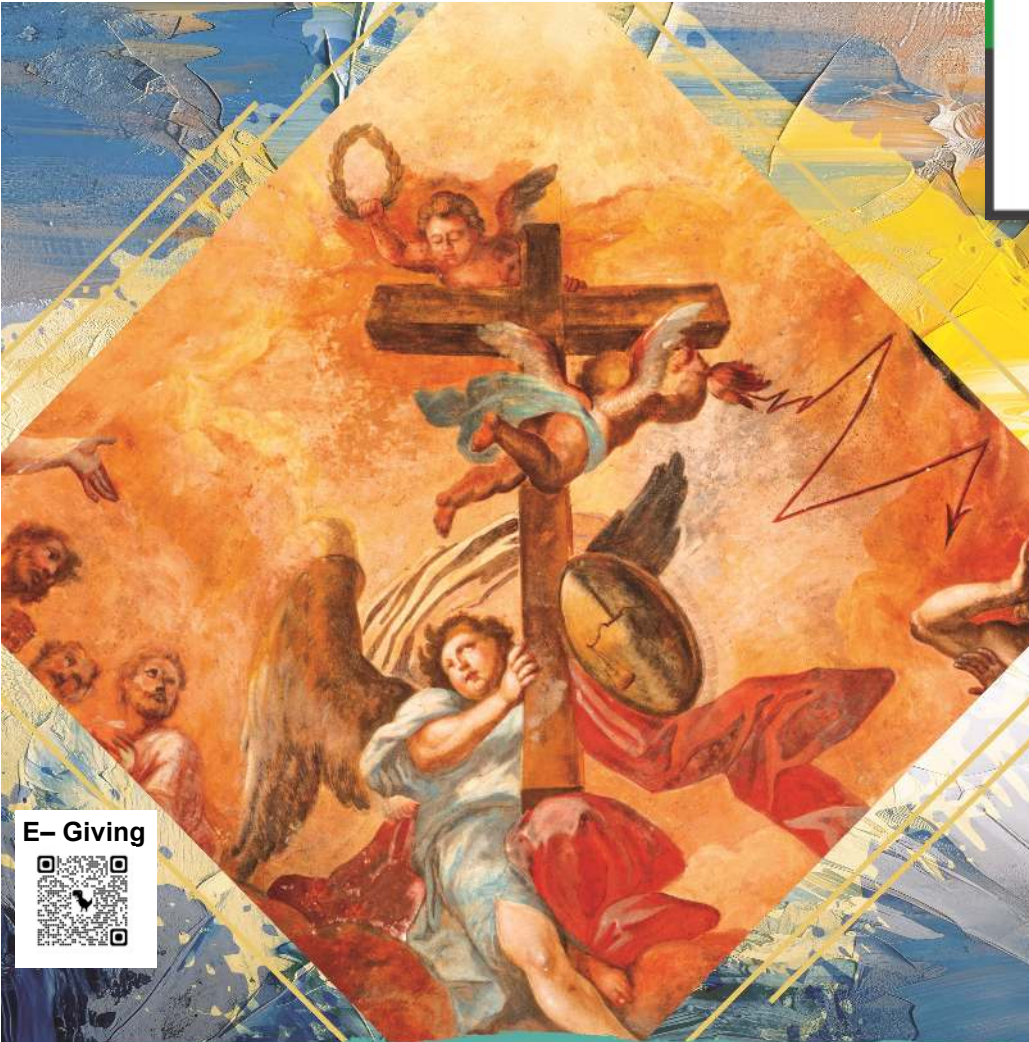


September 14, 2025

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



THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. - Jn 3:17

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

MASS SCHEDULE:

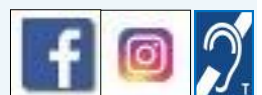
**Saturday: 5:30pm/ Sunday at 8:30am and 10:30am/
Tuesday and Thursday at 8:30am/
Wednesday at 7:00pm**

⚓ 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**
Bus Sign-up available In the Commons.

4. The National Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, Williamsburg
- Bulletin Publication date: 9/8/25



“Rooted in the Word...”

This Week at Saint Mark September 15th - September 21st, 2025

MONDAY

6:00pm J&P Meeting/Library
7:00pm OCIA Team Meeting/Conference Room

TUESDAY

8:30am **Liturgy of the Word/Daily Chapel**
9:00am Mother's Group/ Sanctuary/ Nursery
10:00am Blood Drive/ Great Hall
10:00am Seasons of Hope Grief Group/ Library
2:00pm Daughters of Fatima Prayer Group/DC
6:00pm Sacramental Prep. Parent Meeting/Great Hall

WEDNESDAY

10-1:00pm Food Pantry/ Great Hall
11:00am Divine Mercy Chaplet/ Sanctuary
6:00pm Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena/ DC
6:30pm Rosary/ Sanctuary
7:00pm **Liturgy of the Word/Sanctuary**

THURSDAY

6:00am Men of St. Joseph/ Conference Room
8:30am **Liturgy of the Word/Daily Chapel**
9-11:00am PLARN/Great Hall
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal/ Sanctuary

FRIDAY

7:00pm KofC Rosary/GH
7:30pm KofC Monthly Membership Meeting/GH

SATURDAY

8:00am Building and Grounds Meeting/GH
4:00pm Reconciliation/ Daily Chapel
5:30pm **Mass/ Sanctuary**
6:45pm Family Formation Night/ Great Hall

SUNDAY

8:30am **Mass/ Sanctuary**
10:30am **Mass/ Sanctuary with Face Book Livestream**
12:30pm Children's Formation/ Classrooms
6:00pm Teen Formation/ Great Hall

Save these Dates:

- **Oct. 11th** - Catholic Fest, a diocesan event at the Diamond Baseball Stadium, Richmond. Sign up in the Commons for Car- Pooling Opportunities
- **Dec. 13th** - St. Andrew Parish Pilgrimage, Roanoke, VA; Sign up in the Commons for St. Mark Bus Transportation.



Join us for Catholic Fest 2025, a one-day festival full of music, food, family fun, fellowship and worship together as the Diocese of Richmond during our Pilgrimage Year of Hope! **When? October 11th** at The Diamond, Richmond, VA. All are welcome! For more details, visit: evangelizerichmond.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.

Daily Readings

MONDAY 9/15

Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows
1 Timothy 2:1-8; John 19:25-27

TUESDAY 9/16

Mem. of Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs
1 Timothy 3:1-13; Luke 7:11-17

WEDNESDAY 9/17

1 Timothy 3:14-16; Luke 7:31-35

THURSDAY 9/18

1 Timothy 4:12-16; Luke 7:36-50

FRIDAY 9/19

1 Timothy 6:2c-12; Luke 8:1-3

SATURDAY 9/20

Mem. of St. Andrew Kim Taegon, Priest, and Paul Chong Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs
1 Timothy 6:13-16; Luke 8:4-15

SUNDAY 9/21

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Amos 8:4-7; 1 Timothy 2:1-8; Luke 16:1-13

Mass Requests

- Felipe Rosario †
- Philp and Philomena Calabrese †
- Raquel Ysaïs †
- Janet McCormack †

While Fr. Eric is away, a Liturgy of the Word will be available during the week at St. Mark. Daily Masses will be offered during the week at the following area churches:

St. Mathew (Mon., Wed.)	Church of Ascension (Tues.- Fri.)
St. Luke (Tues.- Fri.)	St. Gregory the Great (Tues.- Fri.)
Prince of Peace (Tues.- Fri.)	St. Stephen, Martyr (Mon., Wed.)

* Visit church **websites above** for Daily Mass times.



Melita Griggs, Jayme Oliveira Filho, 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, 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, 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

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)

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 Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time/ Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

John 3:13-17

By Bishop Robert Barron

Friends, today we celebrate the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. How strange this feast would have sounded to someone in the ancient world! The triumph of the cross! It would have been analogous to someone speaking today of the triumph of the electric chair or the exaltation of the noose.

The cross terrified people in Greco-Roman times, and that was the point. The cross was state-sponsored terrorism, a form of capital punishment reserved for those who had in the most egregious ways undermined the authority of the Roman state.

So why are we celebrating the triumph of the cross? There is only one possible explanation, and that is the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead. All the attempts to soft-pedal and explain away the Resurrection are ruled out by this feast. If Jesus was a victim of that terrible cross *tout court*, then we should all go home.

Once they had taken in the experience of the Resurrection, the first Christians turned with rapt attention to the cross, convinced that in it they would find something decisive. Somehow, in the strange providence of God, that cross was ingredient in the very process by which God would save the world.

Please welcome Msgr. Raymond Muench who will preside at the St. Mark masses this weekend in Fr. Eric's absence.

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. Requirement: **Families must be registered.** Contact Religious Formation Office for Baptism classes prior to the Sacrament. Confirm Baptism date and time with Parish Secretary after all requirements have been turned in.

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.

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!

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

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. Thank you for your cooperation!



Congratulations to the Pacio family who celebrated the Sacrament of Baptism for their child at St. Mark on August 30th. Please pray God's blessings for this child and her family as she begins her new life in Christ.

**TUESDAYS
9:30AM
THURSDAYS
7PM**

**9 SESSIONS
STARTS WEEK
OF SEPT 23
ENDS WEEK
OF NOV 17**

\$20 BOOK COST DONATION
✉ FE@STMARK-PARISH.ORG

Join us for the upcoming Adult Bible Study, *God, the Mystery of the Trinity in the Bible*. Check for convenient times and days on sign-up sheets in the Commons.

**FAMILY FORMATION
NIGHT**

Faith • Fellowship • Fun

September 20 645p

Dinner provided. Please sign up using QR code

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

"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



September: 9-15oz. boxed Instant Mashed Potatoes/
Individual meals: tuna snack kits, pop-top soup/pasta



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 Great Hall.



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.



Migrant Worker Ministry: Thank you to all who attended our "Ministry in Action"- Migrant Ministry information session. Alongside more than 20 other Catholic parishes from both the sides of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel we at St. Mark work to serve the migrant workers by collecting and donating clothing and needed items. Other opportunities offered to help our migrant brothers and sisters include delivering/distributing collected supplies, volunteers attending Mass and sharing our Catholic Faith, walking with individuals through RCIA, providing essential hygiene/clothing/household items, as well as rosaries, holy cards and holy water. Mainly during the Spring and Summer months, as needed. For more information or to volunteer contact: justiceandpeace@stmark-parish.org

Parish Life

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

Upcoming Parish Life Events and Announcements



Food: Hamburgers, hot dogs, and beverages provided. Bring a side-dish or dessert to share.

Fun: Music, bouncy-house and face-painting for kids of all ages! All are welcome!

*In case of rain, the picnic will move to the Great Hall. For more details, contact Linda Major at 757-615-0763.

• Marriage is a reason and a season to celebrate! Parish Life is keeping a compiled record of anniversaries in our parish. If you have not yet recorded your anniversary, please stop by the Parish Life table in the Great Hall and add your special day to the Anniversary Booklet. Anniversaries are posted on the Parish Life Bulletin Board each month.

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

Tim and Liza Grimshaw - September 14, 2006 (19 years)
Jackie and Renee Bowman - September 22, 1966 (59 years)
Frank and Elaine Green - September 20, 1975 (50 years)



EUCCHARISTIC PROCESSION

On the Boardwalk

October 12th

Star of the Sea Catholic Church
1404 Pacific Avenue

Come join us for Holy Mass at noon
followed by a *Boardwalk Eucharistic*
Procession at 1:30pm. The procession will
go to 23rd Street and return to the church
for Benediction.



YOUTH GROUP
OPEN TO 6TH-12TH GRADERS
SEPT 27 • 6:45PM
ST. MARK GREAT HALL

\$5 ENTRY

SNACKS & PIZZA
PROVIDED



CARLO ACUTIS
VIDEO GAME
TOURNAMENT
CELEBRATING HIS CANONIZATION

MARIO KART
SHOWDOWN

SUPER SMASH BROS.
ULTIMATE

FIFA FACE-OFF

PRIZES FOR WINNERS!
SPLIT POT FOR TOURNAMENT WINNER



Parish Office Hours: Sunday-Thursdays: 9:00am – 3:00pm

Announcements/ Giving/ Contact Information

Could \$5
change
everything?



If every parish family gave just \$5 more per week, imagine what we could do—together.

Thank you so much for your generous response to our request to reduce our donation shortfall by giving an increase of just \$5 weekly per family. The shortfall has already decreased by approximately 50% in the few short weeks since sharing this request. If you have not already added just \$5.00 to your family's weekly donation, there is still time to correct this inflationary trend in a positive way for our parish.

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.

Parish Building and Grounds Workday

Last big one of the Summer Season!

Saturday Sept 20, 2025

Work will include outdoor tasks like preparing for upcoming Parish Picnic, pressure washing the church's exterior, moving mulch, tree-bush trimming, spraying weeds, etc... or work inside including removing candle wax from carpet and furniture in Sanctuary/ Sacristy Annex, etc...

Note: If you have a pressure washer, log splitter, or gas weed eater that can be employed some of the B&G team please contact Jim Waltz

For this event there will be a breakfast served for Road Cleanup (Knights) and B&G Team starting at 7:00am in the Great Hall.

**St. Mark's
Pumpkin Patch**

OPENS

**Oct. 5th through Oct. 31st
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

Sign up on iVolunteer

for Set-up and Sales Shifts at:



https://stmarkhelps.ivolunteer.com/pumpkins_2025

Contact Mike King at 646-851-8334 for more details.



Please join us for a public rosary rally at the Pumpkin Patch on Saturday, October 11th to pray for repentance and conversion of our great nation at 12:00pm. For more details contact Rick Vasc at rickvas@mail-regent.edu.

Did You Know?

Kid's Corner



On September 14, we celebrate the **Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross**. The cross reminds us of Jesus' great love, because He gave His life to save us. What once was a sign of sadness became the biggest sign of hope and victory. **This week, try to make the Sign of the Cross slowly and with love, remembering how much Jesus cares for you.**



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	August 31	Needed Year to Date New Fiscal Year	Offertory Year to Date	Excess/ (Short)
Offertory	\$18,322	\$168,500	\$165,455	(\$3,045)

Family Count: 796

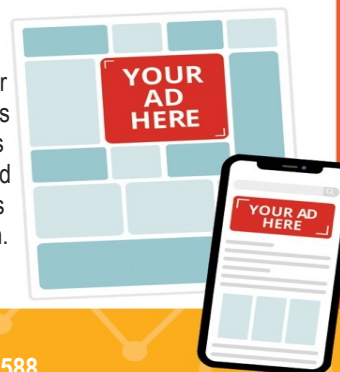
Families using envelopes: 160

Families using online donation: 166

AVAILABLE NOW! PRINT & DIGITAL AD SPACES

Build your business and help us grow a vibrant faith community!

Tim Weir from LPi, our bulletin printer, will be securing new ads for our church in the coming weeks. As a valuable member of the business community, we invite you to expand your reach and grow your business with a print ad in our parish bulletin. Please call Tim Weir below.



Tim Weir
Cell Phone :716-602-4588

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Fr. Eric Asamoah.....freric@stmark-parish.org
 Rev. Mr. John Kren.....[Acting Pastoral Associate](mailto:ActingPastoralAssociate@stmark-parish.org)
 deacon_john@stmark-parish.org
 Sherry Smeland.....[Parish Secretary](mailto:ParishSecretary@stmark-parish.org)
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 Mary Ellen Cussen.....[Business Manager](mailto:BusinessManager@stmark-parish.org)
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 Vikki Ignacio[Assistant Music Director](mailto:AssistantMusicDirector@stmark-parish.org)
 Brian Gridley.....[Facility/IT Coordinator](mailto:FacilityITCoordinator@stmark-parish.org)
 Renee McCroskey.....[Nursery Supervisor](mailto:NurserySupervisor@stmark-parish.org)
 Hank Harzold.....[Parish Council Chairman](mailto:ParishCouncilChairman@stmark-parish.org)
 Tom Smith[Custodian](mailto:Custodian@stmark-parish.org)
 William McMican.....[Finance Council Chairman](mailto:FinanceCouncilChairman@stmark-parish.org)

RELIGIOUS FORMATION STAFF

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

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