

September 28, 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

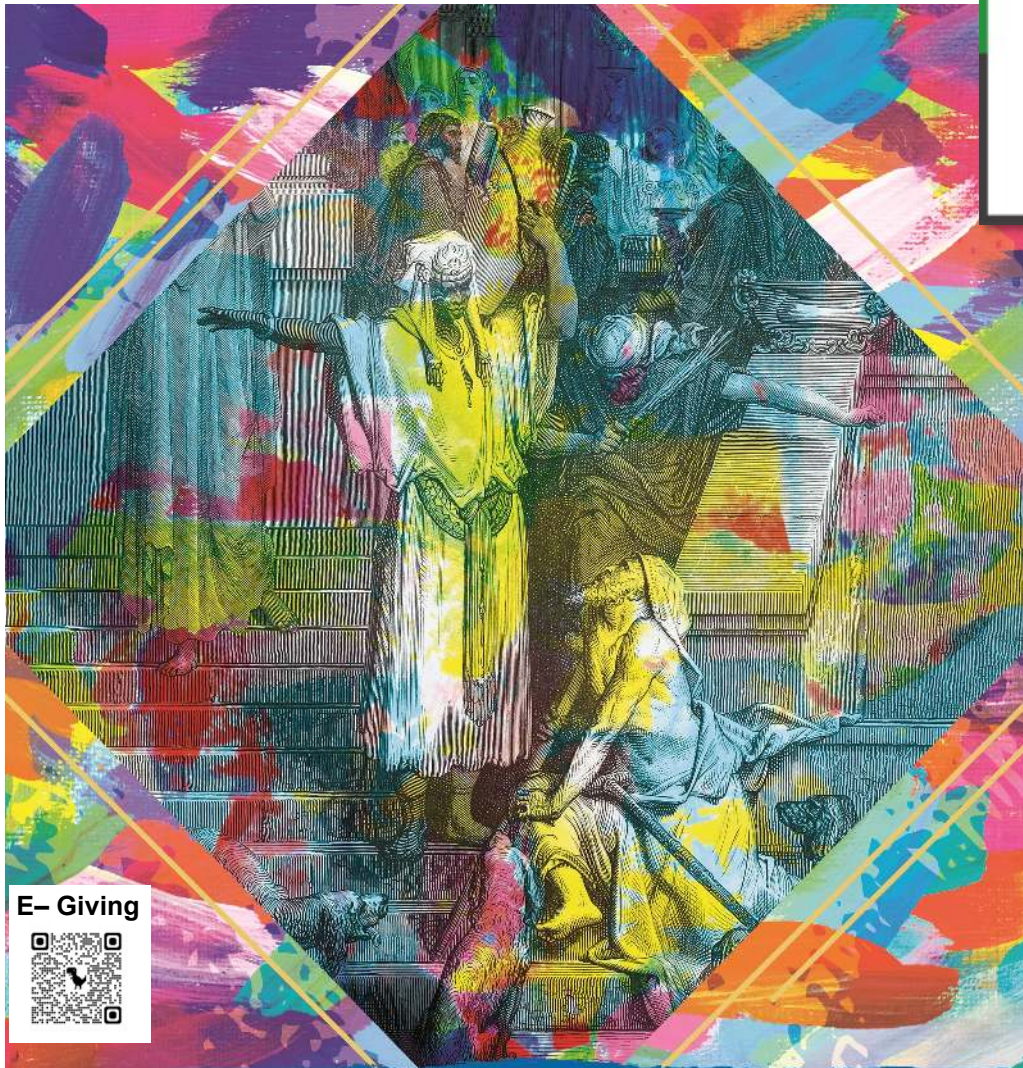


✠ Catholics are encouraged to make pilgrimages to their local cathedral during the 2025 Jubilee year.

✠ 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: 9/23/25



E- Giving



26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"My child, remember that you received what was good during your lifetime while Lazarus likewise received what was bad." - Lk 16:25

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**

“Rooted in the Word...”

This Week at Saint Mark September 29th - October 5th, 2025

MONDAY

7:15pm OCIA Christian Formation/Conf. Room

TUESDAY

8:30am **Liturgy of the Word**/Daily Chapel
9:00am Mother's Group/ Sanctuary/ Nursery
9:30am Seasons of Hope Grief Group/ Library
9:30am Adult Bible Study/ Great Hall
2:00pm Daughters of Fatima Prayer Group/DC

WEDNESDAY

10-1:00pm Food Pantry/ Great Hall
5:30pm 3 American Saints Novena/Sanctuary
6:00pm Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena/ Sanct
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
9-6:00pm Adoration/ Sanctuary
6:15pm Evening Prayer/ Sanctuary
6:30pm Benediction/Sanctuary
7:00pm Adult Bible Study/Library
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal/ Sanctuary

FRIDAY

7:00pm First Friday Rosary/Sanctuary

SATURDAY

12-2:00pm Parish Picnic/ Pavilion
4:00pm Reconciliation/ Daily Chapel
5:30pm **Mass**/ Sanctuary

SUNDAY

8:30am **Mass**/ Sanctuary
10:30am **Mass**/ Sanctuary with Face Book Livestream
12:30-1:30pm Children's Formation/ Classrooms
4:30pm KofC Exemplification Meeting/GH
5-6:30pm OCIA (Children and Teens) / Classroom
6-8:00pm 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.



Catholic Fest, a one-day festival full of music, food, family-fun, fellowship, and worship together as part of the diocesan celebration of the Jubilee of Hope. Musical acts will include Scythian, The Young Escape, Marie Miller, and local performers from our diocese. Complete with a Kid's Zone, vendors, food trucks, and more, you won't want to miss this opportunity

for the whole family. **Scan the QR code below for more details.**

Sign up in the Commons if you plan to attend. Carpooling is encouraged!



Daily Readings

MONDAY 9/29

Feasts of Sts. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, Archangels

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; John 1:47-51

TUESDAY 9/30

Mem. of St. Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Zechariah 8:20-23; Luke 9:51-56

WEDNESDAY 10/1

Mem. of At. Therese of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

Nehemiah 2:1-8; Luke 9:57-62

THURSDAY 10/2

Mem. of Holy Guardian Angels

Nehemiah 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12; Matthew 18:1-5, 10

FRIDAY

10/3

Baruch 1:15-22; Luke 10:13-16

SATURDAY 10/4

Mem. of St. Francis of Assisi

Baruch 4:5-12, 27-29; Luke 10:17-24
Agnes Augustin Villaflor-Special Int.

Jean Burke †

SUNDAY 10/5

Twenty-seventh Sunday-Ordinary Time

Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4; 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14; Luke 17:5-10
Edelmira Gomez †, Bonifacio Malpaya †, Constancio and Francesca Cochon †
Creed Clawson-(Special Int. of Healing)

Please welcome Fr. Brian Rafferty who will preside at the St. Mark masses this weekend in Fr. Eric's absence.

“Blessing of the Animals” Memorial of St. Francis of Assisi will be Saturday, October 4 at 3:30 pm. St. Francis is noted for his charismatic personality, deep compassion for all, and love for God's creation, especially animals. “Blessing of the Animals” will be at the picnic pavilion. Pets and animals should be on a leash or in a cage or crate.



Henrietta Mayr, Creed Clawson, Melita Griggs, Jayme Oliveira Filho, Louisa Morrison, Maribeth Baumgartner, Dare O'Ravitz, Joy Lepere, Teresita Gustafson, Angie Hudson, Caroline Padilla, Gigliola Kamp-Casto, Erlinda Mariado, Lorraine Stambaugh, Susan Colonna, Lexie Murray, Adriane Pennington, Rosendo Ibanez, Reynaldo Francisco, Annora Steiner, Julie Bellingier, Chandler Brewer, Val Kandis, Jay Davis, Olivia Wiggins, Armida Valmeo, Nikolas Pakkidis, Jeremiah Macaraeg, Sarada Kapuwatte, Connie Blanco, Ryan Steele, Paul Caddies, Patricia McCartney, Trish Simpson, Billie Dudley, Kenneth Delorenzo, Dana Reid, Joe Bennett

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

Joan S. Dimpel

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

Nourished by the Sacraments

A Reflection on the Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Luke 16:19-21

By Jerome J. Sabatowich

The rich man in today's Gospel must have been extremely wealthy because he dressed in purple and fine linen. Purple dye, which ancient civilizations made from a gland secretion of a certain mollusk was so rare and expensive that only royalty and the very rich could afford it. Fine linen was also a luxury item.

The Gospel tells us the rich man feasted lavishly every day. People in Jesus' day ate their meals with their fingers because tableware didn't exist. They usually wiped their hands clean with pieces of bread which they then tossed on the ground for the dogs to consume. These pieces of bread are the scraps Lazarus, the beggar, would have been happy to eat.

The rich man died and went to the abode of the dead, a three-layer place under the earth the Jews sometimes called Hades, She'ol, or Gehenna. All who died went to the top layer and waited there for eleven or twelve months until their judgement was complete. If God determined they had lead evil and sinful lives, he sent them to one of the two bottom layers (the layer depended on the nature of their crimes) where flames surrounded them and worms ate them.

Because the rich man asked for just a drop of water to quench the flames, we can conclude he ended up in one of the two bottom layers.

Those God judged as having lived righteously stayed in the top layer to await their reward. The rabbis argued whether this reward would come at the end of the world or immediately after death. The later seems to be the case in today's parable because it tells us Lazarus was with Abraham, the Father of the Jewish people. Some Jews believed God would honor the righteous by inviting them to a banquet with Abraham in the heavenly kingdom.

The fact that God punished the rich man and rewarded the beggar surprised the people in Jesus' audience because many of the believed wealth was a sign of God's favor and suffering was a punishment for sin. With this parable, Jesus teaches that earthly wealth does not guarantee status in God's kingdom if the rich individual uses the wealth selfishly and ignores the needs of the poor.

For Reflection

How do you use what you have? How much of your wealth do you share with those in need?



St. Mark catechists from all three masses received a special blessing Sept. 20-21 from Fr. Brian Rafferty as their catechetical year of instruction begins this month. This blessing not only included over 45 St. Mark catechists, but was also shared with parents and grandparents in the congregation as first catechists for those currently in formation. Much thanks to all catechists for their willingness to serve! Contact Fe Guzman or Nicole Brimer at 757.479.9897 for more details about being a St. Mark catechist.

"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



October: \$10 Gift Cards/ Any item from our Food Pantry List/ Individual Fruit Cups



October Respect Life Month Events:

- "Novena to Three American Saints for Life"- Saints Elizabeth Seton, Frances Cabrini and John Neumann **October 1st -9th** live Daily Chapel and Zoom) If you wish to participate via zoom email us for Zoom link *Note

Saturday Novena will be said at home

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

- **"Baby Shower" reception** in Great Hall October 18th after 5:30 Mass. Potluck with guests invited from Hope4Life, Crisis Pregnancy Center, and Birthright.

- **Official USCCB 2025 Respect Life Novena** October 22nd-30th (live Daily Chapel and Zoom) If you wish to participate via zoom email us for Zoom link *Note Saturday Novena will be said at home

- **Baby Layette Item Collection:** Throughout month Sizes: Newborn- 3 months, Receiving Blankets, Onesies, Baby Booties, Infant Sleepers, outfits

For more information, visit 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!

Ray and Fran Sherman - September 29, 2018 (7 years)

The Wisdom Seekers group, for parishioners and friends 50+ years, next monthly potluck luncheon is **Friday, October 10th**. This luncheon will begin with a **memorial mass at 12 pm** for deceased members followed by the luncheon in the Great Hall. Please bring a dish to share (Last name begins A-M fruit or desert dish, N-Z protein or salad dish). Please contact Mary Shaw (757)348-4460 for general group questions.

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 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.

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.



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.



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

Announcements/ Giving/ Contact Information



America Needs Fatima Rosary

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 Vasconcellos at ricavas@mail.regent.edu or visit AmericaNeedsFatimaRosary.org.



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



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.

St. Mark's Mothers Group

Join our community of young Catholic mothers as we encourage each other in our vocations as the first catechists in the home.

Mothers and children meet on Tuesdays at 9:00am in the sanctuary for prayer and then head to the nursery for community and play until 11:00am.

Text Megan O'Shea at (509)930-1226 with questions

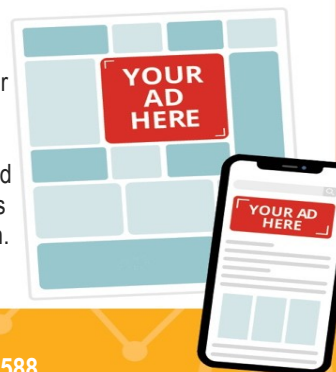
Our Lady Undoer of Knots

~Pray for Us~

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 **Sept. 29– Oct. 1**. 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
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

FUN FACT!

Tomorrow is the Feast of the Archangels, Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael! The Bible tells about these angels, but it doesn't say what they LOOK like! Would an angel have wings or a sword or a halo or a harp? What do YOU think an angel looks like?

