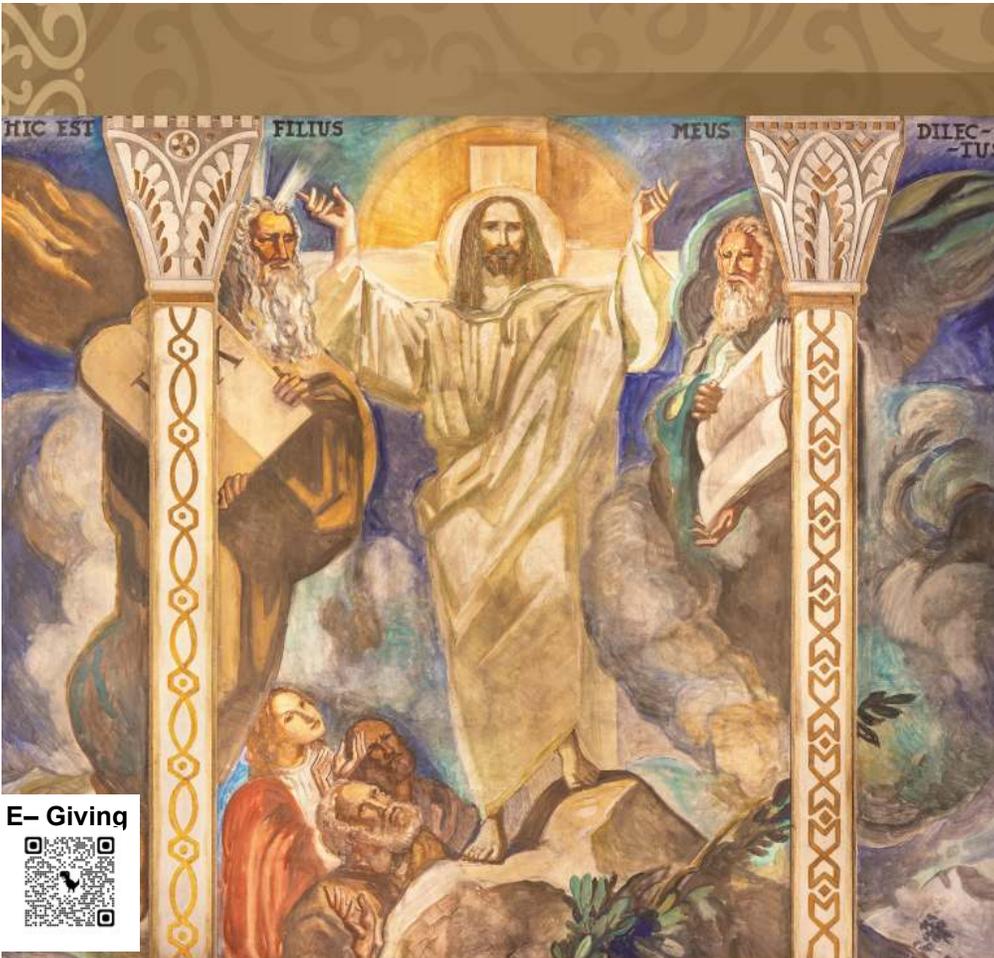




THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF *Saint Mark*

March 1, 2026 • 2nd Sunday of Lent



E- Giving



2nd Sunday

O F L E N T

"Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light." Mt 17:1-2

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

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Welcome!

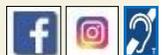
Save these 2026

St. Mark

Pilgrimage Dates!

1. Chrism Mass, Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, Richmond on March 30, 2026
2. Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine, Washington, DC on October 24, 2026
3. St. Mark Pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi Nov. 9th-18th, 2026 to commemorate the Jubilee Year of St. Francis of Assisi. (For more details about this pilgrimage, check out page 5 of this bulletin.)
4. The "One Nation Under God" 2026 National Eucharistic Pilgrimage passes through Diocese of Richmond June 2-5, 2026.

Bulletin Publication
date: 2/23/26



“Rooted in the Word...”

This Week at Saint Mark March 2nd - March 8th, 2026

MONDAY

7:15pm OCIA Team Meeting/ Conference Room

TUESDAY

8:30am Daily Mass/ Daily Chapel
9:30am Adult Bible Study/ Great Hall
2:00pm Daughters of Fatima Prayer Group/ DC
7:00pm Liturgy Meeting/ Conference Room

WEDNESDAY

10-1:00pm Food Pantry/ Great Hall
10-12:00pm Seasons of Hope/ Library
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 Daily Mass/ 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/ Great Hall
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal/ Sanctuary

FRIDAY

6:00pm Lenten Supper/ Great Hall
7:00pm Stations of the Cross/ Sanctuary

SATURDAY

10:00am 1st Reconciliation/ Sanctuary
4:00pm Reconciliation/ Daily Chapel
5:30pm Mass/ Sanctuary

SUNDAY

8:30am Mass/ Sanctuary
10:30am Mass/ Sanctuary with Face Book Livestream
12:30pm Children's Formation/ Classrooms
5-6:00pm OCIC-T/ Classrooms

Daily Readings

MONDAY

3/2

Monday of the Second Week of Lent

Daniel 9:4b-10; Luke 6:36-38

TUESDAY

3/3

Tuesday of the Second Week of Lent

Isaiah 1:10, 16-20; Matthew 23:1-12
James Fulling †

WEDNESDAY Wed. of the Second Week of Lent

3/4

Jeremiah 18:18-20; Matthew 20:17-28

THURSDAY

3/5

Thursday of the Second Week of Lent

Jeremiah 17:5-10; Luke 16:19-31
Rowena Peterson †

FRIDAY

3/6

Friday of the Second Week of Lent

Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a;
Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46

SATURDAY

3/7

Saturday of the Second Week of Lent

Micah 7:14-15, 18-20; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32
Pedro and Adelina Asuelo †, Maria and
Felimon Medina †

SUNDAY

3/8

Third Sunday of Lent

Exodus 17:3-7; Romans 5:1-2, 5-8;
John 4:5-42



Luis San Ciaguel, Joseph Perine, Marie Amella, Fr. Dan Klem, Theresa Muller, Ron Still, Joseph Wargo, Kathy Seddon, Don Coons, Dana Reid, Merla Marcelo, Henrietta Mayr, Creed Clawson, Jayme Oliveira Filho, Louisa Morrison, Dare O'Ravitz, 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

* Prayer Requests may remain in the bulletin for one year.

SACRAMENTS AT ST. MARK

Contact Parish Secretary in the Parish Office to begin the processes of baptism, marriage, or other sacraments.

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.



St. Mark Parish Reconciliation Service:

March 12th, 2026
at 7:00pm
All are welcome!

Is OCIA for You?

If you are an individual who has not yet been baptized, received Eucharist or Confirmation, and you are looking to deepen your faith, please contact the Formation Office (nicole@stmark-parish.org) or the parish secretary, and a member of the OCIA Team will contact you.

Samaritan Ministry

Volunteers visit the sick and those unable to get to mass. Training will be provided. If you would like to be a Samaritan Ministry volunteer, or to receive a visit from a Samaritan Ministry volunteer, call Ann Marie Cochran at 757-621-0699. for more details.

“Nourished by the Sacraments”

A Reflection on Second Sunday of Lent, Cycle A From Fr. Eric Asamoah

In the first reading, the Lord called Abram to take his relatives and to depart from his country and his father's house. From there, all would journey to the land that the Lord would show them, (Gen. 12:1). God made a Promise to Abraham and blessed him: *“I will make you a great nation...I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you.”*

We are usually very fast to claim Abraham's blessings and glory. This is good. However, it is essential to note that the necessary condition for claiming this blessing is obedience to God's will and response to His call and mission for us. Abraham did not say *“Oh Lord, can it wait until tomorrow, I am tired.”* Nor did he say, *“Lord, I am too old to start walking blindly, not knowing where I am going.”* In short, responding to God's call must make you “leave” your comfort zone. This is the condition for receiving Abraham's blessing in the first reading and partaking in God's Glory as revealed to the Apostles in today's Gospel.

Jesus was Transfigured on Mount Tabor and His disciples, Peter James and John got a glimpse of the glory that was His as the Son of God. His face shines like the sun, and His clothes become dazzling white. And the voice of God comes from the cloud, “This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.” This transfiguration event is not just a display of power; it is a gift of hope. Jesus knew that His disciples would soon face the scandal of the Cross, the fear, confusion, and sorrow of seeing their Master suffer and die.

The Transfiguration was meant to strengthen the faith of the disciples and us, to remind us that beyond the suffering lies the glory of the Resurrection. Hence, St Paul encourages us today to “bear the hardship for the sake of the Good news,” as our path to Holiness.

God wants us to become holy, through our Christian deeds reminding us that we have received our life and immortality through the Gospel. Lent is a time to listen and follow. God may lead us in ways we do not expect. We are not meant to stay in one place. Just like Abram and the disciples, we are called to move forward with hope. Wishing you a fruitful season of Lent.



Join us for the Diocese of Richmond Chrism Mass March 30, 2026. A St. Mark bus trip to the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, Richmond will be available.

Reserve your bus seat for \$40.00 (driver tip included); Cash or check (payable to St. Mark) are accepted. Seats are limited, so don't delay; sign up in the commons today! Departure is 2:00pm to attend the 6:00pm Mass.



The Moyer family was presented as Knights of Columbus Family of the Month for October, continuing to be active parishioner in many ministries of St. Mark. Much thanks to them for their generosity of time and talents.

Congratulations to all catechumens who participated in the Rite of Sending on Feb. 21st and 22nd, and to their sponsors and others who have supported them in so many ways. Continue to pray for these 9 catechumens and their sponsors as they prepare their hearts to participate in the Rite of Election at St. Bede in Williamsburg on Saturday, February 28th with Bishop Barry Knestout, president.

“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

 **March:** 12-15 oz. Cheerios (or store brand), Granola Bars

Upcoming Justice & Peace Dates:

- **Rice Bowl Campaign** still time to pick your bowl in the great Hall.
- **40 Days For Life:** February 18th-March 29th Monday 1-2pm/ Planned Parenthood
- Justice & Peace **Stations of Cross:** March 16th at 6 pm/ Sanct.
- **VA March For Life:** April 22nd Richmond .Visit our Justice & Peace table in Great Hall or Contact justiceandpeace@stmark-parish.org



Spiritual Adoption: MONTH ONE Your spiritually adopted baby has been quite active over the past month. Already your baby is 10,000 times bigger than at conception. Your baby has developed the foundations of her brain, spinal cord, and nervous system by the 20th day. Her heart began to beat on the 21st day, pumping blood through its own circulatory system and the blood type can be different from her mother's. Pray that the Lord of Life might move the heart of her mother to give her the most precious gift of all, the gift of life.



VB Women's Jail Ministry: Deadline for donations is March 8th .We are collecting full size women's hygiene products for the women at Virginia Beach jail. Please no travel size: wash clothes, bar soap, shampoo, shampoo with shea butter, conditioner, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant and clear gallon storage bags. Please place items in wooden bins in the Great Hall next to the Justice & Peace table.



You are invited to join our Justice & Peace ministry on Monday, March 16th at 6 pm in the Sanctuary as we walk and pray the Stations of the Cross through the lens of Justice & Peace.

Parish Life

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

• **Come join us for Lenten Suppers** in the Great Hall at 6pm before Stations of the Cross (at 7pm) in the Sanctuary. Bring a meatless soup or dish to share. In accordance with the USCCB the norm for abstinence and fasting applies to those 18-59 years of age. Abstinence does NOT include meat juices and liquid foods made from meat. Therefore, meat broths are permitted when making meatless soups and dishes. Friday meatless suppers are on March 6, 13, 20 and 27. A Lenten Supper schedule will be posted on the Parish Life bulletin board in the Great Hall.

• **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.

Happy Anniversary to the following St. Mark parishioners will celebrate a March wedding anniversary this week!

- Bob and Frances Barbarisi - March 1, 2018 (8 years)**
- Bill and Tere Gustafson - March 1, 1969 (57 years)**
- Steve and Jane Summerlin - March 6, 1967 (59 years)**



Welcome back to MARKed Generation teens attending DYC 2026 in Richmond last weekend, and thankful for every teen and adult leader who made it holy and joyful. What a blessing!

Jubilee of St. Francis Assisi

St. Mark Church
A Pilgrimage to

ROME & ASSISI

NOVEMBER 9-18, 2026
\$6,743 PER PERSON
FROM NORFOLK(ORF)
BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY




Spiritual Director:
Fr. Eric Baffour Asamoah


Group Leader:
Fe Guzman



FAMILY FORMATION NIGHT

Faith • Fellowship • Fun




 **March 18th 6-7p**

 **Dinner provided. Please sign up using QR code**



Announcements/ Giving/ Contact Information



2026 Annual Diocesan Appeal

Scan here to donate to the Annual Diocesan Appeal



For questions about your gift please call GiveCentral (833) 716-2612



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

Update: As of now, St. Mark has raised **\$6,675** of our \$65,040 goal! We have reached 10% of our goal in just a few weeks !! Much thanks for the speedy response and generous giving to the 2026 Diocesan Appeal.

Fiscal Year	February 15	Needed Year to Date	Offertory Year to Date	Excess/ (Short)
July-June		New Fiscal Year		
Offertory	\$31,959	\$671,000	\$651,004	(\$19,996)

Family Count: 794
 Families using envelopes: 232
 Families using online donation: 212

How to obtain your 2025 Tax Statement:

From our website (stmark-parish.org), in the top Menu go to **Resources**.

From the drop-down menu, select **ParishSoft – Family Suite** and enter your username and password to login.

Note: If you do not already have a **ParishSoft** account you will need to create one.

- Once you have logged into ParishSoft, select **My Own Church**.
- Select **My Offering** from the menu on left.
- Select **Giving History** at the top of the page.
- On the giving History, page be sure **Funds is set to ALL**, and that **'Tax Deductible Only'** and **'Include Member Info'** are both selected and the **Year is set to 2025**.
- Next, click the 'Download' button and select "Statement" to save your Tax Statement to your device.

If you have any issues logging into ParishSoft, please contact the parish office at 757-479-1010.

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: 757-479-9453; Email: fe@stmark-parish.org

CALLING ALL COOKS! **CHILI COOK-OFF IS COMING!** WITH BATTLE OF THE KIDS IS A POWER! SIGN UP BY MARCH 7 bring the heat!

new date **march 21, 2026**
6:45 pm

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT feestmark-parish.org

Knights of Columbus Assembly 1505 Presents **FRIDAY NIGHT FUNDRAISER**

Fish Fry **Homemade**

FRIDAYS: FEB 20th THRU MAR 27th
 1236 Prosperity Rd, Virginia Beach, VA 23451

Adults \$12.00 (13 & over)
 Youth \$6.00 (7 to 12)
 Children under 6 free
 Cash or Credit Card

Come Join US! 5-7:00 PM **CARRYOUT AVAILABLE!**

Come Join us for a Lenten Season Meal Tradition

Menu
 Fried fish Fillet, French Fried, Coleslaw & Hushpuppies
 Or
 Baked Fish Fillet, Rice Pilaf, Coleslaw & Hushpuppies
 Or
 Chicken Nuggets & Fries

Free Coffee, Hot or Iced Tea
 Other Beverages & Desserts Available

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!



Did You Know?

Lent is like a 40-day training time to help our hearts grow stronger in love? After Ash Wednesday, we begin this special season by praying more, giving small things up, and helping others. Lent reminds us of the time Jesus spent praying and trusting God, and we try to follow His example. What is one small thing you can do this week to grow closer to Jesus?

