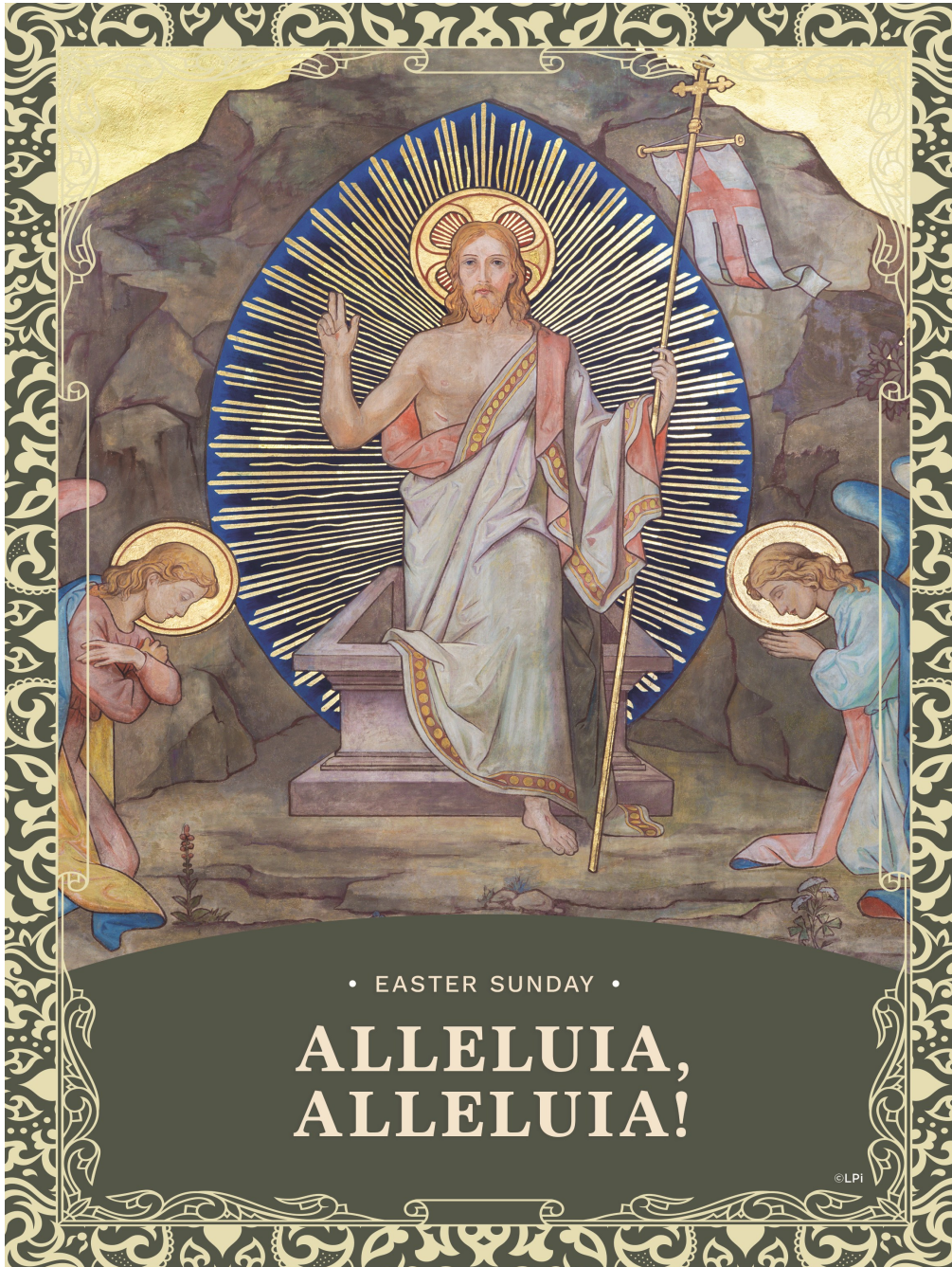




# THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF *Saint Mark*

April 5, 2026 • Easter Sunday



• EASTER SUNDAY •

**ALLELUIA,  
ALLELUIA!**

©LPI

*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.

1505 KEMPSVILLE RD., VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23464

Phone: 757-479-1010 • [www.stmark-parish.org](http://www.stmark-parish.org)

Email: [secretary@stmark-parish.org](mailto:secretary@stmark-parish.org)

Bulletin Publication  
date: 3/27/2026



## “Rooted in the Word...”

### This Week at Saint Mark April 6th - April 12th, 2026

#### MONDAY

11:00am Divine Mercy Novena / Daily Chapel  
7:15pm OCIA Christian Formation/ CR

#### TUESDAY

8:30am **Daily Mass/ Sanctuary**  
11:00am Divine Mercy Novena / Daily Chapel  
2:00pm Daughters of Fatima Prayer Group/ DC  
7:00pm Liturgy Committee Meeting/ CR

#### WEDNESDAY

10-1:00pm Food Pantry/ Great Hall  
10-12:00pm Seasons of Hope/ Library  
11:00am Divine Mercy Novena / Daily Chapel  
6:00pm Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena/ Sanct.  
6:30pm Rosary/ Sanctuary  
7:00pm **Daily Mass/ Sanctuary**

#### THURSDAY

6:00am Men of St. Joseph/ Conference Room  
9-11:00am PLARN/ Great Hall  
11:00am Divine Mercy Novena / Daily Chapel  
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal/ Sanctuary

#### FRIDAY

11:00am Divine Mercy Novena / Daily Chapel  
12:00pm Wisdom Seekers Potluck/ Great Hall

#### SATURDAY

5:00pm Divine Mercy Novena / Sanctuary  
5:30pm **Mass / Sanctuary**

#### SUNDAY

8:30am **Mass/ Sanctuary**  
10:30am **Mass/ Sanctuary** with Face Book Livestream  
11:45am Easter Egg Hunt/ Great Hall  
12:30pm Children's Formation/ Classrooms  
5-6:00pm Adapted OCIA (C-T) Formation/CL  
6-8:00pm Teen Formation/ Great Hall

#### 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.

#### 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

4/6

#### Monday of the Octave of Easter

Acts 2:14, 22-33 ; Matthew 28:8-15

#### TUESDAY

4/7

#### Tuesday of the Octave of Easter

Acts 2:36-41 ; John 20:11-18

#### WEDNESDAY Wednesday of the Octave of Easter

4/8

Acts 3:1-10 ; Luke 24:13-35

#### THURSDAY

4/9

#### Thursday of the Octave of Easter

Acts 3:11-26 ; Luke 24:35-48

#### FRIDAY

4/10

#### Friday of the Octave of Easter

Acts 4:1-12 ; John 21:1-14

#### SATURDAY

4/11

#### Saturday of the Octave of Easter

Acts 4:13-21 ; Mark 16:9-15 ;  
Maria Still †, Michael Izuegbunam  
(Special Intention of Birthday  
Thanksgiving)

#### SUNDAY

4/12

#### Second Sunday of Easter (Sunday of Divine Mercy)

Acts 2:42-47 ; 1 Peter 1:3-9 ;  
John 20:19-31  
Frances Kumalae †, Manuela So †,  
Fermina Ruiz †, Marilou and Douglas  
Huling (Special Intention - 48th Wedding  
Anniversary)



Helena Kuhnley, William Ruiz, Leilani Remias, Leonardo Remias, Ron Ferrero, Ruth Ferrero, Joseph Perine, Marie Amella, Fr. Dan Klem, Theresa Muller, 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, Jay Davis, Chandler Brewer, Val Kandis

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

#### 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 Easter Sunday From Fr. Eric Asamoah

### EASTER

Early on Easter morning some of the disciples discovered that Jesus’ tomb was empty. Mary Magdalene walked to the tomb, her heart was heavy, her mind filled with grief. She expected to find a sealed tomb, a lifeless body, and the finality of death. But instead, she found the stone rolled away.

Easter begins in that moment — not with trumpets or bright lights, but with the shock of an empty tomb and the dawning realization that death has been defeated. Our Saviour is not in a tomb. He is alive. He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let us sing with the Psalmist on this glorious day of Easter: “This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad. This is the day Our Lord Jesus Christ broke the chains of death and rose in triumph from the grave. Indeed, this day brings joy to our lives for Jesus’ resurrection is the decisive turning point in all human history.

The resurrection is not just something we proclaim with our lips; it is something we demonstrate with our lives. Every act of kindness, every word of encouragement, every choice to stand for truth and justice is a small echo of that first Easter morning.

Today is our call to deepen one’s faith and trust in the power of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, reinforcing the foundation of Christian belief. Peter proclaims that Jesus, anointed by God, went about doing and healing, was crucified, and was raised on the third day. He is appointed judge of the living and the dead, and all who believe in Him receive forgiveness of sins through His name.

Through Baptism, we already share in Christ’s risen life. Our

focus should be on heavenly things, not earthly distractions, as our true life is hidden with Christ in God. Christ did not put us to shame. Rather, we now have a sure hope in an inheritance that can never be destroyed. This is our new life in Christ. So, now we must seek the things of light, things that are noble, true, just, and things that glorify God. We must seek heavenly things by living like freed people and citizens of heaven.

This is what St Paul instructs us to do in today’s second reading: “Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, seek the things that are in heaven, where Christ is...”

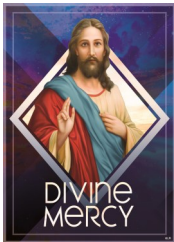
We are all Easter people. To be an “Easter people” means we carry the light of Christ into the world’s darkness. We are called to be Easter witnesses — not just by words, but by lives that radiate hope, mercy, and love.

It means forgiving when it’s hard, loving when it’s costly, and serving when it’s inconvenient. It means believing that God can bring life out of situations that seem hopeless. Every act of forgiveness, every choice to serve, every moment we stand for truth is a small resurrection — a sign that Christ is alive in us.

The “empty tombs” in our lives — the moments when something we relied on is gone — can be the very places your resurrection begins.

When you feel hopeless, Easter reminds you that God can bring life out of any situation. When you feel trapped by mistakes, Easter tells you that forgiveness is real and freedom is possible.

Live with courage and joy because the worst thing is never the last thing. So today, let’s join the Church around the world in proclaiming with full hearts: Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! HAPPY EASTER.



### Divine Mercy Chaplet Novena

Join us to pray the Divine Mercy Novena during Holy Week, April 3rd through April 11th at 11:00am in the Daily Chapel. (On Easter Sunday, the Divine Mercy novena will be prayed independently.)

On Divine Mercy Sunday, April 12th, the Divine Mercy Chaplet prayers will be said in lieu of the Rosary before Mass. Divine Mercy Chaplet pamphlets will be available before we begin praying the prayers.

**Jubilee of St. Francis Assisi**  
**St. Mark Church**  
A Pilgrimage to  
**ROME & ASSISI**  
November 9 - 18, 2026  
\$6600 per person  
from Norfolk (ORF)  
\*All Pricing Based on Double Occupancy.  
Pricing available from any airport.  
www.206tours.com/pilgrimage



Spiritual Director:  
**Fr. Eric Baffour Asamoah**  
Group Leader:  
**Fe Guzman**

206 TOURS  
EST. 1995

SCAN



For more details, contact the parish office 757-479-1010 or fe@stmark-parish.org

LAKBAY NG PAG-ASA  
LANDAS PATUNGONG  
EMMAUS  
Fr. Ronnie Dolosa

HÀNH TRÌNH HY VỌNG:  
ĐƯỜNG VỀ EMMAUS  
Fr. Hy Nguyen

# ASIAN RETREAT

After the Year of Jubilee of Hope, we seek to continue the journey of hope with Jesus. The Office of Asian Ministry will have its annual Asian Retreat.

**APRIL 18, 2026**  
9:00 am to 4:00 pm  
Catholic Church of St. Mark  
1505 Kempsville Rd. Virginia Beach, VA 23464

Register at: <https://cdasianretreat2026.eventbrite.com>



# “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](http://www.stmark-parish.org/ministries/justice-and-peace), or email:  
[justiceandpeace@stmark-parish.org](mailto:justiceandpeace@stmark-parish.org)



**Spiritual Adoption Month Three:** Your baby is quite active in the womb now - although her mother will not feel her for another couple of months. If her mother's womb had a window, you could watch your spiritually adopted baby squint, swallow and move her tongue. She can make a tight fist if you touch her palm. She is breathing amniotic fluid which continues until birth, although she obtains the oxygen her body needs through the umbilical cord. The baby you are praying for weighs one ounce.



**Migrant Ministry:** Now through the month of April, we are collecting items for the Eastern Shore Migrant Ministry male workers. Items needed are new or gently used Men's baseball or sun Hats, men's socks, men's sneakers, or work shoes sizes 6-10, men's long sleeve shirts, men's boxer briefs, gardening gloves. Please NO extra large items. Please place items in the marked bin in Great Hall next to the Justice & Peace table. Contact Justice & Peace via the links above for more information. **Deadline for donations is Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>!**

**Virginia March for Life:** St Stephen, Martyr KofC are sponsoring a bus to Richmond for the state March for Life For more information or to sign up visit: <https://ssmcatholic.org/march-for-life-bus>



## Parish Life

*“I am the vine, you are the branches.”*

- Parish Life will host an **Easter Egg Hunt** on Sunday, April 12th after the 10:30 mass. More details to follow! POC is 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.

**Happy Anniversary to the following St. Mark parishioners will celebrate an April wedding anniversary this week!**

**Hank and Evie Harzold - April 7, 1979 (47 years)**  
**Logan and Megan O'Shea - April 10, 2021 (5 years)**  
**Ed and Nita Davis - April 12th 1969 (57 years)**

**Wisdom Seekers Senior Group monthly luncheons** (2nd Friday of the month September thru June) for parishioners 50+ years of age. Potluck luncheon, Easter theme, **Friday, April 10th, 12 pm**, Great Hall. Dish to share: last name begins (A-M fruit or dessert, N-Z protein dish or salad). Please **contact** Mary Shaw at (757) 348-4460 for any general group questions.



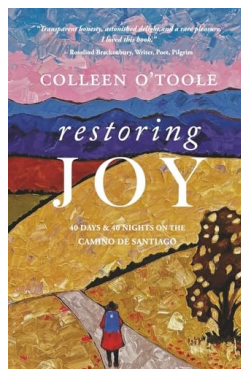
## Wine, Cheese & Chocolate Tasting Night

The Parish Life Ministry and the Knights of Columbus warmly invite all parishioners to a delightful evening of wine, cheese, and chocolate tasting on **April 17th at 8:00pm in the Great Hall.**

In addition to the tasting, there will be a brief presentation about Catholic Investing, offering insights into faith-based financial practices and values.

Join us for fellowship, fun, and the opportunity to sample a curated selection of delicious treats.

Whether you're a connoisseur or simply curious, this event promises a wonderful atmosphere to connect with friends old and new. We hope to see you there!



**Women's Book Club**  
*Restoring Joy: 40 Days and 40 Nights on the Camino de Santiago*  
by Colleen O'Toole  
**April 14th at 6:30pm / Library**

Join us for an amazingly transparent journey of a searching soul on “The Camino”, and the healing that happens along the way.

For more details, contact Kendra DiMichele at [kdimichele76@gmail.com](mailto:kdimichele76@gmail.com)

## 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!

Catholic Church of St. Mark  
presents  
*family*  
**MOVIE NIGHT**

**Saturday,  
April 18**

**Doors open at 6:45PM  
Movie Starts at 7p**

Families are invited to bring a picnic dinner.  
The MARKed Generation will have popcorn  
and candy by donation.



SCAN the QR code to RSVP today!

**Parish Office Hours: Monday-Thursday: 9:00am – 3:00pm; Sunday 9:00-1:00pm**

# Announcements/ Giving/ Contact Information



## Bookkeeper Position

Bookkeeper sought for Catholic Church of St. Mark, Virginia Beach, VA. Responsibilities include maintaining accurate financial records and statements, payroll. Has strong accounting skills, sound judgment, and a commitment to advancing the mission of the parish and the Diocese. Supervisor is Fr. Eric Asamoah, pastor.

Contact 757-567-1010 or [secretary@stmark-parish.org](mailto:secretary@stmark-parish.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](http://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](mailto:bookkeeper@stmark-parish.org) or call the parish office



## Catholic Community Foundation

of the Diocese of Richmond

### 2026 Annual Diocesan Appeal

Scan here to donate to the Annual Diocesan Appeal



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

Fiscal Year	March 22	Needed Year to Date	Offertory Year to Date	Excess/ (Short)
July-June		New Fiscal Year		
<b>Offertory</b>	<b>\$17,748</b>	<b>\$772,000</b>	<b>\$768,582</b>	<b>(\$3,418)</b>

Family Count: 809

Families using envelopes: 213

Families using online donation: 171

### How to obtain your 2025 Tax Statement:

From our website ([stmark-parish.org](http://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 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: 757-479-9453; Email: [fe@stmark-parish.org](mailto:fe@stmark-parish.org)

**Update: As of now, St. Mark has raised \$53,920 of our \$65,040 goal! We have reached 83% of our goal in just a few weeks!!! Much thanks for the speedy response and generous giving to the 2026 Diocesan Appeal.**



### Happy Easter!

Easter is the most joyful and important celebration of the year for Christians. Today we celebrate that **Jesus rose from the dead**, showing His victory over sin and death! Because Jesus is alive, we are given the gift of **new life and hope**.

Easter reminds us that Jesus is always with us and that His love never ends. We celebrate this wonderful day by **praying, singing, rejoicing at Mass, and spending time with the people we love**. As you enjoy the celebration, remember to share the joy of Easter with others and carry the hope of the Resurrection with you every day.



### Kid's Corner