



THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF *Saint Mark*

April 12, 2026 • 2nd Sunday of Easter



2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY)

Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." - Jn 20:26-27

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

1505 KEMPSVILLE RD., VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23464

Phone: 757-479-1010 • www.stmark-parish.org

Email: secretary@stmark-parish.org

Welcome!

Save these 2026

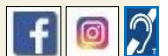
St. Mark

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. The "One Nation Under God" 2026 National Eucharistic Pilgrimage passes through Diocese of Richmond June 2-5, 2026.
4. St. Mark Pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi Nov. 9th-18th, 2026 to commemorate the Jubilee Year of St. Francis of Assisi.

Bulletin Publication date:

4/6/2026



“Rooted in the Word...”

This Week at Saint Mark April 13th - April 19th, 2026

MONDAY

7:15pm OCIA Christian Formation/ CR

TUESDAY

8:30am **Daily Mass/ Sanctuary**
9:30am Adult Bible Study/ Great Hall
2:00pm Daughters of Fatima Prayer Group/ DC
6:00pm Parish Life Meeting/ CR
6:30pm Women's Book Club/ Library

WEDNESDAY

10-11:00pm Food Pantry/ Great Hall
11:00am Divine Mercy Chaplet / Sanctuary
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
6-8:00pm Confirmation Prep/ Great Hall
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal/ Sanctuary
7:00pm Adult Bible Study/ Library

FRIDAY

8:00pm KofC Wine, Cheese and Chocolate Night/ GH

SATURDAY

8:00am Building and Grounds Meeting/ Great Hall
9-3:00pm Asian Retreat/ Whole Building
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
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 **Monday of the Second Week of Easter**
4/13 Acts 4:23-31; John 3:1-8

TUESDAY **Tuesday of the Second Week of Easter**
4/14 Acts 4:32-37 ; John 3:7b-15
Thioro Diatta †

WEDNESDAY **Wed. of the Second Week of Easter**
4/15 Acts 5:17-26; John 3:16-21
Lailani Remias †

THURSDAY **Thursday of the Second Week of Easter**
4/16 Acts 5:27-33; John 3:31-36
Henriette Yelta Diatta †

FRIDAY **Friday of the Second Week of Easter**
4/17 Acts 5:34-42; John 6:1-15

SATURDAY **Saturday of the Second Week of Easter**
4/18 Acts 6:1-7; John 6:16-21
Dante Ignacio †, Earl Groff †,
Leilani Remias †

SUNDAY **Third Sunday of Easter**
4/19 Acts 2:14, 22-33; 1 Peter 1:17-21;
Luke 24:13-35
Lori Thompson †, Carlos Cardoso †,
Dennis Heinlein †



Helena Kuhnley, William Ruiz, 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.

Is OCIA for You?

We invite you to learn more about the process through which we welcome or reconnect you with the Catholic Church, 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

“Nourished by the Sacraments”

A Reflection on Second Sunday of Easter/ Divine Mercy Sunday From Deacon John Kren

Jesus, their hope and their master had been taken from them. Jesus was gone. They wait in an upper room, behind locked doors. I'm sure in the minds of the disciples they were convinced that their experience with a Messiah had been a failure. In ordinary situations, they were not likely to see Jesus again. How could they not have been upset, afraid? I think of poor Thomas. He has received such bad press, but really is his reaction to missing Jesus so unusual?

Thomas was doubtful that everything he had hoped for, everything he had dreamed of had been taken away from him in the awful action of the crucifixion. Is his reaction really so strange?

Thomas' plans, his expectations for his life in the world, for the life of the world to come had been taken away with the suddenness of those people's responses to a mob mentality. Can we really blame him for his doubt?

Thomas was doubtful, at least at first, that the promise of the Word Made Flesh might be made true. Are his thoughts,

the questions about Jesus so very different from what we would be experiencing?

Thomas the doubter was a human person, with human responses and human reactions. We must ask ourselves what is the state of our faith, what is the condition of our discipleship? Despite his doubts, Thomas' life was transformed by the encounter he had with Christ. He became one of the great evangelists offering the most profound confession of faith in all of the Gospels. Are we willing to proclaim --“My Lord and my God.” Thomas' profession of faith guides us as we move through these rich days of the Easter season, these early days of spring, this season of renewal.

Thomas' profession inspires us to be better disciples. Thomas' profession inspires us in so many ways. In the words we speak, words of peace, the words of hope. Words of love. Isn't that what Easter is? In the breaking and blessing of the bread, we are being fed, and see our deepest dreams come true. Isn't that Divine Mercy. God presents Himself to us as He did to Thomas. In the Paschal mystery God's Mercy pours out on you and me. The question is, can we become vessels of His Mercy?

Justice Peace

For information on our Justice & Peace Ministries visit: www.stmark-parish.org/ministries/justice-and-peace, or email: justiceandpeace@stmark-parish.org



Foods of Month April: 19-30 oz. Plastic Jar Grape Jelly/\$5 McDonalds Gift card/Tuna Snack Kits/ Pop Top Individual Meals



Migrant Ministry: 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. Place items in the bin in Great Hall next to the Justice & Peace table.



April 19th-25th is National Volunteer Week: Members of our Justice & Peace Ministry will be visiting local hospitals, EMS stations, schools and other area organizations/that have volunteers with a note of appreciation and goodie trays from our St Mark family to express our thanksgiving for their efforts. If you would like to help by baking and providing goodies, please contact Joyce Gridley at 675-6486 justiceandpeace@stmark-parish.org



Thank you to all who participated in our CRS Rice Bowl this year. Please watch the bulletin for an update on our collection. **FORGET** to turn in your filled rice bowl? Please drop it off at the Parish office this week.



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.

To **REGISTER**, open the QR code to the right.



Parish Life

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

- The Feast of St. Mark will be celebrated on Saturday, April 25th. There will be a potluck dinner after the 5:30 mass. Bring a dish to share! POC is Linda Major at 757-615-0763.
- **Happy Anniversary to the following St. Mark parishioners will celebrate an April wedding anniversary this week!**
Lee and Diane McBride - April 13, 1985 (41 years)
John and Chris Kren - April 15, 1978 (48 years)
Jeff and Trisha Holdsworth - April 16, 2005 (21 years)



family
MOVIE NIGHT

Saturday, April 18

DAVID
ANGEL

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!

“Triduum and Easter- Blessings and Sacraments”



Congratulations to the newly baptized and those received into full communion at the Easter Vigil. Continue to pray that they may grow in faith, be strengthened by the sacraments, and live as faithful disciples of the Risen Lord. Thanks be to God.

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



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



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 29	Needed Year to Date New Fiscal Year	Offertory Year to Date	Excess/ (Short)
July-June				
Offertory	\$20,464	\$791,000	\$789,046	(\$1,954)

Family Count: 812

Families using envelopes: 206

Families using online donation: 236

Update: As of now, St. Mark has raised \$58,285 of our \$60,040 goal! We have reached 90% ! YAHOO!! Much thanks for the speedy response and generous giving to the 2026 Diocesan Appeal.

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



Fun Fact!

On **Divine Mercy Sunday (TODAY!)**, we remember how much Jesus loves us and forgives us. He told St. Faustina Kowalska to share His message of mercy with the world.

The red and blue rays from Jesus' heart remind us of His love and new life.

This week, try to show mercy: be kind, forgive, and help others.

"Jesus, I trust in You!"

Kid's Corner

