



# THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF *Saint Mark*

June 28, 2026 • Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



E- Giving



*Welcome!*

*Save these 2026*

*St. Mark*

*Pilgrimage Dates!*

1. Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine, Washington, DC on October 24, 2026
2. **St. Mark Pilgrimage: Rome and Assisi Nov. 9th-18th, 2026!**  
Join us to commemorate the Jubilee Year of St. Francis of Assisi.



For more details, contact the parish office 757-479-1010 or [fe@stmark-parish.org](mailto:fe@stmark-parish.org)



Bulletin Publication date:  
6/22/2026

## 13<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Whoever gives only a cup of cold water to one of these little ones to drink because the little one is a disciple--amen, I say to you, he will surely not lose his reward.” - Mt 10:42

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

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## “Rooted in the Word...”

### This Week at Saint Mark June 29th - July 5th, 2026

#### MONDAY

7:15pm OCIA Christian Formation/CR

#### TUESDAY

8:30am **Daily Mass/** Daily Chapel  
10:00am Seasons of Hope Grief Group/ Library  
2:00pm Daughters of Fatima Prayer Group/ DC

#### WEDNESDAY

10-1:00pm Food Pantry/ Great Hall  
6:00pm Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena/ Sanct.  
6:30pm Rosary/ Sanctuary  
7:00pm **Daily Mass/** Sanctuary  
7:30pm Fr. Eric's Ordination Anniv. Reception/ GH

#### THURSDAY

6:00am Men of St. Joseph/ Conference Room  
8:30am **Daily Mass/** Daily Chapel  
9-11:00am PLARN/ Great Hall  
9-5:00pm Adoration/ Sanctuary  
5-5:15pm Evening Prayer and Benediction/ Sanct.  
6:00pm Parish Pastoral Council/ Conference Room

#### FRIDAY

7:00pm First Friday Rosary/ Daily Chapel

#### SATURDAY

4:00pm **INDEPENDENCE DAY**  
Reconciliation/Daily Chapel  
5:30pm **Mass /** Sanctuary  
6:45pm Fr. Eric's Ordination Anniv. Reception/ GH

#### SUNDAY

8:30am **Mass/** Sanctuary  
9:45am Fr. Eric's Ordination Anniv. Reception/ GH  
10:30am **Mass/** Sanctuary with Face Book Livestream  
11:45am Fr. Eric's Ordination Anniv. Reception/ GH

#### 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.

#### 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.

#### 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  
6/29

**Sol. of Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles**  
Acts 12:1-11; 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18;  
Matthew 16:13-19

TUESDAY  
6/30

**Tues. of the Thirteenth Week in Ord. Time**  
Amos 3:1-8; 4:11-12; Matthew 8:23-27  
Jean-Paul Diatta– (Special Intention of Thanksgiving for Family and Friends)

WEDNESDAY Wed. of the Thirteenth Week in  
7/1 **Ordinary Time**

Amos 5:14-15, 21-24; Matthew 8:28-34  
Lucie Lantumb Diatta (Special Intention of Thanksgiving)

THURSDAY  
7/2

**Thurs. of the Thirteenth Week in Ordinary Time**  
Amos 7:10-17; Matthew 9:1-8

FRIDAY  
7/3

**Feast of St. Thomas, Apostle**  
Ephesians 2:19-22; John 20:24-29

SATURDAY  
7/4

**Sat. of the Thirteenth Week in Ord. Time**  
Amos 9:11-15; Matthew 9:14-17  
Gillian Morse Bauer †

SUNDAY  
7/5

**Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16a;  
Zechariah 9:9-10; Romans 8:9, 11-13  
Matthew 11:25-30  
Teresita Cambas †, Catherine Kelly †,  
Deceased Members of the Fritsch Family †



Hu Jung Dalton, Chandler Brewer, Charles Sweeney, 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, Jay Davis, Val Kandis

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

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

#### Martha Ridell Murphy

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

# “Nourished by the Sacraments”

## A Reflection on Thirteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time From Fr. Eric Asamoah

Today’s readings invite us to see our Christian lives as a mission of love, hospitality, and service.

One of the nicest things in life is to meet an open, friendly, hospitable person. You can usually tell from the quality of the handshake if you are dealing with such a person. He or she not only makes you feel welcome, but makes you feel that it is good to be you. Hospitality is the hallmark of a true follower of Christ.

The Hospitality and generosity of the Shunem couple towards Elisha brought them the blessing and joy of their life. They were sensitive to the plight and immediate need of the man of God. The Shunamite response is very surprising. She does not offer a one-time act of kindness but creates a space for Elisha, a small room where he can rest whenever he passes by. This is the Gospel of hospitality — acknowledging the presence of God in others and serving Him in them.

Later Elisha asked his servant, “Can something be done for her?” The answer was, “Yes! She has no son, and her husband is getting on in years.” Elisha prophesized: “This time next year you will be fondling a baby son.” This is a response to the generosity shown to them by this couple. Thus, Elisha’s presence was a blessing to this house rather than a burden. It suffices to note that the name of Elisa means: “God saves.” Precisely, this is what his action affirmed.

The Shunamite’s hospitality is intentional, generous, and rooted in faith. She didn’t just welcome Elisha—she made space for him. And that simple act opened the door for God to act in her life.

The Gospel has St Matthew outlining the reward of hospitality offered to Jesus’ followers. Jesus explains the difficulties of discipleship yet reveals that those who welcome the disciples have also welcomed him. To welcome another in Jesus’ name is to extend hospitality to Jesus himself. We have many opportunities in our daily life to reach out to others, to be a welcoming presence and a sign of God’s love. We could attract God’s blessings to our home and family and the Church community through generosity and hospitality, like the Shunem family in our first reading.

In the Eucharist we welcome Christ and are also welcomed by Him, strengthened for our journey.

The primary goal of a hospitality ministry is to ensure that every visitor, member, or guest feels welcomed, valued, and comfortable within the church community, enhancing their worship experience and encouraging fellowship and spiritual growth. Hospitality serves as the first representation of the church, helping guests transition from visitors to active members while fostering a culture of inclusion and unity. Your continued dedication to the Hospitality Ministry at St. Mark is a true blessing to our parish. God bless you all.

## SAVE THE DATE

Join us for  
**“AI, The Church and You,  
A Review of Pope Leo XIV’s first Encyclical”**  
presented by Seminarian William Yearout  
**When?** July 9th and 10th at 6-8:00pm  
**Where?** St. Mark Great Hall  
**Dinner is included; attendees must sign up in the Commons**

## Is OCIA for You?

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!

We invite you to learn more about the process through which we welcome or reconnect you with the Catholic Church, The journey is guided by members of our parish community, but is ultimately a personal journey in which you will grow in your identity as a Catholic. OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults) meets Monday nights.

If you are interested in learning more and/or beginning OCIA, please contact the Formation Office ([nicole@stmark-parish.org](mailto:nicole@stmark-parish.org)) and a member of the OCIA Team will contact you.



**Children's LITURGY TRAINING!**  
**JULY 12<sup>TH</sup> ~ 12P**

We're looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help bring our Children's Liturgy to life! No experience? No problem! We'll provide all the training you need.

contact Nicole for more information  
[nicole@stmark-parish.org](mailto:nicole@stmark-parish.org)

The graphic features a purple starburst with the text "Children's LITURGY TRAINING!" and "JULY 12<sup>TH</sup> ~ 12P". Below the starburst is a circular inset photo of children in a church setting. At the bottom, there is an illustration of Jesus holding a heart, surrounded by a line of diverse children. To the right is another inset photo of a church interior.



**Prayers for Our Youth at One Bread, One Cup**  
Please keep our youth participants—Landen, Reina, Evana, Rachael and Gabriel—and their adult chaperones, David and Fe, in your prayers as they travel to St. Meinrad, Indiana. They are attending the *One Bread, One Cup* Liturgical Youth Conference June 25-30. We pray this experience brings deep spiritual growth, opening their hearts to the beauty of prayer, scripture, and holy fellowship. May they return filled with the joy of the Holy Spirit, ready to enrich our parish worship.

# “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)



**Foods of Month July:** 19-30 oz. Plastic Jar Grape Jelly/ Individual Tuna/Chicken Salad Snack Kits



**Baby Layettes:** Forgot to drop off your baby items for our collection? You may still drop them off to the marked bin in the Great Hall



**SCHOOL SUPPLIES:** For the months of July/ August we will be collecting school supplies. Please place donations in the marked bin in Great Hall. Supplies will be distributed to children in need within our parish, our Food Pantry guests, Parkland, Indian Lakes, and Tallwood Elementary, Brandon and Salem Middle Schools, and Green Run High School. Our Vacation Bible School (VBS) participants will also be collecting school supplies.

**SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST:** Pens, Pencils, Spiral Notebooks, Composition Books, Rulers, Glue Sticks, Loose Leaf Paper, 3 Ring Binders (all sizes), Tabbed Dividers, Safety Scissors, Colored Pencils, Highlighters, Pocket Folders, Erasers, Crayons, Tissues, Back Packs. \*This list is not inclusive please feel free to include other items you know that may be needed. Lists are also available on the Justice & Peace table and website.

If you are a parishioner or know of a parishioner who is in need of school supplies, contact [justiceandpeace@stmark-parish.org](mailto:justiceandpeace@stmark-parish.org)



**Respecting Life: Did you Know?** Some incredibly influential people in our world were almost aborted!

Civil Rights activist **Jesse Jackson** was conceived out of statutory rape. The civil rights activist was born in South Carolina to Helen Burns, then a 16-year-old student; pressured to abort him, but she decided to keep the baby. **Vote no November 3rd** stop the extreme abortion amendment, for additional information and resources visit [vacatholic.org/](http://vacatholic.org/)

## Parish Life

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

- Father Eric’s Ordination Anniversary is Wednesday, July 1st. We will be celebrating July 1st AND the 4th of July weekend after every mass. Check the Parish Life bulletin board for details.
- Sunday, July 26th is Catholic Grandparents’ Day. Parish Life is having a fun competition for all Grandparents. Grandparents can record their Number of grandchildren and great-grandchildren On the sign up sheet at the Parish Life table. Top five grandparents with the most grandchildren and great-grandchildren will be published in the bulletin.
- This summer we will have another Multicultural Night to celebrate the new kitchen. The date has yet to be determined. Check the bulletin for more details.
- The Anniversary Booklet on the Parish Life table has been updated. Couples may enter their anniversaries if they have not yet done so.



Thanks to all who came out to support the Monte Carlo Night fundraising event for Knights of Columbus on Saturday, June 20th! The fundraiser was a huge success. The winner of the beautiful quilt pictured above was Connie Coffield. Congrats!



A huge THANK YOU to all who attended the Hope4Life banquet last evening. I am humbled and honored to be part of such an amazing group representing our St. Mark parish. For those who were unable to attend due to illness you were with us spiritually and you are in our prayers. (Mike King did not make our picture as he was serving with the color guard. Thank you, Mike!) Joyce Gridley

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

# Announcements/ Giving/ Contact Information

Praying at all times  
*in the Spirit*  
- EPHESIANS 6:18

HOPE  
Assured in  
God's Promises

PRAYER  
Our Strength,  
Our Connection

PURPOSE  
Empowered by  
the Holy Spirit

St. Mark Catholic Church  
*Women's Retreat*

SEPT 11-12, 2026  
AT FOUNDERS INN  
CONTACT FORMATION OFFICE FOR MORE  
DETAILS 757.479.9897

## Kitchen Renovation Update:

The plastic curtain hiding the kitchen renovation mess disappeared this week! Floor tiles, counter tops have been installed. Needed kitchen appliances will be installed this week. It is not too late to donate to this much needed kitchen renovation project. To donate, contact Parish Bookkeeper, Mary-Rachelle Paguiligan, at [bookkeeper@stmark-parish.org](mailto:bookkeeper@stmark-parish.org) or call the parish office at 757-479-1010. Thanks for you generosity! this project!

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](https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stmarkvb) or donate on the Parish Giving QR code.

For more details or to donate, contact Parish Bookkeeper, Rachelle Paguiligan, at [bookkeeper@stmark-parish.org](mailto:bookkeeper@stmark-parish.org) or call the parish office at 757-749-1010.



Fiscal Year	June 07	Needed Year to Date	Offertory Year to Date	Excess/ (Short)
July-June		New Fiscal Year		
<b>Offertory</b>	<b>\$16,838</b>	<b>\$992,500</b>	<b>\$984,343</b>	<b>(\$8,157)</b>

Family Count: 870

Families using envelopes: 238

Families using online donation: 180

St. MARK  
July 20-24  
9a-12p

RAINFOREST FALLS

VBS is for rising Kindergarteners through rising 5th Grade.

\$40 / 1 Child  
\$70 / 2 Children  
\$100 / 3+ Children

## Catholic Church of St. Mark Religious Formation Program

Lord, Teach us to pray...  
2026 - 2027

**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN** >>>  
TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR EARLY BIRD SPECIAL, JUNE 1-JUNE 30



## PARISH STAFF

Rev. Fr. Eric Asamoah.....[freric@stmark-parish.org](mailto:freric@stmark-parish.org)  
 Rev. Mr. John Kren.....Acting Pastoral Associate  
[deacon\\_john@stmark-parish.org](mailto:deacon_john@stmark-parish.org)  
 Sherry Smeland..... Parish Secretary  
[secretary@stmark-parish.org](mailto:secretary@stmark-parish.org)  
 Mary-Rachelle Paguiligan.....Bookkeeper  
[bookkeeper@stmark-parish.org](mailto:bookkeeper@stmark-parish.org)  
 Mark Smeland.....Music Director  
[music.director@stmark-parish.org](mailto: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)

## Did You Know...

Love Comes in Small Ways?

This week's Gospel reminds us that Jesus comes first in our lives, and that even small acts of love matter to Him, like giving "a cup of cold water" to someone in need!

Saint Thérèse of Lisieux understood this so well! She didn't do big or famous things, but she became a saint by doing small things with great love; helping others, praying, and choosing kindness every day. This week do one small act of kindness this week and offer it to Jesus as a gift of love.



## Kid's Corner