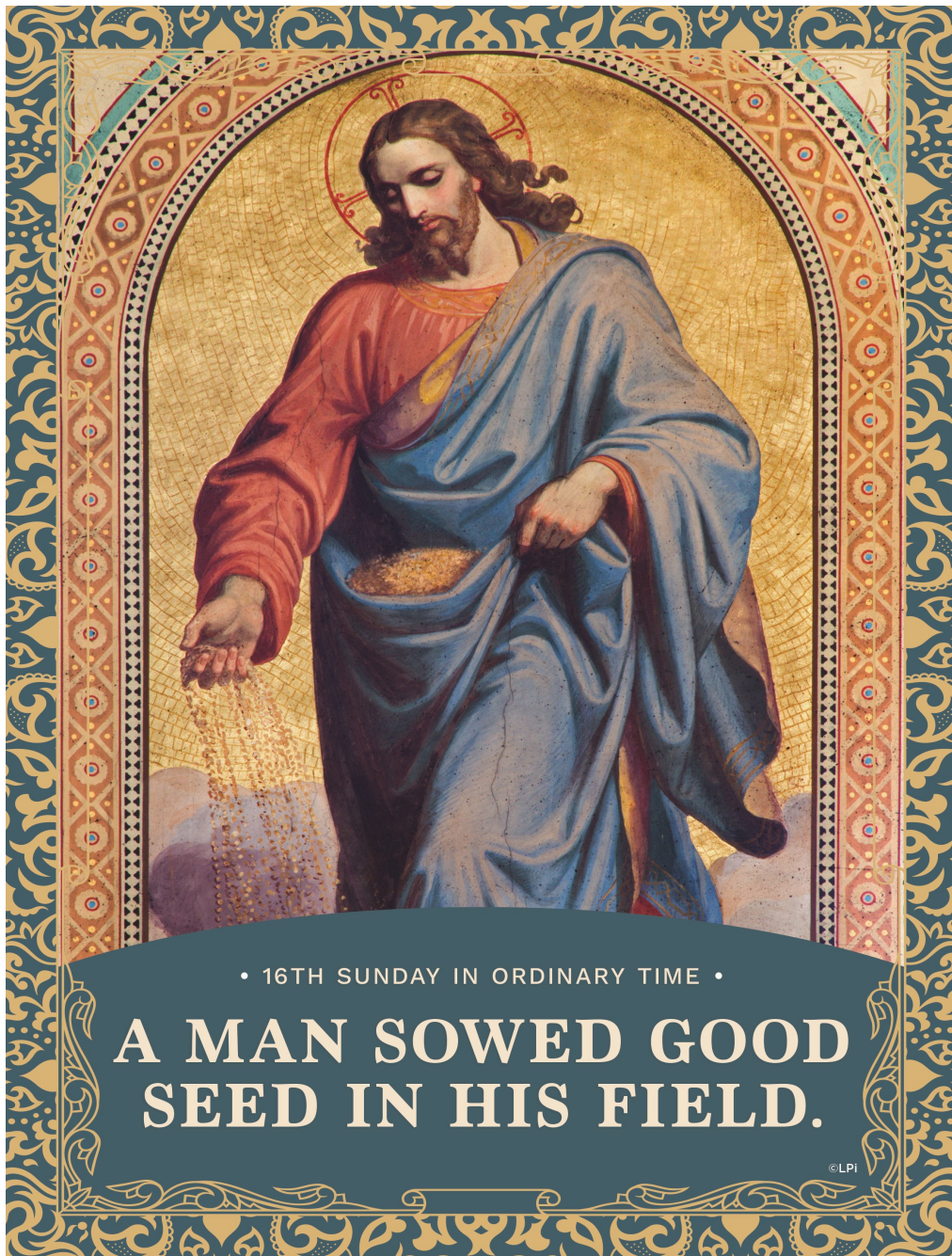




THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF *Saint Mark*

July 19, 2026 • Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



• 16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME •

**A MAN SOWED GOOD
SEED IN HIS FIELD.**

©LPI

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



Bulletin Publication date:
7/19/2026

1505 KEMPSVILLE RD., VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23464

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

Email: secretary@stmark-parish.org



“Rooted in the Word...”

This Week at Saint Mark June 20th - July 26th, 2026

MONDAY

7:15pm OCIA Christian Formation/CR

TUESDAY

8:30am **Daily Mass/** Daily Chapel
9-12:00pm VBS/ Great Hall/ Classrooms/ Sanct.
11:00pm Deanery Meeting/Conference Room
2:00pm Daughters of Fatima Prayer Group/DC

WEDNESDAY

9-12:00pm VBS/ Great Hall/ Classrooms/ Sanct.
6:00pm Our Lady of Perpetual Help Nov/ S.
6:30pm Rosary/ Sanctuary
7:00pm **Daily Mass/** Sanctuary

THURSDAY

6:00am Men of St. Joseph/ Great Hall
8:30am **Daily Mass/** Daily Chapel
9-12:00pm VBS/Great Hall/ Classrooms/ Sanct.
6:00pm PPC Meeting/ Conference Room

FRIDAY

9-12:00pm VBS/ Great Hall/ Classrooms/ Sanct.
6-10:00pm Eastern Vicariate Deacons Quarterly Meeting/ Great Hall

SATURDAY

5:30pm **Mass/** Sanctuary

SUNDAY

8:30am **Mass/** Sanctuary
10:30am **Mass/** Sanctuary with Face Book Livestream

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.

Ministry to the Sick or Homebound: If you know someone who cannot attend Mass or desires a visit or the Sacrament of Anointing, call the Office at 757-479-1010.

Daily Readings

July 20: Monday of the 16th Week in Ord. Time
Micah 6:1-4, 6-8; Matthew 12:38-42

July 21: Tuesday of the 16th Week in Ord. Time
Micah 7:14-15, 18-20; Matthew 12:46-50

July 22: Feast of St. Mary Magdalene
Song of Songs 3:1-4b; John 20:1-2, 11-18

July 23: Thurs. of the 16th Week in Ord. Time
Jeremiah 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13;
Matthew 13:10-17

July 24: Fri. of the 16th Week in Ord. Time
Jeremiah 3:14-17; Matthew 13:18-23

July 25: Feast of St. James, Apostle
2 Corinthians 4:7-15; Matthew 20:20-28
Daniel Walker †, Margaret Leake †

July 26: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
1 Kings 3:5, 7-12; Romans 8:28-30;
Matthew 13:44-52
Dalmacio Abila †, Roger Romero †
Carl Cosby †, Heather Taylor Bess †



Debra Gordon, Hu Jung Dalton, Chandler Brewer, Charles Sweeney, 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, 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:

Marjorie Hobbs

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

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 Sixteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time From Deacon John J. Kren

Last week's Gospel sounds similar to last week. Last week was the first half of Matthew's Gospel and this week is the second. Jesus says "Those with ears ought to hear". Last week the talk was about seeds scattered, falling to be eaten by birds, seeds among rocks, bearing fruit from rich soil. Jesus explained to the apostles that He spoke in parables because the crowd's faith still did not connect miracles with Jesus' teaching. The people were having a problem between, hearing and listening, between just hearing Jesus' words and those who hearing His words, understood and acted on them.

This week, Jesus continues addressing the crowd in Parables from the boat. Though it may sound the same, Jesus' focus is now on those who spread the Word of God. We hear about the Sower, a person planting a mustard seed, a woman kneading bread.

The Sower doing everything right, living the righteous life following the Law – planting good seed in rich soil, yet life is less than perfect. There is evil but the Sower says there will be justice and redemption at the harvest.

The seed as small as a mustard seed, even the smallest seed of the Word of God can grow large and provide life beyond its purpose, attracting birds that will take the Word to the far reaches of the land. A simple smile can change a lot of peoples' day.

Spreading the Word of God is open to everyone: man, woman, and child in the simple daily routines as making bread, preparing a meal, going to school, playing sports. Each person in today's Gospel is purposefully spreading the Word of God. They have faith and trust in the Gifts they have been given.

Our eyes must be open to see, our ears open that we might hear the Word of God. Very often in our living, we choke the Word with weeds, thickets and brambles of our own making. The weeds that grow up and steal and rob us of being less of a disciple. The thorns of our present sinfulness, becoming self-fulfilling prophets of our own downfalls. The nets of technology and the trappings of progress. How can I expect to see and hear the Word of Jesus when my neck is forever bent beneath the yoke of screens, pads, pods, phones.

In the readings of these parables of the seed, the Word comes before the parables of the Sowers. The Word is a call to conversion to the Kingdom of the Father. The Word is the revelation of the Father, the message, the Good News. We are called to live in service to the Gospel. As the hands and feet of Christ living in the world, we must proclaim the Kingdom not only to others but also to renew and convert ourselves. To separate the wheat from the weeds. The challenge is awesome.



Much thanks and appreciation to Seminarian William Yearout for his powerful two-part presentation on "AI, The Church and You' A Review of Pope Leo's First Encyclical" at St. Mark on July 9th and 10th. The information presented addressed how AI enhanced video and audio can easily distort information, becoming misleading and potentially dangerous. Much thanks to all who attended and to those who assisted William in making his presentation a huge success!

WORLD YOUTH DAY
2027

Join thousands of young Catholics from around the world in **Seoul, South Korea**. Contact Fe Guzman in the RF office for details.

LITURGY SCHEDULE: Saturday: 5:30pm/ Sunday at 8:30 & 10:30am/ Tuesday and Thursday at 8:30am/ Wednesday at 7:00pm

"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

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



2026 Migrant Ministry Grant: We are incredibly grateful and blessed to have received a Migrant Ministry Grant of \$1750 from the Richmond Diocese Office of Social Ministry. These grant funds will be used to: help raise awareness via education and visits, purchase clothing/ hygiene/food and other needed items for our Eastern Shore Migrant workers. We also will purchase and supply Catholic Bibles and other religious items to assist in the formation of the Catholic Faith for those who choose. Info: justiceandpeace@stmark-parish.org

 **SCHOOL SUPPLIES:** We continue to collect school supplies through August. Please place donations in the marked bin in Great Hall. **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 contact justiceandpeace@stmark-parish.org



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

Steve Jobs, the founder of Apple Computers, mother was 23 and almost decided to abort Steve. Instead, she chose to give him up for adoption. Paul and Clara Jobs adopted and raised him. Imagine a world without Apple...or if there never was a Steve Jobs.

Regardless of your views on abortion, I think we can agree it would be quite a different world.

Around 1,700 babies are aborted each day in the U.S. (over 600,000 per year).

How many Steve Jobs are aborted each year? **Vote no November 3rd** stop the extreme abortion amendment, for additional information and resources visit vacatholic.org/Amendment.

Parish Life

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

• **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.

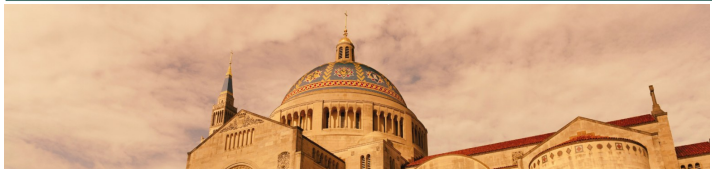


• **Multicultural Night**, Saturday, August 1, after the 5:30 mass - a warm tribute to Seminarian William and the official opening of the new kitchen!!! This is your opportunity to bring your favorite food from the country of your heritage. **Please sign up** at the Parish Life table so we can plan specific country tables. We encourage all attendees to bring items from your country to display, and we hope to have at least 12 different countries are represented! POC is Linda Major at 757-615-0763 or majormail@verizon.net.

• **The Anniversary Booklet** on the Parish Life table has been updated. Couples may enter their anniversaries if they have not yet done so.

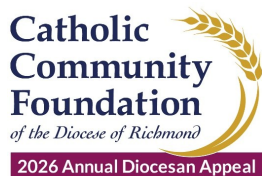
• **Happy Anniversary to the following St. Mark parishioners celebrating a July wedding anniversary this week!**

Bill and Hu Dalton- July 20, 1972 (54 years)
Ben and Dediosa Dimalanta - July 26, 1975 (51yrs)



In honor of the 250th anniversary of our Nation, Bishop Knestout invites the faithful of the Catholic Diocese of Richmond to spend the day at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. On Saturday, October 24, 2026, we will entrust the care of our country to the maternal care of Our Lady, Patroness of the Americas. St. Mark will have a bus reserved for parishioners for a fee.

Announcements/ Giving/ Contact Information



2026 Annual Diocesan Appeal: *Sharing His Love with Others*

A Message from Fr. Eric Asamoah

Did you know that when you support the Annual Diocesan Appeal, it strengthens Catholic communities by...

- Developing lay catechetical leaders by building theological understanding, shaping pastoral skills, and strengthening Catholic identity.
- Providing intercultural opportunities for our ethnic communities such as Masses, retreats, and pilgrimages.
- Defraying the cost of providing ongoing professional, spiritual, and theological formation for our priests.

To learn more about the 21 different ways the Appeal supports our parishes and larger Catholic Church, please visit richmondcatholicfoundation.org/giving/annual-diocesan-appeal/.



Kitchen Renovation Update:

We are almost there! Only a few items are left on the "punch list" of additional minor adjustments and clean-up as inspections of this much needed kitchen renovation project are completed! A little reorganization is next. An official St. Mark "Kitchen Opening" event will be announced soon. Thanks so much to St. Mark parishioners for your wonderful generosity to this project!

Kid's Corner

Fun Saint Fact!

St. Mary Magdalene was one of Jesus' closest followers. She stayed faithful to Him and was the very first person to see the risen Jesus on Easter morning! Jesus asked her to share the joyful news, "**Jesus is alive!**" Because of this, she is known as the "**Apostle to the Apostles.**"

St. Mary Magdalene is the patron saint of people seeking forgiveness and those who faithfully follow Jesus.

Challenge: This week, share the Good News of Jesus with someone—invite a friend to Mass, tell someone Jesus loves them, or pray together as a family.



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, Rachelle Paguiligan, at bookkeeper@stmark-parish.org or call the parish office at 757-749-1010.

Fiscal Year July-June	June 21	Needed Year to Date New Fiscal Year	Offertory Year to Date	Excess/(Short)
Offertory	\$13,438	\$1,027,500	\$1,017,607	(\$9,893)

Family Count: 880

Families using envelopes: 156

Families using online donation: 193

Catholic Church of St. Mark Religious Formation Program

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



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



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-Rachelle Paguiligan.....	Bookkeeper
	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