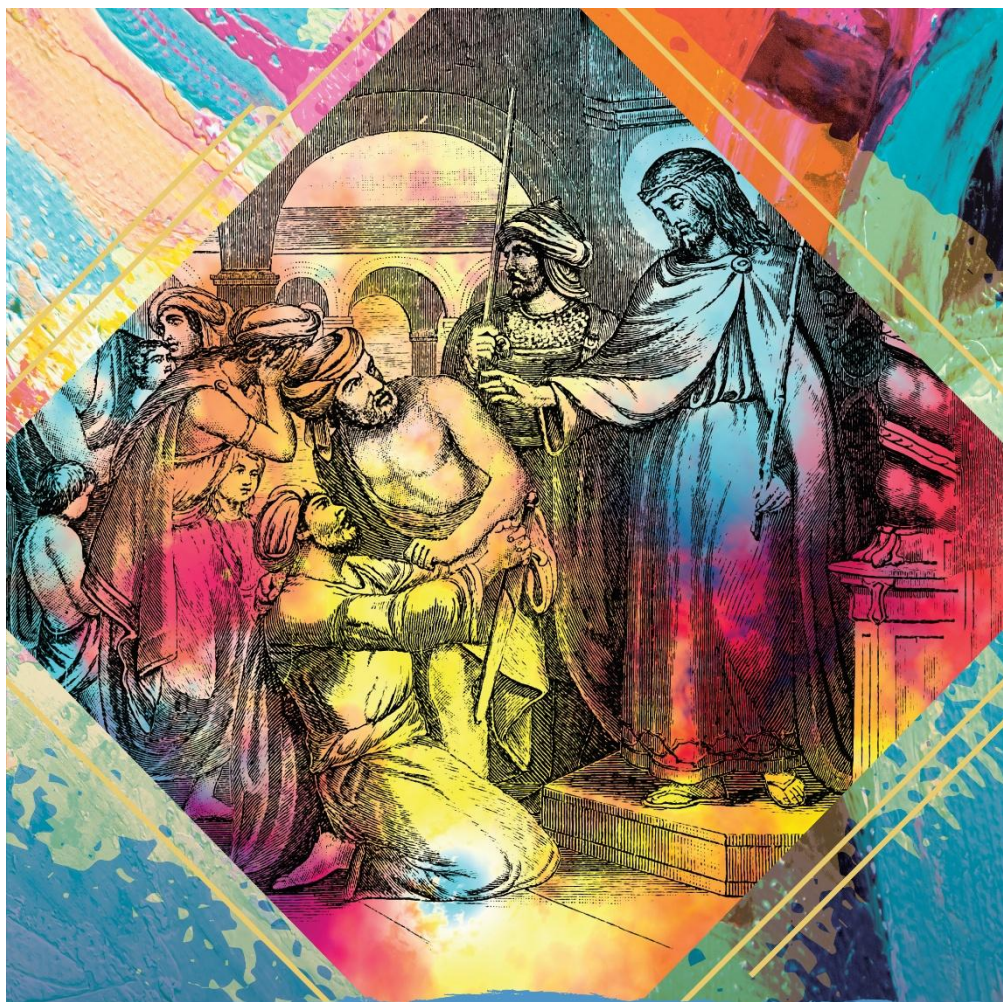




THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF *Saint Mark*

Sept 13, 2026 • Twenty- fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant, as I had pity on you?”
- Mt 18:33-35

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©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.** Sign up in the Commons!
2. **St. Mark Pilgrimage: Rome and Assisi Nov. 9th-18th, 2026!** Pray for those attending this pilgrimage to commemorate the Franciscan Jubilee Year Proclaimed by Pope Leo XIV.



Bulletin Published 9/7/2026

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“Rooted in the Word...”

This Week at Saint Mark

September 14th – September 20th, 2026

MONDAY

7:15pm OCIA Christian Formation /CR

TUESDAY

8:30am **No Liturgy of the Word**

9:30am Adult Bible Study/ Great Hall

2:00pm Daughters of Fatima Prayer Group/DC

6:30pm Seasons of Hope Grief Group/ Lib

WEDNESDAY

10-1:00pm Food Pantry/ Great Hall

10:00am Seasons of Hope/ Library

11:00am Divine Mercy Chaplet/Sanctuary

6:00pm Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena/S

6:30pm Rosary/ Sanctuary

7:00pm **Liturgy of the Word/ Daily Chapel**

THURSDAY

6:00am Men of St. Joseph/ Great Hall

8:30am **Liturgy of the Word/ Daily Chapel**

9-11:00am **PLARN/** Great Hall

7:00pm Adult Bible Study/ Library

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal/ Sanctuary

FRIDAY

7:30-10pm KofC Monthly Meeting/ GH

SATURDAY

8:00AM B&G Meeting/ Great Hall

1:00pm KofC BBQ Sales/ Great Hall

4:00pm Reconciliation/ Daily Chapel

5:30pm **Mass /** Sanctuary

SUNDAY

8:30am **Mass/** Sanctuary

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

12:30-1:30pm Children's Formation/ Great Hall

1:00pm KofC BBQ Sales/ 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.

Daily Readings

Sept. 14: Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Numbers 21:4b-9; Philippians 2:6-11;
John 3:13-17

Sept. 15: Mem. of Our Lady of Sorrows
1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 27-31a;
John 19:25-27

Sept. 16: Mem. of Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and
Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs
1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13; Luke 7:31-35

Sept. 17: Thurs. of the 24th Week in Ord. Time
1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 7:36-50

Sept. 18: Fri. of the 24th Week in Ord. Time
1 Corinthians 15:12-20; Luke 8:1-3

Sept. 19: Sat. of the 24th Week in Ord. Time
1 Corinthians 15:35-37, 42-49;
Luke 8:4-15

Jamie Lopez †, Danley Jones Corrales †,
Benjamin Valmeo †, Maximino Felicilda †

Sept. 20: Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ord. Time
Isaiah 55:6-9; Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a;
Matthew 20:1-16a
Danley J. Corrales †,
Zeny and Leo Manglicmot †,
Benjamin Valmeo †



Christopher Samaniego, Ryan Steele, Jerry Major, Elsie Watkins, Gloria Fernando, Antonio Fernando, Rebecca Probst, 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, Val Kandis

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

Candido Mayuga

Let perpetual light shine upon him; may he rest in peace! Please keep the Mayuga family in your prayers.

“Nourished by the Sacraments”

A Reflection on the Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Matthew 18: 21-35

By Jerome Sabatowich

In the first two chapters of the book of the prophet Amos, we find God choosing not to punish various nations until they commit their fourth offense. God patiently forgives them on the first three occasions, but his wrath flares up after that. Since we cannot expect a human being to be more patient and merciful than God, the rabbis of Jesus' day concluded that no one had an obligation to forgive anyone more than three times.

Peter came out of last week's Gospel looking pretty bad, but in today's reading he tries to repair his tattered image by asking Jesus how many times he should forgive his brother. Being a good Jew, Peter knew he could not be expected to forgive anyone more than three times.

Without waiting for Jesus' response, Peter asks if seven times is enough. He probably was looking for a pat on the back for being merciful, and he undoubtedly wanted Jesus to praise him for his willingness to go beyond what was expected of him. Instead, Jesus goes one step further and tells him to be ready to forgive

seventy times seven times. Jesus did not literally mean we should forgive others 490 times ($70 \times 7 = 490$). The phrase “seventy times seven” was symbolic of a great number, meaning that we should always be ready to forgive. There must be no limit to our mercy.

Notice that the rabbis reasoned that the number of times a person should forgive is dependent on the number of times God forgives us. Since God supposedly forgives three times, humans also should forgive three times. In the parable in today's Gospel, Jesus reverses this logic by teaching that God's forgiveness depends on our willingness to forgive others. If we forgive those who have offended us, God also will forgive us. However, if we hold a grudge or seek revenge, we cannot expect God to show us mercy. We have to forgive before being forgiven.

For Reflection: Is there anyone who has hurt you whom you refuse to forgive? If so, carefully think of the words in Our Father. Can you still say, “and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us” and not forgive that person?



Welcome to St. Mark!

St. Mark is very grateful for the three priests who are substituting while Fr. Eric is on vacation. Who are they? **Very Rev. Johnny Mintah Mensah, V.F.**, (pictured at left) is pastor of Pastor of Saint Francis De Sales, Mathews, Pastor of Church of the Visitation, (Topping, VA). Fr. Johnny will celebrate all Saturday masses at 5:30pm and reconciliation at 4:00pm through Sept. 20th.

Fr. Pete Creed, presided over two Sunday morning masses this month, and will be followed by **Rev. Msgr. Raymond Francis Muench J.C.L.**, celebrant at September Sunday morning masses, September 6th through Sept 20th. Please welcome them at the mass you attend!

Religious Formation

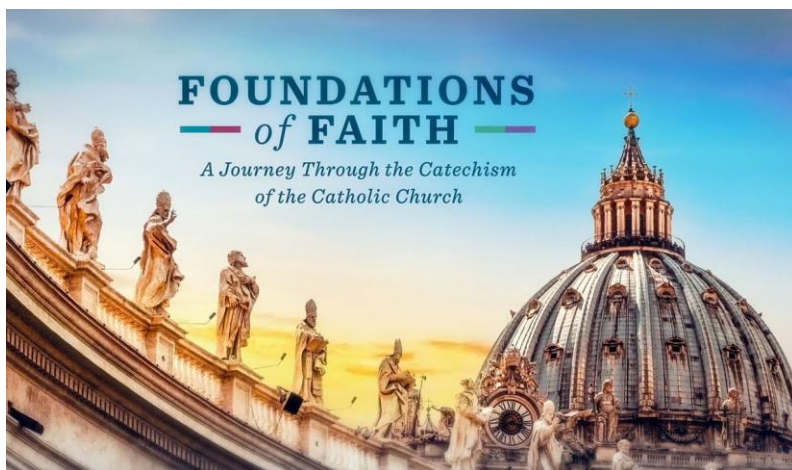
Adult Bible Study is Back!

After a refreshing summer break, **Adult Bible Study is back!** We're excited to gather again as we continue our journey through **Foundations of Faith** and explore the **final chapters** of the series.

Join us as we reflect on Scripture, deepen our understanding of the Catholic faith, and grow together in our relationship with God.

- **Tuesday, September 15 at 9:30 AM**
- **Thursday, September 17 at 7:00 PM**

We hope to see you there—and **bring a friend!**



Religious Formation Continued

Confirmation Orientation & Discernment

For those in **10th, 11th, or 12th grade** who have been baptized and have received the Sacrament of Eucharist but have not yet received the **Sacrament of Confirmation**, our **Orientation and Discernment Session** will be held on **September 24**.

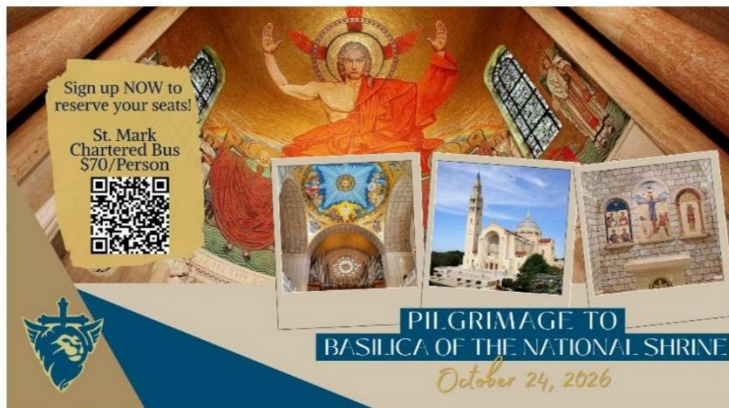
Please **RSVP** so we can plan accordingly and ensure a meaningful experience for both candidates and their parents.

If your candidate did not participate in our **9th-grade formation program last year**, please contact the **RF Office** for additional details and requirements.

We look forward to accompanying our young people as they continue their journey of faith!

“Preparation for Confirmation should aim at leading the Christian toward a more intimate union with Christ and a more lively familiarity with the Holy Spirit – his actions, his gifts, and his biddings – in order to be more capable of assuming the apostolic responsibilities of Christian life. To this end catechesis for Confirmation should strive to awaken a sense of belonging to the Church of Jesus Christ, the universal Church as well as the parish community.” (CCC 1309)

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Diocesan Pilgrimage – October 24, 2026

Join Bishop Knestout and the faithful of the Diocese of Richmond for a special Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., on October 24, 2026, in honor of our nation's 250th anniversary. Together, we will entrust our country to the maternal care of Our Lady, Patroness of the Americas.

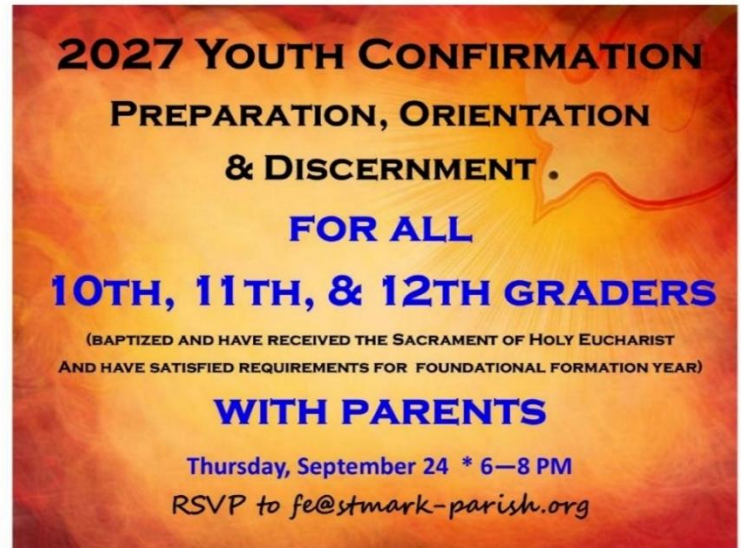
St. Mark Bus: Our parish bus will depart from the St.

Mark parking lot at \$70 per person. Thank you to all who have already registered! Payment is due by September 13 to secure your seat. A few seats remain—please sign up soon!

Diocesan Buses: Transportation is also available through the Diocese for \$10 per person, with buses departing from Catholic High School in Virginia Beach or the Holy Trinity Knights of Columbus Club in Norfolk. Registration is required through the Diocese.

For details and registration: <https://evangelizerichmond.org/events/diocesan-pilgrimage-2/>

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Religious Formation Continued

2026-2027
FORMATION
LAUNCH & LEMONADE
SUNDAY SEPT. 13 | **12-1P**
CHILDRENS & TEEN FORMATION

- MEET AND GREET WITH YOUR CATECHIST(S)
- A "NOT SOUR" WELCOME PARENT MEETING
- LIGHT SNACKS
- LEMONADE FOR ALL!

The Upper Room
CONFIRMED
JUNIOR & SENIOR
FAITH FORMATION

Grow in your faith,
Build community,
Be ready for what's next.

TWICE A MONTH FORMATION NIGHT



Formation Night
at St. Mark



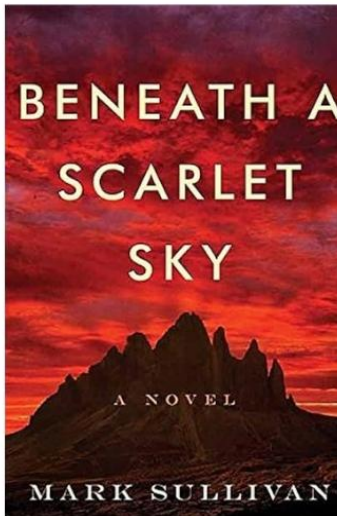
Faith & Fellowship Night
out in the community

Register Now!



ST. MARK WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

October 13th @ 6:30pm ~ Library



Based on a true story, follows Pino Lella, an Italian teen whose life is transformed during WWII. After his home is bombed, he aids Jews in escaping and falls for Anna, a widow. To protect him, his parents make him enlist as a German soldier, but he becomes the personal driver for General Hans Leyers. This role enables him to spy for the Allies while facing the war's horrors, fueled by his love for Anna and hope for a future together.

Contact Kendra at kdimichele76@gmail.com

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It's **EASY** and **FREE** to Register!

1. Scan the QR Code
2. Follow prompts
3. Find our Parish (23464)



WHY DO CATHOLICS DO THAT?

Have you ever wondered why we dip our fingers in holy water when we enter church?

Holy water reminds us of our Baptism. When we dip our fingers in the font and make the Sign of the Cross, we remember that we belong to Jesus and are called to live as His children. It's also a little reminder to leave the world outside for a moment and turn our hearts toward God as we enter His house.

Next time you enter church: Dip your fingers in the holy water, make the Sign of the Cross, and quietly say, "Thank You, Jesus, for making me Your child."



"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 September: 9-15oz. Boxed Instant Mashed Potatoes/ Individual meals: tuna snack kits, pop-top soup/pasta

Winter Items: Now throughout the month of **September** our Justice & Peace Ministry is collecting Men's and Women's: Gloves/Mittens, Winter Hats (knit caps), Scarves and Socks for P.I.N. Ministry, Catholic Worker Breakfast Line, and our Food Pantry guests. ***Please only new or clean/gently used items****

Spiritual Adoption/ MONTH EIGHT: Your spiritually adopted baby is finished developing and is concentrating on gaining weight. Your baby's mother appreciated the prayers you have said. It has not been easy, but they have given her the grace she needed to bring her baby to term, and the life God has planned for her.



Respect Life



SPIRITUAL ADOPTION BIRTH-DAY BRUNCH

Sunday, October 18th
After 10:30 Mass in the Great Hall

Join us as we share food, community and celebrate life

Donation of baby items are gratefully accepted

For more information contact justiceandpeace@stmark-parish.org

 Justice & Peace Ministry along with Knights of Columbus are partnering with the American Red Cross to host a blood drive here at Saint Mark in the Great Hall.

Tuesday, September 15th ~ 11:00am till 5:00pm

Please visit www.RedCrossBlood.org and enter: **CCSM** to schedule your appointment or you may signup at our table in the Commons.

Parish  Life

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

- **Sunday Hospitality** - Our parish is growing and we need more volunteers!!!



Please consider volunteering to help with coffee and donuts after the 8:30 and 10:30 masses. Required training on coffee station use is provided by Kitchen Coordinator Ann Marie Diana seen above. To sign-up, contact Deborah Lawrence-Keene at 757-318-8237 or email her at dlawrence01@gmail.com.

- We look forward to Father Eric's safe return and celebrating his birthday (September 30th) at the **St. Mark Picnic**.
- **St. Mark's Annual Picnic** - Saturday, October 3, 12-2. There will be a face painter, Bounce House and Music and more! Hamburgers, Hot Dogs and drinks will be provided. Bring a side dish to share.
- **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 September wedding anniversary this week!**

Tim and Liza Grimshaw - Sept. 14, 2006 (20 yrs)

Frank and Elaine Green- Sept. 20, 1976 (51 yrs)

Jackie and Renee Bowman - Sept. 22, 1966 (60 yrs)



Protect Virginia This fall, Virginians will vote on the Virginia Right to Reproductive Freedom Amendment (Ballot Question 1). If this extreme amendment passes, it will enshrine virtually unlimited and unregulated abortion – at any time during pregnancy – in the state constitution. In his recent pastoral letter, Bishop Knestout calls upon the people of the diocese to vote "No" on this amendment: "Let us renew our commitment to support women in crisis, to protect the innocent, and to defend the vulnerable. We must choose life." As early voting begins this Friday, Sept. 18, please take time to review the resources and information found at ProtectVirginia2026.org



Parish Office Hours: Sunday-Thursday: 9:00am – 3:00pm

Announcements/ Contact Information

Bookkeeper's Updates ...

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	Aug 30	Needed Year to Date New Fiscal Year	Offtortory Year to Date	Excess/ (Short)
Offtortory	\$17,097	\$170,100	\$159,900	(\$10,200)

Family Count: 903

Families using envelopes: 178

Families using online donation: 180



EUCCHARISTIC PROCESSION

On the Boardwalk

October 18th

Star of the Sea Catholic Church
1404 Pacific Avenue

Come join us for Holy Mass at noon followed by a *Boardwalk Eucharistic Procession* at 1:30pm. The procession will go to 24th Street and return to Church for Benediction.



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



Do you have questions about the permanent diaconate? Learn about the history, the ministry, and the beauty of this vocation presented by the Office of the Permanent Diaconate. Information Sessions will be at St. Mark-Virginia Beach on September 22, the Pastoral Center-Richmond on September 23 and Holy Cross-Lynchburg on September 24. All are at 7 pm. Scan the QR code to register.

St. Mark's Pumpkin Patch

OPENS
Oct. 3rd through Oct. 31st
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
Sign up on iVolunteer
for Set-up and Sales Shifts at:

https://stmarkhelps.ivolunteer.com/pumpkins_2026
Contact Mike King at 646-851-8334 for more details.



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
Michael King.....	Parish Council Chairman
Thomas 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