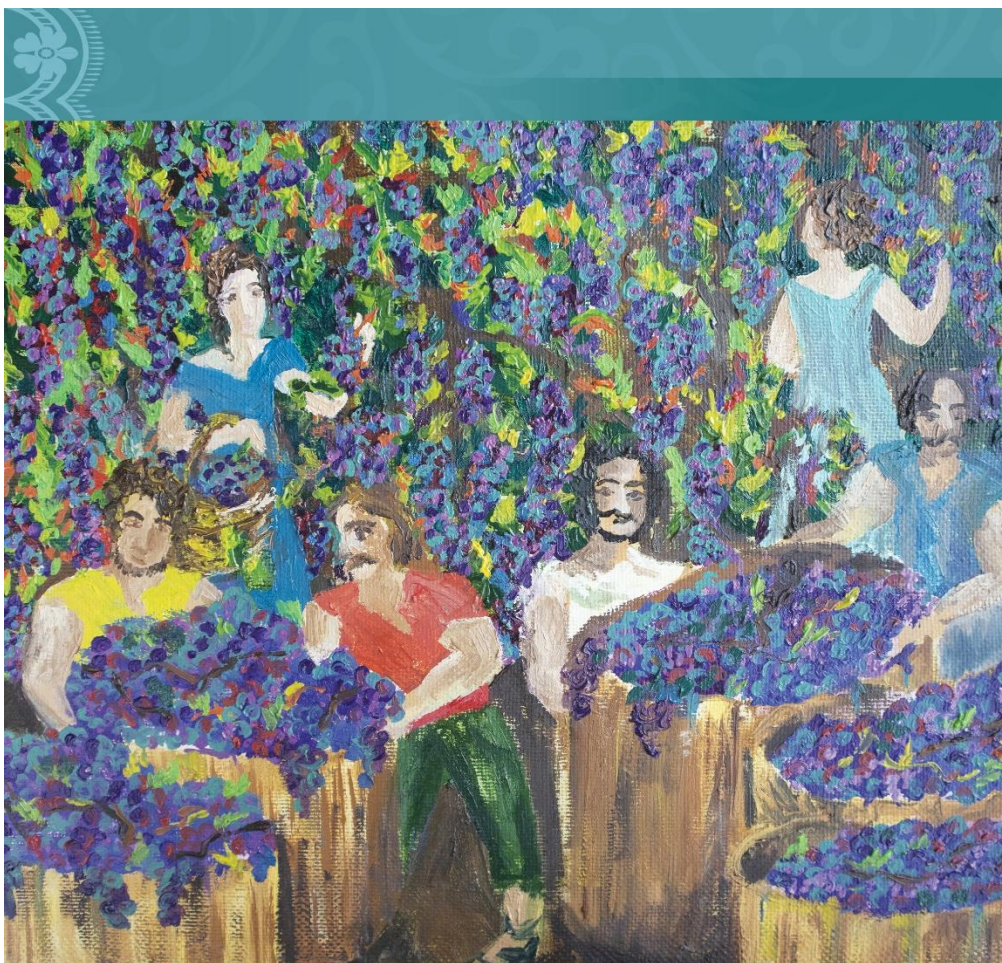




THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF *Saint Mark*

Sept 20, 2026 • Twenty- fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time



25th Sunday

I N O R D I N A R Y T I M E

"Jesus told his disciples this parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out at dawn to hire laborers for his vineyard.'" Matthew 20:1-2

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

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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 9/14/2026

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Email: secretary@stmark-parish.org



“Rooted in the Word...”

This Week at Saint Mark

September 21st – September 27th, 2026

MONDAY

6:30pm Justice and Peace meeting/Library
 7:00pm Diocesan Deacon Meeting/GH
 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
 6-7:00pm Children’s Sacramental Prep Parent Mtg/GH
 6:30pm Seasons of Hope Grief Group/ Lib

WEDNESDAY

10-1:00pm Food Pantry/ Great Hall
 10:00am Seasons of Hope/ Library
 6:00pm Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena/S
 6:30pm Rosary/ Sanctuary
 7:00pm **No Liturgy of the Word**

THURSDAY

6:00am Men of St. Joseph/ Great Hall
 8:30am **Liturgy of the Word/ Daily Chapel**
 9-11:00am **PLARN/** Great Hall
 6-8:00pm Confirmation Prep Orientation/GH
 7:00pm Adult Bible Study/ Library
 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal/ Sanctuary

FRIDAY

6:00pm Movie Night/ GH

SATURDAY

5:30pm **Mass** / Sanctuary
 6:45pm MARKed Gen. Youth Group/GH

SUNDAY

8:30am **Mass/** Sanctuary
 10:30am **Mass/** Sanctuary with Face Book
 12:30-1:30pm Children’s Formation/ Great Hall
 6-8:00pm Teen Formation/ GH

PRAYER REQUESTS: Christopher Samaniego, Ryan Steele, Jerry Major, Elsie Watkins, Gloria Fernando, Antonio Fernando, Hu Jung Dalton, Chandler Brewer, Charles Sweeney, William Ruiz, Leonardo Remias, Ron and Ruth Ferrero, Joseph Perine, Marie Amella, Fr. Dan Klem, Joseph Wargo, Kathy Seddon, Don Coons, Dana Reid, Merla Marcelo, Henrietta Mayr, Creed Clawson, Louisa Morrison, Dare O’Ravitz, Angie Hudson, Caroline Padilla, Gigliola Kamp-Casto, Erlinda Mariado, Lorraine Stambaugh, Susan Colonna, Val Kandis

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

Daily Readings

Sept. 21: Feast of St. Matthew, Apostle and evangelist
 Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13; Matthew 9:9-13
Sept. 22: Tues. of the 25th Week in Ord. Time
 Proverbs 21:1-6, 10-13; Luke 8:19-21
Sept. 23: Mem. of St. Pius of Petrelcina, Priest
 Proverbs 30:5-9; Luke 9:1-6
Sept. 24: Thurs. of the 25th Week in Ord. Time
 Ecclesiastes 1:2-11; Luke 9:7-9
Sept. 25: Fri. of the 25th Week in Ord. Time
 Ecclesiastes 3:1-11; Luke 9:18-22
Sept. 26: Sat. of the 25th Week in Ord. Time
 Ecclesiastes 11:9 - 12:8; Luke 9:43b-45
 William MODOONO †, Danley Corrales †, Benjamin Valmeo †
Sept. 27: Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ord. Time
 Ezekiel 18:25-28; Philippians 2:1-11; Matthew 21:28-32
 Danley J. Corrales †
 Benjamin Valmeo †

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Jackie Bowman**, beloved husband and father. Let perpetual light shine upon him; may he rest in peace! Please keep the Bowman family in your prayers.

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 six months notice before planning a wedding at the Parish. Please do not set date before contacting the Priest.

RECONCILIATION: Celebrated first and third 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.

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 *imagining* Jesus Christ. (Established 1978)

"Nourished by the Sacraments"

A Reflection on the Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Matthew 20: 1-16 By Jerome Sabatowich

Because people in biblical times built walls around their city for protection from hostile invaders, the only way anyone could get in or out was through the city gate. The area just inside the gate was a busy place because that was where the elders met to settle the disputes of the city's residents, traders sold their goods, and men gathered looking for work.

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells a parable about a vineyard owner who went to the city gate at daybreak, midmorning, noon, mid afternoon and late afternoon to hire men to help with the harvest. The younger and stronger workers undoubtedly got jobs first. Those who were still around later in the day were the men who could not work as fast or do as much because of old age or poor health. These men were unemployed simply because no one hired them.

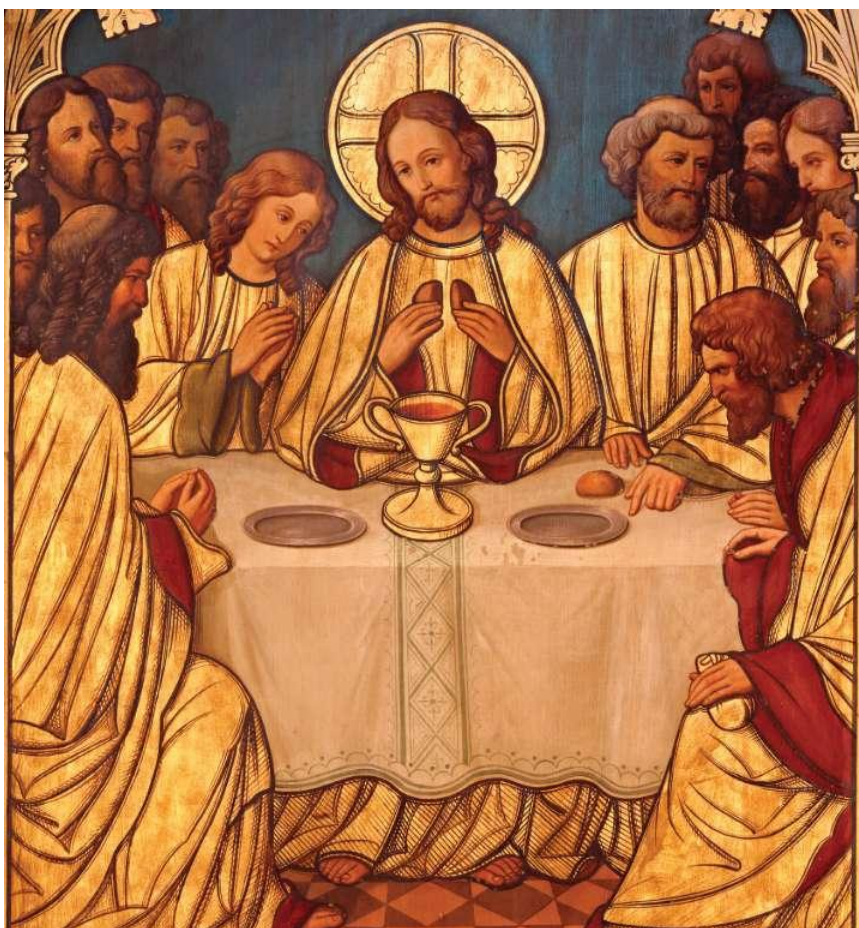
When it was time for the vineyard owner to pay the workers, he gave each of them a full day's wage; those hired first felt cheated because they worked longer and harder than those hired later in the day. Naturally, the

laborers who worked all day thought the vineyard owner should have paid them more than the ones who did less work. We can sympathize with these men, but we should also consider the predicament of the others.

A man needed at least a full day's wage to feed himself and his family for one day. If a man did not find a job, his wife and children would have to go without food, and his neighbors would ridicule him because he wasn't able to provide for his household. Therefore, the owner of the vineyard showed compassion for those he hired last by paying them more than they deserved.

The moral of the parable is clear. The owner of the vineyard is God and we are his workers. Because our God is compassionate, we can expect him to give us our daily bread. He will provide for all people, even for those who are lowly and not wanted. All we need to do is put our trust in him.

For Reflection: Take a few minutes today to thank God for his generosity. Thank him especially for necessities such as a roof over your head, food on your table, or clothes on your back, because many people in the world today do not have these things.



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"Do this
in memory
of me."

- Luke 22:19

Join us in praying
the Novena for
Vocations to the
Priesthood

Sept. 19-27, 2026

See the prayer intentions for
each day of the novena.



Catholic Diocese
OF Richmond

www.richmondvocations.org

Religious Formation

2027 YOUTH CONFIRMATION PREPARATION, ORIENTATION & DISCERNMENT . FOR ALL 10TH, 11TH, & 12TH GRADERS (BAPTIZED AND HAVE RECEIVED THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY EUCHARIST AND HAVE SATISFIED REQUIREMENTS FOR FOUNDATIONAL FORMATION YEAR) WITH PARENTS

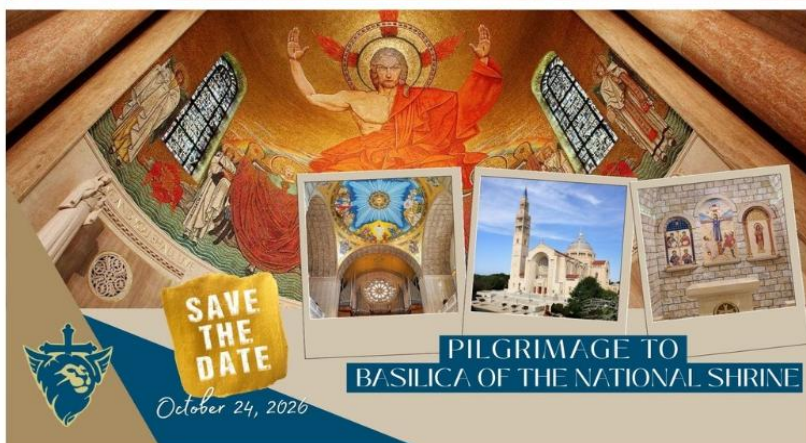
Thursday, September 24 * 6–8 PM
RSVP to fe@stmark-parish.org

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

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.

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



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! **SUBMIT YOUR PAYMENT SOON TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT!**

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 scan the QR



Parish Movie Night

FRIDAY, SEPT 25 * GREAT HALL

SIGN UP IN THE COMMONS

6 PM – ROSARY

6:30 PM – MOVIE STARTS



PG-13 2024 • DRAMA • 2H 25M

AVAILABLE FOR DONATION:
HOTDOG, SALAD, CHIPS, DRINKS, POPCORN

WELCOME BACK!

MARKed Generation YOUTH GROUP

When: **Saturday, Sept 26**

Mass: **5:30 PM**
(Come early!)

Afterwards: **Free**
dinner, kickoff games,
and fellowship

Pickup: **8:00 PM**

ASK
SEEK
KNOCK
Matthew 7:7

Bring your real
questions, bring a friend,
and let's grab some
dinner together.
Who are you bringing
with you?



So grateful for each of these beautiful women who gave their time, trust, and hearts to be part of the St. Mark Women's Retreat. on Sept 11-12 at Founders Inn.

Religious Formation Continued

KIDS CORNER PRAY, HOPE AND DON'T WORRY

We celebrate the Feast of St. Pio of Pietrelcina better known as Padre Pio this week(9/23). Padre Pio was a holy priest who loved Jesus very much and spent his life helping people grow closer to God. He was known for the stigmata, the wounds of Jesus that appeared on his hands, feet, and side.



Padre Pio reminds us that prayer and trust in God can help us through anything. Watch this video to learn more about Padre Pio!



Children's LITURGY



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



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

First Session 9/19!

TWICE A MONTH FORMATION NIGHT



Formation Night
at St. Mark



Faith & Fellowship Night
out in the community

Register Now!



DID YOU KNOW?

THE CHURCH HAS IT'S OWN CALENDAR...

The Church's year is called the Liturgical Year, and it helps us walk through the life of Jesus! We celebrate special seasons like Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter and Ordinary Time.

And here's a fun part: the colors we see at Mass change throughout the year! Look around the church and see if you can spot which color we are celebrating this Sunday.

Can you Name all 4 main liturgical colors?



“Building the Kingdom of God by Imaging Christ”



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****

Protect Virginia 2026- 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.” Please take time to review the resources and information found at ProtectVirginia2026.org.



HOPE 4 LIFE Baby Bottle Drive: October 3rd-18th

How can YOU support a Culture of Life? Participate in Hope 4 Life Baby Bottle Campaign! Pick up your baby bottle beginning **October 3rd** fill it with change, cash, or checks and return by **October 18th**. Your change will enable Hope 4 Life to assist women and families facing crisis-related pregnancies by providing medical and support services, baby and child supplies, and financial help through our pregnancy mobile units.



www.hope4lifeva.com



VENMO



PayPal



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



- Service with a smile. Volunteers are needed to sign up for our Donut Ministry. Come and meet other parishioners, get smiles and laugh at chocolate covered faces. You can sign up for any Mass and your commitment is every 4-6 weeks.

A mandatory training by our own Ann Marie Diana takes about 20 minutes but is crucial to work the coffee pots. Older students who need hours are welcome to train and sign up.

Contact Ann Marie for training times at [757-407-2824](tel:757-407-2824)

- 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!**

Jack and Rose Mackenzie - Sept. 25, 1971 (55 yrs)

Duane and Vikki Ignacio - Sept. 26, 2009 (17 yrs)

- **The Wisdom Seekers** group, for parishioners and friends 50+ years, next monthly potluck luncheon is Friday, October 9th. This luncheon will begin with a chapel Memorial Mass at 12 pm for deceased members followed by the luncheon in the Great Hall. Please bring a dish to share (Last name begins A-M fruit or dessert dish, N-Z protein or salad dish). Please contact Mary Shaw [\(757\)348-4460](tel:757-348-4460) for general group questions.

