

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | SEPTEMBER 07, 2025



THE CHURCH OF SAINT MARK | www.onestrongfamily.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS



LIVING FOR THE DAY OF THE LORD

Magnify your 2025-2026 by starting strong in this "Month of Communion"!

And start *in alignment*. Sew a great September, reap a great October; sew a great October, reap a great November, and so on: this year, as has been emphasized somewhat in sundry ways but especially this week/Sunday, we are aligning, along with our pastor and archbishop, on Living for the Day of the Lord. Lean into this theme, and take it to heart and to prayer, as we strive to receive the "Lord's day" for all it should be, not just in Sunday Mass, but every day and onward as we live for that day upon which the sun will never set!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| THU
11
SEP | <p><i>Emmaus</i> 7:00 PM Church</p> <p>With the return of the academic calendar, 7:00 PM Thursday Parish Holy Hours are also back. Returning with those is <i>Emmaus</i>: candlelit adoration, Confession, and musical accompaniment every second Thursday of the month! Please note that, regrettably <i>Supper at Emmaus</i> will not be returning :(</p> |
| SAT
13
SEP | <p><i>Ignite Hiking Mass</i> 4:00 - 6:00 PM 1515 Keats Ave N, Lake Elmo MN 55042</p> <p>All middle schoolers and high schoolers are invited to Lake Elmo Park Reserve for hiking and an outdoor Mass on Saturday, September 13th from 4-6pm. Note that this mass will count as a vigil Mass for Sunday. RSVP at stmark.xyz/hike</p> |
| SUN
14
SEP | <p><i>Parish Day of Prayer</i> All Day, Adoration after each Mass Church</p> <p>September is the "Month of Communion" around here: make sure the rhythm of your life is punctuated <i>liberally</i> with communing with God! Also, don't just <i>think</i> about prayer, <i>do it! Pray!</i> Not only are we giving special emphasis and encouragement to prayer, but the parish wants to offer additional space for grace <i>for you</i> for renewing a commitment to that one thing that is necessary: sitting/kneeling at the feet of the Lord. After each Mass there'll be a dedicated opportunity for adoration and reflection to seize the new year!</p> <p><i>St. Mark's Ambassador Team Training</i> 12:30 PM Carolyn Hall</p> <p>Be the face of the Gospel: this is a new ministry dedicated to welcoming and evangelizing those who attend our public events. The purpose is simple: to joyfully proclaim Jesus Christ, extend genuine hospitality, and help others encounter His love through our parish community. RSVP for the training at stmark.xyz/ambassador</p> <p><i>Young Adults (ages 18-35) Fall Cookout</i> 5:00 - 7:00 PM Rectory Garden</p> <p>Sweater weather is nigh if not already here: seize every moment you can outdoors and with your cohort (and the clergy), and enjoy good food and prayer, why not?! A great year starts with a great cookout so don't <i>miss</i> out! RSVP at stmark.xyz/cookout</p> |

Fr. David Hottinger PES, Pastor, Two-Time Champion Kickball Team Captain

The Eschatological Adventure, Part 18 “The Lawless One will be Revealed, and the Lord Jesus will Destroy Him by His Appearing”



[Editor's note: For the sake of the elect, the days of this pre-telling of futureables have been shortened. As a result, and to more quickly return to ordinary, boring pastor columns, we are skipping over Chapters 16 (“The Prayer of Jolianna”) and 17 (“Rite of Inauguration, Pt 1: The

Discourse of Shalomon Scuritas”). These may be found in the published version, should the seals of said book ever be broken.]

The chanting of the vast crowd was as deafening as it was prolonged. “PEACE AND SECURITY! PEACE AND SECURITY!” was the repeated cry of the frenzied assembly. It was, in fact, merely the translation of Shalomon Scuritas’ name. It was also the thesis of his impassioned speech. His address to these representatives of the nations had exuded eloquence and his characteristic brand of “humble charm,” but his words also conveyed an energetic confidence that both surprised and captivated. That energy now rippled through the spellbound masses that stood before him in St. Peter’s Square. The gigantic Thought-Mirror above the platform witnessed a remarkable harmony of judgments among those in attendance, coalescing in reactions such as “He’s right about everything he says,” and “His words have an authority that’s not of this world!” and “Everything will be possible with him as our head.”

Shalomon drank in the moment with wicked delight. He scanned the crowd approvingly, hands pulsating in the ancient Roman *orans* position, as if he were conducting the people’s energy from the platform. Yes, the time to deflect their adulation had passed, he thought to himself behind the practiced smile. The hour had come to unite these “sheep without a shepherd” under the iron rod of one who appreciated the inescapably *religious* dimension of human loyalty. One capable of harnessing man’s need for an object of its faith, hope, and love. Shalomon was now that object. A thought arose in his consciousness: *all the failures and misfires of humanity’s tragic history I, in this*

moment, have redeemed.

Then, as if choreographed, Shalomon reduced the crowd to silence with a slow descending gesture of his hand. His sharp-yet-soothing voice again filled the square. “The time has come, my friends, for the representatives of our globe’s venerable religious traditions to cast their vote for unity. For, as you have demanded, *peace and security*. Oh, if you think you have witnessed signs and wonders leading up to this moment, I promise you, just wait! Together, we shall make all things new! Together, we shall build a ladder to the heavens, and there we shall take our rightful place! Together, we shall conquer suffering. *And the last enemy we shall conquer, my friends, is death itself. You know the way! I am that way for you.* Join me, then! Until now, by the many diverse ways represented here, you have separately strived for righteousness, deliverance, salvation, nirvana. Those separate ways have failed you. Now, together, let me show you the path to life!”

On cue, and under another hail of applause and cheers, the representatives arose. Jolianna arose with them. Each held in his or her hand a pouch of incense. As each delegation in turn approached the “sacred fire” at the center of the platform, their members were to empty the incense into the fire as one of their number gave voice to their tradition’s approval, just as they had been instructed. The fire had been so engineered that in the impressive plume of smoke that resulted, symbols from that delegation’s religious tradition appeared vividly projected, the images thereof expanding upwards and becoming assimilated into the harmonious whole that their “votes” were producing. What the spokespersons had not been told was that the audio of their voices was also being engineered to ensure that only what was contained in the script sounded through the speakers in the square. Scuritas would leave nothing to chance or human error this time.

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OUR MISSION IS TO LIVE AND SHARE CHRIST'S CALL TO HOLINESS

New Saints Today!

Or at least declared as such for the faithful for devotion, imitation, and veneration, Holy Mother Church is anticipated to canonize Blesseds Pier Giorgio Frassati and Carlo Acutis (*the first millennial saint!*) as saints! Especially noteworthy given that both fellows died young and present a particular witness for the youth, the sisters will be sharing prayer cards for each saint! Get yours, pray, and be holy!

Saints (soon) Pier Giorgio Frassati and Carlo Acutis pray for us!

Abria Ultrasound Volunteering

Ladies, if you're with child (5 through 20 weeks), consider helping Abria out! Presently they are training nurses in to perform ultrasounds and pregnant women are needed as volunteers so the nurses can practice scanning. Call to learn more at 651-695-0111 or email info@abria.org; you're helping advance the mission of the dignity of life.

Choir Rehearsals (Sep 10)

Choir rehearsals will begin Wednesday, September 10 at 7 PM in the organ loft. Anyone interested in joining the choir, please see Kathy Handford (khandford@onestrongfamily.org) after one of the masses or send her an email.

CCW Deanery Council (Sep 18*)

All women of the parish are invited to the 1st Quarterly Meeting of the St. Paul Deanery Council of Catholic Women to be held at Our Lady of Peace Home (2076 St. Anthony Ave.) on Thursday, September 18. Registration 4 PM, Mass 4:30 followed by a light dinner, business meeting and program (hospice care and estate planning). St. Mark's CCW will cover the cost for the evening. Phone reservations to Nancy at 651-644-2260 by Monday, September 15.

St. Mark's Men's Night (Sep 20)

Dinner, rosaries, and bonfires are at various levels on the hierarchy of needs, but, especially for men of the Church, a combination of the three can bolster strength for months. As such, men of the parish are invited to a men's night, featuring smoked brisket and burgers and various sides, plus the aforementioned, **meeting in the rectory garden, from 5:00 - 9:00 PM on September 20th**. No cost to attend (suggested \$10 donation/person). RSVPs highly encouraged at stmark.xyz/night

Male Catechist Needed

And, hey, if you're in that demo that is apropos for the men's night, word is you're also the demo for a critical need: **a male catechist is needed for Family Faith Formation for this year!** Help a [PES] sister out by stepping in the gap; drop them a line at pes.sisters@onestrongfamily.org

Parish Directories (~Sep 15)

It's coming, and, at least as per the official guidance from the printer, it's "soon:" **the parish directory. ETA next week!**

Rummage Sale (Sep 25-28)

The Famous CCW Rummage Sale is fast approaching! Mark your calendars for the "sneak peek" on Thursday, September 25 from 5:00 - 7:00 PM with a \$5 donation, Friday and Saturday, September 27-28 from 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM and Sunday, September 29th from 9:00 - 11:00 AM. Also consider donating your gently used clothing, household items, books and kids' stuff. Items can be dropped off Monday - Wednesday, September 22-24 from 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM. Want to volunteer? Help is needed during drop off days as well as sale days. It's a fun way to spend some time with your fellow parishioners and neighbors! Sign up here: stmark.xyz/help

MASS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions for week of **SEPTEMBER 07, 2025**

7 AM

M: ---

T: **Eileen Powell +**

W: **Margaret Farrell +**

Tr: **Anastasia Walsh**

F: **Bill & Amanda Ryan**

S*: **Anastasia Walsh (8 AM); Andrew & Alyson Heckel (5:00 PM)**

10 AM

Richard Shrake

Antonia Slattery

Lawrence Zielke +

Kathleen Walsh + (Funeral)

BECOME CATHOLIC

Are you interested in learning more about becoming Catholic? Or do you know someone who is? Our Christian Initiation Ministry provides an introduction to Catholic faith and life for adults who are not baptized, baptized in another faith, or Catholics seeking to receive Eucharist or Confirmation. The program cycle begins in the fall, but newcomers should reach out any time! To find out more, contact ocia@onestrongfamily.org. Or sign up at stmark.xyz/cim

WE ALSO USE EMAIL

THE BULLETIN IS ONE OF THE MAINSTAYS for Catholic parish communications, but, alas, it's still a limited medium! As such, we also have a weekly newsletter, which, in addition to helping remind you of goings-on, also features vanguard news from the parish, or items not featured in the bulletin! Subscribe to it!



ST. MARK'S PRESCHOOL

ST. MARK'S PRESCHOOL offers full-day and half-day programs, up to five days a week. **Enrollment for the upcoming school year is open now!** Visit the pre-school website, onestrongfamily.org/preschool, or contact Addie Smith, our Preschool Director at:

preschool@onestrongfamily.org
651-644-5030

ADORATION



Set the tone for your year this fall by making a weekly commitment and take your prayers and self reflection directly to the Lord... Like in His presence.... With him in the room... like really directly to Him! The graces you'll see in your physical life will astound

you.

A simple click and you can create an account (stmark.weadorehim.com) and choose from over 100 times throughout the week.



The Church of St. Mark
*Our mission is to live and share
Christ's call to holiness.*
Learn more: onestrongfamily.org/mission

Know someone in need of prayers? Email your request to prayers@onestrongfamily.org and we'll be sure to pray for you!

SUPPORT ST. MARK'S

Thank you for your generosity! To donate, visit onestrongfamily.org/give-help. For questions, contact parishcenter@onestrongfamily.org



ONE STRONG FAMILY UNITED IN CHRIST



A Night of
SWING

SATURDAY,
OCT. 11

ST. MARK'S GYM
1950 Marshall Ave. Saint Paul

7 PM. SWING LESSONS
7:30-10 PM. LIVE MUSIC

\$10 ADMISSION AT THE DOOR
(\$8 with student ID)

BEER AND WINE AVAILABLE
FOR PURCHASE.

Featuring
THE NORTHSTAR BIG BAND

IGNITE 2025-2026

For Middle School and High School



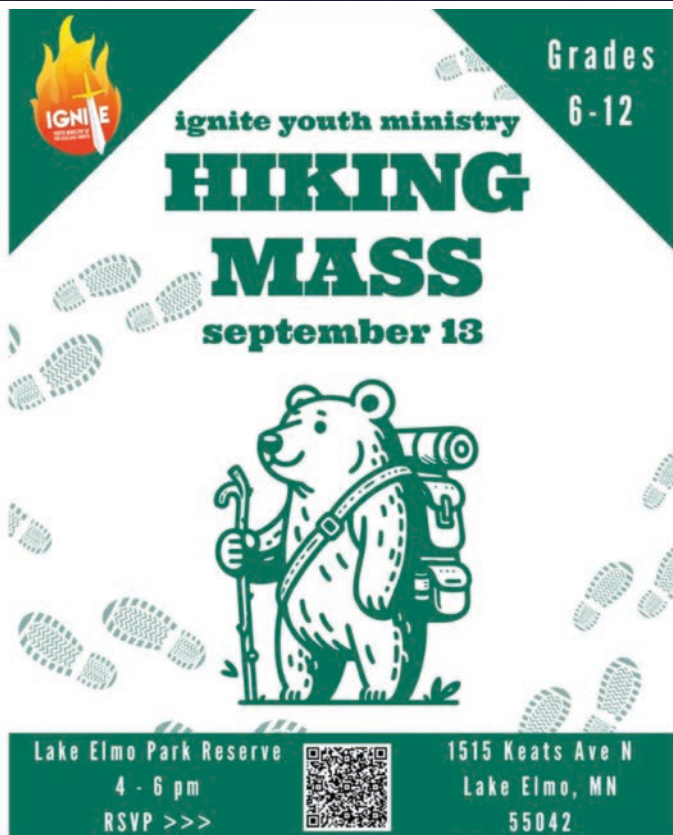
"Young people, **do not be afraid to be holy!**" Fly high, be among those whose goals are worthy of sons and daughters of God. **Glorify God in your lives!**

-St. John Paul II

SAVE THE DATE!

**GRADES
6TH-8TH**
6:15-7:30PM
1st and 3rd
Wednesday

**GRADES
9TH-12TH**
6:30-8:00PM
2nd and 4th
Wednesday



ignite youth ministry

**HIKING
MASS**

september 13

Grades
6-12

Lake Elmo Park Reserve
4 - 6 pm
RSVP >>>

1515 Keats Ave N
Lake Elmo, MN
55042

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
ignite@onestrongfamily.org




Young Adults

Fall Cookout

Sunday
Sept 14
5pm-7pm

RSVP!

the Saint Mark
Rectory Garden

SMYA_MN SAINTMARKYA
YOUNGADULTS@ONESTRONGFAMILY.ORG

Quarterly Meeting of the St. Joseph Business Guild

5:00 PM | Tuesday, September 23rd

**THINKING WITH THE MIND OF
SAINT
JOSEPH**

Open to the general public!
Cost: \$15; Clergy & Students are free

Holy Family Catholic Church,
5900 W Lake St., Mpls, MN

RSVP at
sjbusinessguild.com

STAFF

Clergy:

Fr. David Hottinger, PES.....Pastor
 frdavid@onestrongfamily.org

Fr. Patrick Evans, PES.....Associate Pastor
 frpatrick@onestrongfamily.org

Parish Staff:

Randy Lehn..... Parish Business Manager
 Br. José Ignacio Rodriguez.....Master of Ceremonies
 Br. Evan Steeves.....Ignite Youth Ministry
 Srs. Alejandra Escobar and
 Daniela Ormeno, PES.....Faith Formation & Ignite
 Youth Ministry

Annamarie Adkins.....Youth Ministry Program Assistant
 Larry Leif.....Head of Maintenance
 Kristen Grant.....Director of Discipleship
 Kathrine Handford.....Director of Music and Organist
 Audrey Koval.....Pastoral Associate
 Gina Brennan.....Administrative Assistant
 Kevin Earns.....Director of Communications

Parish Contact

2001 Dayton Ave, St. Paul, MN 55104
 Phone.....(651) 645-5717
 Fax(651) 644-0011
 Pastoral emergency line.....(651) 354-9411
 parishcenter@onestrongfamily.org

Parish Trustees: Kip Chaffee, Andrew Nowak

Parish Pastoral Council: Michael Duchesne, Chair

Parish Finance Committee: John Wehrly, Chair

Saint Mark's Catholic Preschool

Addie Smith, Director
 651-644-5030
 preschool@onestrongfamily.org

CELEBRATIONS

Mass:

Saturday Evening Mass: 5 PM
 Sunday Mass: 9 AM and 11 AM

Daily Mass:

Monday-Friday: 10 AM; Tuesday-Friday: 7 AM
 Saturday: 8 AM

Confession:

Tuesday-Friday: 9:30 AM;
 Saturday: 3:30-4:30 PM;
 Sunday: 8:30-9 AM, 10:30-11 AM

Rosary: The Rosary is prayed after all daily Masses.

Liturgy of the Hours:

Tuesday-Friday: 6:30 PM (Vespers); Saturday: 7:30 AM (Lauds)

SACRAMENTS

Detailed information about Sacraments and Sacramental preparation can be found at onestrongfamily.org/sacraments or by contacting the Parish Center.

BAPTISMS are celebrated on the 3rd Saturday of every month at 10 AM (exceptions for holidays or major parish events). You must register for Baptism at least one month before your desired date. If this is your first child being baptized in the Catholic Church a Baptism preparation class is needed at least two months before the Baptism takes place.

SACRAMENTAL MARRIAGE preparation must begin at least six months prior to your wedding date. Weddings are most often celebrated on Saturdays at 2 PM.

IF YOU KNOW OF A CATHOLIC WHO IS HOMEBOUND and would like to receive weekly Communion or have their confession heard, please contact the Parish Center to learn more about our Homebound Ministry.

RECEIVING THE EUCHARIST: All are welcome to join us in worship at the Church of Saint Mark. Nevertheless, because the Holy Eucharist is the real Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, the reception of Holy Communion is reserved to those Catholics who are in full moral and doctrinal communion with the Catholic Church, are not conscious of any grave unconfessed sin, and who have kept the Eucharistic fast of one hour.

PRO ECCLESIA SANCTA



The Church of Saint Mark is served by the priests, brothers, and sisters of Pro Ecclesia Sancta, which is an institute of consecrated life founded in Lima, Peru in 1992, whose members dedicate themselves to living and promoting the universal call to holiness in the Church. Their motto is *ad maximam trinitatis gloriam*. Everything “for the greatest glory of the Holy Trinity.”

CONNECT



/ChurchofSaintMark



@churchofsaintmark

THE ESCHATOLOGICAL ADVENTURE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Delegation after delegation expressed their approval of Scuritas' "universal fatherhood." The Catholic delegation's turn was fast approaching. Jolianna's whole being trembled. The wrongfulness of everything she had witnessed that day had had a sickening effect on her soul. And yet it was all unfolding as if it had been preordained long ago. She knew she could not go along with what was expected of her. She would rather die. She considered simply retaining the cursed grains of incense in her hand, seeing if anyone noticed. But as she beheld the tremendous crowd looking eagerly on, her eyes were drawn upwards to the statues of the apostles and saints that wreathed the colonnade that surrounded the square. The words of the Scripture came whispering to her soul, "*Surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses...*"

Just as the other members of her delegation began to throw their grains into the fire, holy indignation flared up in Jolianna's heart. The Word came to her again. "*Do not be afraid, but speak and do not be silent!*" A great boldness surged in her soul. Overcoming her fear, she assented to the interior movement: "*Your servant, Lord, your maidservant am I. You have broken my bonds.*" With that, the maiden rushed to the microphone stand, pushing aside the astonished Dean of Cardinals just before he could deliver a rather unorthodox "habemus papam."

The words streamed from Jolianna's soul as she violently flung the pouch incense she held to the floor: "*YOU MUST NOT DO THIS!*" she cried. For a moment, all were taken aback. Her voice rang with a humanity and an earnestness that made an arresting contrast with the A.I.-controlled speeches that had preceded. Scuritas himself marvelled, wondering how it was that her words were being amplified unmodified by the sound system, which had evidently not been prepared for the voice of this *intransigent* whom he ruefully recognized. The moment of shock lasted long enough for Jolianna to complete her argument. "*This man has deceived you with his sorcery. He has presented himself to you as a god. But he shall die as all men do, and fall as every prince before him. Do not be deceived! Worship the true God, who made the Heavens and the earth and all they contain; HIM ALONE!*"

As the echo of her words faded in the stillness that followed them, one could feel the atmosphere turn from shocked bewilderment to rabid outrage. The eyes of the assembly fell upon her as a body, as well as the hands of those who stood nearest to her. The Thought-Mirror reflected the unanimity of reactions: "*AWAY WITH HER! THROW THIS ONE INTO THE FIRE!*" After registering the subtlest of nods from the onlooking Scruitas, the violent hands who held Jolianna now pitched her into the very place she had denied the grains of incense she had scattered across the platform floor.

Great cheers rose along with the flames. The whole square filled again with an awful din. Moments later, however, the cheering turned into a gasp when the figure of Jolianna stood up in the midst of the flames, for a moment appearing as unscathed. Her pure, powerful voice once again was heard, this time unaided by any set of speakers, and yet somehow sounding all the more clearly through the vast assembly. She pointed forcefully to the heavens, her eyes fixed on some figure that no one else could yet see. Yet as she spoke, a very different Image from those that had been projected on the smoke was seen emerging from the clouds above, looming large like lightning that floods the sky, and filling the onlooking eyes with a dawning terror that they had never before known.

This is what Jolianna said before collapsing back into the blaze: "*Behold, he comes on the clouds! The Alpha and the Omega, who is and who was and who is come once again! Now every eye will see him, every one who pierced him; and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen. Come, Lord... JESUS?*"