

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT | APRIL 06, 2025



THE CHURCH OF SAINT MARK | www.onestrongfamily.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Contained herein (page 4) is the **Triduum and Easter Sunday Schedule**. But make particular note that there will be **only ONE Easter Sunday Mass**, at 10:00 AM! We likely can't stress that enough, so plan accordingly! Also, the parish center will be closed Holy Thursday through Easter Monday.

All St. Mark's women are invited to the 4th Quarterly Meeting of the St. Paul Deanery Council of Catholic Women on Thursday, April 10, at The Church of St. Odilia, 3495 Victoria St. N., Shoreview. Registration 4:15 pm, Mass 5 pm. Light dinner, business meeting and program. Program: The Listening House with Molly Jalma. There will be a bake sale fundraiser. St. Mark's CCW will cover the cost for all St. Mark's women attending. Phone reservations by Monday, April 7 to Nancy at 651-644-2260.

Moving to or from the parish neighborhood/territory! Make sure you drop us a line at onestrongfamily.org/house so we can match house sellers with house finders!

And there's now a bonus way to live closer to the parish, and you couldn't live any closer [to the parish center] unless you were in it (in which case, surprise, you're a seminarian!)! The yellow house between the Parish Center and parking lot has been purchased by a group of parishioners who are currently holding it for the benefit of St. Mark's. The 3 BR, 2 bath house is now vacant and available for rent. The owners would love to have it occupied by members or friends of the parish. Those interested should email Pat at 1970DaytonLLC@gmail.com

Nativity's Boy Scout Troop 67 is planning its Annual Bike Sale. Do you have a used bike to donate? The Scouts will fix them up (if needed) and sell at their Annual Bike Sale Saturday, May 10, 2025 from 9:00am - noon in the Nativity School gym. All proceeds go directly to Scouts to support camping and community service activities. Donations appreciated now through the first week of May. Contact nativitybikesale@gmail.com to arrange a time to drop off, or have someone come to pick up, your donated bike(s).

Pray for all those receiving Confirmation (or who received Confirmation, depending upon when you read this) at the Cathedral this Sunday (April 06)!

Plan ahead: there is much to share but probably more than you can bear. April 25th is the liturgical feast of St. Mark and this year we've got "Roasts and Feasts;" April 25th will be a hog roast and community dinner, and May 2nd we will have the *transferred* observance of St. Mark's Feast, commemorated with a special evening Mass!

UPCOMING EVENTS

**MON
07
APR**

40 Days for Life Prayer Vigil Day | An hour between 7:00 AM - 6:00 PM | 671 Vandalia St.

Abortion is terrible. Pray that it ends. In the fading hours of Lent, can you spare an hour to keep vigil and pray, along with our friends at Nativity, as part of the 40 Days for Life campaign. This Monday is our second of two days keeping vigil during the campaign. Sign up at stmark.xyz/40Q1

**FRI
11
APR**

Annual Lenten Fish Fry & Stations of the Cross | 5:00 - 7:00 PM; 7:00 - 8:00 PM | Cafeteria; Church

It's here and it'll probably be *at least* slightly superb (you may have to take on an extra penance on Friday to keep the spirit of the season): the Fish Fry! There's a non-zero chance, too, that they still need volunteers: check out stmark.xyz/fryer And the dinner itself will be keeping with tradition: see page 6 of this bulletin for details! Don't neglect to share the fry with friends (*and enemies?*), via social media or "real life."

But wait, there's more. Find the Parish calendar on our website: onestrongfamily.org/events.



From the Heart of the Shepherd

Fr. David Hottinger PES, Pastor

Parish School of Prayer, Pt 17: Dryness



It's almost time to "go up" with Our Lord to Jerusalem, exchanging the Lenten desert for the drama of a Holy City turned all upside down by the events of Passion Week. Before leaving the wilderness, however, I want to reflect on dryness in prayer.

You've experienced it. We try to pray, but nothing comes. No pious thoughts. No holy affections. We open our hearts but, like a dry faucet, no words come forth. We read page after page, but nothing seems to move us. Instead of awareness of God, we are tangled in distractions, lost in rabbit-hole reveries, falling again and again into rehearsed monologues or imagined interactions. Or simply twiddling our thumbs, waiting for the next thing.

True, we *might* not be praying at all. Dryness can be the result of our own failures. Perhaps we never took the time to recollect ourselves by setting all things aside to turn to the Lord. Or, our difficulties could result from unresolved anxieties or disordered attachments of the heart, which keep us earth-bound because we are unwilling to surrender them to God. Perhaps deep down we actually *prefer* to be occupied with our worries, fantasies, or plans rather than open ourselves to the demands of the living God. Finally, dryness could also be due to some physical indisposition: illness, sleepiness, a bad mood. In all these cases, the solution means addressing the underlying cause. Surrender your distractions, uncertain hopes, and anxieties to God. Quiet your mind and body. Take care of your body's legitimate needs or show it who's boss in a more resolute way.

It could be, too, that difficulties in prayer are the result of our spiritual condition. Examine your conscience: have I offended God? If so, the pathway back to God must pass through the prayer of repentance and reconciliation.

But sometimes dryness is actually the result of *progress* in prayer. We are moving deeper into the desert, as it were, though the oasis is still a long way away. God tests His lovers by withdrawing His consolations and any sensible effect of His grace, that they might have the opportunity to love Him alone, prove their fidelity, and exercise the kind of hope that does not yet see, feel or possess (cf. Rom 8:24). We must show ourselves willing to "wait on His word" (cf. Ps 130:5). And that means trusting and going without. Recognizing that there is little we can do; God must come and act in us, in His time. Seen in this way, dry prayer is a necessary stage. It's the "narrow door" through which we must pass, leaving behind all of our reliance on self and everything other than God alone.

St. John of the Cross loved to recall that while we are occupied with created things, we have not yet arrived at God. Thoughts, desires, feelings—however holy—cannot bridge the gap. These are but the shell, or the on-ramp to a prayer that touches God (without feeling anything!). For John, pure prayer is the gaze of trusting love that simply believes God is there, waits for Him to act, and loves above all creatures.

"Blessed are the poor in spirit!" Blessed are those who are poor in lofty ideas or sensible affections, who nevertheless look to the Lord and wait for the coming of His Kingdom. They have begun to pray. "Like the eyes of a maid on the hand of her mistress," such souls fix their eyes on the Lord, until He show them His favor (cf. Ps 123:2-3). Like a parched land, they stretch out their hands to the Lord (cf. Ps 143:6), who seems separated from them by an impenetrable cloud, which they are unable to pierce by thought or petition. Persevering, they will be purified. God, who "turns a desert into pools of water and a dry land into flowing springs" (Ps 107:35), will lead them deeper, to tap into the living water flowing beneath the surface of things, and quench their thirst with a peace that surpasses all feelings and understanding (Phil 4:7).

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

HOLY TRIDUUM

& EASTER SUNDAY

HOLY THURSDAY (APR 17)

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper @ 7:00 PM
Altar of Repose after Mass until Midnight

GOOD FRIDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION (APR 18)

Stations of the Cross & Confessions @ 3:00 PM
Liturgy @ 7:00 - 8:30 PM

HOLY SATURDAY (APR 19)

Easter Vigil Mass @ 9:00 PM

EASTER SUNDAY (APR 20)

ONE COMBINED MASS @ 10:00 AM



April 24th - 27th

ST. MARK'S SPRING
RUMMAGE
SALE

CHURCH OF ST MARK
2001 Dayton Avenue,
St. Paul, MN 55104
(@ the corner of Dayton & Moore)

94

DAYTON AVE

MOORE ST

UST

Fri. - Sat., 9-4 PM | Sun. 9 AM-11 AM
Sneak Peek Thursday (Apr 24) 5-7 PM; \$5 admission

Donate Easter Flowers

As at Christmas, we wish to beautify the sanctuary for Easter! Offer donations towards Easter flowers in memorial of a loved one; names of the remembered to be featured in the bulletin! Look for envelopes to be made available in the church, or you can otherwise give at stmark.xyz/give (select Church Flowers as Fund, and Easter Flowers as Sub Fund)! An Easter lily is ~\$10! Questions? Email parishcenter@onestrongfamily.org

Don't neglect Masses!

Observers of the facing page will note there are open Mass times! You, dear reader, could have the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass celebrated for your intention! And keep in mind how powerful and fitting it is to pray for those who have passed, that they may be purified and intercede on our behalf, as well as for the living, that they may be converted lest they find themselves in a final position where no Mass would help them!

Request at parishcenter@onestrongfamily.org

By now this should be reflexive for you: volunteer at the sale, pump it up, and peruse the selection yourself the last weekend in April! But it's worthy of renewed examination *at each sale* just how impactful these sales are! We're talking tens of thousands of dollars per year from our rummage sales!

Take advantage of the nearby seminary!

Join the Saint Paul Seminary lay graduate community on April 8 at 7:00 p.m. at Surly Brewing Co. for a conversation on living a vibrant sacramental life.

Drawing from the thought of St. Thomas Aquinas, Dr. Brandon Wanless will discuss how to live a thriving, fulfilling life of faith by receiving the sacraments well.

Then, chat with faculty and staff of the Saint Paul Seminary.

Space is limited, head to saintpaulseminary.org/sacraments for details and to RSVP. Every registrant receives a drink ticket. NA drinks are available.

MASS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions for week of APR 6, 2025

7 AM
 M: ---
 T: **William Bowman +**
 W: **John Leon Shrake +**
 Tr: ---
 F: ---
 S*: --- (8 AM); --- (5:00 PM)

10 AM

Jean Kneissel

Theresa Clarkin
Joan M. Hurt

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

FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

FORMED has been back for awhile! Note we REALLY may eventually get around to cleaning up the back end, so if your old credentials don't get you in, it's "not you, it's us." To access content, visit Formed.org and click "Sign up as a parishioner" and find St. Mark's via our zip code: 55104

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 preschool website, onestrongfamily.org/preschool, or contact Addie Smith, our Preschool Director at:

preschool@onestrongfamily.org
 651-644-5030

ADORATION



Deepen your Lent 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

CRS Rice Bowl



THIS LENT ST. MARK'S COMMUNITY IS participating in CRS Rice Bowl, an almsgiving and prayer opportunity supporting the work of Catholic Relief Services, the official

international relief and development agency of the USCCB. For prayer content, simple Lenten recipes, and to meet the children and families impacted around the world, visit crsricebowl.org.

Donations support relief work in more than 100 different countries each year. 25% of donations return to our Archdiocese, supporting hunger and poverty alleviation efforts in the Twin Cities.

Fry Volunteer (~Apr 11)



WHAT IS THAT FRAGRANT AROMA?! That's the smell of courage, determination, and generosity. That's the smell of volunteering at the fish fry.

Sign up to help out at the Annual Fish Fry (Apr. 11)! stmark.xyz/fryer

At the very least look at that signup sheet because you needn't be a mathematical mystic to see that scant few days remain until the fry! And we're inviting in the teeming masses of humanity, so all the more reason to dig deep!

Help is needed **starting Wednesday, April 9th** and ending **Saturday, April 12th**.

MIDDLE SCHOOL IGNITE

YOUTH GROUP DATES

WICK OFF! MS Ignite Games // Sat, Feb 8
Nerf Battle & Pizza lunch provided!
RSVP REQUIRED

Wednesday Sessions

- February 12
- February 26
- March 12
- March 26
- April 9
- April 23
- April 30

BE WHO GOD MEANT YOU TO BE, AND YOU WILL SET THE WORLD ON FIRE.
-- St. Catherine of Siena

Speaking of fish fry volunteering...



THE FRY IS NIGH! April 11th, in the cafeteria, from 5:00 - 7:00 PM. (And attend Stations of the Cross after!)

Meals are available in adult and child sizes. The adult meal offers freshly battered and fried fish, mac & cheese, coleslaw, cookie, and drink. The child meal has fish, choice of mac & cheese or coleslaw, cookie, and drink.

\$12 for adult
\$9 for child
\$40 for family of 4
\$50 for family of 6

Kids age 4 and under eat free!

STAFF

Clergy:

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

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

Fr. Humberto Palomino, PES..... Associate Pastor
frhumberto@onestrongfamily.org

Parish Staff:

Randy Lehn..... Parish Business Manager
Br. José Ignacio Rodriguez.....Master of Ceremonies
Br. Evan Steeves.....Ignite Youth Ministry
Sr. Julieta Del Carpio, PES.....Faith Formation
& Ignite Youth Ministry
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 Gearn.....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

Facebook: /ChurchofSaintMark Instagram: @churchofsaintmark

SAINT MARK, PRAY FOR US!

New Parishioner Series



One strong family united in Christ. This is one of our core values here at the Church of Saint Mark. Whether you are young or old, married or single, the parish community is here to support you and encourage you as you pursue sainthood.

We are blessed to have new members joining our parish and we'd like to introduce them to our parish family here. If you see them around the parish, please introduce yourself too!

Meet the Eilen family! John and MaryKatherine are both Minnesota natives who come from big families. They currently live in Burnsville with their son, Paul, who is 18 months old and a baby girl due this coming May.

John works at the Cathedral of St. Paul as part of their maintenance team and MaryKatherine is an assistant principal for St. Patrick Catholic School in Hudson, WI. They both enjoy reading and exercising together. John specifically enjoys participating in music as a part of the choir at St. Mark's and when MaryKatherine isn't chasing their son, Paul, around, enjoys trying her hand at embroidery and sourdough bread making.

Both John and MaryKatherine went to the University of St. Thomas and became familiar with the parish and PES community during that time. The vibrant community, choir, and reverent liturgy are just a few of the reasons they decided to join as parishioners. Coming back to the parish truly felt like coming home. They were immediately in awe of the welcoming nature of the community as well as a parish that was able to have such a reverent Mass while still providing space for families with young children.

This spring they are most looking forward to the birth of their daughter and spending time together with both of their children throughout the summer months.

Welcome to the parish Eilen family!

Summer of Exploration at TRINITY

Camps with purpose

Led by experts

\$150/week

Summer Enrichment Camps - Trinity School at River Ridge. Choose from a variety of fun-filled, week-long, morning and afternoon camps:

At Trinity River Ridge, kids can explore the outdoors, dive into science, and get creative with art! Boys & Girls, grades K-8 are invited to participate.

- Camps with purpose
- Led by experts
- Right here in your backyard!

Register now and lock in early bird pricing before April 30! tsrr.org/summer-camp Questions? Contact Catherine Mulvey, cmulvey@trinityschools.org.

Your parish needs you!

One of the most asymmetric bets you can make in helping the parish is putting out a preschool yard sign, available now, in limited supply. Ridiculously easy to use (put in ground) and doing so could precipitate tens of thousands of dollars and several souls coming to the parish!

If you've not already volunteered to put one out (you ought have received an email from the Director of Communications via webmaster@onestrongfamily.org if you did), then do so at stmark.xyz/greatheart