



ANNOUNCEMENTS

This weekend (it's a summer of giving prompts!) there's a special appeal for humanitarian relief and pastoral support in Gaza. Again, that's *this* weekend (Aug 30-31): there's a big humanitarian crisis, as you're probably well aware! Give what you can! **stmark.xyz/gaza**

And there's yet *another* giving opportunity, in light of the recent horrors perpetrated at Annunciation on Aug 27. Find that fund at **stmark.xyz/hhf** (the bulletin cover image this week is a rendition of Our Lady of Sorrows, to whom the month of September is devoted: especially fitting).

Also, let that horror be fuel for your own prayer fires. Renewed zeal for adoring the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament will bear many fruits. **stmark.weadorehim.com**

Sigh... The editor accidentally reran the same Fr. David column two weeks in a row. 1000 pardons. Installment 15 of Father David's eschatological adventures *can* be found to the right and beyond.

Now's a good time to be aware of the promptings of the Lord for OCIA: the yearly formation program kicks off in the fall. Who in your life could you invite to Christ's Church? Start thinking and praying now.

Outdoor adventures, camping, games, friendships, and character development. All boys K-12 are invited to join Scouts at St. Marks! It's a tradition going back to 1910 when Troop 1 became the first Catholic Scouting unit in America! Learn more and apply online at BeAScout.org for Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts or catch them at Coffee and Donuts **this Sunday (Aug 31)**

7 AM Mass (T-F) returns Septemer 2nd! Also returning is the 7 PM, Thursday Parish Holy Hour.

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@onestrongfamilyl.org) after one of the masses or send her an email.

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.

First Friday this Friday (Sep 05)!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Parish Picnic | 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM | Newell Park in St. Paul (900 Fairview Ave N)

**SAT
06
SEP**

Bring your own lunch or hit up the food trucks, and bring your best competitive spirit, small talk, and readiness to stoke the fires of parishioner fellowship at the parish picnic! You can find all the wonderful parish picnic details at **stmark.xyz/picnic** and make sure to register ASAP for the sports teams at **stmark.xyz/teams**

Fr. David Hottinger PES, Pastor and Champion Kickball Captain

The Eschatological Adventure, Part 15 "And the Dragon Stood before the Woman, that He might Devour Her "



The lights of her cell flickered for the first time the moment Shalomon Scuritas entered. Were her eyes closed, Jolianna would have been only aware of a sinister presence giving rise to a sensation of fright. But because they were open, this was mingled with a mesmerizing fascination that this man, who according to her catechist had "seduced the whole world," produced in those who experienced his aura. He had, Jolianna thought momentarily, something of the aspect of *an angel of light*.

Shalomon was well aware of the effect he tended to have on others and smiled smugly as he noted the maiden grappling with the mystery of his presence. "Peace, child," he started, extending his open palms towards her in his trademark gesture of solicitude, "Do not be afraid."

A long moment passed between them, with Shalomon standing but two paces from where Jolianna remained on her bed. She had dropped her gaze and was studying once more the pillowcase at her side while her visitor sized up his prey. She was prettier, he noted, than had been hoped, which was most advantageous. But though she was visibly fearful, he did not sense that he himself was the cause of that fear. Annoyed, he grinned his teeth the wider.

"My apologies for the accommodations," he said, gesturing at the room about him and signaling with a glance his intention to set her at ease. "I myself hardly consider you to be a threat," he continued, a bit more seriously, "but you know how the public thinks of you Christians these days... This confinement is as much to protect you as those outside..."

Moving quickly towards his purpose, Scuritas said with sudden energy and interest, "I must say, Jolianna, your background fascinates me." At the sound of her name,

the girl raised her eyes and betrayed her surprise. "Oh of course we know all about you. Well, all that can be known from such a *distance*," he conceded. "Orphaned at such a tender age, brought up in the household of a veritable princess of this world, and then making that momentous decision to abandon the comfort and security you had enjoyed to run off and join the Catholic intransigents! You could have hardly known at the time, but you were part of that strange wave of Semitic converts all doing the same. Most curious! Jews and Muslims from every corner of the world, all deciding to become Christian at the very moment when the world was to become most hostile towards those marked with the Cross. You were fortunate to make your way to Antarctica when you did..."

Scuritas was not one to waste words. Now that he had her attention, he shifted from past to the present. "Jolianna," he said, almost impatiently, "You know why you are here, and why I have come. You know that I have been under tremendous pressure in recent years to enforce the laws mandating the extermination of communities like yours, and of all those who persist in clinging to exclusivist creeds. In part for clemency's sake, I have resisted. But also because I believe that even you Christians have something to offer the world. Oh, I've been well aware of where you all were hiding. But I have been content to turn a blind eye to your noncooperation, not because I think you people will ever change, but because I think it would be a shame for the world to lose something of its credal diversity. Nevertheless, I speak to you today as he who has power to release you and power to destroy you.

Scuritas waited to see what effect this had on the girl, but seeing none, he continued: "Oh, I have no desire to harm you, trust me. But, alas, 'I am under obligation to both Greeks and to barbarians'..." Here Scuritas trailed off, and then took a step towards Jolianna, dropped to his haunches, and lowered his voice. "Jolianna," he *really continued on page 8*

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

Quaerite Faciem Domini!



At the end of the 9 AM Mass Sunday (Aug 31) Xavier Adkins, Howie Gerstner, Will Kuwata and Jack Shrake will receive a blessing and rite of sending as they head off to Mitchell, South Dakota, this week. The four are entering formation for the priesthood with Pro Ecclesia Sancta, and would appreciate any prayers for their vocations and financial support for their studies. Donations can be made via venmo at **stmark. xyz/four**

Parish Picnic Team Sports (Sep 06)

TEAM FR. DAVID OR TEAM FR. PATRICK?!

We'll be a house divided, at least as concerns teams for kickball. And, really, it must be so for there to be a contest! Sign up *your* household for the great kickball (and tug of war) game of the 2026 Parish Picnic at **stmark.xyz/teams** and don't forget to show your support for which team you think will win by dropping food shelf donation items in the bins in the narthex **by end-of-the-day Aug 31st!** And may the spirit of competition be balanced, even if one bin is an absolute blow-out for donations (Team Fr. David is/was winning by last tally: 55:46)!



PRAY **DISCERN**

Undivided HEART

DISCERNMENT RETREAT

with the sisters of Pro Ecclesia Sancta



FALL 2025: NOV 14-16

Location: Sacred Heart of Jesus convent in Bloomington, MN
For more information contact us at: sacredheartconvent@pes-usa.org

PARISH PICNIC

SEPTEMBER 6TH
10 AM - 2 PM
ELL PARK IN SAINT PAUL

ADULT KICKBALL
FOOD TRUCK LUNCH
(OR BRING YOUR OWN)

GAMES
TUG OF WAR

STMARK.XYZ/PICNIC

MASS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions for week of AUGUST 31, 2025

7 AM

M: ---

T: Jack Shrake

W: Henry Pawl

Tr: Ed Fitzpatrick +

F: Bill + & Betty Ryan

S*: Cynthia Ordahl (8 AM); Curtis James Barton + (5:00 PM)

10 AM

Lisa Erickson +

Br. Edward Grinder, OSB +

Fr. David

Lawrence Zielke +

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



Deepen your Summer (as of this writing, it's still summer) 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

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.

SATURDAY,
OCT. 11

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

the Saint Mark
Rectory Garden

RSVP!

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, Kickball Team Captain
frdavid@onestrongfamily.org

Fr. Patrick Evans, PES.....Associate Pastor,
Second-place Kickball Team Captain
frpatrick@onestrongfamily.org

Parish Staff:

Randy Lehnen..... 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 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



/ChurchofSaintMark



@churchofsaintmark

SAINT MARK, PRAY FOR US!

From the Heart of the Shepherd continued...

almost whispered, “you have heard it from your Holy Father himself about the historic event that is about to take place. Believe me, I know I am no god. I am merely human, like yourself. But it seems it is my destiny to remind humans, like yourself, that we are *gods*. At least, that we can become *like* gods. Even your own religion speaks of divinization. All world religions do, in their own way. I think my gift is to see that we really all want the same thing, that we are all speaking about the same thing, just with different words. I am here to *harmonize* man’s divergent strivings for divinity. To help us all work together for that end.

“At the ceremony next week, representatives from all the world’s religions will appoint me to be their common leader. And your church—those who have authority in your church, that is—will do the same. It would be of great significance to me—to all the world—for you to be there, participating in that great symbolic act. Mind you: I am not asking you to renounce your belief in Christ, much less declare me to be your god. Merely to recognize me as the *image* and vicar of your Christ on earth, as the Cardinals will elect me to be, according to all the formalities of your church’s rituals. All that is required of you—and the many Christians who have already agreed to what your current Holy father is requesting—is a mere obsequence: to kneel before me and kiss the fisherman’s ring, and call me ‘Father,’ etc. *To see and adore Christ in me*. And with that, the persecution of your people will end. There will be peace. And you, who have known so much evil, will begin to know good as well. What do you say? Can I count on you? Can your church count on you?”

Scuritas looked on imploringly. Behind him, on the viewscreen, the likenesses of various members of Jolianna’s parish appeared, standing with the Holy Father and gesturing to their sister that she should join them in responding affirmatively. Jolianna was overwhelmed. It all seemed so wrong, and yet she could not put her finger on why. The words of the last sermon she had *continued, yet again, to the right*

heard were warring with those of the Holy Father, and the wordless intuition that her freedom only went so far under the circumstances. What was her duty here? *What shall I do, Lord?* She looked inward for light, but none was to be found. At long last, if only to free herself from the oppressive fascination of his presence, she managed to speak: “If the true Holy Father commands it... if there is no sin in it... if it shall please my Lord Jesus... I will do as you say.”

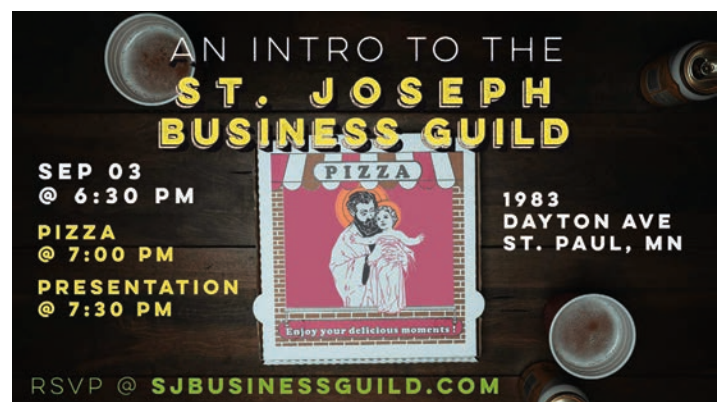
Archdiocesan Passport Adventure



The Archdiocese celebrates 175 years since our founding in 1850. And in this Jubilee year, Archbishop Hebda invites you to become an Archdiocesan Jubilee Pilgrim:

- This summer through October 12, visit seven or more parishes.
- Include our Jubilee co-cathedrals: the Cathedral of Saint Paul and the Basilica of Saint Mary, and look for the Jubilee Cross in each of them.
- Visit one of our oldest, newest and/or newly renovated churches.
- Participate in a liturgical experience-expanding Mass
- Join with the faithful October 12 for Mass followed by an ice cream social on the lawn of the Cathedral of Saint Paul.

Download or print your passport archspm.org/passport for information!



Additional intro meetings are currently scheduled, including a virtual meeting. Visit sjbusinessguild.com to RSVP and for details.