



ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE'RE BACK to the regular schedule! 7 AM Tue-Fri Masses and 7 PM parish holy hour are in!

MAKE A DATE WITH YOUR FELLOW PARISHIONERS. Saint Mark's will present its annual Parish Festival on Saturday, October 7, on the grounds of the church and school at Dayton and Prior avenues. Come on out for live entertainment, inflatables, games for children and adults, a silent auction and the ever-popular duck tank, among other activities. The event will run from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Food and beverages will be available. A swing dance to live music *will follow* that evening in the school gym.

THE MEN'S SATURDAY MORNING MEN'S BIBLE FELLOWSHIP WILL CONTINUE TO MEET for the summertime and for as long as the weather stays nice, weekly outdoors, at the Aldine playground pavilion at Iglehart and Herschel Streets. Bring your bible and come to prepare yourself for Sunday Mass, by reading and discussing the Sunday readings.

ST. MARK'S WOMEN'S WORKOUTS ARE PAUSED FOR LABOR DAY and will resume Monday, 8 PM, on September 11th!

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES, CAMPING, FAMILY OUTINGS, GAMES WITH FRIENDS, AND CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT: that's what Cub Scouts is all about, and all boys K-5 are invited to join Cub Scouts at St. Mark's! Contact Cubmaster Mike Truso for more information (mftruso@gmail.com | 651-468-6985)

THOSE LOOKING TO ORGANIZE A CARPOOL to St. Clair Shores, MI should set September 17th on their calendar as Fr. Joe's "commissioning Mass" will take place that day at 10 AM with a Detroit auxiliary bishop.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MON 4 SEP	<i>Labor Day Goings-On Various Times Around</i> Note the parish center will be closed for Labor Day , the ladies are not having their weekly workout night, and starting Tuesday, September 5 th , we'll be back to having 7 AM Masses Tuesdays-Fridays, as well as 7 PM parish holy hour!
WED 6 SEP	<i>Family Faith Formation Kick-Off 6:00 - 8:00 PM Playground</i> If you're signed up for FFF, you should be in the know! And if you're curious about FFF but missed that sign-up deadline, you should still check out the kick-off ice cream social!
THU 7 SEP	<i>Young Adult (ages 18-39) Holy Hour Happy Hour 7:00 PM Adoration Chapel, Bang Brewing</i> The young adult crowd (ages 18-39) are invited to a Holy Hour this Thursday in our very own adoration chapel, followed by an outing to Bang Brewing!
FRI 8 SEP	<i>Ignite Swing Dance 7:00 PM School Gym</i> For high schoolers grades 9-12 th ! Come early for lessons, but you must promise to use your newly acquired powers only for good!
SUN 10 SEP	<i>Young Adult (ages 18-39) Holy Hour Happy Hour 5:30 PM Rectory Garden</i> Young adults of the parish ages 18-39 are also invited to a cook out to kick off a new year of programming! RSVP at stmark.xyz/cookout by September 8 th !
THU 14 SEP	<i>Supper at Emmaus 5:30 - 8:00 PM Carolyn Hall, Church</i> It's a premier occasion for the parish to come together at that optimal Thursday PM hour! Come for a potluck (5:30 PM), followed by a presentation by Fr. David on the subject of "A Prayerful Heart" (6:00 PM), with candlelit Holy Hour to follow in the Church (7:00 PM)!

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

Pinky: “Gee, Brain, what are we gonna do during this Pastorate?”

Brain: “The same thing we do during every Pastorate, Pink...”



I stated in my last column that a pastor owes the parish an articulation of the direction in which it, as a parish, is called to move.

For those who have been around in recent years, God has been sending us clear sign about that direction. For example, the Disciple Maker Index, taken just before COVID, revealed that St. Mark’s is outstanding for its adherence to the fullness of the Christian faith, its culture of striving for spiritual growth, and its engagement with the prayer and sacramental life. In the soul-searching that followed the School closing, we recognized that we had also become united in our parish mission, articulated in 2019 as “living and sharing Christ’s call to holiness.” Finally, through a number of leadership conversations last fall, we started to speak about a new, missionary era in the history of the parish opening up before our eyes.

As pastor, however, it’s my job to ask questions. If we are entering a “new era,” how does God want us to fulfill the Church’s ancient mandate to “proclaim the Gospel to every creature” in these new circumstances? Recognizing that God has done something beautiful at St. Mark’s in causing unity and life to flourish at the parish, how are we called to be good stewards of that treasure?

I’ll tell you what I think. I think that God is calling St. Mark’s to evangelize the neighborhood and become saints in the process. Or, if you prefer, I sense that God wants us to become saints and convert Merriam Park in the process. Until all the neighborhood is known as the Church of Saint Mark, and a parishioner sits on City Council for Ward 4!

An ambitious goal, to be sure. But no one can deny that this is merely the local application of Jesus’ command to “go into all the world and make disciples of all the nations.” The Lord has made St. Mark’s an oasis of living faith. But you only have to look around to see that the oasis stands in the

midst of a spiritual desert. God has built us here a lifeboat to save its occupants from the modern deluge of secularism and meaninglessness that has covered the earth. But you only have to look inside that ship on a Sunday morning to see that there is space for many more.

The oasis, then, must grow. Grow until all the parish territory is transformed into a paradise of Christian life! The ship must set sail, and its sailors set hands to the oars. Search and rescue mission to those who are still adrift in the deep! We have been thus far growing by immigration and procreation; time to add large-scale evangelization to the tactics!

To use an image from the prophet Isaiah, I see St. Mark’s becoming the “mountain” to which all the “tribes” within our parish territory ascend to worship the true God together. If that is going to happen, three basic realities must be in place. First, we are going to have to be intentional about reaching out to the fallen away, the unchurched, and the “otherwise-minded” in our neighborhood. Second, if those fish are going to be brought into this boat, there has to be a place to put them: there need to be spaces--events and facilities--where they can be adequately received. Third, since the Church is not really a place but a communion of people who are in communion with God, said spaces must be filled with such persons, if said fishes are to be truly incorporated into Christ.

And so, to fulfill the vision of not losing any of those entrusted to our care, it follows that we will need to grow in three areas: *parishioner engagement* with the Lord, with one another, and with the mission of the parish; *facility improvements* to furnish our parish with adequate spaces to receive the 8,900 souls that live in Merriam Park; and outreach to the *unchurched* on a broader scale and with greater degree of intentionality. I might not live to see the vision’s fulfillment. But if God grants the time I hope to explain it a little more in the weeks to come!

ONE STRONG FAMILY UNITED IN CHRIST

“Lunch with us! Lunch with us!”



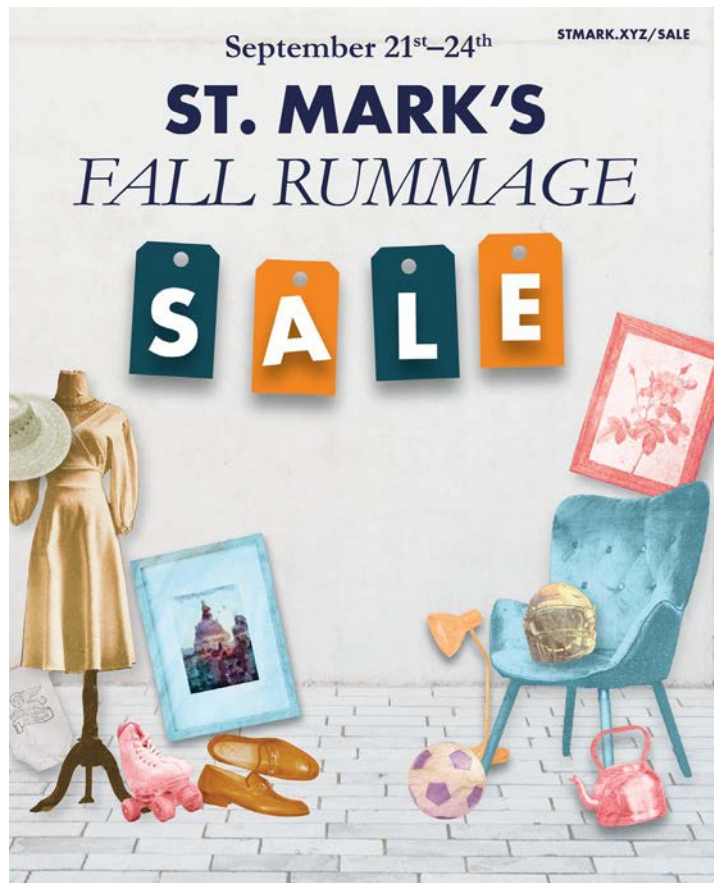
IF YOU'RE NEW SINCE FALL 2022, and you've not yet attended a new parishioner lunch, then your presence is earnestly requested at the upcoming New Parishioner Lunch (Sep 17, after the 11 AM Mass). These are fleeting opportunities to hobnob with fellow new-ish parishioners, as well as the staff, all around great food! The ambience we're going for is that small-town, parish-family feel, so, truly, if you meet the strict criteria, then your *absence* would be keenly felt!

RSVP by September 15th at stmark.xyz/lunch

Your Mother's Birthday

FEAST THIS FRIDAY! September 8th is the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, so do something special with and for the Blessed Mother that day! You probably can't go wrong with Mass or the Rosary, but we leave it to your discernment how to mark the day! Know that the Legion of Mary, those Marian movers and shakers who regularly meet on Fridays, are hosting a little party **WITH CAKE** after the 10 AM Mass!

**Famous CCW Rummage Sale –
Coming in September!**



MARK YOUR CALENDARS and start cleaning out your closets – the Famous CCW Fall Rummage sale will be here before you know it! The dates are Friday, September 22nd – Sunday, September 24th (with a “sneak peek” sale on Thursday evening September 21st) in Carolyn Hall.

Recall that our Spring Sale not only generated a big chunk of revenue that is being put to good use at our parish and beyond, but it's also a way to raise our profile in the neighborhood and bring people to our church!

VOLUNTEER! In addition to donations, we'll be looking for lots of volunteers to help: 1) with the sale 2) **with drop-off during the week before the sale** 3) with setup the week-end before. **To volunteer, head to stmark.xyz/rummage**

If you have any questions please contact Patti Shrake at 651-206-1056 or pattishrake@usfamily.net. **Sale info is available at stmark.xyz/sale**

MASS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions for week of SEP 3, 2023

7 AM

M: ---
 T: +Albert & Frances Lefere
 W: Lauren Groppetti
 Tr: The living & deceased members of the Zerwas
 F: Larry Leif
 S*: +Nathan Ryan Posso

10 AM

The living and deceased members of the O'Brien family
 Fitzgerald Family
 +Janet Meyer (funeral)
 +Oscar & Ruth Michels
 +Alesana Anetipa

BECOME CATHOLIC

Interested in becoming Catholic or learning about the Catholic faith? St. Mark's provides opportunities to be more fully formed in the faith for adults who are not baptized, baptized in another faith, or Catholics seeking to receive Eucharist or Confirmation. To get started and learn more, contact rcia@onestrongfamily.org

FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

EVERY MEMBER of our St. Mark's community can enjoy a free subscription to formed.org, the incredible online gateway to the best Catholic content, all in one place! With FORMED, you can:

- Prepare for Sunday Mass by watching an insightful five-minute video by renowned Catholic teachers.
- Enjoy a movie with your family that is both nourishing and entertaining.
- Find great e-books and audio books
- Listen to talks from all your favorites, like Dr. Edward Sri, Bishop Robert Barron, Teresa Tomeo, and more.
- Help your children grow in character and embrace the beauty and wonder of our faith.

To access content, visit Formed.org and click "Sign up as a parishioner" and find St. Mark's via our zip code: 55104

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 Amie Iwaskowicz, our Preschool Director at:

preschool@onestrongfamily.org
 651-644-5030

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AT ST. MARK'S



Adorers are needed at all times of the day and night...the immediate hours to be filled can be found at stmark.weadorehim.com. Questions? Email adoration@onestrongfamily.org

"...devotion to the Eucharist is the most noble because it has God as its object; it is the most profitable for salvation because it gives us the Author of Grace; it is the sweetest, because the Lord is Sweetness Itself."
 —St Pius X (Pope of the Eucharist)



DONATE TO ST. MARK'S

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



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

MINISTRIES

Evangelization Made Easy!

stmark.xyz/saved

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?:

The Catholic Answer

Wednesday Nights, 7:00 - 8:30 PM
In the Community Room (NW Church Entrance)

9/27	The Big Story of Salvation
10/4	What is Sin and Why Should I Avoid It?
10/11	Who is Jesus and Why Should I Believe in Him?
10/18	What is the Church and Why Should I Join It?
10/25	What Must I Do to be Saved?



DO YOU WANT TO SHARE THE GOSPEL but don't know exactly what to say? This fall, the RCIA Team at St. Mark's will do (most of) the work for you, with a 5 week series beginning Wednesday, September 27: "What Must I Do To Be Saved?: The Catholic Answer." All you have to do is invite someone to come! Bookmark stmark.xyz/saved for your social sharing! Everybody knows somebody to whom God wants to bring the good news of salvation: whom can you invite?!

Supper at Emmaus

FALL IS A BRILLIANT TIME TO BEGIN AGAIN! Do so with prayer and community! While opportunities abound, may we suggest 5:30 PM, September 14th Supper at Emmaus? It's an unmatched way to slow down, share a meal with the parish family, and spend some time at the feet of the Lord in adoration!

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

Big things happen in small groups

IF WE'RE TO HAVE FRUITFUL SMALL GROUPS, that takes effort and intention! With the support and leadership of our shepherd, Saint Mark's, along with every parish in the Archdiocese, will kick off a seven-week Small Group Leader Formation series this fall, beginning Tuesday, September 26th at 7:00 p.m. in Carolyn Hall. **Info and registration is available via stmark.xyz/small-group**

Why should you come? 1) If you want to learn more about the power of small group ministry, which goes back to the very roots of the Church 2) If you want to learn more about the direction in which Saint Mark's and our Archdiocese is headed and 3) If you think you might have the gifts and calling to lead a small group or help to make one grow.

For more information, contact Kristen Grant (kgrant@onestrongfamily.org)

Enjoy ice cream while you can!

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION KICK-OFF

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH
FROM 6:00-8:00PM
IN THE SCHOOL PLAYGROUND**

Join us for prayer, ice cream, fun, and community as we begin the new year! There will also be a chance to submit registration forms. We hope to see your family there!



STAFF

Clergy:

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

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

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

Parish Staff:

Randy Lehnen..... Parish Business Manager
 Br. José Ignacio Rodriguez.....Master of Ceremonies
 Br. Evan Steeves.....Ignite Youth Ministry
 Sr. Leann Luecke, PES.....Ignite Youth Ministry
 Sr. Maddie Shogren, PES.....Faith Formation &
 Ignite Youth Ministry
 Larry Leif.....Head of Maintenance
 Patricia Hartshorn..... Volunteer Liturgy Coordinator
 Kristen Grant.....Director of Mission
 Kathrine Handford.....Director of Music and Organist
 Audrey Koval.....Office Manager
 Kevin Gearns.....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 Center Hours

Monday - Thursday: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
 Friday: 9 AM - 12 PM (Noon)

Parish Trustees: Kip Chaffee, Andrew Nowak
Parish Pastoral Council: Colleen Beatty, Chair
Parish Finance Committee: John Wehrly, Chair
Saint Mark’s Catholic Preschool
 Amie Iwaszkowiec, 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

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.”

HAVE ANY PICS OF ST. MARK'S GOINGS-ON? SHARE AT SUBMISSIONS@ONESTRONGFAMILY.ORG

Catholic Social Difference Speaker Series



Center
for
Catholic
Social
Thought

CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY, POLITICS, CULTURE, AND LIFE

AS PART OF THE ESTABLISHMENT of the new Center for Catholic Social Thought, the Church of the Assumption in St Paul is pleased to announce a fall speaker series on The Catholic Social Difference. This event features conversations with local Catholic leaders introducing the Church's social teaching and imagining how to practice it in our daily lives. Topics include community, poverty, economics, politics, and the way that our faith can take us beyond the stale divisions that tend to define our society. **The talks are Thursdays at 7pm, Aug 31-Sept 21, 2023, at Assumption; they are free and open to the public.** For more information and to register, please visit catholicsocialthought.org.

Silent Auction

OCTOBER 7, 2023 IS CERTAINLY ALREADY ON EVERYONE'S FAMILY CALENDAR. One very popular attraction at this year's festival will be the Silent Auction (*sbbbbb...*). With all of the wonderful groups in our parish, please consider getting together with one of your groups (or all of your groups), and create a basket for the Silent Auction (*sbbbbb...*).

Please keep Adreianna Vyvyan (507.676.1593), and/or Barb Kratt (507.210.1557) in the loop so they will not need to become like Job...

"I call to my servant, but he does not answer; I have to implore him with my mouth." - Job 19:16

Please don't make those nice ladies beg.

Thank you for your consideration, and for the basket you and your group(s) are dreaming up! We can't wait to see you at the festival!

Supporting the St. Joseph Business Guild

RESERVE A SPOT
BY SEPTEMBER 13TH!

FIRST ANNUAL SPORTING CLAY TOURNAMENT AT THE MINNESOTA HORSE & HUNT CLUB

Register as a parish team of (4) players,
or sign up as an individual (\$175 per player),
at sjbusinessguild.com

2:30 PM | WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH

Regular Service Outings

ST. MARK'S OFFERS REGULAR OUTINGS TO SERVE THOSE IN NEED in our community. Here's what you need to know:

- St. Mark's pays for meals, and sends volunteers to prepare and serve them, at the Family Service Center on the **3rd Thursday** of each month.
- Located in Maplewood, the Catholic Charities Family Service Center of Ramsey county provides shelter for families in crisis.
- St. Mark's also sends volunteers to the Catholic Charities Higher Ground Center in St. Paul **every 4th Tuesday**.

All volunteers must be at least 16, and those under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. To learn more and sign up, visit onestrongfamily.org/humandignity