

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT | DECEMBER 15, 2024



THE CHURCH OF SAINT MARK | www.onestrongfamily.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This side of paradise we may never know who warned the brood of vipers to flee from the coming wrath, but regulars of The Evangelist (the rarely broadcasted title of this here bulletin) should be familiar with this week's cover artist: it's Tissot, again!

IT'S ONLY 10 MORE DAYS UNTIL CHRISTMAS: plan accordingly.

SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT OUR PRESCHOOL: we've got one of the most accommodating programs around! Inquire with the director (asmith@onestrongfamily.org) and know that your child is in a truly Catholic program! Also, staff is needed for the preschool in the upcoming semester on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

LOOKING TO LIVE CLOSER TO THE PARISH? Or you're moving from being close to the parish? Help us play matchmaker, connecting parties who want to live around St. Mark's with homes in the area! Visit onestrongfamily.org/house for details!

HURRY UP AND SLOW DOWN BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE! If you've not visited stmark.weadorehim.org and got yourself a holy hour committed, Advent is a premiere season to do it! Reap copious Christmas and New Year rewards!

HAVEN'T GOT A CHRISTMAS TREE YET? Hit up **Nativity's Christmas Tree lot**; info at nativitymen.org/trees! Good on you for waiting in Advent anticipation!

DON'T FORGET THE FOOD SHELF!

CONSIDER ADDING SOME DEVOTIONAL FLAVOR into your podcast rotations! Now's a good time to remind you that wit and wisdom given by our PES religious is made available via audio recording (stmark.xyz/podcast) and even some videos of note largely care of Fr. Patrick (stmark.xyz/fpe and stmark.xyz/youtube). Like, comment, subscribe and share: everyone says they want to help, but few will take these less than herculean measures!

LAST ONE OF THE CALENDAR YEAR (at least in so far as the schedule goes): Monday night (Dec. 16) at 8:00 PM is the ultimate women's workout night in the gym!

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUN 15 DEC	<i>Proffering your children age 4-12 for the Nativity Tableau By End of Day Email</i> This year could be the best Christmas pageant tableau ever! While the tableau isn't for days (Dec. 24 at 4:30 PM Christmas Eve Mass), by the end of the day today (Dec. 15) , it is requested that if you wish for your 4-12 year old children to participate, that you reach out to Katie Shrake (katieshrake@gmail.com)! Rehearsal is 11 AM on Dec. 23, at the church! Please send children names, ages, and measurements (length in inches from nape of neck to ankle) in your email! Also, an infant <i>may</i> still be needed for the part of baby Jesus!
MON 16 DEC	<i>Father David's Birthday Here and Now</i> It's the pastor's birthday. <i>Hail!</i> Forecast calls for above freezing temperatures and well-wishing, if you see him. (Regardless, offer some prayers, why don't you?!)
TUES 17 DEC	<i>Advent Giving Tree Donate-By Date Church Vestibule</i> Across time and space, others have lived in far greater want than we have! (Consider the marvel of your smartphone, even: you have a minstrel, long-distance communication, calculator, large swaths of the world's knowledge, etc all at your finger tips! Shazaam!) If you're moved with gratitude and charity to help the less fortunate, consider the Advent giving tree in the church vestibule! Precious few opportunities remain on the tree, as of this writing! Donate purchased items by December 17 th !

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 Year Retrospective



Everywhere you look now there is a “2024 in Review” of one variety or another. The year’s top photos, songs, sporting moments, geopolitical events, you name it. In the Church, we are by no means obliged to dance to the tune of the world. But this Gaudete Sunday, we have all the more reason for looking back at “the marvels God has done for us” at St. Mark’s in order to be all the more “filled with joy” (Ps 126:3). So here is a brief review. You can, perhaps, read it to the pace and tune of R.E.M.’s “End of the World (as We Know It)” or Billy Joel’s “We Didn’t Start the Fire.”

New Years on a Monday. Small Group Leader training fun day.
 Exodus has an early start. This is winter? Kathy’s art.
 Valentine’s Ash Wednesday, Archbishop at the Mass.
 Rolling out the small groups. Confirmation class.
 Works of Mercy Lenten Talks. West Wall project. Google docs.
 Ignite Nerf War nights & days. Organ sealed. Mass Explained.
 No more funerals? Organ day. Saint Mark’s patron bible study.
 Lenten mailer, confessions galore. Archive room. She Sells the store.
 OCIA candidates, welcome home! Director of discipleship gone to Rome.
 Easter Vigil pounding pews. Convalidations come in twos.
 Lots of weddings. Spring swing dance. Year of Prayer. Give vespers a chance.
 Art contest. Name tags. Directory photos (hate to be nags...)
 May crownings, brunch with toast. Feast of Mark, hog to roast.
 Confirmation. Decor team. First Communion. Rummaging.
 Mercy Morn makes debut. Co-op leaving. Down to few.
 Seven Sisters get underway. Corpus Christi walk on sunny day.
 Adoration push, combined Mass. Light bulb changing. Roofs to patch.
 Three point homily? Father Pat. Fifteen minutes? Pastor, that...
 Synod Day. Staff retreat. Bell tower dripping: sprung a leak.
 Each wedding has its rehearsal. Thousands process to Cathedral.
 After graduation, some depart. New arrivals. Sidewalk art.
 Mission trip to Peru. Courtyard spotlights. Mothers of Lu.
 Garden Ministry blossoms forth. Ministry Summit. Springtime warmth.
 PC pipe burst. Homily joke fails. No, it’s Kevin Gearn who writes the emails!
 Master Plan committee’s start. Solemnity of Sacred Heart.
 Fr. David heads to Detroit. His long absence some exploit.
 Mild summer, mass counts taper. Father Louis meets his maker.
 Holy Kids Camp. Gym floor waxed. Ice cream social. Budget maxed.
 Now who’s in charge of PreK? Addie Smith saves the day!
 Parish picnics joyfully. Pastor’s kickball’s MVP!

Parish Year Retrospective *Continued from Page 3*

Back to school. Matt cuts the grass. See propaedeutic men at Mass.
 Babies cry. Confession lines. Randy dodges Fire Marshall's fines.
 Coffee & Donuts requires half & half. A new Sister joins the parish staff.
 Funeral luncheons. Altar bread. Helen Reedy hits a holy one hundred.
 Family Faith Formation enrollment swells. Bless the animals. Ring the bells.
 Women's workouts. Prayer plan pledge. Small group push. Middle East on edge.
 Choir grows with voices heavenly. Larry Leif lives, turns seventy.
 Synod Year II focus? Eucharist. Reverence and joy, non-dualist.
 Liturgy of the hours hosts seminar. Neighbor not happy about where you parked your car.
 Taco Tuesdays. Ignite retreated. Stewardship months: Please be seated.
 OCIA, record crop. Ministry Fair, reserve your spot.
 New Parishioner Lunches (not with steaks). Chapel windows (thank you Shrakes!)
 Parishioner rentals. Squirrels made of wood. Somehow, some way, evangelize the neighborhood.
 Election year. Healing Mass. St. Paul's letters? Bible class.
 At Thursday holy hours graces flow. Where in the world is Father Humberto?
 Parish Soiree: excellent. That same week: new president.
 Brothers installed acolytes. Bishop Kenny. End of Life.
 All Saints party, eyes on prize. Pastor sometimes fudges rhymes.
 Mercy morning makes a splash. Stained glass bid comes: we need cash!
 Job Squad's back. Christmas bazaar. Peru food drawing YAs from near and far.
 Eucharist Miracle exhibit. Christ the King is legit!
 Lector trainings, boilers fume. Church Appeal. Baby boom.
 Hope the Vikings never lose. Now we got to fill the pews!
We didn't start the fire...

Throughout this year that is now ending (as we know it), this parish has been "burning" with holy activity while the world has been turning. Though we can't take credit for lighting that fire, we can try our best to spread the Flame!



Did Father David miss anything? Feel free to supplement your own couplets on the parish Facebook page!

MASS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions for week of DEC 15, 2024

7 AM

M: ---
T: Ava Duchesne
W: Leo Burke
Tr: Francis & Barbara Truso +
F: Sr. Avis Schons +

S*: Caroline Hutcheson (8 AM); Gregory & Ann Marie Heimel Family (5:00 PM)

10 AM

Ron E. Anderson +
Cummings Family
Rosina Hendrickson +
Burt & Peggy Brandrud +

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. Meetings will begin on Wednesday, September 26th at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room. To find out more, contact rcia@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 pre-school website, onestrongfamily.org/preschool, or contact Amie Iwaskowicz, our Preschool Director at:

preschool@onestrongfamily.org
651-644-5030

ADORATION



We are blessed to have Eucharistic Adoration available at our parish. However, help is needed to maintain it. Please prayerfully consider signing up for a weekly holy hour. We have a number of openings plus there are many hours that could use a prayer partner (currently only one Adorer committed):

Monday: 11pm
Tuesday: Noon
Wednesday: 2am
Thursday: 9am
Friday: Noon, 6pm, and 7pm
Saturday: 5am



Create an account at stmark.weadorehim.com or Email adoration@onestrongfamily.org

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

Christmas Flower Offerings for Your Loved Ones

ST. MONICA SAID TO HER SAINTLY SON before her death, “Remember me at the altar of the Lord.” This Advent, you have the opportunity to place the memory of your deceased loved one close to the altar of God by means of a Christmas flower offering. Offerings will go to furnish the altar with the annual poinsettia arrangements. Please submit the donation and the name of your deceased loved one to the parish office **by December 22nd**.

Suggested offerings:

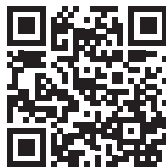
4.75” - \$6

6.5” - \$10

8” - \$20

10” - \$36

To give, either fill out a provided Christmas flower envelope or visit stmark.xyz/give (accessed via QR code below) and select the **Church Flowers fund** > **Christmas Flowers subfund** and list the name of the memorial party in the note field!



2024 Rebuild My Church Appeal!

THE END OF THE YEAR APPEAL IS STILL APPEALING!

At least until the end of the year! 2024 has been a big year when it comes to leaning in to rebuild our slightly dilapidated church, and our efforts here are making the future of the building that much more secure, so if you haven't yet given (and/or are completely ignorant of our present cause) check out stmark.xyz/2024rmca

(It's fun to give to the RMCA! Especially for those parties giving \$1000 or more who get the premiere hardcover stained glass window book, all about our prized windows!)



Christmastide Schedule Items

Dec. 24 at 4:30 PM

Vigil Mass with cantor, organ, familiar hymns, and Nativity tableau

Dec. 24 at Midnight

Midnight Mass with full choir; carols before Mass at 11:30 PM

Dec. 25 at 7:00 AM (Christmas Mass at Dawn)

Silent Mass at Dawn at Our Lady's Altar (no musical accompaniment)

Dec. 25 at 10:00 AM

Mass during the Day with cantor and organ

Dec. 31 at 5:00 PM and Jan. 01 at 10:00 AM

Mass for Mary Mother of God

The adoration chapel will *close* after the 10 AM Mass on **Dec. 24** and *reopen* after the 10 AM Mass on **Dec. 26!**

And this year you can ring in the **New Year** *with holiness*: the plan is to have the adoration chapel *open* over New Year's Eve (**Dec. 31**). Additional substitute help is likely needed to pull this off; what a great gift you can give to the Church of St. Mark: giving an hour to help us start 2025 off with prayer!

Note the parish office is closed Dec. 24, 25 and Jan. 01! And 7 AM weekday Mass will be cancelled on Jan. 01 and Jan 7-11!

Nativity Tableau (Dec. 24 @ 4:30)

Come take part in telling the Christmas story! Children ages 4-12 are invited to participate in a nativity tableau at the beginning of the 4:30PM Christmas Eve Mass. (Children who are 4 years old should plan to have a parent at the rehearsal to assist them).

Rehearsal will take place on Monday December 23rd at 11AM in the church. Costumes will be provided. Please send names, ages, and measurements (just the length in inches from the nape of the neck to the ankle) to Katie Shrake, katieshrake@gmail.com by end of day 12/15

We are also looking for an infant to play the role of the Christ Child. Please reach out if you have a little babe interested in show biz.

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 Lehnen..... 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



/ChurchofSaintMark



@churchofsaintmark

SAINT MARK, PRAY FOR US!

SAINT MARK AND NATIVITY OF OUR LORD
YOUNG ADULTS

holy hour! happy hour

.....

1ST & 3RD THURSDAYS

HOLY HOUR IN THE
CHURCH OF SAINT MARK
7PM-8PM
HAPPY HOUR AT BAD
WEATHER BREWING
8PM-9:30PM



SMYA_MN SAINTMARKYA
YOUNGADULTS@ONESTRONGFAMILY.ORG

Don't not see A Christmas Carol!

DECEMBER 6 - 30, 2024



A CHRISTMAS CAROL

New Adaptation w/ Music by
EMILY C.A. SNYDER

AT ANY TIME YOU CAN CATCH A MUPPET CHRISTMAS CAROL, but live performances with this sort of setup are much rarer! Check out all the reasons to see Open Window Theatre's rendition at owtheatre.org

St. Mark's
Advent Giving Tree



Bless a family in need
this Christmas!

Located in the Church
Vestibule.

Select an ornament with a gift idea
Buy the gift, wrap it and return it with the ornament attached
to Santa's Gift Box by December 17
Santa's Elves will deliver it before Christmas!
For Questions contact Abby Ortega 605-661-1924

**CAROLS
& COCOA**
At the Cathedral!

Saturday, December 28
9 - 10:30 a.m.
Cathedral of Saint Paul

**Bring your family to celebrate
Christmas during the Octave!**

The morning will include:

- ✦ Sing-a-long carols
- ✦ Stories
- ✦ Child-friendly Adoration & Benediction
- ✦ Cocoa & cookies in Hayden Hall

RSVP: 

 ARCHDIOCESE
OF
SAINT PAUL &
MINNEAPOLIS
OFFICE OF MARRIAGE, FAMILY AND YOUTH

 CATHEDRAL
OF
SAINT PAUL