

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | AUGUST 24, 2025



THE CHURCH OF SAINT MARK | www.onestrongfamily.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Last Sunday we welcomed Most Rev. Bhagyaiah Chinnabathini, bishop of the Diocese of Guntur, India for our Summer Mission Appeal. The Church is ever on the frontiers of the human experience, preaching the Gospel and providing for the needy and this is a big way we can help in carrying out Christ's great commission! To give, visit stmark.xyz/sma2025

Next weekend (it's a summer of giving prompts!) there's a special appeal for the relief in Gaza. Again, that's *next* weekend (Aug 30-31), but just thought it would be good to prime the pump for that. There's a big "humanitarian crisis," as you're probably well aware!

The last of the Women's Workout Sessions is this Monday night at 8:00 PM. After that there will be an **indefinite hiatus (look for announcements of further sessions in the future)!** For more info, visit stmark.xyz/workout

Reclaiming the Day of the Lord! There's a big move in the Archdiocese to "reclaim Sunday" (and it's the theme for the upcoming synodal year). Expect what's going on in our local church (the Archdiocese), in no small way, inform what's going down at the local parish (St. Mark's). If you've not dipped your toes into Synod Year III messaging yet, do that at stmark.xyz/year3

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 us at Coffee and Donuts on Aug 31.

After-August is coming soon, and that means the return of our Not-Summer schedule: 7 AM Mass (T-F) will return September 2nd. Presumably Father David is back this very weekend (Aug 23-24) and Father Patrick will be back next week. And then their teams will square off, to the greater glory of God, at kickball Sep 06!

Potluck summer salad dinner! Ladies of the parish are invited to a/the CCW Meeting, Thursday, Aug 28th, at the rectory deck, from 4:30 - 6:30 PM. Presenting will be some of the lady folk who went on the June PES Jubilee Pilgrimage to Rome.

Ignite Hike! Hike, Ignite! (Moreover, Mass!) There's an Ignite Hiking Mass September 13th! All middle schoolers and high schoolers are invited to Lake Elmo Park Reserve for hiking and an outdoor Mass on Saturday, September 13th from 4:00 - 6:00 PM. Note that this mass will count as a vigil Mass for Sunday. To RSVP and for more details, visit stmark.xyz/hike

UPCOMING EVENTS

**SUN
24
AUG**

Twin Cities Community Gathering of the Wojtyła Community & Institute | 4:00 - 6:00 PM | Carolyn Hall
Conjugal spirituality is all the rage these days and it's the topic *du mois* for the Twin Cities Community Gathering, yet again! There's more to be unpacked, and there're more "yet agains," as the staples of the gatherings remain! Potluck dinner, formation, prayer, and RSVPing at stmark.xyz/tccg

Fr. David Hottinger PES, Pastor and Champion Kickball Captain

The Eschatological Adventure, Part 14: "He will exalt himself and set himself up in God's temple to be worshipped"



Jolianna's prison cell was clean and well-lit. Excessively well-lit. She could appreciate every fiber of the white pillowcase that enveloped the thin, lumpy pillow that lay on her right, at the head of the bed on which she sat. The harsh light from the ceiling laid bare every contour of her confines. It was an *immodest* light, she thought.

She had no way to reckon the time that had transpired since she first woke up in this cell. The lights were never turned off. Her sustenance seemed to be delivered at odd intervals. But it had certainly been a *long* time. Weeks, she felt.

At present, Jolianna found herself deeply disturbed—*unnerved* was the word that came to mind—about what had just transpired. A video image had appeared on the wall opposite her bed. The "outgoing" Supreme Pontiff of the Roman Catholic Church (whether it had been the man of flesh and blood, or his digitized "prolongation," she could not tell) had "visited" her to exhort her (*command* her, really) to agree to what was being proposed by her captors. It was a very fair offer, he assured her, completely in line with Catholic teaching, and crucial, moreover, for the success of the Covenant of Peace that was to be inaugurated at the upcoming ceremonies in Rome.

"This is an unprecedented opportunity for Mother Church, my child," the likeness of the Holy Father had said to her. "Trust me: this is a prophetic moment for us and for all the world. The *time of fulfillment* is at hand. God's servant, Shomolon Scuritas, our time's Cyrus, is the providential instrument of the Great Reconciliation. So confident am I of his divinely-appointed role that, as you know, I will be resigning my office of Supreme Shepherd in just a few days so that, with the consent of the college of cardinals, Mr. Scuritas may be elected to serve not just as the bishop of Rome, but World Overseer and head of

all religions. He will take his rightful place in the House of God. And he shall be our peace.

"True, my child, we Catholics acknowledge one God and one Lord. But we are also called to see Christ in our neighbor, and whatever we do for our neighbor, we do for Christ. It is not offensive, therefore, to our Christian sensibilities to partake in the worship that will be offered at the Enthronement Ceremony. What or who Mr. Scuritas *represents* will be the true object of the worship that will be rendered. On that day, when Mr. Scuritas is revealed as the Father of All Nations, it will be the Power at work in him that we shall worship and adore. And really: what other power could work such awesome signs as we have seen in recent years, with the ending of wars, the reconciliation of enemies, and the world-wide coming together of the nations for the sake of the glory of man... which we know is what brings glory to our God? No, I do not think it too much to proclaim this man another Christ, a second Savior. If Jesus saved our souls, is it not fitting that another would come and save our bodies, too? So be at peace about all this, my daughter" the Holy Father concluded, "and join me, select members of your parish community, and all of Holy Church in recognizing the finger of God and the power at work in this brother of ours, in whom all the nations have found a blessing."

The exhortation concluded with a long pause in which Jolianna felt some response was desired from her. But she could not bring herself to make any movement, much less make sense of all that she had just heard. At the parish where she had been living these past several years, word of the Holy Father's arrest and presumed execution had arrived years ago. This image of him, however, had seemed real enough.

How could the young woman have known that all the other Christians who had been taken captive along with her had already either acceded to the terms of release—
continued on page 8

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

Money Well-Allocated

Adapted from material provided by CCW President Patti Shrake

During the past year CCW funds were used to support the following parish projects:

- Repair and painting of the Adoration chapel
- Carolyn Hall replacement of ceiling tiles, lights and wall painting
- New Sanctuary Vestures for each liturgical season
- Ignite Retreat Scholarship

They are pleased to announce that they brought in over **\$39,500** this year for charitable giving and church needs.

The CCW is donating a total of **\$14,000** among a handful of charities, **including:**

- Abria
- Our Lady of Peace Hospice
- St. Jerome's Catholic grade school (KaRen community scholarships)
- Eden Invitation
- Risen Savior Philippine Missions
- Partners for Hope Tanzania Missions
- Casa Guadalupe (St. Paul)
- Missed the Boat Theater (Annual Sponsorship to advertise St. Mark's Pre-School in their production programs)

Several additional projects were not able to be completed due to water leaking/drainage issues that need to be addressed first, or additional funding being available for chapel windows, so the CCW is adding those unspent funds to the parish project disbursement this year for a total of **\$41,500**.

- First priority: repairing the water leak in the bell tower
- Second priority: Rental income generating restorations: school cafeteria or lower church.
- Scholarship for Ignite retreat
- Faith formation catechists gifts

Thank you to all the CCW and greater parish volunteers who put in so many hours allowing us to bless so many fine organizations and support our church needs.

Parish Picnic Team Sports (Sep 06)

The great engine of the parish picnic is revving up, but, fortunately, it's very efficient (and any fits and starts were worked out last year). Really much of what must precede the picnic is rapt anticipation! Well, that and signing up your household for the great kickball (and tug of war) contest! Do that 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 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)!



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



MASS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions for week of AUGUST 24, 2025

10 AM

M: ---

T: Lucy Simones & Family

W: Delwin Schmidt +

Tr: Pope Leo XIV

F: Family of Pat & Karen Shrake

S*: Wally + & + Dorthy Moline (8 AM); Glenn & Kitty Norstrem (5:00 PM)

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

Triumph of the Heart

You know who's great?: Maximilian Kolbe (it's even in his name, which actually means *greatest!*). And did you know there's a film out presently and in the not too distant future all about his harrowing martyrdom in Auschwitz? Bonus: did you know the writer and director of said film used to attend St. Mark's (*true!*)?

Well, there's an effort to bring that film, *Triumph of the Heart - The Passion of St. Maximilian Kolbe*, to a theater near you! But it'll take some crowdfunding mettle and buy-in from the faithful! You can find that effort at stmark.xyz/triumph to bring it to town **September 13!**

But it's an act-today effort!

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!



Eden Invitation Retreat

Eden Invitation is a movement for Catholics and Christians with LGBTQ+ experiences. They know what it is to desire happiness, worth, and fulfillment, but to sense those desires bend like a reed in the wind—sometimes towards God, sometimes away from Him... They believe abundant life in Christ is possible— we can thrive in fidelity to the Church's wisdom about sexuality and the human person.

If you know or are an LGBTQ+ disciple on the way, striving to follow Christ in His Church or still figuring things out, Eden Invitation's retreats are a place for you. Join them October 9th - 12th, 2025, on their Pilgrim Longing Retreat for incarnate fellowship, deep prayer, and a place to put your guard down for a while. Signing up for a retreat can be daunting, so the first step in getting registered is to sign up for a Story Call. It's a chance for everyone to get to know each other and see if their spirituality is the right fit. To join them on Retreat, set up a Story Call **by August 29th!** edeninvitation.com/retreats



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

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!

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

ignite@onestrongfamily.org





ignite youth ministry


HIKING MASS

september 18

Grades 6-12



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



1515 Keats Ave N
Lake Elmo, MN
55042

WOJTYŁA COMMUNITY & INSTITUTE

TWIN CITIES
COMMUNITY
GATHERING

Join us for an evening of prayer, fellowship, and discussion on marriage and family life according to Saint John Paul II's Rule for Married Couples. Bring a potluck dish to share!

Sunday, August 24th
Church of St. Mark

4-6pm Potluck dinner, talk, discussion, and prayer in Carolyn Hall

Speakers: John and Liz Holmes on Conjugal Spirituality

We are a family of families; all stages of life are welcome. Childcare is provided. RSVP: stmarkxyz/tccg



St. Patrick's Guild Hiring


Not to be confused with the guild below, *St. Patrick's* Guild is hiring for cashier and customer service positions. Email or call rosemary@stpatricksguild.com, 651-696-5117 or ask for an application in store.

AN INTRO TO THE
**ST. JOSEPH
BUSINESS GUILD**

SEP 03
@ 6:30 PM

PIZZA
@ 7:00 PM

PRESENTATION
@ 7:30 PM



1983
DAYTON AVE
ST. PAUL, MN

RSVP @ SJBUSINESSGUILD.COM

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