

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | JANUARY 21, 2024



THE CHURCH OF SAINT MARK | www.onestrongfamily.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EXODUS 90 is for you, dear men of the parish! The crew meets on Saturday mornings, at 10:30 AM, at the parish center! It's always a good time to Exodus!

MARRIED AND ENGAGED COUPLES OF THE PARISH: the next MERCy retreat will be February 10th, from 8:45 AM to 11:45 AM, in Carolyn Hall! The theme for the morning will be "Navigating Stormy Seas: A Retreat on Jesus Calming the Storm."

SMALL GROUPS are the norm for the Christian tradition! And while many in our parish are involved in at least one group, the hope of hopes is all Catholics are in at least one. (And some small groups are not perpetual institutions, so sometimes it's fitting to band together for a set period of time!) As such, we want to see a healthy culture of small groups at the parish, so next Sunday (Jan. 28) make sure you hit up C&D for the next sortie into the small-group-o-sphere!

THERE'S NO BETTER TIME to do some spiritual exercises than when you're a young adult! **So mark off your calendar now** for the YA Retreat (May 16-19)! Learn more at stmark.xyz/silent-retreat

IT'S HOPEFULLY PART OF THE "CATHOLIC CONDITION" to want to do as much good as you can and draw as near to the Lord as possible. Low-hanging fruit to do just that, and help others do it: join the adoration *team*! Contact adoration@onestrongfamily.org to join the cause (this is in addition to a committed holy hour, of course)!

KRISTEN GRANT LEAVE OF ABSENCE: Our Director of Mission, Kristen Grant, will be taking a leave of absence from Feb. 1 -- May 10, as her family moves to Rome for the spring semester where her husband Matthews will be teaching with the UST Catholic Studies program. Fr. Patrick Evans will be serving as Interim Director of Mission during her absence."

FORTUNE FAVORS THE BOLD, and who are the boldest among us? Those who come out for Tuesday evening vespers (6:30 PM). To join their ranks, just come to the Church at that time and pray!

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUN 21 JAN	<p><i>Sanctity of Human Life Sunday After the 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Masses Carolyn Hall</i></p> <p>Join us in honoring the Sanctity of Human Life Sunday! Elevate your commitment by joining the Respect Life group at our parish. Discover volunteer opportunities from WOMB TO TOMB at coffee and donuts. Let's unite in cherishing and safeguarding the sanctity of every life! To get involved, drop a line to respectlife+owner@onestrongfamily.org</p> <p><i>Think & Drink 3:00 - 4:30 PM Carolyn Hall</i></p> <p>Dr. Robert Kennedy will be presenting on joining the rigors of theology with the practical challenges of being a professional out there in "the world." A good time will be had by all: though the YA crowd is running the show, the invite is flung wide to adults of the parish!</p>
WED 24 JAN	<p><i>CCW Meeting 1:00 - 3:00 PM Community Room</i></p> <p>Open to all women of the parish! We will be reviewing how the Christmas Boutique and Giving Tree went and making plans for the upcoming Family Game and Pizza night (which will now be on February 3rd 5:30-9:30 in the School Cafeteria, rescheduled due to the Swing Dance).</p>
SUN 28 JAN	<p><i>YA Potluck 5:00 - 8:00 PM Community Room</i></p> <p>Young adults need to eat, too! And have a chance to talk about their young adult things together! Standard potluck rules [probably] apply, but a special encouragement is given to bring-your-own-beverage!</p>

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

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



Thanks to an abundance of AP credits and somehow testing into Spanish 5 (some Peruvians would later discover that my oral comprehension was more like Spanish Zero), I was able to graduate a semester early from college. But what to do, now that life was just beginning?

The job market for economists and historians (my two “fields”) in Madison, WI, at the time was not exactly popping. So, naturally, I decided to dedicate my ample free time and energies to the Arts. My first piece from this period would be classified, I suppose, as a “beer-pong table.” But the artist in me cringes at the application of such a prosaic label. It was a cultural commentary. *Terrorists vs. Americans!* was the theme, with great American heroes populating the spots for cups on one side (reputed pillars like George Washington, Brett Farve the Viking, and Chuck Norris, for example) and current enemies of freedom (Bin Laden, Farve the Packer, etc.) on the other. The dividing line was a wall topped with barbed wire and adorned with appropriate political graffiti, doubling as a Ping Pong net when the table was so utilized. Call it “low art” if you must. But art meets its audience where it is at. And its author. And so this piece did, until move out day dawned and it was loosed into the stream of college house hand-me-downs flowing to oblivion.

So that occupied the first week or two. What now? The next *oeuvre* was addressed to a different audience, both older and younger than the first. It was my first and only foray into the then-stagnant world of children’s book authoring. Like for a good Pixar film, success on this stage means delighting parents and kids alike while communicating some worthwhile message.

Thus was born *Pennies Are Trash!*. While introducing today’s 6-8 year olds to basic monetary theory via a primer on U.S. coin currency, the book operated on one level to inculcate in children the habit of saving. But on an even deeper level, it strove to impress upon them the truth about pennies. Namely, that they are completely worthless and should be thrown away on first contact.

The book received high ratings from the focus groups we tested it with (mostly roommates and chance visitors to the house). But

while in negotiations with an up-and-coming illustrator (just so happened to be my sister), I realized the book could never be published. I stood by the message and still do, as applied to pennies and in practice. But the principle, applied elsewhere, is disastrous. All joking aside, I realized that the message of *Pennies Are Trash!* is everything that is wrong with the world.

Applied to people, the principle encourages abortion. “Pennies are trash” because however many you have, they are more a burden than a benefit. Their value is so small as to be negligible. Ergo: better not to waste time or energy, space or attention on them.

Makes sense for pennies. Unfortunately, the world also applies this logic to human beings. More burden than a benefit? Throw them away! Too small or too old to be useful? Into the dumpster! This makes sense for the world, because the world is egocentric. The value of everything else depends on its relation to me. I respect others to the degree I see myself in them, or at least derive some benefit from them. Too different to be recognized as my kind? Competes with me for resources? Opposes my plans? Banish it from my sight.

We who profess to be citizens of the Kingdom not of this world are not called to be ego-centric, but Christo-centric. We value things according to their relation to Christ. According to His valuation of them. And therefore we understand that all human beings of whatever size have enormous intrinsic value: made in the image of God, purchased by the Blood of the Lamb, and endowed with the potential to become sons of God and saints that glorify Him for all eternity, each in a unique way. O, the crime of abortion that has so saturated the world, and occurs with such alarming, every-day-ordinary frequency so close to our parish! O, the infernal logic upon which it is based, which is leading more and more to accept lives being “thrown away” at the other end of life’s spectrum!

Let’s not get discouraged. But let us look inward and see to what extent we too operate on the logic of egocentrism, according to the lesson of *Pennies Are Trash!*. And on this Respect Life Sunday, let us commit to witnessing to man’s value by not casting off anyone, however obnoxious or unimportant or costly, and allowing the Gospel to reveal to us the great value of, well, even one or two pennies that are offered to God in love.

ONE STRONG FAMILY UNITED IN CHRIST

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 Natalie Pechman and Nick Messer who are engaged to be married at Saint Mark's this June!

Natalie and Nick are both Twin Cities natives. Nick grew up in a suburb north of the cities and Natalie is from Northeast Minneapolis. They have both lived in St. Paul for the last several years post-college, not far from Saint Mark's. Natalie is an art director, for a publishing company, designing magazines, and Nick works at NET Ministries as a hospitality coordinator and chef.

They both consider themselves homebodies, Nick loves cooking and tinkering with cars, and Natalie loves doing puzzles and reading. Together they enjoy watching movies and live theater, both as audience members and as part of the cast and crew. In fact, they met and began their relationship while doing a production of "Sense and Sensibility" with the local Catholic theater company Missed the Boat! Nick flourishes on the stage while Natalie organizes things behind the scenes.

Nick has been attending Saint Mark's on and off for the last few years, but when he began dating, he and Natalie started coming here together and were drawn to make it their parish.

They love the art and architecture, as well as the beautiful and reverent liturgy. Many of their friends also go to Saint Mark's! They love the vibrant community at the parish and seeing so many young people and young families at Mass. They feel very welcomed by the priests and fellow parishioners.

This year they are very much looking forward to getting married in June and busy working on all the preparations. They ask for your prayers!

Welcome to the parish Natalie and Nick!

A Church of Small Groups

AS HAS SURELY NOT ESCAPED YOUR ATTENTION, our parish has a vision, shared by our Archbishop Bernard Hebda, that every Catholic will be in a small group.

Why?

Because it's in small groups that we can spur each other on to holiness, where we help each other draw closer to Jesus Christ and his call on our lives. This Lent you will have the chance to see for yourself what small groups are all about. Next weekend at all Masses we'll be sharing our parish "Small Group Menu" and information on how you can sign up.

For a sneak peak, check out <https://stmark.xyz/finder>



Brought to you by:
Saint Mark's CCW, Moms, and Young Adults

PIZZA & GAME NIGHT

Sat, Feb 3
5:30pm-9:30pm
Saint Mark's School Cafeteria

Come join us!
The whole family is welcome!

Let us know you're coming!

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

MASS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions for week of JAN 21, 2024

7 AM

M: ---
 T: + Jake Navin
 W: + Mark Worms
 Tr: + Alvin & Laura Wicklund
 F: ---
 S*: ---

10 AM

+ Patricia Cummings
 Kevin Meyer
 + Patricia Santelman
 + Sam Chaffee
 + Mike Dunker

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 began 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

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 pre-school website, onestrongfamily.org/preschool, or contact Amie Iwaskowicz, our Preschool Director at:

preschool@onestrongfamily.org
 651-644-5030

ADORATION



"OH, COME LET US ADORE HIM..."

We are so thankful to the many Adorers who made a new commitment to spending an hour (or more!) with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament in our Adoration chapel. The call from the Holy Spirit (with encouragement from Fr. David and Fr. Patrick) was heard and engaged!

Make 2024 YOUR year for prayer and evangelization; seek out Jesus and spend time with Him! He loves you so much! Visit stmark.weadorehim.com, log-in and choose your adoration commitment.

Questions? Email adoration@onestrongfamily.org



DONATE TO ST. MARK'S

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



MINISTRIES

SAVE THE BABY HUMANS



ABORTION IS STILL QUITE “THINKABLE” HERE IN MINNESOTA! And many cultural and civil powers want to enshrine it. Join the greater Archdiocese for the “Prayer Service for Life” at the Cathedral, at 10:30 AM on Jan. 22, and then join fellow Minnesotans of all stripes for the March at the Capital.

Women’s Workout Nights (Mondays)

COME GET FUN NIGHTS OF MOVEMENT INTO YOUR LIFE FOR THE NEW YEAR! ALL women of the parish are welcome to come (and friends too!) to Monday workout nights at 8:00 PM in the school gym. The January and February schedule is set for:

Jan 15 Rosemarie-Shine Dance Fitness

Jan 29 Leah-Pilates

Feb 12 Leah- Pilates

Feb 26 Rosemarie-Shine Dance Fitness

A new schedule of workouts beginning in March will be announced at a later date. Any questions? Email rosemariemw@gmail.com with questions about Shine Dance Fitness or leahannamundson@gmail.com with questions about Pilates.

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



JANUARY 27, 2024
3:00-4:30PM
ST. MARK’S CAMPUS

Legion of Mary

DO YOU WANT TO renew and deepen your faith as Catholic?
 Do you want to live your faith in a more practical way?
 Do you want to help our Pastor to spread the good news?

Then we invite you to become a member of the Legion of Mary, as an active member or auxiliary!

Active members

Attend our weekly meeting, follow the Legion System, spend two hours on active work each week and pray daily.
 Legionaries take the Promise to work with Mary, our Queen and Mother.

Auxiliary Membership

If you can’t become an Active Member, as an auxiliary member you can commit to supporting the work of the Legion through your prayers. You will say the daily prayers contained in the Legion’s leaflet (Tessera) these include the Rosary.

The Legion provides us with the opportunity to grow and mature in our faith through prayers and apostolic work in union with Mother Mary and under the guidance of a spiritual director. Our world needs prayers! Pray with the Legion of Mary. To find out more please call 651-645-5717 or PARISHCENTER@ONESTRONGFAMILY.ORG

STAFF

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

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

Randy Lehn	Parish Business Manager
Br. José Ignacio Rodríguez	Master of Ceremonies
Br. Evan Steeves	Ignite Youth Ministry
Sr. Leann Luecke, PES	Ignite Youth Ministry
Sr. Maddy Elking, 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	Pastoral Associate
Gina Brennan	Administrative Assistant
Kevin Gearn	Director of Communications

2001 Dayton Ave, St. Paul, MN 55104
 Phone.....(651) 645-5717
 Fax(651) 644-0011
Pastoral emergency line.....(651) 354-9411
 parishcenter@onestrongfamily.org

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 Iwaszkowicz, Director
 651-644-5030
preschool@onestrongfamily.org

Saturday Evening Mass: 5 PM
Sunday Mass: 9 AM and 11 AM

Monday-Friday: 10 AM
Tuesday-Friday: 7 AM
Saturday: 8 AM

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.

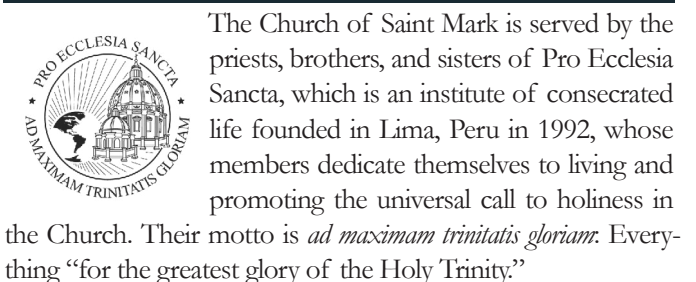
BAPTISMS are celebrated on the 3rd Saturday of every month at 10 AM (exceptions for holidays or major parish events). You must register for Baptism at least one month before your desired date. If this is your first child being baptized in the Catholic Church a Baptism preparation class is needed at least 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



CONNECT



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



Silent Retreat

Join Father Patrick for a 3 day retreat based on the Ignatian Spiritual Exercises

Open to Young Adults ages 22-35

MAY 16-19, 2024

Dunrovin Retreat Center
15525 St Croix Trail N
Marine on St Croix

Information & Sign Up:




Biblical Priests



JAN 9-12 ALL THE PES PRIESTS in the US province Gathered in CA for a scripture conference and priestly fraternity. See how many you can recognize! Nine have served at St. Mark's!

AN INTRO TO THE ST. JOSEPH BUSINESS GUILD



JAN 25
ATTEND AT
5:30 PM

1983 DAYTON AVE,
ST. PAUL, MN
SJBUSINESSGUILD.COM

The St. Joseph Business Guild is hosting an open intro session to the many benefits their members enjoy. Everyone has a place in the network, whether looking for a job, c-suite executive, student, or mentor. Get the inside track on how the Guild can help you and how you can help raise the tide for the greater church! The session will be on January 25th, at 5:30 PM at 1983 Dayton Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55104. Pizza and networking will follow at 6:30 PM.

RSVP at sjbusinessguild.com!



A Valentine's Night of SWING

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Featuring
THE NORTHSTAR BIG BAND

ST. MARK'S GYM
1950 Marshall Ave. Saint Paul

7 PM. SWING LESSONS
7:30-10 PM. MUSIC

\$10 ADMISSION AT THE DOOR
(\$8 with student ID)

BEER AND WINE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE.

