

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | OCTOBER 11, 2026



THE CHURCH OF SAINT MARK | www.onestrongfamily.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Don't forget that we've got a pastoral theme this year that we're now a month into living out: A Family at the Feet of Jesus! And to help you remember "the one thing necessary," the bulletin cover is sporting another rendition of Christ in the House of Martha and Mary, by Johannes Vermeer. "Vermeer? The same artist who did 'Girl with a Pearl Earring' and 'Allegory of the Catholic Faith'?" The same, dear reader. And his bio is worth perusing: born into Reformation Dutch Republic, and baptized and raised a Calvinist, he married a Catholic woman, converted, and the couple had 15 children. He was known for using some popping pigments, as evidenced by the strong blues in The Milkmaid and the aforementioned Girl with a Pearl Earring, and you can also see some higher saturation coloring in Mary's red jacket in the painting that graces our cover. But before you reach for that 120 pack of Crayola, mark well that his palette used only ~20 pigments, and seven of those made up the lionshare. It's a rookie mistake to run to a diverse palette, especially at the expense of honing your contrasts and values first: chroma gets all the credit but value does all the work. Anyhow, Vermeer died at only 43! Maybe pray an "Eternal Rest" for him, dear reader?!

There can be so much parish news; how can one keep up with it all?! Our homepage (onestrongfamily.org) does a fair job of revolving info on upcoming goings-on, but you can also get the weekly parish email newsletter ([stmark.xyz/email](mailto:stmark.xyz@email)) and receive news in your very inbox. Your searchable, filterable inbox!

We've had one Nazareth Night, yes, but what about Second Nazareth Night? November 4th is the next First Wednesday, and so we'll have our next Nazareth Night with the provocative presentation title of *"Conflict & Communication: Unitive, Fruitful and Joyful."*

All Saints Day is on a Sunday this year so you're obligated to go to Mass. Like you are every Sunday and most All Saints Days. And 9:00 AM Mass + the Lord's Day Coffee and Donuts that follows will be accordingly special: youth of the parish are invited to come dressed as their favorite saints and following Mass there will be a special procession of saints and trick-or-treating holy "candy begging" at C&D. (Also, Daylight Savings Time ends Nov 1st!)

Assume this is the norm at least until November: Sunday Confessions will be 8:15 - 8:50 AM and 10:30 - 10:50 AM. The faithful are greatly encouraged to Confess on Saturday, etc!

There will be an all-parish retreat day (including some semblance of childcare), including a combined 10:00 AM Mass, adoration and confession, brunch, talk, reflection, discussion and more. You know: a retreat! More details coming, but block that Sunday off!

UPCOMING EVENTS

MON 12 OCT	CCW Meeting 4:30 - 6:00 PM Community Room All women of the parish are invited to the next CCW potluck dinner and meeting . Come for prayer, fellowship, rummage sale results and planning of the next events.
TUES 13 OCT	Fall Bible Study starts 7:00 PM Carolyn Hall A novel take on Acts of the Apostles surely awaits you. So novel, though assuredly without untoward "innovations," that in the history of the church, this will be a singular experience. Because our very own pastor, Fr. David, will be leading the study which draws heavily from his recent years of study toward his licentiate. Six nights in all, meeting Tuesdays; register at stmark.xyz/bible
SUN 18 OCT	Pastor-Led Prayer at Planned Parenthood 1:00 PM 671 Vandalia St. Pray to end abortion, and join our spiritual fathers in the ministry of prayer and presence at Planned Parenthood for an hour of prayer, as part of the 2026 Fall 40 Days for Life Campaign. And recall our next prayer vigil day is Oct 22: stmark.xyz/40dfl

Oct 11, 2026 - 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Brother Alphonsus Martel—the only habited Christian Brother on faculty at the time—was the “business faculty” at my high school until his death my junior year. I had him for two or three courses beginning with Accounting. He was something of an institution, and his classes were like none other. Each period began with an impromptu “prayer” which ran for about ten minutes and involved elements of sermon, social commentary, and thoughts for the day. After that came a whole ritual about returning past assignments and submitting new ones. Then came the lesson itself, which was never very long since there was always time for doing assignments before the end. In his large black cassock and stern classroom demeanor (woe to the one who wandered into his room chewing gum!) Brother instilled fear in his students... until one realized that he was really a big teddy bear. Nevertheless, for both new students and veterans Brother commanded respect. For those who arrived late to his class, there was an inquisition. He had eyes in the back of his head, could throw a pen in a wastebasket from across the room, and when he asked you how you were doing, he never accepted any response less than “Great!” Brother’s classroom itself was also something of a Baroque-style museum of 80s and 90s cultural mementos (a large poster of Rambo comes to mind), which provided rich grazing pastures for the eye when the lesson (or prayer) failed to capture one’s attention. And yet, woe to the student whom Brother caught day-dreaming in class! Truly, I have never since experienced such a classroom culture like Brother Martel’s.

Most memorably, every class that Brother led ended with a collection. A student (this was one of the assigned responsibilities) would pass through the aisle with what looked like a clay chalice. Brother would encourage us to “remember the kiddies.” What he meant (and it might take a student a few weeks to put it together) was to give something to the Christian missions taking place throughout the world. Somewhat begrudgingly, but to oblige Brother, we would all reach into our pockets and produce a few coins, knowing that he was not above

passing through the room himself if the collected amount was too meager.

In this, Brother Martel resembled “America’s teacher,” the now-Blessed Fulton Sheen. Archbishop Sheen was the national director of the Pontifical Mission Society in the U.S.A. for sixteen years. In that role, he not only visited many missionary sites abroad, he also worked to raise millions of dollars and foment millions of prayers on behalf of the Church’s missionary efforts throughout the world.

Of course, Sheen’s television show and myriad publications were also a most fruitful missionary effort to both poorly formed Catholics and non-Catholics here at home. In Sheen one heard the Christian faith articulated with conviction and coherence, as well as with wit and wisdom. Not unlike Brother Martel’s witness to us students as he ostensibly taught us the elements of business management, *mutatis mutandis*.

Next Sunday is World Mission Sunday. As Blessed Fulton would have reminded his hearers, it is the one Sunday of the year that all Catholic parishes throughout the world take up a collection to support the Holy Father’s missionary endeavors worldwide. Granted that we are on mission here at St. Mark’s—to our neighbors, to students, to the next generation—we should not turn a blind eye to the “clay chalice” which the Holy Father holds out to us that weekend. A few coins, if not to say a few hundred dollars, can go a lot further in a foreign land to provide for basic human needs, or to build a chapel or furnish catechetical material, or otherwise facilitate the proclamation of the Gospel to those who have never heard it, or those who need to hear it again. We will be taking up a second collection next weekend at all the Masses. I ask you to have something ready “for the kiddies,” or rather for the little ones who, through the Church, are beginning us for a cup of cool, living water for their thirsting souls. And that Water is Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen!

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

New Parishioner Series



Meet Laura Gnerer! After being in the Twin Cities for five years, Laura recently moved to Excelsior. She is from a big family with several nieces and nephews who she gets to care for.

Laura went to school for Psychology and this fall she started her fourth year as a teacher assistant at St. John the Baptist Catholic Montessori school. She loves it and gets to work with children ages three to six.

In her free time she enjoys being around her friends and Catholic community, going to adoration, making coffee for people in her home, running, being outdoors, taking photos, and painting. She also loves inspiring others through little acts of love.

Laura is so happy to have found her home at Saint Mark's. While she said it's been a long journey to becoming a parishioner, she wouldn't have it any other way. Back in fall of 2023 she moved about a mile away from the parish. For two years she didn't want to go to Saint Mark's because "all young adults" go to Saint Mark's. Now though, she said she sees why, "it is amazing"!

She loves being around her friends and Catholic community. Two years later she moved even closer to the parish and the majority of her household of women attended Saint Mark's and the Catholic Advance Movement small groups. In fall of 2025, Brother Jose visited their house chili cook off/house warming party/bonfire. When she met him, he invited her to join a small group, and she accepted the invitation. Since then, the Lord has revealed His Sacred Heart to her through the people of the parish and she is excited to meet more of you!

What drew her to Saint Mark's is that she always feels like she has an important role to play, through what she is involved in to the events she attends, no matter how small or big the task. She loves that there are so many
continued to the right

events to choose from and that it is such a lively and abundant parish. She also appreciates how everyone genuinely cares about each other, and for her. It is clear to her that each individual loves the Sacred Heart of Jesus and that love flows to everyone else in the parish.

This season she is most looking forward to God willing, taking one step closer in her vocation!

Welcome to the parish Laura.

Rummage Sale Report!

"It's over 9,000!" Well over, friends. Peruse the following from *the* Patti Shrake and the Rummage Sale Coordinating Team (with some editing by the editor for the sake of space); find the full post at stmark.xyz/fullpost

"What a fabulous Fall Rummage Sale we had. Here are some of the highlights:

94 volunteers signed in and worked to sort donations, assist customers, were cashiers or set up and tore down facilities. This sale could not happen without each and everyone of you! Thank you for your time and commitment to this community outreach ministry.
...

Approximately **170 Sneak Peek shoppers** stood in the rain and paid an entrance fee to get first dibs at our treasures and brought in approximately **\$4000**.

We added a Vintage and Boutique Department this year and sold **\$724** in that department alone, with more income forthcoming from consignment and online sales. Thank you to Mary Henseler! She even identified a **\$1000** authentic Louis Vuitton hand bag!
...

The Totals are in and we cleared a new record: **over \$24,700!!!!** This is even more than what we earned at this year's Spring Rummage Sale and about twice what we used to bring in just a few years ago. All the money raised by the CCW will be disbursed in the Spring to parish projects and charities.

Our next sales are the **Christmas Boutique and Cookie Sale December 5 & 6. ..."**

MASS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions for week of **OCTOBER 11, 2026**

7 AM

M: ***
T: Harry Kool +
W: Carol + & + William Lambros
Tr: JoAnn Donovan +
F: Fr. Patrick Evans

10 AM

M: ---
T: Zaida Alvarado
W: Chris, Louis & + Elizabeth Macheichok
Tr: Danielle Telschow +
F: Faith Carlson

Sa: Living & Deceased CCW Members (8 AM); Robert Case (5 PM)

Su: Pro Populo (9 AM)

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. Visit the preschool website, saintmarkspreschool.org, or contact Addie Smith, our Preschool Director at:

preschool@onestrongfamily.org
651-644-5030

ADORATION



Did you pray today? One of the saddest feelings in the world is it's 9:30 PM and you're about to turn in and you realize, oh no, I *didn't* [yet] pray today.

Just one of the many perks of a middle-of-the-night holy hour is you



can *wake up* knowing that you already prayed today! Commit to an hour at stmark.weadorehim.com! Can't cover a whole hour, regular? We also have a team-builder initiative where you can be matched with other adorers to adore in rotation! Share your interest and availability via stmark.xyz/team

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

40 Days for Life et al

St. Marks and Nativity will share two adopted days in the Fall 40 Days for Life campaign, the second is on **Thursday October 22**. Sign up for an hour of prayer between 7 am and 5 pm for those dates at **stmark.xyz/40dfl**

Our clergy will be leading an hour of prayer outside the local abortuary on Oct 18, as well. 1:00 PM!

Also on the horizon is a Pro-Life Sidewalk Ministry Annual Training Seminar, taking place at NATIVITY OF OUR LORD in Steiner Hall (basement of the church) on Tuesday evening Oct 20, from 7:00 PM - 9 PM. Sidewalk Counselors are ordinary people who offer literature to abortion-minded parents about the (1) Help Available, (2) Humanity of Preborn Children, and (3) Harm of Abortion, while offering words of Truth and Love, encouraging them to choose life, and directing them to a Pregnancy Resource Center.

Both counselor trainees and prayer supporters are encouraged to attend!! Prayerfully consider joining and spreading the word. This outreach has saved many lives!! Interested parties are asked to watch a brief video that explains more about the ministry, presented by Janet McCoy: **stmark.xyz/mccoy** Former abortion workers have said that when people are there praying, they have up to a 75% no-show rate for abortion appointment. YOUR prayers and presence MATTER

Conventual Events

Saturday, October 17th the PES sisters are hosting a volunteer day to help prepare their Sacred Heart of Jesus Convent in Bloomington for winter; lunch provided: RSVP at **stmark.xyz/convent**

And **November 8th** is a big ol' Religious Communities Open House Sunday and so the sisters invite families, youth and all the faithful to visit the convent for a wonderful opportunity to pray together, encounter the love of the Sacred Heart, and learn more about religious life. **1:00 - 4:00 PM!**



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
(\$7 with student ID)

BEER AND WINE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE.

18+ EVENT

MORE INFO AT stmarkxyz/swing



Also, for the swing dance, recall that volunteers get in fuh-ree! Hone your volunteer skills, maybe pick up a move or two out of the corner of your eye, and then go dance! Limited slots available at **stmark.xyz/help**

Men's Retreat (Dec 4-6)

You are invited to register for the upcoming retreat - Dec 4 to 6 - at Dunrovin Retreat Center in Marine on St. Croix. The retreat is open to all men and provides time for recollection at the beginning of Advent.

Fr. Patrick Evans, PES, will lead the retreat along with other PES priests and deacons who will share seven reflections on the Beatitudes and provide opportunities for confession, spiritual direction, and one-on-one moments. Periods of adoration and prayer will follow each talk.

They expect the retreat to be full, so sign up soon to secure your spot. If you have any questions, please reply to **mensretreats@thecatholicadvance.org** or register at **stmark.xyz/cam**

STAFF

Clergy:

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

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

Parish Staff:

Randy Lehnen.....Parish Business & Facilities Manager
Sr. Daniela Ormeno, PES.....Faith Formation
& Ignite Youth Ministry

Annamarie Adkins.....Parish Family Life Coordinator

Kristen Grant.....Director of Discipleship

Andrew Kracht.....Facilities Maintenance Technician

Kathrine Handford.....Director of Music and Organist

Audrey Koval.....Pastoral Associate
& Safe Environment Coordinator

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: Alex Coyne, Chair

Parish Finance Committee: Pat Shrake, Chair

Saint Mark's Catholic Preschool

Addie Smith, Director

651-644-5030

preschool@onestrongfamily.org

UPDATE YOUR INFO



Need to be added to or have your info updated in our new digital directory? Don't have access to it but you would like to? Have other operative questions thereto? All that and more can be found on the

parish website using the QR code to the left.

CONNECT



/ChurchofSaintMark



@churchofsaintmark

CELEBRATIONS

Mass:

Saturday Evening Mass: 5:00 PM

Sunday Mass: 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM

Daily Mass:

Monday-Friday: 10:00 AM

Tuesday-Friday: 7:00 AM

Saturday: 8:00 AM

Confession:

Tuesday-Friday: 9:30 AM

Saturday: 3:30-4:30 PM

Sunday: 8:30 - 9:00 & 10:30 - 11:00 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 Saturdays (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."

ST. MARK, PRAY FOR US

End-of-Life Workshop (Nov 07)

This is a comprehensive pre-planning workshop (Nov 7, 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM, St. John the Baptist, New Brighton) where you'll learn from expert speakers about a variety of end-of-life planning topics and fill out a pre-planning workbook. Registration includes seat and lunch. Attendees can optionally purchase the workbook as well. Find more information at the Catholic Cemeteries website: catholic-cemeteries.org

Remembrance Service for Miscarriages (Oct 17)

Saturday, October 17, 10 a.m., Gethsemane Cemetery Chapel Mausoleum, New Hope and Resurrection Cemetery Chapel Mausoleum, Mendota Heights
This special service of remembrance is an opportunity for those who lost a child before birth. Find more information and promotional materials on the event page: stmark.xyz/oct17

Life in Focus (Nov 07)

A day of films at the University of Minnesota, all about human dignity, compassion, and end of life care?! Yes! It's the "Life in Focus" film festival (Nov 7) put on by the Minnesota Alliance for Ethical Healthcare. 12 films will be shown on three screens throughout the day, along with filmmakers and speakers present for commentary. Traditional theater food served and a closing reception, too! Students and clergy can use discount codes CLERGY or STUDENT for discounted \$5 tickets. To get cultured and also help build up a culture of life at the U, the cities, and greater Minnesota, visit lifeinfocus.eventbrite.com/



Speed Dating? Here? Yes. Maybe.

Not that holiness *consists in* hustling, but why *not* pursue giving God the greatest glory as quickly as possible (whatever that looks like in your response to his Spirit)? Enter Speed Dating at the Church of Saint Mark, possibly around Christmas. Unabashedly apply that hustle towards vocation, ye unaffiliated!

But, rest assured, you can make haste slowly as right now aspiring operational parties within the St. Mark-o-sphere are *simply* looking to gauge interest for young adults (ages 22-38) relatively far and wide to partake in a little yuletide blind/speed dating.

If you've got an interest, or even an interest in having interest, they've put together a simple form to see what can be made of this. Much of the details are TBD, so *simply* respond to their form at stmark.xyz/dating



Through the Flames @ Holy Cross (Nov 01)

Holy Cross Catholic Church invites all comers for the world premiere of Through the Flames: A Musical Tribute to Martyrdom, on November 1, at 3:00 PM.

Created by composer Samuel Backman and soprano/poet Elena Zolnick, this dramatic new song cycle for soprano and organ brings to life the extraordinary stories of six saints and martyrs from across centuries and cultures. Experience a powerful musical celebration of courage, sacrifice, faith, and heavenly triumph. Free and open to the public!

samuelbackman.com/through-the-flames