

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER | APRIL 26, 2026



LIVING FOR THE
DAY OF THE LORD



Holy Hour

THU
30
APR

First Friday

FRI
01
MAY



THE CHURCH OF SAINT MARK | www.onestrongfamily.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This was the high water mark for our volunteer needs at the parish **so thank you for all who helped with the Rummage Sale and the Feast of St. Mark!** Now, don't coast off into summer yet, but we can all hopefully proceed with a bit more levity having undertaken these undertakings!

The Stations of the Resurrection will be prayed in the church this Easter Sunday evenings (5:00 PM), a meditating on our Lord's Resurrection (the form is quite familiar for any who have made Stations of the Cross).

All CCW members please save the date of Friday, May 1 for the ACCW convention at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton church in Hastings. Find your relevant CCW contact for more info!

Enroll now for the 2026 - 2027 school year! Set your child up for success at St. Mark's Preschool. Our experienced teachers craft engaging, play-based lessons that enhance cognitive, social-emotional, physical, and language development, which foster creativity and inspire a lifelong love of learning. **Not looking to send kids to preschool?** Spread the word, nevertheless, and you're boosting our parish mission! saintmarkspreschool.org

There was a production issue with our last batch of St. Mark's "Stay Awake" mugs so, sadly, they were not ready for the Feast of St. Mark. They are anticipated to arrive this Tuesday and will be available for pickup at the parish office or next Sunday's Coffee and Donuts and/or May Crowning! \$25 donation! There are no plans to run any more, so get while limited supplies last! If you already donated or expressed interest in a mug, then your items have been set aside!

Congratulations to the eighth graders — and new Church Militant — who were confirmed on April 21 by Bishop Izen at the Cathedral:

Confirmand	Confirmation Saint
Gwyneth Hansen	St. Teresa of Avila
Samuel Witham	St. Maximilian Kolbe
Lydia Kuwata	St. Michael the Archangel
Sabrina Antonio	St. Bernadette Soubirous

UPCOMING EVENTS

Spring Clean Up Morning | Following 8:00 AM Mass | Campus

**SAT
02
MAY**

Spring has sprung, in fits and starts, and now we're in need of some Spring cleaning. And more than usual: May 09 we'll be welcoming a noteworthy crowd and notable Archbishop [Hebda] and Bishop [Izen], at the least, for the ordination of Brothers Evan and José! That means that, in addition to elsewhere, we have to have the upper *and* lower church ship-shape for vesting, seating, etc. Many hands and strong hands (and biceps and lifting with your legs) make for light work!

May Crowning | Following 9:00 AM Mass, Reception to Follow | Rectory Garden, Carolyn Hall

**SUN
03
MAY**

The queen of heaven needs a crown, especially in this Easter season of rejoicing! The whole parish is invited to attend her floral coronation by-proxy! The plan is to process from the Church to the rectory garden. Breakfast to follow in Carolyn Hall. Feel welcome to bring your own flowers, too! Volunteer to help with the crowning and/or bring an item for breakfast! stmark.xyz/crowning

Diaconate Ordination of Brs. Evan and José | 10:00 AM | Church, Gym

**SAT
09
MAY**

They'll still be brothers, but join us in witnessing and welcoming our brothers into Holy Orders! Reception to follow Mass!

4/23: Parish School of Prayer: Praying with the Psalm (on the Day of the Lord)

The psalm for this 4th Sunday of Easter, “Good Shepherd” Sunday, is perhaps the most well-known: Psalm 23. Its six short verses are fairly easy to commit to memory, and its pastoral imagery and expressions of confidence have made it a favorite among God’s people “for endless days.” But beneath the psalm’s simple surface, there is a rich depth of sacramental symbolism for us Christians.

The LORD is my shepherd; there is nothing I lack.

The psalm begins with an expression of faith: God is the one who directs my life. Something that is necessary to remind ourselves, precisely in those moments when His leadership is not apparent, or when we might otherwise become overly-preoccupied with our human leaders. *The LORD is my shepherd...* In the sacramental economy, this points to the **Sacrament of Orders**, by which men are configured to Christ the Good Shepherd in a special way. Bishops, especially, are those through whom Jesus continues to pastor and guide His Church. (Hence the crozier they carry). Nevertheless, these are but His instruments. They come and go. But Christ abides forever. He is the true shepherd!

To still waters he leads me. In green pastures he makes me lie down.

The “restful” waters to which Christ the Good Shepherd leads His sheep have always been identified in the Church’s tradition with the waters of the **Sacrament of Baptism**. He leads all those who listen to His voice to those waters of regeneration, which indeed give rest because they wash away what troubles our conscience and make us heirs to eternal rest. “Verdant pastures,” for sheep provide both a place to recline as well as food on which to feed; for the members of Christ’s flock, these, then, signify the **Sacrament of the Eucharist** (let’s remember that wheat is really the “fruit” or grain of a species of *grass*), where we Christians are also called to rest our heads (as on Christ’s breast) during adoration, and upon which we feed as the Bread of Life.

He restores my soul; He guides me along right paths for the sake of His name.

All the sacraments work restoration in our souls. Baptism initially. Then the Eucharist, when we are fainting from the journey. But the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** restores in a special way during that journey; when we have strayed like sheep, it is how Christ the Good Shepherd comes and places us on His shoulders, and brings us back to the “right paths,” imparting grace to keep us close to Him, who is the Way that leads to Life.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff comfort me.

What is comforting about a rod and a staff? In the hands of a good shepherd, they spell protection for the members of the flock from all their potential enemies: lions and wolves and robbers. When we approach the “valley of the shadow of death” as we near the end of life or when otherwise in danger of death, it is through the **Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick** that Christ gives special strength and comfort.

You set a table before me in front of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

The “table” and the “cup” lead our minds back to the Eucharist, and particularly to the chalice of Christ’s blood, which all those who are called to share His glory in the next life are invited to share in this. But mention of the oil that anoints the psalmist head makes us think of the “oil of gladness,” i.e. the anointing of the Holy Spirit that is imparted by the **Sacrament of Confirmation**.

Indeed, goodness and mercy will pursue me all the days of my life; I will dwell in the house of the LORD for endless days.

One could read this line as reflecting on the previous five verses: since our Good Shepherd has provided for us so abundantly, we indeed should have such confidence in His goodness and mercy! Perhaps it’s a stretch, but to complete our sacramental reading of the Psalm, the intention to remain “dwelling in the house of” *continued on next page*

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

From the Heart of the Shepherd continued from previous page
 the LORD” for the rest of one’s life could be related to the **Sacrament of Holy Matrimony**. Spouses commit to dwell in each other’s home and heart until death parts them, and this sacrament is the “mystery” or icon of Christ’s love for His Church. Surely, the “sheep” who sings this song is truly the Bride, who rejoices over having been wed to her Shepherd, in whose house (the Church!) she now expects to live “for ages unending!” Amen!

Hosted by the St. Joseph Business Guild



MAY 02



ST. JOSEPH'S FAIR


If we don't build our own economy, others will. But if Catholics come together to support each other, it's a force multiplier. So **all the faithful are invited to St. Joseph's Fair (May 2nd)** to strengthen, and be strengthened by, the good work being done in our Archdiocese and get excited about **building a culture that supports the faith in abundance.**

Featuring an expo of Catholic businesses; break-out sessions on finance, business, and wellness; guest speakers **Chuck Marohn** (Strong Towns) and **Dale Ahlquist** (Chesterton Society); and the whole day is capped with an inspired-by Shark Tank pitch-style event, emceed by **Matt Birk**.

Register at sjbusinessguild.org/sjf

\$29; doors open at 7:30 AM. Free for priests, deacons, religious, seminarians, and students*

MAY 01



NEW 2026 LEADING WITH FAITH AWARDS

Support good work being done in our Archdiocese by celebrating exemplary faith-driven leaders in our community, advancing the work of the **St. Joseph Business Guild**, and rallying around St. Joseph the Worker on his patronal feast day (May 1st)! Mass at 5:00 PM, dinner at 6:00! **RSVP at sjbusinessguild.org/lwf**

SAINT MARK YOUNG ADULTS

SERVICE PROJECT



SATURDAY, MAY 16
8:30AM-NOON IN AFTON

Join us at a parishioner's house, do some manual labor, and earn money for the poor in Peru! Lunch provided.

If you want lunch, RSVP!



Jubilee Pilgrimage with the Franciscans

Care of the Franciscan Brothers of Peace, you're invited to join the Franciscan Pilgrimage to Lourdes and Fatima this October-2026 **during the Jubilee Year of St Francis of Assisi**. The pilgrimage link for all the info, the brochure and the enrollment page is: selectinternationaltours.com/fr-seraphim-wirth-fbp/ (QR code below). If you have any questions, email Mark Miller at: mpmille333@yahoo.com.



MASS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions for week of APR 26, 2026

7 AM
M: ***
T: Nathan Shrake
W: Veronica Lapczynski
Tr: Mark Worms +
F: Ron E. Anderson +

10 AM

David Shrake
Mary Margaret Collins
Martin Kilroy
Audrey Koval

Sa: Fount of the Merciful Lamb Household (8 AM); Maybelle Newby + (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



Easter is here! commit to an hour of adoration!

A simple click and you can create an account (stmark.weadorehim.com) and choose from over 100 times throughout the week.



Can't cover a whole hour,

regularly? 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

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 Gabrielle Pechacek! Gabrielle grew up in Hudson, WI with her three brothers and three sisters. Her siblings and she were homeschooled together through high school. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin River Falls with a Bachelor in Fine Arts and an emphasis in painting and then moved to Minnesota.

She currently works at Subway, and her hobbies include anything related to arts and crafts. She has explored painting, ceramics, printmaking, crocheting/knitting, and quilting. Oil painting is her primary source of interest and where she has recently been pouring her time into. She also really enjoys music and grew up playing the piano.

Gabrielle discovered Saint Mark's when she was exploring different churches, and while she has been coming to the parish for a little over a year now, she just recently joined officially! What drew her to the parish was the emphasis on the Sacred Heart of Jesus. One of her favorite things about Saint Mark's is the commitment the community has to strive for holiness through an encounter with the God who loves us. She also really loves the beautiful liturgy and warm community where everyone genuinely cares about each other.

This season she is looking forward to spending time outdoors, hanging out with friends, and hopefully spending a good amount of time in front of her easel!

Welcome to the parish Gabrielle!

Summer Camp!

Girls ages 5-9 are invited to join us for a five-day camp filled with friends, games, crafts, and fun in the sun!

June 8th -12th

9:30-11:30am

What To Expect

This camp will be an opportunity for campers to make new friends, to do great crafts, and enjoy group games. Each day will have a different theme. The themes are below.

Additional Details

Camp will be hosted at
734 Woodridge Dr., Mendota Heights 55118

Themes :

Monday- Arts and Crafts, Tuesday- Ocean Day, Wednesday- Music and Acting Day, Thursday- Princess Adventure Day, Friday- Olympic Day

Total cost for 5-day camp: \$60

(\$40 registration + \$10 materials fee + \$10 snack fee)

SUMMER Art CLASSES!

CLASSES OFFERED:

(2 SESSIONS PER CLASS, 90 MINUTES EACH)

Meet your instructor,
Gabrielle Johnson!
Trinity Alum, Benedictine College student, oldest of nine siblings.
Loves art, teaching, & kids!

Drawing 1 & 2

Watercolor

Hand Sewing

Classes offered Mondays June 1st ~ August 3rd

Morning and afternoon sessions available

Ages 5-9 and 9&-up

Maximum of 4 students per class

Home studio located in Mendota Heights

COST

\$30 per class, plus \$8 materials fee

Registration Information

gabriellegracejohnson07@gmail.com
(952)-250-5107

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 Manager
 Sr. 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
 & Safe Environment Coordinator
 Gina Brennan.....Administrative Assistant
 Kevin Kearns.....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

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 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 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.”

LORD, RENEW YOUR CHURCH



Join us for Leadership Weekend!

Next weekend, our parish will celebrate Leadership Weekend as part of the *Lord, Renew Your Church* campaign. This is a special time for each of us to prayerfully consider how we can help renew and strengthen our parish and the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis.

Please take this week to reflect and pray about your commitment. Ask the Lord how He is calling you to share your gifts. Then, **next weekend**, join us in making your pledge by **bringing your commitment card to Mass** and placing it in the collection basket.

Together, through faith and generosity, **we can make a lasting impact for generations to come**. Thank you for your prayers and your willingness to lead!

Scan the QR
code to make
your gift
today!



CAMPAIGN UPDATE

As of 4/24/26

Thanks to the generous hearts of our Parish Community, St. Marks has raised \$969,300 out of our \$760,000 goal. Now that we've reached our goal, 80% of all funds raised go back to St. Marks. Our parishioners continue to give generously! We are deeply grateful for those who have already contributed to our goal. If you have not yet been specifically invited to participate in this historic campaign, please prayerfully consider your participation. Thank you for joining us on this journey!

GOAL: \$760,000

\$969,300

PLEGGED TO DATE

