THE SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE | NOVEMBER 22, 2026



THE CHURCH OF SAINT MARK | www.onestrongfamily.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

In the spirit of our pastor's article (see next page), hey, are you new around here? Welcome! Sorry if we've not made an introduction but this is the Church of Saint Mark and this periodical is "The Evangelist," more commonly known as "The Bulletin." Don't be shy in introducing yourself to members of the community: they'd love to meet you, make sure we're not to clique-ish, and otherwise expand the circle that is this one strong family united in Christ.

Peter Distelzweig and nine other men of the archdiocese will be ordained a permanent deacon on Saturday, December 12. The ordination Mass will be at the Cathedral of St. Paul from 10 am - 12 noon. Peter and his wife, Chezarae, warmly invite each of you to attend! Please keep these men in your prayers in these weeks leading up to their ordination.

Ope! Did you give to the CSA on Thursday, Nov 19? If not, hit up hope.archspm.org

A group of parishioner families meets every Sunday at 7:00 PM in the Church to pray the rosary. All ages are welcome to join. Email Joe Beatty at **joseph.g.beatty@gmail.com** with questions.

The results are in, and, in case you missed them, from our third annual **Mercy Morning (Nov 14):**
105+ parishioners
8 sites
491 snack bags for Catholic Charities
80 Hygiene Bags for Catholic Charities
and a whole lot of laughs, smiles, and surely well-wishes and prayers.

Aspiring operational parties within the St. Mark-o-sphere are 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**

UPCOMING EVENTS

THU-FRI 26-27 NOV

Thanksgiving et al | Mass at 9:00 AM (Thanksgiving), 10:00 AM on Friday | Church

Thanksgiving is upon us whether we'll give thanks or not. Might as well give it and see where it leads you (onwards and upwards)! Friends, the premiere avenue for giving thanks is the Mass, so this civic holy-day (albeit one that is especially ordered towards the Triune God), make a point to feast on the Blessed Sacrament, as well: go to Mass! **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** *outside of Mass*, however, **will be suspended** with the Thursday 9:00 AM Mass and resume Monday, following the 10:00 AM Mass.

November 22, 2026 - Christ the King of the Universe



Want to go to Heaven? This Sunday our Shepherd and King reminds us of the Way there. Not that there is anything we can do, on our own, to deserve so great a reward. Rather, it's that once we have been made members of Christ by baptism, we cannot refuse to perform such works–the works of mercy–without separating ourselves from Him, since these are the works that He and His body are about in this life. If we love Him, we are to persevere in following Him, we must walk as He walks. We must love as He loves. And the more abundantly we engage in such works here in time, the more abundantly the merciful love of Christ will abound in us for all eternity.

Therefore, if we were wise, like those virgins who loaded up on extra oil we would be eager to seek out opportunities to minister to the needy members of Christ Body in this life. And some are! However, I sense the great majority of us (myself included, I fear), though *willing* to perform such works if God places a "man lying half-dead" on our roadside, consider ourselves off the hook and free to go about our business. Which as a matter of fact may be relatively free of the hungry, thirsty, naked, homeless, imprisoned, sick, or dead. Because, let's face it, we live in a society of abundance that is expert in hiding from view those who are in real need.

But might that mean that our lives are "structured" to be like those of the priest or Levite who pass by "on the other side of the road," or rather the other side of the metro, or train tracks, or world? Perhaps we must go to them, rather than wait for them to go to us.

Or maybe we just need to open our eyes. Inspired by the Gospel today, here is a list of "baby steps" for beginning to live more oriented to works of mercy. Once we acquire the taste, perhaps we will develop an appetite for "even greater works than these".

1) I was hungry and you gave me food. Before going for seconds at the dinner table, what if you asked someone else at the table if he or she would like more? When you bake something sweet, what if you always took a portion to a neighbor or to someone you will see later that day?

2) I was thirsty and you gave me drink. If you are going to pour or buy yourself a beverage of whatever sort, resolve to always offer the same to someone else. "Jim, I am going for a coffee–want one?" Or, be each day to provide at least one person with a complement or word of affirmation, especially someone you live with. How thirsty people are for that!

3) I was a stranger and you welcomed me. Have any new arrivals on your block, or to your apartment complex? Have you visited to introduce yourself yet? Or new hires at your workplace? There are always new faces at the parish… When was the last time you invited a stranger to sit at your table at Coffee & Donuts?

4) I was naked and you clothed me. People joke that opportunities to perform this work of mercy abound on our neighboring campus in the warmer months of the year. But more seriously, striving to be an example of tasteful modesty is a subtle and life-long way to "clothe" those who, without your witness, might tend to be more naked than they should be. Aside from that: could you keep wool socks in your glove compartment, to give to panhandlers in the wintertime? Could you clothe the nakedness of others with your words, by choosing not to gossip about others' failings and to "cover" them with charitable interpretations of their actions?

5) I was sick and you visited me. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the world (and with it many Christians) decided it was better to avoid risk to bodily health than to show concern for the spiritual and psychological well-being of the sick. But it's those who are willing to sacrifice their health to practice compassion who are the wisest. They choose the path of Christ-like love: self-sacrifice for the other's salvation. Short of doing that, could we at least sacrifice our convenience, our plans, our comfort, to visit (in person,

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

From the Heart of the Shepherd continued

by phone, with a prayer) someone who is hurting in mind, body, or soul? Jesus came to heal the sick! This work of mercy encapsulates His whole mission of love. Am I following after?

6) I was in prison and you came to me. Do you have any shut-ins on your block? Family members who are "imprisoned" by old age, alienation, or rifts in the family? Surely there must be some way you could reach out.



This Advent is an opportunity like none other, at least none other in recent history at the Church of St. Mark: an **all-parish Advent retreat (Dec 13)!** With offerings for men, women, and children alike. And in the dark of Advent, Journeying to the Feet of Jesus.

Recall, that, among other things, there will be a 10:00 AM combined Mass and potluck breakfast to follow, so make sure to register for the retreat and the breakfast!

STMARK.XYZ/RETREAT

STMARK.XYZ/BREAKFAST

Nazareth Night

STMARK.XYZ/MONFM

Come out **Dec 02** for a night for marriage and family!

Dia Boyle, author of *The Thoughtful Home,* will present "Making a Home Where Everyone Can Flourish," exploring what the home is and what it is for, to help you make a home in which your family can flourish and you can be at peace.

Supper at 5:30 PM, 6:00 Presentation, 7:15 Night Prayer, and remember there's catechesis for youths grades pre-K - 5th grade. Register at **stmark.xyz/monfm**



MASS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions for week of NOVEMBER 22, 2026

	7 AM	10 AM
M:	***	---
T:	Ellen Newby-Hines +	Lois Thomas +
W:	Elizabeth Clare Macheichok +	Louise Moore +
Tr:	***	9 AM: Mass of Thanksgiving
F:	***	Fr. David Hottinger

Sa: Francis + & + Barbara Truso (8 AM); Suzy Corzine (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, regulary? 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

Men's Retreat (Dec 4-6)

Men of the parish 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**

Cathedral Christmas Concert w/ Cteven C

Christmas Together with Steven C & Friends Returns to the Cathedral – Dec. 10 & 11

Celebrate the season with the 10th annual Christmas Together with Steven C & Friends at the Cathedral of Saint Paul! This family-friendly concert features acclaimed Minnesota pianist and composer Steven C, Grammy Award-winning guitarist Pat Donohue, Cathedral organist Chris Ganza, and vocalists Jillian Anderson, Kathryn Budzien, and Jack Cassidy. Enjoy Steven C's signature interpretations of holiday favorites alongside fresh arrangements of beloved Advent and Christmas carols, all in the Cathedral's magnificent setting. It's an evening of music, community, and Christmas joy!

Performances: Thursday, Dec. 10, at 7 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 11, at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.
Tickets: $20.26 each, with no additional taxes or fees. Available at STEVENCMUSIC.COM or at the door.



Come to Carolyn Hall for homemade Christmas goodies and Christmas treasures for sale at a remarkable savings. There will be coffee and doughnuts after the Sunday masses.

Christmas Boutique Volunteer Opportunities

Donated Christmas tins can be dropped off in the Parish Center during ordinary office hours. Deadline is Thursday, December 3. We use these tins to package the Christmas cookies on Friday, December 4.

Donated Christmas cookies can be dropped off in the Carolyn Hall kitchen on Friday, December 4, from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM. If you can not make it by 10:00 AM, we will welcome cookies later, but please try to drop off by 1:00 PM.

There is a Sign Up Genius at **stmark.xyz/boutique** for questions, email Carolyn **carolyn.mt2237@gmail.com**

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 Gearns.....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
Rosary: The Rosary is prayed after every weekday Mass in the Adoration Chapel and a Family Rosary is prayed Sundays at 7:00 PM i the main church.

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."

Trinity School at River Ridge
Chamber Singers invite you to

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Saturday, December 5th | 7:00 PM

Location: Church of St. Mark
2001 Dayton Ave. | St. Paul, MN 55104



Free Admission | Free-Will Offering Accepted
Please join us for light refreshments following the service
Street and lot parking available
All ages welcome

Pray the Rosary After Weekday Mass

In the adoration chapel!

"There are several ways of saying the Holy Rosary, but that which gives Almighty God the greatest glory, does the most for our souls and which the devil fears more than any other, is that of saying or chanting the Rosary publicly in two groups."
-St. Louis de Montfort's Forty-Sixth Rose from *The Secret of the Rosary*



Missed the Boat Theatre (Dec 10-13; 17-20)

Join Missed the Boat Theatre for *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley,* an imagined sequel to Jane Austen's beloved Pride and Prejudice, where Mary Bennet is grown and wishing for a place in the world to call her own. When she visits Pemberley House and reunites with her sisters, they must all learn to see each other as they actually are. This leaves the men to navigate their new family's dynamics and manage some unexpected guests all while attempting to keep Christmas full of lots of laughter, warmth, and love. Tickets on sale online at **missedtheboattheatre.com/pemberley**