

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | OCTOBER 04, 2026



THE CHURCH OF SAINT MARK | www.onestrongfamily.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord provides!: It would be stellar to have an image of Saint Francis of Assisi on the bulletin cover on his feast day (liturgically trumped, of course, by Sunday). But it's also the month of the rosary, so a nod to that would also be out of this world. Perhaps that's why Bernard Strozzi was inspired nigh on 500 years ago to paint "Saint Francis in Prayer." That it would one day grace the cover of the bulletin of the Church of Saint Mark. And so, perhaps spark a great, life-altering devotion in the reader. And generations yet unborn would speak of how it all changed with that fateful Sunday and image. Perhaps! If nothing else, here's your reminder to avail yourself of Saint Francis and to pray the rosary!

Don't forget that we have a dedicated child-friendly holy hour on Fridays at 9:00 AM, if you're especially looking for a time to adore the Lord with your *bambinos*. Do not be discouraged nor dismayed from bringing your children to adoration outside of that time, though (*the editor isn't*): the chapel is for all who are there to pray in silence, or quiet if silence is more difficult for their nature (i.e., kids). Just be cognizant, both at adoration and at Mass, of when charity may press you to step out with boisterous children. And may we all be quick to charity!

And for those who may be straining to hear at Mass, as happens some times, don't forget we have listening devices provided in the narthex! (There are also more and less dampened audio zones in the church, too, so find your sweet spot!)

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!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nazareth Nights | 5:30 dinner, 6:00 Program, 7:15 Night Prayer | Carolyn Hall et al

Victory! Nazareth Nights, the rarefied vocational support offering of our "Nazareth Family Ministry," debut on the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary? Nothing escapes God's providence! Seize the night(s), especially married couples and parents of children grades PreK - 5 (but also any comer), at stmark.xyz/nazareth or you can seize an individual night at stmark.xyz/monfm

**WED
07
OCT**

As per previous comms, first Wednesdays will combine an every-time shared meal, catechesis and community offerings for PreK - 5th grade children, and, especially for the adults, these newly minted Nazareth Nights are ordered to feed your hunger for more fellowship, peer-to-peer wisdom sharing, and discussion: talking to each other about how you navigated certain challenges, comiserating and "co-parenting" in the best sense. Night one's topic is **"Husband and Wife: Ministers in the Domestic Church"**

What a boon for a year of being a family at the feet of Jesus! **Please sign up by Oct 06!!!**

**THU
08
OCT**

Emmaus Parish Holy Hour | 7:00 PM | Church

And return to the feet of Jesus the next night at 7:00 PM for candlelit adoration, prayer teams, Confession, and praise and worship music for the matchless "Emmaus Parish Holy Hour." Night two of nine!

**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

Oct 4, 2026 - 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Arriving at the intersection of University Avenue and Vandalia is always unnerving. Looming large on the north end is, of course, the local abortion mega-center, whose presence is amplified all the more by Planned Parenthood's giant billboard overlooking the crossing. While we go about our ordinary days, perhaps on a bright, sunny day, within those walls ordinary fellow citizens are making a violent end to innocent lives, and tragically at their mothers' at least half-hearted request.

It should be unnerving. All the more so since this is just an "ordinary" part of life in 21st Century America. What is one to do? He says a Hail Mary, makes the sign of the Cross, and goes about his day. The uneasy feeling recedes as the uncomfortable reality recedes into the distance.

But really, what is one to do? Leo Tolstoy once wrote an essay entitled *What Then Shall We Do?* about the frightful poverty which drenched the streets of the Moscow of his day. In it he recounts his own struggles to find an answer: his qualms about his own use of three or four undershirts a day (which he could do thanks to his social position) while the masses went about in rags; his forays into the slums to hand out cash and the ill effect he perceived of those errands; etc. Something needed to be done, but what? The same can be said about abortion. A political solution seems practically impossible, given how staunchly the horror is supported by so many Americans and their rulers. Civil Rights-era-eque nonviolent resistance or civil disobedience has not exactly been tried, but would require an organization and resolve that seem lacking within the pro-life ranks, whose members (unlike many of their opponents) are busy raising families of their own. And more proportionate means of opposing the death-machine at the heart of modern society would be counterproductive. What, then, are we to do?

The year before our parish church was built, concerned Christians were asking the same question about the senseless war by which Europe was then consuming itself

and the scourge of Communism which was then festering in Russia (promising to resolve the poverty which Tolstoy and his contemporaries never could!). Marvelously, Heaven itself uttered the solution, on the lips of the Mother of God herself: to pray the Rosary daily for peace and to consecrate Russia to her immaculate Heart. Then the war would end, a second world war would be avoided, the world would be spared Russia's errors, and the Holy Father would have much less to suffer.

To any worldly person or politico, even one of faith, the solution must have seemed utterly unsuited to the problem. *You are saying we should do... what?* Our Mother's way was too simple; to trust in her word was thought hopelessly naive. And so men of good will chose to take another tact, their own, and to combat the ills of their time with other, more suitable means. Just over a century later, we can look back now and ask: how did that work out for us?

Awash in "Russia's errors" (let's remember that abortion and Communism coincide in their denial of both God and human dignity), perhaps it's time we listen to the one who listened to God best of all. We are two weeks deep into 40 Days for Life, the biannual campaign to end abortion (or at least remind ourselves that it is occurring in our midst). Could we all say the Rosary, daily, for peace? To pray it while witnessing against abortion outside of the local Ground Zero has a special efficacy and witness value. But the main thing is to pray it. In doing so, even half-distractedly, we give our Mother "the sign," the assent to enter in and be active as She wants to be, and as only She can be, to save us from the mess our sins have gotten us into. To pray the Rosary daily, beholding as best we can through Mary's eyes the mysteries of Jesus' divine life, a power flows into this world through us. The same power which swallowed Pharaoh and all his forces in the sea, by which Gideon and his few men conquered a vast army by banging pots and pans, by which Esther saved her nation from certain annihilation, and by which Satan was crushed by the fulfillment of his own malicious plans. It's the power of the Cross of Jesus, of the obedience of Jesus... *that* is what we can and should (and must) *do*.

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

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 Jonathan Imdieke! Jonathan joined Saint Mark's this past spring and is originally from Saint Cloud, MN. He went to college at North Dakota State University in Fargo and now lives in near the parish.

Jonathan is working in accounting in Minneapolis as a state and local government auditor. His hobbies include exercising, sports, playing board games, traveling, and being out in nature whether it be camping or hiking.

When he first moved to Saint Paul he was looking for nearby churches and found himself at Saint Mark's for a young adult holy hour. After that night, he went to mass on Sunday and knew that it was where he wanted to be. His favorite things about the parish include the communion kneelers, the priests and deacons, and the growing community.

This season Jonathan is most looking forward to the cooler weather, passing some CPA exams, and the holidays!

Welcome to the parish Jonathan!

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/

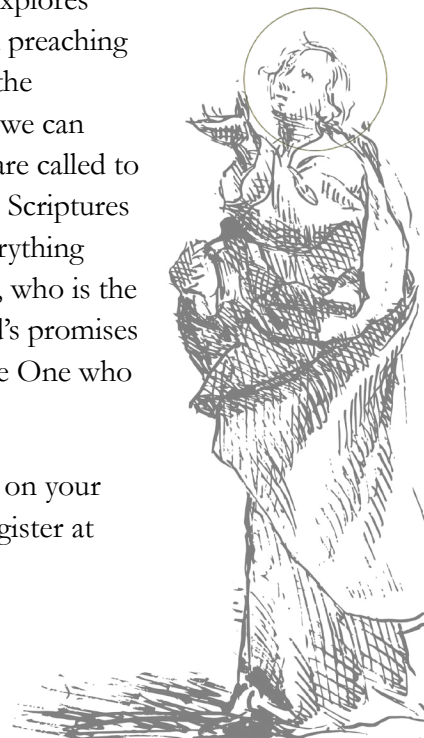


2026 Fall Bible Study (Oct 13 - Nov 17)

Our 2026 Fall Bible Study will be kicking off what with fall falling. This year's study is *"The Acts (and Preaching) of the Apostles: The Mystery of Christ Proclaimed through the Figures of the Old Testament"*

Based on the thesis written for his Licentiate in Theology, Fr. David explores the pattern of biblical preaching found in the Acts of the Apostles. From these we can learn how Christians are called to read and proclaim the Scriptures and discover how everything points towards Christ, who is the "Amen" to all of God's promises and the fullness of the One who fills all things!

Mark **Oct 13-Nov 17** on your calendar today and register at stmark.xyz/bible



MASS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions for week of **OCTOBER 04, 2026**

7 AM

M: ***
T: Julia Kaardal +
W: Joseph Serge +
Tr: Jeanette + & + Maurice Mischke
F: Boz Bostrum +

10 AM

M: ---
T: Fr. Edwin Nydyne Ngah & Fr. Matthew Malek
W: Audrey & Josiah Lester
Tr: Jake Navin +
F: Elizabeth Clare Macheichok +

Sa: Ed + & + Cecelia Wiederhold (8 AM); Charlotte + & + Ed Fitzpatrick (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

Confession Schedule

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!

Save the Date (Dec 13)

See, if you read parish email newsletters, you already heard about this! 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!



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
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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

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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



Join women from around the Archdiocese for the 4th annual Women's Day Retreat. Speakers will talk about holy women from the Bible beginning with Our Blessed Mother, St. Anne, St. Elizabeth, Sts. Martha & Mary, Deborah, Esther, Ruth & Naomi. Learn how we can derive strength from these Holy Women, especially our Blessed Mother, and say YES to God's will for our lives!

THE RETREAT DAY WILL INCLUDE

- Coffee & light breakfast
- Four wonderful Catholic Speakers
- Mass, Adoration & Rosary
- Catered lunch by Crisp & Green (salad choices on registration page)
- Social Hour, Door Prizes & Treats
- Shopping at various Catholic Vendors

Retreatants will receive a leather journal, pen & bookmarks

TWO GRAND PRIZES!
Mother Mary Leather tote bags!



COST: \$50 / \$25 Religious
REGISTER AT
STPATRICK-EDINA.ORG
OR SCAN THE QR CODE



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

PARISH HOLY HOUR
EMMAUS

Confession,
candlelit adoration,
& praise and worship

SEP 10
OCT 08
NOV 12
DEC 10
JAN 14
FEB 11
MAR 11
APR 08
MAY 13

2ND THURSDAYS OF THE MONTH*
7:00 - 8:00 PM | Church
onestrongfamily.org

Open House | Thursday, October 8 | 7:00 - 9:00 P.M.



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