

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | SEPTEMBER 13, 2026



THE CHURCH OF SAINT MARK | www.onestrongfamily.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

All women of St. Marks are invited to the 1st Quarterly Meetings of the St. Paul Deanery Council of Catholic Women on Thursday, September 17 at Holy Childhood, 1435 Midway Parkway, St. Paul. Registration 4:30 pm, Mass 5:00 pm, followed by light supper, business meeting and program. Program; Chuck Spavin of the Optimists Club and how they serve youth. Brown bag raffle. St. Mark's CCW will cover the cost. Phone reservations by Monday, September 14 to Nancy at 651 644-2260.

The preschool is *also* seeking an **Afternoon Preschool Care Coordinator**. In exchange for 30 hours a week, they'll pay you and offer benefits! Yes, it's a job! Surely Addie Smith, Director, (asmith@onestrongfamily.org) would love to hear from any interested parties ASAP! For more info, contact Addie or see the posting at **stmark.xyz/apcc**

What're you doing once every four weeks? Consider going up to the altar ... *linens* [of God]! Help is needed starting October in our rotation of **servicing altar linens** (*i.e., smaller liturgical-use items like purificators, hand towels, and corporals*), involving picking up linens (Monday, preferably) and returning clean by Saturday, at the latest. It's a simple task: an ironing board and an iron are a must, if not exhaustive. Questions: mustardseed725@gmail.com

Pastoral care is not just for the pastors: you, too, can and should be an emissary of the mercy of God. Help is needed taking communion to the homebound et al! For these opportunities, as well as others in a similar vein, reach out to our pastoral associate, Audrey Koval (akoval@onestrongfamily.org)

Outdoor adventures, camping, games, friendships, and character development. All boys K-12 are invited to join **Scouts at St. Marks!** It's a tradition going back to 1910 when Troop 1 became the first Catholic Scouting unit in America! Learn more and apply online at BeAScout.org for Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts or contact Mike Truso (mftruso@gmail.com).

No sooner have we returned to our conventional Confession schedule than we're adjusting tack: a local parish is getting a new PES pastor, but until he has arrived they need extra liturgical help, so our priests are rotating Sunday Mass coverage there. **The material impact on us, until further notice, is Sunday Confessions will start at 8:00 AM and stop before the 9:00 AM Mass**, and resume at 10:30 AM.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUN 13 SEP	<i>YA Cookout</i> 5:00 - 7:30 PM <i>Rectory Garden</i> For the ages 18-39 demographic, meet new-to-you people, say hey to old-to-you people, enjoy good food, the rectory garden ambience, and get the 4-1-1 on the year to come for the young adults of Saint Mark crew!
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TUES 15 SEP	<i>Immigration 101</i> 7:00 - 9:00 PM <i>Carolyn Hall</i> What's the Catholic teaching on this hot-button topic? And what's the current state of the legal landscape? Both good and timely to know. Hosted by MercyWorks at the Church of Saint Mark!
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WED 16 SEP	<i>CCW Meeting</i> 4:30 - 6:00 PM <i>Community Room</i> All women of the parish are invited to the first CCW (Council of Catholic Women) meeting and pot luck dinner of the season. Come for prayer, fellowship and planning our upcoming events and fundraisers. All are welcome. <i>Choir Rehearsal</i> 7:00 PM <i>Organ/Choir Loft</i> The choir will sing at the 9:00 AM Mass next Sunday (Sep 20) and voices are needed/welcome! Questions? Contact Kathy Handford, Director of Music (khandford@onestrongfamily.org)!
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Parish School of Prayer, Episode 26: At the Feet of Jesus



"Mary sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. But Martha was distracted with much serving" (Lk 10:39-40).

We all know the scene. Tell me: what was each heart of these two sisters filling with? Mary's was being filled with one thing: Jesus' words. Martha's was filling up with anxiety and worry about many things. And, evidently, with some anger and resentment directed against her sister and perhaps even against Jesus, who was allowing Mary to do "nothing." *Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone?*

"You are what you eat." What is true for our bodies is true for our souls. The thoughts we tend to nurse, the words we chew on in our hearts, have a direct influence on our mental state, and consequently on our decisions and even the kind of person we become. "Whatever a man sows, that he will also reap" (Gal 6:7). Martha "sowed" well-intentioned preoccupation with her objectives that day: to be a good hostess, to not let her guests down, to impress Jesus and His disciples with a delicious meal and a delightful time. She "reaped" stress, isolation, and self-pity.

Mary, in contrast, allowed Jesus to sow His words in her heart. She made a space of emptiness and silence; she made the soil of her heart open and receptive, clear of all ulterior agendas or earthly motives. What did she reap? Stillness and silence, peace and tranquility. But also: attentiveness to Jesus, knowledge of His person, and a heart afire with love and devotion. We know this because later in the Gospel she will perform that splendid and beautiful act of anointing Jesus with the precious nard the sisters had been saving for a special occasion. It's not a coincidence that in this episode Martha thinks Mary is wasting her time; in that other, Judas thinks Mary is wasting that perfume. Mary, however, knows that Jesus is well worth both. The loving eye truly sees. Mary knew that Jesus was the "one alone necessary," the one who alone is worthy. Thus she freely lavished that spikenard, just as she had lavished her attention on Him weeks before.

The theme that is intended to unify and give direction to all the "many things" that will occupy this spiritual family in this new parish year is *A Family at the Feet of Jesus*. The image is inspired by Mary's position in this episode from Luke 10. It is Archbishop Hebda who has pointed us to that scene with his recent pastoral letter, *Only One Thing Is Necessary*. There, he calls the whole Archdiocese to help parents embrace their vocation to be the primary educators in the Faith for their children. In other words, to help families abide *at the feet of Jesus*, listening to His teaching and taking it to heart.

That will be our focus too. True, not all are parents. But all can strive towards that same goal. All Christians ought to be "regulars" at the feet of Jesus; all ought to choose, with our daily routines, to lavish attention on the One who alone is truly necessary. If we fail to, we will inevitably tend towards Martha's predicament, busily divided between concerns about many things and filling up with anxiety, troubles, and probably some resentment and feelings of abandonment by God and those around us, who don't seem concerned about helping us. But in the measure we join Mary and listen to Jesus' teaching, we will share in her serenity and devotion.

What does that look like in your life? At St. Mark's, we are blessed to have our "24/5" adoration chapel where we have the opportunity (almost daily!) to literally sit at the feet of Jesus and listen to His silent speaking to our hearts. Oh, how frequent and attentive adoration can fill our lives with peace and make us truly fruitful in our active devotion!

Daily Scripture reading is another privileged means of adopting the posture of Mary. See the words of the Sacred Page as so many "seeds." Even if the time of prayer seem dry, those words, if received with reverence, will grow within you and bear far greater fruit in the future!

For families, one could add intentional catechesis, personal and family prayer, "songs, hymns, and spiritual canticles," bible and saint stories, special celebrations for feasts and baptismal celebrations, and something as simple as spending time in nature together and giving thanks to God out loud.

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

The Parish Picnic That Was! Et al!

Many thanks for all who made the parish picnic, year tree, a smashing success! And congrats to Team <Insert Priest's Name> on a resounding kickball victory.

Related to the picnic, it would be awesome, and has much been on the periphery — or at least the periphery of the periphery — to shore up St. Mark's digital and social media presence. As such, if you've got any winsome photos from the day, ping the Dir. of Comms (webmaster@onestrongfamily.org); just say "hey" and he'll follow up with you re: sharing what you've got! Super simple. And if that piques interest in any parties for helping shore up the parish's social media footprint, ping the same!



And kindly do so with abandon! ASAP! For the good of the parish and of souls!

Your Guide for the New Year!

The Office of Publishing Pretty, Useful, and Pastoral Things at the Church of Saint Mark has made a novel[la?] guide for you for living out the now-begun year of being *A Family at the Feet of Jesus* here at the Church of Saint Mark! Get your copy while they can be got for a full-year's calendar, and other pastoral tidings and resources for 2026-2027! Display in a prominent space in your home, car, place of employment, favorite hangout spot, etc!

OCIA Changes Lives!

Last year 19 men and women were received into the Catholic Church at St. Mark's. Nineteen people heard and the professed faith in Jesus Christ and his church. Nineteen people received the grace of the sacraments and found their home in God's family.

Who do you want to see have their life changed by the love of God? Invite them to explore OCIA! Our no-commitment **Introduction to OCIA evening is coming up on Tuesday, September 22 at 7:00 p.m.** at the Parish Center. For more information, contact ocia@onestrongfamily.org.

Sing! Sing! Sing!

Choir season is about to begin! The first rehearsal is Wednesday, September 16th at 7 p.m. in the organ/choir loft. The choir will sing at the 9 a.m. mass on September 20th.

The parish adult choir sings at most of the 9 a.m. Sunday masses from mid-september through Corpus Christi (Sunday, May 27, 2027). Rehearsals are most Wednesday evenings from 7-8:30 pm (9:00 when preparing for Christmas, Triduum and special feasts). All voice parts are welcome, though tenors and sopranos are especially needed. Please see Kathy Handford after one of the weekend masses or contact her through her church email or through the parish office if you are interested and would like more information.

Cantors are also needed for the 11 a.m. Sunday

mass. Cantors need not be professional singers, but previous musical training and vocal/choral experience is helpful. The cantor shares the role with the lector in proclaiming the Word of God. Therefore, spiritual preparation is also important alongside musical preparation. An audition is required.

Requirements and considerations:

- Ability to read and learn music quickly
- Must have a pleasant singing tone
- Ability to sing in tune and with good rhythm
- Comfortable singing in front of people
- Willingness to attend a cantor training and work with the Director of Music
- Ability to set aside necessary time for technical preparation, i.e. reading and studying the texts, noting tone and inflection, practicing vocal production and diction
- Learn techniques of singing with a microphone for volume and clarity.

Please contact Kathy Handford, Director of Music (khandford@onestrongfamily.org) if you are interested in this important ministry to serve the liturgy.

MASS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions for week of SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

7 AM

M: ***
T: Chris Joyce +
W: In honor of the Fatherhood of God
Tr: May Lee
F: Fr. Patrick Evans

10 AM

M: ---
T: Roger Orban +
W: Antonia Slattery
Tr: Chris Joyce +
F: Zaida Alvarado

Sa: Living & Deceased CCW Members (8 AM); Glenn Marsh + (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

No going to hell, anyone

We don't want *anyone* going there. And if that's a more strident column headline than usual, well, our Lord himself used some striking words on the subject!

But no need to get too eschatological or sombre here. This is a helpful reminder that strong elements of the life at St. Mark's to avoid "that extremity" include prayer — *Sunday Eucharist, regular confession, and committed holy hours, especially* — engaging in the works of mercy, active participation in ministries and small groups, and **evangelization!** These prepare not only for a blessed hereafter, but we also want the community to have a blessed *herenow!*

And we've got plenty of layup opportunities to invite people to the Church of Saint Mark — this pillar of the neighborhood for over 100 years and where our Lord is adored ~24/5 — so keep these in your inventory, and on your calendar, and on post-it notes on your bathroom mirror, to extend a warm and inviting welcome to some of the following going on at, or around, the Church of Saint Mark!

Sep 19: Not an official St. Mark's event, but it's a good neighborhood shindig and St. Mark's will have an official presence: it's the "Ice Cream, Peanut Butter & Jam" fall festival, taking place at Merriam Park, proper. *Get over there!* stmark.xyz/pbandj

Sep 22: OCIA Kickoff - for those looking to enter or explore the Catholic Church, or looking to look, or looking to look to look... *finest snacks and drinks provided!* stmark.xyz/kickoff

Sep 24-27: The Fall Rummage Sale - no more needs be said. stmark.xyz/sale

Oct 03: Member businesses of the St. Joseph Business Guild are hosting a farmer/artisan market in the school courtyard sjbusinessguild.org/market

Swing Dances: TC Swing now has a weekly presence on campus for Thursday night (and First Saturday night) swing dances. stmark.xyz/tcswing

Go out to all the world to tell the good news! You can start with the neighborhood.



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 stmark.xyz/swing



New to the parish as of 2026? Registered or not yet, we want you to hit up the **Oct 04 New Parishioner Lunch!** RSVP at stmark.xyz/npl

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

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
 Dan Prochazka.....Interim Facilities Maintenance Technician
 Kristen Grant.....Director of Discipleship
 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

September 24th - 27th



**ST. MARK'S FALL
RUMMAGE
SALE**

CHURCH OF ST MARK
2001 Dayton Avenue,
St. Paul, MN 55104
(@ the corner of Dayton & Moore)

Fri. - Sat., 9-4 PM | Sun. 9 AM-11 AM
Sneak Peek Thursday (Sep 24) 5-7 PM; \$5 admission

stmark.xyz/sale

**Holy
WOMEN
Of the Bible
RETREAT**



**OCTOBER 10, 2026
8:30AM - 4:00PM
ST. PATRICK'S - EDINA**

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!

TWO GRAND PRIZES!
Mother Mary Leather tote bags!



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



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

 **Quarterly Dinner of the St. Joseph Business Guild**

5:00 PM | THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17TH

“A Catholic SPIRIT OF ‘26”

All are welcome!
Cost: \$17.76; Free to clergy, unemployed, students

Holy Family Catholic Church,
5900 W Lake St., Mpls, MN

RSVP at
sjbusinessguild.org

All are invited to the St. Joseph Business Guild's next quarterly dinner meeting at Holy Family Catholic Church, on September 17th! The Guild is all about Catholics helping Catholics build an economy that puts first the kingdom of God. And this evening they're taking a novel and perhaps inflammatory look at our American and Catholic roots and what fruits we can get from them today. \$17.76; free for clergy, unemployed, and students.

**HIGH SCHOOL
Retreat**

**FRIDAY - SUNDAY
OCTOBER 23-25
AT DUNROVIN**

**\$225 until Sept. 15, then \$250
Register by Oct. 1**



**IGNITE: led by the Religious of
Pro Ecclesia Sancta**