
S. Math. xx

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Sunday (Nov 22) Mass is at 10:00 AM. That is the Sunday Mass time. Please commit that to memory.

All women of St. Mark's are invited to the 2nd Quarterly Meeting of the St. Paul Deanery Council of Catholic Women on Thursday, November 19 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, 401 Concord St, St. Paul. Registration and coffee 9am followed by a short business meeting. Presentation by Father James Bernard. Mass at noon followed by lunch. Christmas white elephant fundraiser. St. Mark's CCW will cover the costs for attendees. Phone reservations by Monday, November 16 to Nancy at 651-644-2260.

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.

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.

Mark your calendars now for the annual CCW Christmas Boutique, held on Saturday, December 5 from 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM, and on Sunday, December 6 from 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM. 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**

UPCOMING EVENTS

THU 19 NOV

Annual CSA Appeal| ASAP | Online

Our local church is *the* Archdiocese and to support many mission efforts that no one parish can pursue is the annual Catholic Services Appeal. Give generously!! Especially if you're "MN Give to the Maxing" this week: **look for a targeted outreach this Thursday for giving to the CSA!** Or feel free to get a move on things and go to **hope.archspm.org**

SUN 22 NOV

The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe | All Day | Everywhere

There have been many kings, magistrates, and potentates, but there is only one ultimate sovereign and his reign will not be denied. To celebrate our Lord's kingship over all, the parish family is invited to adoration before **our one, combined 10 AM Mass** (Confessions available 8:30 - 9:30), and then following Mass we will process through the neighborhood with our Eucharistic Lord. After the procession, the scouts will be preesenting delicious vittles in the cafeteria with their pancake breakfast fundraiser. There are innumerable ways you can crown the Lord with many crowns, but this is the fare presented at the parish this year. *Viva Cristo Rey!*

November 15, 2026 - 33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time



The inertia of life, especially parish life, is inexorable. Or nearly so. Generally speaking, it's a good thing that at Catholic parishes, we tend to do the same things every year that we "always do." After all, parishes ought to be about the one thing the Catholic Church has been about since Our Lord founded it: worshipping the true God as He desires and witnessing to His truth and love. As we put it at St. Mark's, *living and sharing Christ's call to holiness.*

Then again, the annual calendar of events at a given parish is not always 100% aligned with that core mission. It's not uncommon that events and activities which, fifty years ago, were once well-suited to the circumstances of the Church are now outdated or even at odds with what the Holy Spirit is currently asking. I think of a brother priest who, new to a parish, discerned that there was a need for adult formation and evangelization. He attempted, therefore, to institute a Bible Study on the only night of the week he could make it work. It was the same night, however, as the Ladies' Card Night. When he held a meeting for parishioners to explain his decision to displace the card game so that people could come to know Jesus better, someone stood up and said with shocking honesty, "We don't want more Jesus, we want cards!"

Woe to the pastor who enters a parish and attempts to meddle with the calendar of events. He had better either have God on his side, or be prepared to crash and burn.

This is why your pastor has been extremely reserved in tinkering with the events calendar. In my three and half years as pastor, I have limited myself to instituting only the Parish Soiree, the Feast of St. Mark, St. Mark's in the Parks, the Corpus Christi procession, the Parish Picnic, Mercy Morning, the Parish Day for Prayer, and the Healing Mass. Without cancelling or displacing hardly anything else.

Nevertheless, the Church is a living organism, and if it is not growing, and adding new events to its already rather full calendar, it's dying. Right?

I am mostly kidding. But this is all by way of introducing the latest "something new" for our parish. In reality, it is a development of last year's Day for Prayer, on which we attempted to recommit as a parish family to the interior life. On December 13, St. Mark's will host a Parish Advent Retreat. This year's theme: "Journeying to the Feet of Jesus." The schedule will be as follows:

8:30-9:30 AM	**Adoration & Confessions** *in the church*
10:00 AM	**Holy Mass** *w/ Deacon Peter Distelzweig's first homily!*
11:15 AM	**Potluck brunch** *in cafeteria*
12:30 PM	**Talk** *on "A Family at the Feet of Jesus"* *(w/ catechesis for kids)*
1:00 PM	**Personal Reflection**
1:30 PM	**Small Group Discussion**
2:00 PM	**Closing Fervorino and Benediction** *in the church*

I assure you that I am not simply eager to multiply new events. In fact, I am sort of running out of ideas! 😀 But this event comes out of a long discernment with parish leadership that something in this vein was both lacking and needed. In part because we are all so "anxious and busy with many good things," and always need to be coming back into contact with the One who alone is Good and necessary. Moreover, we intentionally detached the "time for prayer" component of October's stewardship drive in order to give it due focus during the time of Advent, when the Universal Church lifts up its head from all the sundry temporal affairs of daily life to look expectantly towards Christ who comes. Knowing that for many of our community, even a weekend silent retreat is not possible, but that something more than a Holy Hour or a morning of recollection is in order, we are serving up this six-hour retreat in order to place the whole parish family "at the feet of Jesus" and to

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from the Heart of the Shepherd continued

kick-start or deepen each one's habit of abiding in that blessed posture each day.

So mark your calendars! St. Lucy Day, next month! Let our team know you will be there! Jesus wants to see you! It's true we don't really need new events or programs. But we really do (just) need Him.



Here is the QR to the sign up (**stmark.xyz/retreat**):

And for the Potluck (**stmark.xyz/breakfast**):

Speed Dating? Here? Yes. Maybe.

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

Catholic Servcies Appeal

We're a Lent (40 days) away from Christmas, but *now* is the time for gift-giving and wishlists! We mustn't be myopic when it comes to the Catholic faith: the Heart of Jesus longs to touch those outside of Merriam Park, to extend mercy, to give grace, to form, save, and establish many, many souls. And that work takes resources: prayers, but also funds!

Check out who's helped by the CSA!

- Catholic Elementary Schools subsidies and scholarships
- Saint John Vianney College Seminary room and board
- Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (ACCW)
- Campus Ministry – St. Lawrence-Newman Center
- Society of St. Vincent de Paul - Twin Cities
- The Saint Paul Seminary room and board
- Catholic High School Scholarships
- American Indian Ministry
- Marriage, Family and Life
- Young Adult Ministry
- Venezuelan Mission
- Hospital Chaplains
- Catholic Charities
- Latino Ministry
- Prison Ministry
- Youth Ministry
- Evangelization
- Deaf Ministry
- Elevate Life
- Parishes

This is the Lord's Church and it's active! A generous response is asked of each parish, with the request being made of St. Mark's as $47,389. We'll have a special push this Thursday (Nov 19: "Minnesota Give to the Max Day") **though you're free to give whenever at hope.archspm.org** (make sure to note your parish affiliation as St. Mark's!).

But don't just make this a perfunctory, cold give: people don't live on the bare material necessities, alone. Make this food for prayer, why don't you?

MASS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions for week of NOVEMBER 15, 2026

	7 AM	10 AM
M:	***	---
T:	Richard + & + Edith Moore	Pat Ryan
W:	Michelle Egan +	Burton + & + Mary Margaret Brandrud
Tr:	Lyman Moore +	Michelle Egan +
F:	Fr. Patrick Evans	Lois Lotzer +

Sa: Living & Deceased CCW Members (8 AM); Alesana Anetipa +(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**



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 the Starkies! The Starkies have been going to Saint Mark's for quite some time now, but became official parishioners this past spring. Henry and Gabrielle have an energetic twenty- three month old named Eden, and another little one expected to arrive January 21st.

The Starkies moved to the Saint Mark's neighborhood just over a year ago for Henry to get his degree in Philosophy and Catholic Studies at the University of Saint Thomas with the goal of going to law school afterwards. They met doing NET Ireland just after high school so this is Henry's first chance to get a degree under his belt. He also works part time at a law firm in Bloomington.

As a family they love spending as much time outdoors as possible including camping, hiking, swimming, bike rides, but most of all, they value time spent together with family and friends.

Their close proximity to the parish brought them to Saint Mark's and they fell in love with the church and community the very first Sunday they came to Mass. Their family is part of the Saints Joachim and Anne small group which is one of their favorite things about being at Saint Mark's. They also value the fellowship they find at coffee and donuts, tot time, and the mom's small group.

Welcome to the parish Starkie family, and we look forward to meeting your little one due to arrive in 2027!

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."

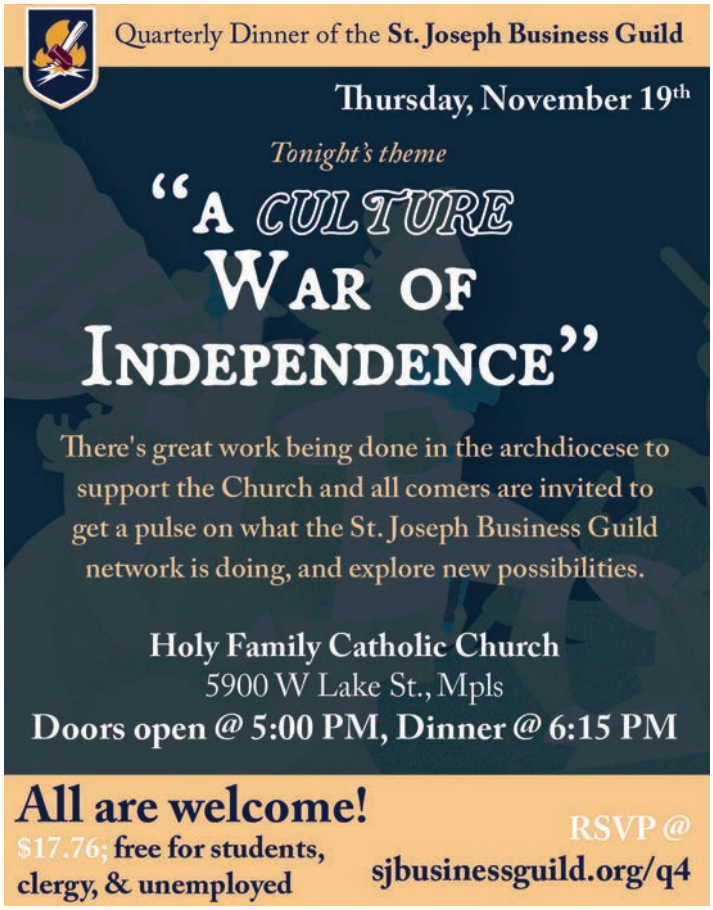
ST. MARK, PRAY FOR US

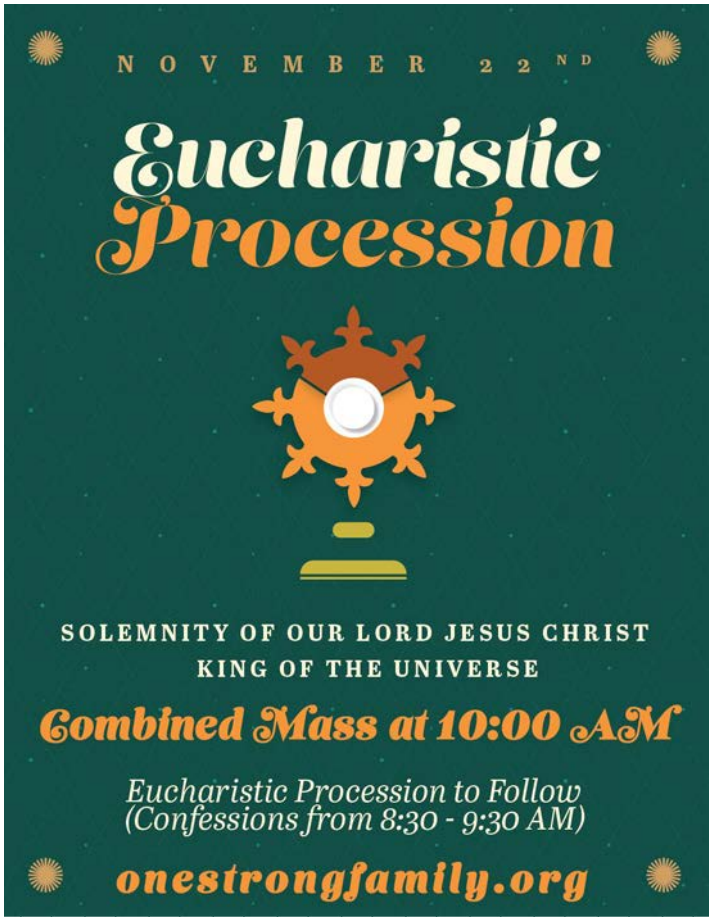


Come out **Dec 02** for a night for marriage and family!

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**





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**