

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT | MARCH 1, 2026



 LIVING FOR THE
DAY OF THE LORD

THE CHURCH OF SAINT MARK | www.onestrongfamily.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Friday (Mar 06) and Saturday (Mar 07) are **First Friday and First Saturday**, respectively! Especially by receiving Communion at Mass on the former (and attending Thursday Parish Holy Hour (7 PM)) stoke the fires of Sacred Heart devotion on the road to the great national consecration in June!

You can still make it. The Middle School Ignite Retreat (Mar 13-15) register-by deadline is extended: grab a spot while they last for the *one* Middle School retreat this year. Life changing! Register at stmark.xyz/msr

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. saintmarkspreschool.org

And St. Mark's Preschool is seeking a loving, energetic, and compassionate individual to **sub from April 7th-April 24th** with opportunities to sub throughout the school year and summer as well. Individuals must be available from 12:00pm-6:00pm each day. Please reach out to asmith@onestrongfamily.org with inquiries.

Please keep our catechumen and candidates in your prayers as they enter into their final preparations to receive the sacraments of initiation at the Easter Vigil.

Catechumen

Jose Salgado Rosas

Candidates

Kristin Bakeman	Cassandra Gray	Samuel Norland	Skarlett Salazar-Mondragon
Martha Connaire	Jaden Kalal	AJ Plehal	Sean Sanford
Erin Erickson	Charlie Lidberg	Jennilee Plehal	John Zeimet
Eric Eskuri	Paul Metal	Vincent Risso	

UPCOMING EVENTS

**WED
04
MAR**

Parish Formation Night | 5:30 - 7:30 PM | Carolyn Hall

Put first things first this Lent: foster a deep, contemplative relationship with God! And who does that best?! And how do we do that?! All this and more—with pizza dinner, and catechesis for young and old—await at the next parish formation night! **RSVP at stmark.xyz/zeal**

*Friday Soup Supper & Speaker Series & Stations of the Cross |
Supper at 5:30, Presentation ~6:00, Stations at 7:00 PM | Carolyn Hall, Church*

Our third presentation for our series, *Claiming Country for Kingdom - Your Part in the National Consecration*, is "Starting Small: Personal Consecration & Household Enthronement" with the patriarch and matriarch of the local Nowak clan presenting.

**FRI
06
MAR**

This year's series is *especially* providential! Given that it's the semiquincentennial of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the US Bishops will consecrate these United States to the Sacred Heart of Jesus in June and all parishes are invited to join. **But a good consecration takes preparation!** A most excellent harmony of this preparation with our year's focus on Living for the Day of the Lord (which we had planned to be capped with the Feast of the Sacred Heart, which is also so integral to the spirituality of our venerable Pro Ecclesia Sancta family) is a win-win-win-win. Never tire of winning, friends! And **do your part for country and kingdom!**

Lord's Day: A Deeper Dive

Sacred Scripture is meant to be read more like a poem than the news. Its content needs to be unpacked to be appreciated, otherwise its richness will be lost on us.

Take the First Reading this Sunday: God commands Abram and obeys. Pretty straightforward, right? But when you dig in, questions arise. In the previous chapter of Genesis, we learn that Abram's father Terah *had already made designs to move to Canaan*. He and his family had gotten as far as leaving their native Ur. "But when they reached Haran, they settled there." (Gen 11:31). Why did Terah mean to go to Canaan? Had the Lord spoken first to him? Why did he finish his days in Haran? Why now is Abram commanded to finish the "exodus"?

Read further and more questions arise. Abram indeed moved with his family and all his many possessions to Canaan. But when he got there, "there was famine in the land" (Gen 12:10). So they continued on to Egypt. Why would God command Abram to immigrate to a land in which they would not be able to stay? Moreover, if God had commanded Abram to depart from his relatives and father's house, why did he choose to bring with him his father's grandson Lot and the wealth he inherited from his father? Did Abram think he needed to start making himself a "great nation," rather than leave that promise's fulfillment to God?

Answers are not forthcoming. But the questions themselves lead to a richer engagement with the biblical text, which is suddenly not as straightforward as a lazy listener might think.

Today's Gospel raises questions. Why did Jesus go up the mountain? Why take along only these three disciples? Why did Moses and Elijah appear? What did they converse about? What does Peter mean by offering to make "three tents"? How does a *bright cloud* cast a *shadow*? What is the significance of this taking place "six days after" Peter's confession of faith and Jesus' prediction of His Passion (cf. Mt 16:13-17:1)? And what, really, does it mean that Jesus was "transfigured"?

In this case, Scripture offers some answers. In Luke's recounting of the event, he tells us that Jesus "went up the mountain to pray." Rather than using the word "transfigure" like Matthew (*metemorphōthē* in Greek), he simply says that "the appearance of [Jesus'] face changed" while he was praying (Lk 9:28-29). Moses and Elijah conversed with Jesus "about the *exodus* that He was going to accomplish in Jerusalem" (Lk 9:31). [Indicating what was "accomplished!" in Jn 19:30!] Luke also includes the detail that not even Peter knew what he was saying when he blathered about the three tents... suggesting that his utterance was either something prophetic, or the result of human befuddlement in the presence of the divine.

All the Evangelists connect this event with foretellings of Jesus' Passion. In Matthew and Luke, the Transfiguration sits between two predictions of Jesus' death and resurrection, and in Matthew and Mark the disciples are told not to speak of it "until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead" (Mt 17:9). Finally, in his second epistle, we have a firsthand account from St. Peter himself, who writes, "we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. He received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying, 'This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.' We ourselves heard this voice that came from heaven when we were with him on the holy mountain" (2 Pt 1:16-18). This would seem to refer us back to Mount Sinai, the "holy mountain of God" in the Old Testament, to which both Moses and Elijah made "exoduses" and at which both encountered God and received from Him commands.

I won't spoil *all* the fun in putting these pieces together in your prayer. But it does seem that the Transfiguration reveals not only who Jesus truly is (the Father's beloved Son), but what He has come to do: to fulfill a pattern of the "exodus," i.e. excursion of deliverance, that God has always been calling His people to make, to bring them out of idolatry, to the "mountain" of encounter and communion, through the ordeal of obedience, suffering, and death, into the majestic glory of God's presence. Listen to Him, indeed!

LENT 2026

Audition for Moonshot! (Mar 1-2)

Missed the Boat Theatre is holding auditions for Moonshot: A Statistically Insignificant Musical, an original musical written by Fr. Kyle Kowalczyk, music by *the* Chad Berg, playing June 18-27 at the Helene Houle Auditorium at Saint Agnes School.

About the Show: Life, for Melvin, is as predictable as he can make it. In fact, he's working as an actuary, to create a world in which everyone around him is focused on avoiding risks. But one day Christa walks into his life and... life doesn't feel very predictable anymore. She isn't something he can write off. When his doctor calls him on the same day with a life-altering diagnosis, Melvin is faced with a decision: will he spend the rest of his short and statistically insignificant life avoiding all risk, or will he take a chance on all the things he's been missing out on (like asking out a girl, reconnecting with old friends, or even going to the moon)?

Auditions (30 minute slots) will be at The Church of St. Mary (267 E. 8th St., St. Paul) from 6:30 - 9:30 PM March 1-2. **Callbacks** are March 8, 6:00-9:00 PM.

Take action at missedtheboattheatre.com/audition

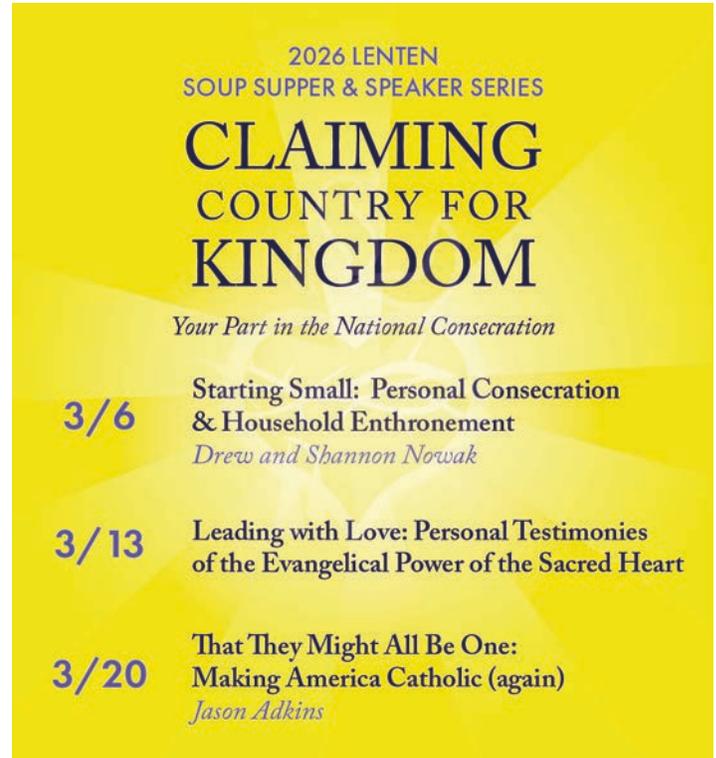


Friday, March 6, 2026
9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Capitol Vault Room B15


Adoration
at the Capitol

RSVP at:
mncatholic.org/adoration


MINNESOTA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE



2026 LENTEN
SOUP SUPPER & SPEAKER SERIES

CLAIMING COUNTRY FOR KINGDOM

Your Part in the National Consecration

3/6 Starting Small: Personal Consecration
& Household Enthronement
Drew and Shannon Nowak

3/13 Leading with Love: Personal Testimonies
of the Evangelical Power of the Sacred Heart

3/20 That They Might All Be One:
Making America Catholic (again)
Jason Adkins

Missed a soup supper? Find available speaker series materials linked to at stmark.xyz/sup

CRS Rice Bowls

This Lent St. Mark's community is participating in CRS Rice Bowl. An almsgiving and prayer opportunity supporting the work of Catholic Relief Services, the official international relief and development agency of the USCCB. For prayer content, simple Lenten recipes, and to meet the children and families impacted around the world, visit crsricebowl.org

Penance Service at Emmaus (Mar 12)

Next Thursday is our Penance Service at Emmaus! Emmaus fare, plus ample Confession! 7:00 PM in the church!

MASS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions for week of MARCH 1, 2026

7 AM
M: ***
T: Nathan & Hannah Schwartz
W: Br. Finbar McMullen +
Tr: Ann Schlangen
F: Jeanne Shrake +

10 AM

 All in PES formation
 Juanita Kulhanek
 David J. Doren
 Jake Navin +

Sa: Joseph Ferraro + (8 AM); Dominic Cummings (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



2026 will be great! Even more so if you 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

40 Days for Life (Mar 13)

St. Mark's is teaming up with Nativity of Our Lord for the Spring 40 Days for Life campaign! Prayer vigil days for us are **Mar 13 & 25**, from 7:00 AM - 6:00 PM! **Sign up at stmark.xyz/40days**

**SUN,
MAR
22**

**1:30P
GAME
\$22**

LET'S GET LOONY!

JOIN THE ST. MARK YOUNG ADULTS

REGISTER TODAY!

Andrew Dinner

THURSDAY, MARCH 5

6:00 - 8:00 PM | **ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH**
19795 Holyoke Ave, Lakeville, MN 55044

Archbishop Bernard A. Hebda, Bishop Michael J. Izen, Bishop Kevin T. Kenney, and Fr. Mark Pavlak, Vocation Director, invite men, 16 and older, who are discerning their vocation, to join them for dinner and conversation about priesthood and religious life.

REGISTER ONLINE
before Thursday, February 26 at
10000vocations.org

**PRO ECCLESIA SANCTA
IN
QUASAM TRINITATEM**

*With praise and gratitude
to Almighty God*

*the General Superior, the members
of Pro Ecclesia Sancta, and the family of our brother,
request the honor of your presence
at the Mass of Perpetual Vows of:*

Brother Evan LeRoy Steeves, P.E.S.

*which will be presided by
the Most Reverend Bernard Hebda
Archbishop of St. Paul and Minneapolis.*

*Thursday, March 19, 2026
Solemnity of St. Joseph
at 6:00 pm at the Church of St. Mark
(2001 Dayton Ave, St. Paul, MN 55104)*

Reception to follow after Mass

A.M.T.G.

Saint Marks in Art

The Feast of St. Mark (Apr 25) is officially less than two months away. And the people have spoken about ways to enrich our parish, and otherwise help invite in the neighborhood! The more opportunity for people to feel they belong and bond to our venerable parish, the better! Draw in the masses!

Through various murmurings around campus, a desire to see artistic flourishing and representation from within the community has been bubbling up.

So, in what may become a perpetual institution, this is a warm invite to the creatives among you/us to bring original art work of St. Mark (our patron or our parish or his Gospel's emblematic winged lion... or maybe some relevant tangent you can work out...) to the feast of St. Mark. For questions, turn to the DaVinci of our time, Br. Evan (of soon-to-be-making-his-perpetual vows fame). He'd love to hear from you at brevan@onestrongfamily.org

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. Alejandra Escobar, 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.”

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

WOJTYŁA COMMUNITY & INSTITUTE

TWIN CITIES COMMUNITY GATHERING

Join us for an evening of prayer, fellowship, and discussion on marriage and family life according to Saint John Paul II's Rule for Married Couple Groups. Bring a potluck dish to share!

Sunday, March 22nd
Church of St. Mark

4-6pm in Carolyn Hall

Speakers: Peter and Theresa Martin; authors of *The Rule*; St. John Paul II's Rule for a Joy-Filled Marriage of Divine Love

We are a family of families; all stages of life are welcome. Childcare is provided. RSVP: stmarkxyz/tccg



NEW

2026

LEADING WITH FAITH

AWARDS



You know a Catholic who boldly lives the Catholic faith in their labors —be they professional, enthusiast, or apostolate—and so positively impacts the broader community: make them known! The Leading With Faith Awards returns (May 1st) to honor individuals and organizations whose faith-informed work is actively changing the landscape of culture, and business, in the Archdiocese. Seeking examples of innovation, business growth, entrepreneurship, community impact, and/or collaboration & partnership. **Nominate at sjbusinessguild.org/sjf by Mar 22!**

Holy Relationships Conference (Mar 28)

In a world marked by confusion, isolation, and broken relationships, the Holy Relationships Conference (Mar 28) offers something profoundly hopeful: an occasion to explore the theological foundations and practical wisdom of Christian marriage and family life as a compelling response to the relational challenges of our time.

Participants will experience a full day (8 AM - 5 PM) with morning Mass, inspiring keynote talks, practical workshops, shared meals, and time for fellowship and connections. They will leave with relevant formation, renewed clarity, and tangible resources to help them walk faithfully toward vibrant, Christ-centered relationships.

Hosted by the Roccasecca Project in partnership with UST's Campus Ministry and Catholic Studies, and the Archdiocese. To attend, visit roccaseccaproject.org

2026 MEN'S CONFERENCE

"AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSE..."

Joshua 24:15



Keynote Speaker
Doug Barry
founder and director of the Catholic ministry RADIX

JOIN US

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2026

SAINT ELIZABETH ANN SETON
2035 15th St W, Hastings, MN 55033

Doors open at 7 AM!
Mass at 8 AM celebrated by
Archbishop Hebda, Bishop Izen
and Bishop Kenney.
Conference and Holy hour 9 AM - 12:30 PM.