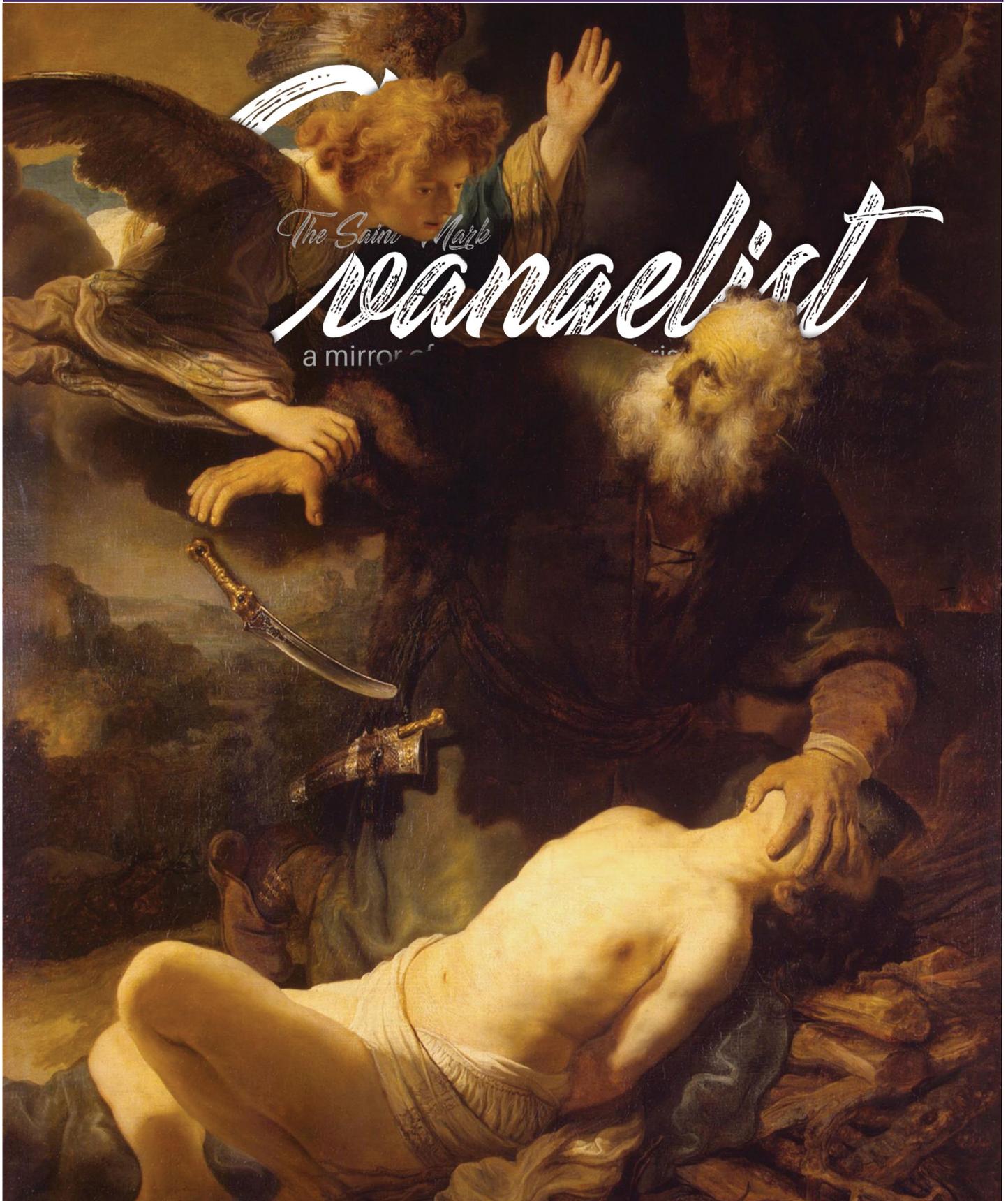


SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT | FEB. 28, 2021



The Saint Mark
Memorialist
a mirror of

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

We at the *Evangelist* have long been on record of being big-time fans of Rembrandt “The Flightless Dutchman” Van Rijn. We rarely miss a chance to feature the guy. Might as well call this darn thing the *Rembrandtgelist*, amiright? Anywho, the cover this week is *The Sacrifice of Isaac*. The painting is in the Hermitage. Now, lest there be confusion, by “Hermitage” we don’t mean the luxury apartment complex in St. Petersburg, Florida (Conveniently located in Downtown St. Petersburg, The Hermitage Luxury Apartment Homes offers residents the best amenities in the St. Petersburg area! Take a relaxing dip in our rooftop infinity pool or Jacuzzi tub!) but instead the dumb old museum and so-called “cultural triumph” in St. Petersburg, Russia, which doesn’t even have a single hot tub, let alone sleek, modern kitchens with designer cabinetry, granite countertops, and stainless steel appliances, along with spacious interiors that can fit anyone’s needs.

WANT TO RUN AN ANNOUNCEMENT in the *The Evangelist* (one of the happy few print publications in America that Jeff Bezos hasn’t bought yet—though if the price is right and the check is made directly to our editor, well, who knows?) or on the parish website? All you have to do is send in your content submissions, corrections, and suggestions to Nick Check. Email him at submissions@onestrongfamily.org, or give him a call at 651-645-5717.

JOIN THE SAINT MARKS YOUNG ADULTS in praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet every Wednesday this Lent. We will gather at 7:30 on Zoom for a brief time of prayer and reflection. Contact youngadults@onestrongfamily.org to learn more and to get the Zoom link.

ALSGIVING is an important part of Lent. St. Mark’s Human Dignity Committee sponsors a food drive and several outings to serve those in need, but if you feel compelled to do more you may be interested to visit this interactive map, which is created and maintained by Twin Cities Mutual Aid: <https://map.tcmmap.org/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

WED 3 MARCH	<i>Lenten Bible Study 7:00 - 8:00 PM Church</i> “Born Anew to a Living Hope: A Study of the First Epistle of Peter” is presented by Dr. William Stevenson. The study is on Wednesdays, from February 24 – March 24 and will be held from 7:00 – 8:00 PM in the St. Mark’s church proper. More info on page 6.
THURS 4 MARCH	<i>Lenten Penance Service at Emmaus 7:00 - 8:00 PM Church</i> Prepare your heart for Easter at this special Lenten Emmaus. All are invited to this evening of Confession, Adoration, Benediction, and Song. See page 4 for the full Emmaus calendar.
FRI 5 MARCH	<i>First Friday Devotion 5:30 PM Church</i> Grow in love for Christ’s Sacred Heart! St. Mark’s hosts Mass at 5:30 PM on the First Friday of the month. In lieu of our typical First Friday reflection, please join us following the Mass for Stations of the Cross and our Lenten Speaker Series. (More info on page 6.)
THURS 10 MARCH	<i>Family Stations of the Cross 6:00 PM St. Mark’s Gym</i> All families with children are invited to join us for Stations of the Cross, hosted by our Family Faith Formation Program. Walk-ins are welcome, but RSVPs are encouraged. Email RSVPs and questions to Sr. Leann, at pes.sisters@onestrongfamily.org
SAT 13 MARCH	<i>Couple’s Half Day Retreat 8:45 AM Community Room (NW Corner of Church, downstairs)</i> Attention couples: join us for the next series of our Couple’s Half Day Retreats. These mornings typically take place from 8:45 - 11:45 AM in the Community Room, and are open to all engaged and newly-married couples. Contact Alison (akaardal@onestrongfamily.org) to RSVP.

Please visit www.onestrongfamily.org/events to see the full upcoming calendar.



From the Heart of the Shepherd

Fr. Humberto Palomino, PES, Pastor

“I Know How Devoted You are to God”



AS WE TRAVEL deeper into the desert of Lent, we are invited this week to contemplate the nature of obedience to God and what that means for us. Last week we saw the obedience and self-emptying of our Lord as he submitted to being tested in the desert. This week we are given the example of Abraham’s heroic obedience to the will of God. It can be tempting to think of obedience as a negative virtue that is solely about what we give up (our will). It is true that we must give up our will, but real obedience is much more than that. The motive behind our obedience must always be love – we say “yes” to God more than we say “no” to our own will. Seen in this light, obedience is positive in nature. In love, we offer God even our will and our understanding. Because Abraham’s obedience was like this, the angel exclaimed, “I know now how devoted you are to God.” [Gn 22: 12]

NOTHING TO LOSE

We actually have nothing to lose by our obedience. When we join our obedience with that of our Lord, who was “obedient even unto death,” [see Phil 2: 8] our will is very much engaged! Out of love for God, we choose to unite our will with the will of the Father. There is nothing at all cold about obedience. Rather, it is the proof of our love and a channel of that love to others.

God didn’t impose himself on Abraham, but invited him to an act of love and trust. It is true that God asked a great deal of Abraham, saying to him, “Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah...[where] you shall offer him up as a holocaust.” [Gn 22: 2] But we don’t see Abraham hesitating or negotiating with God. In fact, his only recorded words are, “Here I am!” He loves the Lord so much that he will give anything and do anything that is asked of him, with trust. Instead of being dragged into submission, he offers himself and gives himself away with love.

Certainly we can’t hope for holiness without obedience to the will of God. St Jerome pointed out that when God invites us, saying “come and follow me,” he means more than walking in the same way or even imitating Jesus. Rather, following after Jesus means to surrender our personal independence with the desire of being shaped by and identified with the Lord. As St Paul put it, “Yet I live, no longer I, but Christ lives in me.” [Gal 2: 20]

THE FRUITFULNESS OF OBEDIENCE

When we begin to understand the virtue of obedience in this light, as an act of love and conformity with the person of Jesus Christ, we can see why it is also a font of fruitfulness for souls. Abraham’s act of obedience bore abundant fruit – descendants as countless as the stars of the sky or the sand of the seashore. Because of his obedience, motivated by love, “all the nations of the earth shall find blessing.” [Gn 22: 18] The blessings of Abraham’s obedience extend all the way to us today, and our small little acts of obedience and trust can be fruitful for souls we may never meet.

Our sacrifices have meaning that God often hides from our eyes, in order to increase the merit of our offering and safeguard our humility. Abraham only saw the very beginning of the fulfillment of God’s promises in his lifetime. He certainly didn’t see all the nations of the earth blessed through him. But today, because of Abraham’s obedience and trust, we pray in the liturgy, “Be pleased to look upon these offerings with a serene and kindly countenance, and to accept them, as once you were pleased to accept...the sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith....”

Abraham didn’t sacrifice Isaac. His hand was stayed by the angel. His sacrifice was his will. My brothers and sisters, let’s ask Mary to obtain for us the grace of being able to offer the same pleasing sacrifice to God – the joyful offering of our “yes” to his will – and obedience that is motivated by love.

ONE STRONG FAMILY UNITED IN CHRIST

Morning of Reflection (March 13)

JOIN US SATURDAY, MARCH 13 from 9:00 AM - 12:00 noon for our Lenten Morning of Reflection. Sr. Laura Holupchinski will direct this brief retreat, which will explore “The Sacrifice of Love: Encountering & Imitating the Love of Christ on the Cross.” Lunch will follow.

This event will be held in Carolyn Hall, with a remote attendance option available to all who register. Register with Eileen Moore at edmmoore49@gmail.com or by phone at 612-483-2973. \$10 donation with lunch. \$5 without lunch.

Saintly Examples of Generosity

As we host our annual Lenten food drive to help those in need, the St. Mark's Human Dignity Committee would like to highlight the lives of Saints who devoted their lives to the poor. Our second Saint is St. Katharine Drexel (d. 1955) whose feast we celebrate on March 3--this week!

St. Katharine Drexel—the second US-born saint to be canonized by the Catholic Church—is revered in both religious and secular circles for her extraordinary material and spiritual generosity. Born into a wealthy Philadelphia family in 1858, Katherine was taught the value of faith and charity by her father and stepmother. (Katherine's mother passed away only five weeks after Katherine was born.) Katherine's love for God and concern for the poor—and a chance meeting with Pope Leo XIII, who invited her to pursue mission work—led her to enter a convent run by the Sisters of Mercy.

By joining religious life, Katherine left behind much—a comfortable life, involvement in the American oligarchy, and the entirety of her sizable inheritance—for the service of the poor. She would go on to found the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, a religious congregation. Her dedication to the poor (and her work ethic!) are stunning: Drexel commissioned a catechism for the Navajo people; established 145 missions, 50 schools for African Americans, and 12 schools for Native Americans; and was instrumental in founding Xavier University of Louisiana, the only Catholic, historically black university in the US. Katherine Drexel passed away at age 96; she was canonized by John Paul II in 2000.

St. Monica's Nursery

CARING FOR a baby during Mass? The St. Mark's Moms' Group is here to help! Stop by the St Monica's Nursery, located in the vestibule, which is home to a changing station and a comfy chair for nursing, among other things. If you have questions regarding or suggestions for this room, or if you would like to donate anything for the space, please email Adreanna at adreanna.vyvyvan@gmail.com.

Sign up for a Meal Train!



DO YOU LIKE to cook? Are you looking for an opportunity to volunteer? The St. Mark's Moms Group sponsors Meal Trains for any St. Mark's families who have just had a baby, or are experiencing a difficult time.

We foresee a bit of a baby boom in the next several months, so if anyone would like to be added to the Meal Train list, let us know You would be informed of a Meal Train opportunity via email, and could sign up for one of the dates listed. On that day, you deliver a meal to the family -- it's that easy!

Also, if you or someone you know is expecting, or for any other reason could use some home-cooked (or take out!) meals from your St. Mark's family, let us know! Contact Abby at abbyortega1819@gmail.com.



EMMAUS

A NIGHT OF MERCY



Encounter the mercy of His Sacred Heart

Adoration, confession, and music from 7-8pm on the first Thursday of the month at the Church of Saint Mark

2020-2021 DATES

2020	SEP 17*	OCT 1	NOV 5	DEC 3	
2021	JAN 7	FEB 4	MAR 4	APR 11**	MAY 6

* Thursday Holy Hour kick off with Emmaus

** Divine Mercy Sunday event between 9 and 11 AM Masses

MASS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions

7 AM
 M: [no Mass]
 T: +John Rockwell
 W: +Lorraine Wind
 Tr: Sr. Emy, PES
 F: Ann Schlangen
 S: +Jeanne Shrake

10 AM
 +Elizabeth O'Brien
 +Steve & Kitty Gleason
 +Daniel Sesta
 +Holy Souls in Purgatory
 Brittany Majeski

Know someone in need of prayers? Email your request to prayers@onestrongfamily.org and we'll be sure to pray for you!

FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES



EVERY MEMBER of our St. Mark's community can enjoy a free subscription to formed.org, the incredible online gateway to the best Catholic content, all in one place! With FORMED, you can:

- Prepare for Sunday Mass by watching an insightful five-minute video by renowned Catholic teachers.
- Enjoy a movie with your family that is both nourishing and entertaining.
- Find great e-books and audio books, both fiction and nonfiction.
- Listen to talks from all your favorites, like Dr. Edward Sri, Bishop Robert Barron, Teresa Tomeo, and more.
- Help your children grow in character and embrace the beauty and wonder of our faith.

Sign up for **FREE** at formed.org using our parish code: **XPDYVT**



OUR **RCIA ENCOUNTER PROGRAM** has begun! If you or someone you know is interested in becoming Catholic or learning more about our faith, visit our website (onestrongfamily.org/RCIA) or send an email to RCIA@onestrongfamily.org.

ADORATION AT ST MARK'S
Perpetual Adoration
from Mon. 10:30 AM to Wed. 10 PM.

Chapel is also open
Thursday through Friday, 6 AM to 10 PM

Please consider committing to one hour a week with the Blessed Sacrament. **To view our current open hours, or to sign up, visit stmark.weadorehim.com.**

Use activation code: Jesus

OUR **ADORATION CHAPEL** is slowly returning to perpetual adoration. Our goal is to have at least two adorers every hour the chapel is open. We have several open hours, and are in particular need of adorers to keep our Lord company through the night. Please prayerfully consider signing up for an open hour. Visit our website, onestrongfamily.org/adoration, or contact the Parish Office to learn more.

HELP OUT IN THE OFFICE!

WE ARE **LOOKING** for a few individuals who would be willing to join our Money Counter Ministry. The time commitment would be at least one, 1.0 - 1.5 hour session per month. This ministry meets on Mondays from about 8:30 AM to 9:45 AM. If you are interested in learning more about this ministry contact Jill in the parish office at 651-645-5717 or email jschmidt@onestrongfamily.org



**Our mission is to live and share
 Christ's call to holiness.**

Learn more: onestrongfamily.org/mission

MINISTRIES, LITURGIES, & EVENTS

40 Days for Life



THE LENTEN 40 DAYS FOR LIFE CAMPAIGN is underway. St. Mark's is once again teaming up with Nativity of Our Lord and friends from other neighboring parishes to adopt two days of silent, prayerful vigil from 7:00 AM to 6:00 PM in front of Planned Parenthood:

- Friday, March 19 (St. Joseph)
- Thursday, March 25 (Annunciation).

A tragedy of epidemic proportions, abortion is the leading cause of death in the world, taking what some estimate to be 56 million innocent lives every year. Please pray for an end to abortion. To learn more about 40 Days for Life, and to sign up for an hour of prayer, please visit our website: onestrongfamily.org/40days

FAMILY

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

All families are invited to join us.

March 10th
in the Big Gym
6:00pm

Hosted by the Faith Formation Program.
We would appreciate an RSVP with the number of kids attending in order to calculate supplies needed. However, walk-ins are welcome.
Sr. Leann Luecke peersisters@onestrongfamily.org

Fridays in Lent



SPEND FRIDAY EVENINGS IN LENT growing in your faith with your parish Family! Stations of the Cross and Confessions begin at 6:15 PM, followed by our Lenten Speaker Series at 7:00 PM. This year, our Lenten Speaker Series is taking a closer look at our Parish mission statement, “to live and share Christ’s Call to Holiness,” by exploring how holy men and women through the ages have answered this call—and how we as a parish can better answer it today! These talks will be delivered in the Church, as well as live-streamed on our website.

This Friday, Dcn. Joe will speak a bit about “The Holiness of St John the Evangelist.” See the full schedule for Lent on our website: onestrongfamily.org/lent

Lenten Bible Study Has Begun!



OUR LENT 2021 BIBLE STUDY started this past Wednesday—but there’s still time to join. “Born Anew to a Living Hope: A Study of the First Epistle of Peter” is presented by Dr. William Stevenson.

The study is on Wednesdays, from February 24 – March 24 and will be held from 7:00 – 8:00 PM in St. Mark’s church, proper. COVID precautions will be observed, and a remote-attendance option is available.

Registration is free (making this particular Bible Study a remarkable value), and participants are asked to bring a Bible. Walk-ins are welcome, but prior registration is encouraged. Learn more and register at our Bible Study webpage, onestrongfamily.org/biblestudy.

STAFF

Clergy:

Fr. Humberto Palomino, PES..... Pastor
 frhumberto@onestrongfamily.org

Fr. Yamato Icochea, PES..... Associate Pastor
 fryamato@onestrongfamily.org

Fr. Cesar Valencia, PES.....Associate Pastor
 frcesar@onestrongfamily.org

Parish Staff:

Joe Hermerding..... Parish Business Manager
 Nathan Cicero..... Music Director
 Tamara Titsworth..... Pastoral Care Director
 Sr Leann Lueke, PES..... Faith Formation and Youth Ministry
 Sr Laura Holupchinski, PES.. Faith Formation, Youth Ministry
 Dcn. David Hottinger, PES.....MC; Ministries Coordinator
 Patricia Hartshorn..... Volunteer Liturgy Coordinator
 Alison Kaardal..... Volunteer Director of Mission
 Jill Parry Schmidt..... Administrative Assistant
 Nick Check.....Communications Director;
 Currently not into model trains, but mature enough to recognize that he's about one really traumatic event from getting *maaaay* too emotionally and financially invested in model trains.

Parish Contact

Phone (651) 645-5717
 Fax (651) 644-0011
 parishcenter@onestrongfamily.org

Parish Center Hours

Monday - Thursday: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
 Friday: 9 AM - 12 PM (Noon)

Parish Address

2001 Dayton Ave, St. Paul, MN 55104

Parish Trustees: Kip Chaffee, Andrew Nowak

Parish Pastoral Council: Alison Kaardal, Chair

Parish Finance Committee: Jim Wilgenbusch, Chair

Saint Mark's Catholic Preschool

Gayane Manukyan, Director
 651-644-5030
 preschool@onestrongfamily.org

CONNECT

 /ChurchofSaintMark  @churchofsaintmark

CELEBRATIONS

Mass:

Saturday Evening Mass: 5 PM
 Sunday Mass: 9 AM, 11 AM, and 5 PM

Daily Mass:

Monday: 10 AM; Tuesday-Friday: 7 AM, 10 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 said after all daily Masses.

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 the 3rd Saturday of every month at 10 AM (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.”

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