

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | FEBRUARY 09, 2025



THE CHURCH OF SAINT MARK | [www.onestrongfamily.org](http://www.onestrongfamily.org)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT FOR 2025-2026 OPENED FEB. 01!** Full- and half-day programs are available, from two to five days a week, and the school opens at 7:00 AM and closes at 6:00 PM: where can you get such flexibility?! To enroll, inquire with the director ([asmith@onestrongfamily.org](mailto:asmith@onestrongfamily.org)) and know that your child is in a truly Catholic program! **To enroll for the preschool summer program, visit [stmark.xyz/sum](http://stmark.xyz/sum)**

**A NEW SEASON OF WOMEN'S WORKOUT SESSIONS IS STILL ON THE CALENDAR!** Find the schedule at [stmark.xyz/workout](http://stmark.xyz/workout) and head to the school gym (corner of Marshall and Prior) on Monday nights at 8:00 to attend!

**ALL WOMEN OF ST. MARK'S ARE INVITED TO** the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarterly meeting of the St. Paul Deanery Council of Catholic Women on Thursday, February 20 at the Church of St, Matthew, 510 Hall Avenue, St. Paul. Registration and coffee, 8:15. Business meeting 9am followed by a presentation on Casa Guadalupe- a haven for asylum seekers. Mass at noon followed by lunch. There will be a brown bag fundraiser St. Mark's CCW will cover the cost for all parishioners attending. Phone reservations to Nancy at 651-644-2260 by Monday, February 17<sup>th</sup>.

**ENRICH YOUR MARRIAGE!** That's always desirable, and our Marriage Enrichment Retreat Morning can help you do just that. And it's a month away! Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, from 8:45 - 11:45 AM, in the Community Room! Free of charge, breakfast included, and welcoming engaged and married couples of all ages. Fr. Patrick presenting (on the nature of temptation!) and also featuring adoration and small group discussion.

**WHAT BETTER WAY TO WARD OFF ALL MANNER OF UNDESIRABLE ELEMENTS IN YOUR LIFE** than adoration?! An even better reason to commit to an hour, though, is that adoring the Lord is God's due, and he alone is worthy. (And the source from which all blessings flow.) And we want a spirit of fervent and vigilant prayer at the parish so we can keep the chapel open at all hours. **As such, if you've got liberty during the week, particularly afternoons, we are in need of committed adorers!** Sign up at [stmark.weadorehim.com](http://stmark.weadorehim.com)

**FREE! ADMISSION IS FREE** for the Feb. 15 swing dance. Provided that you volunteer, of course. And volunteering is simple and what allows us to invite all comers to the parish, so take a slot at [stmark.xyz/swing](http://stmark.xyz/swing) and rock [step] on!

**IT'S AN ASSEMBLY OF MEN IN THE ARCHDIOCESE!** And this assembly (Mar. 22) is not one of those formal formality types, but, rather, a unique opportunity for all men (plus males 14 and up) to rally around our local apostolic successor, to pray, and to receive strength for our Christian vocation. Are you not for that?! RSVP at [stmark.xyz/be-ye-men](http://stmark.xyz/be-ye-men)

**MONDAY, FEB 17 IS PRESIDENTS' DAY!** The parish office will be closed!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

*Supper at Emmaus | 5:30 - 8:00 PM | Carolyn Hall, Church*

**THU  
13  
FEB**

Winter/Spring Suppers at Emmaus are a limited commodity item this term. You only get one in each season. So, make them count: our next Supper at Emmaus community-wide potluck dinner, for the masses, to be fed, inspired, and worship the Lord by candlelight with stellar musical accompaniment and chance for Confession approaches!

**SAT  
15  
FEB**

*A Valentine's Night of Swing | 7:00 - 10:00 PM | Gym*

Something for everyone! If you're a dancer, then dance! If you're a newbie, come at 7:00 for lessons! And if you just want to enjoy the sights and sounds, tables are provided for just that purpose!

But wait, there's more. Find the Parish calendar on our website: [onestrongfamily.org/events](http://onestrongfamily.org/events).



## From the Heart of the Shepherd

Fr. David Hottinger PES, Pastor

### 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time



Ah, frigid February: another month of Mary. In my book, a month qualifies as belonging especially to the Blessed Mother if it contains at least two notable feasts of the Virgin. September therefore counts because of her Nativity on the 8<sup>th</sup> and Our Lady of Sorrows on the Ides. December is definitely a M.o.M. due to Our Lady of Guadalupe and the whole Christmas thing. And May is *the* month of Mary, in view of the Visitation on the 31<sup>st</sup> and, well, all the flowers.

February is front-loaded from a Marian point of view. The Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord is Marian despite the name. And Our Lady of Lourdes has her commemoration on the 11<sup>th</sup> of the month, a day with special significance for members of PES. (As a bonus, Valentine's Day gives us Catholics a fine opportunity for distributing images of the Immaculate Heart, despite the risk of a misunderstanding.)

The Marian notes of February are of special personal significance for your pastor. Fifteen years ago, while in my first year of law school and, to my dismay, still in the throes of a relentless vocational wrestling bout with the Almighty, I happened upon the Total Consecration booklet of St. Louis de Montfort in the adoration chapel down Prior Avenue. Not finding in myself the strength to apply to the seminary (as I suspected the Lord was expecting me to do), *this* seemed like something I could, at least, commit to. Scanning the liturgical calendar for the next possible appropriate liturgical feast, I settled on making my consecration on February 2 (2011)... noting that it was also World Day of "Consecrated" Life for the Church.

I prepared myself by means of the Saint's meditations and daily prayers over the intervening thirty-three days. When the date finally arrived, I went, as was my custom, to 5 pm Mass at Nativity of Our Lord. Afterwards I stayed for the Rosary in the side chapel. After that, if memory serves, with no witnesses but my angel, I knelt

and prayed the formula of consecration, signing my name in the space provided. Hearing no angelic hymns and not detecting any miraculous gestures from the statue of the Virgin, I went home and went on with my life. My vocational perturbation? More or less unabated.

But that year the following things happened: I started going (every now and then) to Mass and later (with increasing frequency) confession at the Catholic church closer to home, St. Mark's; started spiritual direction with Fr. Humberto; and on the feast of the Holy Family 2011, had a fateful conversation with him, to which I came prepared to share the very solid case I thought I had for forestalling any conversation about the priesthood, but which ended with me accepting an invitation to live with the community to discern religious life.

On February 11, 2012, feast of Our Lady of Lourdes and one year and a novena after I made my quiet Marian consecration, I drove down Dayton avenue to the St. Mark rectory in time for morning prayer. My religious life had begun, and Mary had brought it all about.

I share this by way of encouraging the practice of Marian consecration. I realize that for those of the parish who are presently experiencing vocational angst, it might have the opposite effect, at least to the extent that they, like me once upon a time, consider a celibate vocation something to be avoided. But our thoughts are not God's thoughts, nor do we often know what makes for our peace of heart. Yet Mary does. And better than any other creature! Marian consecration is simply to give what we have or are over to Mary's control. Though as easy as an act of the will, it is something she takes very seriously. Whatever we cede to her, she begins to care for in a special motherly way. And Mary never fails to use the least thing in her keeping in the best possible way for God's glory and the good of souls. Be it a heap of dead flowers, trust her to transform it into a beautiful bouquet to present to her Son! As one of those "least things" whose consecration continues to sprout un-hoped-for flowers under her quiet motherly care, I invite you to experience the power of Marian consecration yourself.

## 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. 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 Ben Bates! Ben just graduated from the University of St. Thomas, and is living in Saint Louis Park. He works as an engineer for a company called Emerson in Shakopee.

His hobbies include music! He loves playing music and plays the cello in the Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra. He also offered his gift of music at this past November's parish soiree! In college he played rugby, and loves playing any sport whether it's basketball, football, or even just lifting weights.

Ben discovered St. Mark's his freshman year of college when he met Father Joe (Brother Joe at the time) and was invited to mass at St. Mark's. Ben was part of the Catholic Men's Leadership Club on campus, and Father Joe was leading the group. He got to know St. Mark's better as Brother Jose, Fr. David, and Fr. Patrick currently help out with the club.

What drew Ben to the parish was the beauty and reverence of the liturgy. He saw people kneeling after mass in prayer, which he never saw at other parishes. At St. Mark's, Ben could see the graces of the Eucharist truly working within each person. His favorite things about the parish would be the community and how involved all the PES members, priests, brothers, and sisters are in the lives of the parishioners. They are so welcoming, relatable, and fun to be around. He also loves that St. Mark's emphasizes the universal call to holiness. Every homily or discussion with one of the priests, brothers, or sisters is so encouraging.

This season Ben is looking forward to a full year of being a St. Mark parishioner and being involved in parish events whether it's helping with the music or helping Larry with one of his projects. He also looks forward to starting a new small group led by Brother Jose.

Welcome to the parish Ben!

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2025**

6:00 - 8:00 PM | ARCHDIOCESAN CATHOLIC CENTER  
777 Forest Street, St. Paul, MN 55106

Archbishop Bernard A. Hebda and Father Mark Pavlak, Director of Vocations, 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 Friday, February 21  
[10000vocations.org](http://10000vocations.org)

"The Lord continues to call by name, just as He once called the Apostles on the shores of the Sea of Galilee."  
*Pope Benedict XVI*



**OFFICE OF VOCATIONS**  
ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS  
[www.10000vocations.org](http://www.10000vocations.org) • 651.962.6890

### WCI COMMUNITY GATHERING

Join us for a morning of breakfast, prayer, fellowship, and discussion on marriage and family life according to Saint John Paul II's Rule for married couples.



**Saturday, February 22nd**  
8am: Mass at St. Mark's

8:45-10:45 Potluck brunch, talk, discussion, and prayer in Carolyn Hall

We are a family of families; all stages of life are welcome. Childcare is provided during the talk and adult discussion!



# MASS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions for week of FEB 09, 2025

<p><b>7 AM</b></p> <p>M: ---</p> <p>T: <b>Shamas Demoret</b></p> <p>W: <b>Betty Michel +</b></p> <p>Tr: <b>Clinton J. Racine +</b></p> <p>F: <b>Andres Sanchez</b></p> <p>S*: <b>Unborn children &amp; their families (8 AM); Clinton J. Racine + (5:00 PM)</b></p>	<p><b>10 AM</b></p> <p>---</p> <p><b>Thomas Greer +</b></p> <p><b>Ryan Burke</b></p> <p><b>Betty Michel +</b></p> <p><b>The Clendenen Lemus Family</b></p>
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## 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](mailto:ocia@onestrongfamily.org). Or sign up at [stmark.xyz/cim](http://stmark.xyz/cim)

## FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

FORMED has been back for awhile! Note we REALLY may eventually get around to cleaning up the back end, so if your old credentials don't get you in, it's "not you, it's us." To access content, visit [Formed.org](http://Formed.org) and click "Sign up as a parishioner" and find St. Mark's via our zip code: 55104

## 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. Enrollment for the upcoming school year is open now! Visit the preschool website, [onestrongfamily.org/preschool](http://onestrongfamily.org/preschool), or contact Addie Smith, our Preschool Director at:

[preschool@onestrongfamily.org](mailto:preschool@onestrongfamily.org)  
651-644-5030

## ADORATION



We are blessed to have Eucharistic Adoration available at our parish. However, help is needed to maintain it. Please prayerfully consider signing up for a weekly holy hour. We have a number of openings plus there are many hours that could use a prayer partner (currently only one Adorer committed):

**Tuesday:** 2 pm  
**Wednesday:** 1 am, Noon  
**Thursday:** 2 am, noon  
**Friday:** 11 pm



Create an account at [stmark.weadorehim.com](http://stmark.weadorehim.com) or Email [adoration@onestrongfamily.org](mailto:adoration@onestrongfamily.org)

**The Church of St. Mark**  
*Our mission is to live and share  
 Christ's call to holiness.*  
 Learn more: [onestrongfamily.org/mission](http://onestrongfamily.org/mission)

Know someone in need of prayers? Email your request to [prayers@onestrongfamily.org](mailto: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](http://onestrongfamily.org/give-help). For questions, contact [parishcenter@onestrongfamily.org](mailto:parishcenter@onestrongfamily.org)



ONE STRONG FAMILY UNITED IN CHRIST

**MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
**IGNITE**

**YOUTH GROUP DATES**

**KICK OFF!** MS Ignite Games // Sat, Feb 8  
\*\*Nerf Battle & Pizza lunch provided!\*\*  
**RSVP REQUIRED**

Wednesday Sessions

- February 12
- February 26
- March 12
- March 26
- April 9
- April 23
- April 30

**BE WHO GOD MEANT YOU TO BE, AND YOU WILL SET THE WORLD ON FIRE.**  
-- St. Catherine of Siena



Intergenerational Women's Night (Feb 22)

**Growing in Community**



As women of all ages and stages in life, let us come together to share, learn, and grow in our Catholic faith.

Through an inspiring talk about "How to Foster Catholic Community Among Women," prayer, and social time, we will:

- Learn from one another's experiences and perspectives
- Strengthen our bonds with other Catholic women
- Discover new ways to live out our faith in daily life

**"THE 'GENIUS OF WOMAN' IS SEEN IN FEMINE STYLES OF HOLINESS. WHICH ARE AN ESSENTIAL MEANS OF REFLECTING GOD'S HOLINESS IN THIS WORLD." - POPE FRANCIS**

Saturday, February 22nd | 7pm-9pm  
Carolyn Hall, Church of St. Mark  
Bring an appetizer or dessert to share!  
Scan the QR code or call the Parish Office to sign up.



**WITH SPEAKER DR. FAITH PAWL!**



**SUPPER AT EMMAUS**

Join us for a potluck dinner in Carolyn Hall at 5:30pm. Candlelit Adoration and Confession to follow!

February 13th and May 8th

**It's THIS WEEK, AND HEED IT WELL, FRIENDS!:** there are only two Suppers at Emmaus this term, so get in on this one! Potluck supper starts at 5:30, talk at 6:00, and candlelit adoration and Confession at 7:00 PM! Not to be missed!

*A Valentine's Night of*  
**SWING**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15

*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  
(\$8 with student ID)

BEER AND WINE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE.

## STAFF

**Clergy:**

Fr. David Hottinger, PES.....Pastor  
 frdavid@onestrongfamily.org

Fr. Patrick Evans, PES.....Associate Pastor  
 frpatrick@onestrongfamily.org

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

**Parish Staff:**

Randy Lehn..... Parish Business Manager  
 Br. José Ignacio Rodriguez.....Master of Ceremonies  
 Br. Evan Steeves.....Ignite Youth Ministry  
 Sr. Julieta Del Carpio, PES.....Faith Formation  
 & Ignite Youth Ministry  
 Larry Leif.....Head of Maintenance  
 Kristen Grant.....Director of Discipleship  
 Kathrine Handford.....Director of Music and Organist  
 Audrey Koval.....Pastoral Associate  
 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:** Michael Duchesne, Chair

**Parish Finance Committee:** John Wehrly, Chair

**Saint Mark’s Catholic Preschool**

Addie Smith, Director  
 651-644-5030  
 preschool@onestrongfamily.org

## CONNECT



## 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](http://onestrongfamily.org/sacraments) or by contacting the Parish Center.

**BAPTISMS** are celebrated on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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



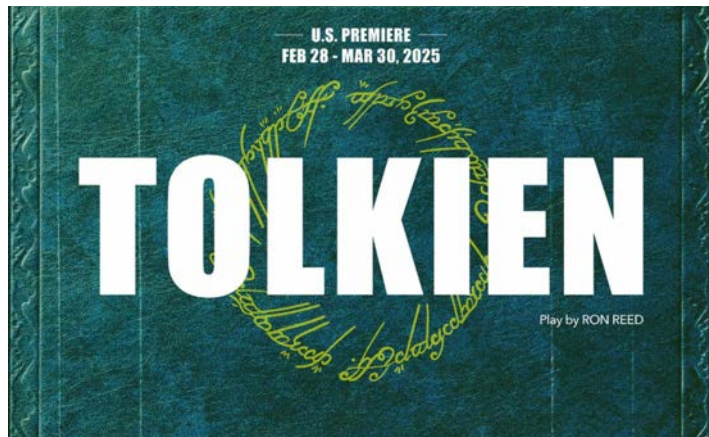
The Church of Saint Mark is served by the priests, brothers, and sisters of Pro Ecclesia Sancta, which is an institute of consecrated life founded in Lima, Peru in 1992, whose members dedicate themselves to living and promoting the universal call to holiness in the Church. Their motto is *ad maximam trinitatis gloriam*. Everything “for the greatest glory of the Holy Trinity.”

**SAINT MARK, PRAY FOR US!**

**All are welcome to help clear snow!**



**YOU HAVE THE GREEN BADGE OF GARDEN LIFE**, but do you have the Frost Badge of Snow Clearing?! In an effort to rein in expenditures and solicit parishioner buy-in and support, we need a bench of on-call-able parishioners to help clear snow should the need arise! The commitment is just let Larry Leif know (lleif@onestrongfamily.org) and if occasion arises, he can tap you. Many hands, and a deep bench, make for light work and infrequent calls for help!



**A LITERARY FRIENDSHIP.** The worlds of Narnia and Middle Earth may never have come to be were it not for an unlikely friendship between J.R.R. Tolkien and C.S. Lewis. **TOLKIEN** by Ron Reed tells the stirring story of the transformative relationship between Tolkien and Lewis, from 1926 through 1963, amidst global tumult and personal trials. Tolkien and Lewis pushed each others' imaginations, faith and curiosity. Tickets & info are available at [openwindowtheatre.org](http://openwindowtheatre.org) or by phone at 612-615-1515.

**Postponed until March 01**

**ALL MOTHERS GRIEVING THE LOSS** of a stillborn or miscarried child are invited to Maternity of Mary's annual retreat, which is focused on healing in grief through the Catholic perspective. The retreat has been postponed, due to weather, until March 1<sup>st</sup>! Online registration is \$30. The retreat includes large group talks, small group sharing, prayer time, lunch, and shared resources. To register, scan the QR code to the right or visit [maternityofmarychurch.org](http://maternityofmarychurch.org)



**AN INTRO TO THE ST. JOSEPH BUSINESS GUILD**

**FEB 12 @ 6:30 PM**  
**PIZZA @ 7:00 PM**  
**PRESENTATION @ 7:30 PM**

**1983 DAYTON AVE ST. PAUL, MN**

RSVP @ [SJBUSINESSGUILD.COM](http://SJBUSINESSGUILD.COM)

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

**Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup>**

**on LOCALISM**

**Holy Family Catholic Church**  
 5900 W Lake St., Mpls, MN  
**Doors open @ 5:00 PM, Dinner @ 6:00 PM**

**WITH DALE AHLQUIST PRESENTING**

**Open to the general public**  
 Cost: \$15;  
 Clergy & Students are free

RSVP online at [sjbusinessguild.com](http://sjbusinessguild.com)