

St. Mark Shoreline

18033 15th Place NE
Shoreline, WA 98155
www.saintmarkshoreline.org
(206) 364-7900



January 22, 2023

Weekly schedule

Sunday - *Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*

8:30 am - Sunday Mass (*Pro populo*)
10:30 am - Sunday Mass (*Archbishop Etienne & all clergy*)
11:40 am - Parish Rosary for Life, pro-life shrine

Monday

9:30 am - Daily Mass (*Margaret Zeran, RIP*)
2:00 pm - Prayer Team, church
6:30 pm - Family Rosary, church
7:00 pm - Boy Scouts troop meeting, cafeteria
7:00 pm - Friends of Saint Francis meeting, hall

Tuesday

No daily Mass (Father's day off)
7:00 pm - Saint Gianna Molla meeting, hall
7:30 pm - Saint Vincent de Paul meeting, library

Wednesday

9:30 am - Daily Mass (*Daniel McMullen, RIP*)
10:00 am - Wisdom literature study, hall
5:00 pm - Confessions
7:00 pm - Bible & the Virgin Mary, hall

Thursday

9:30 am - Daily Mass (*Mr. Lubas, RIP*)
4:00 pm - First Communion prep, hall
7:00 pm - Confirmation prep, hall

Friday

9:30 am - Daily Mass (*Jan Leonard, RIP*)

Saturday

7:30 am - Lion's Den meeting, hall
9:30 am - Daily Mass (for vocations to the Priesthood)
10:00 am - 4:30 pm - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
3:00 pm - Confessions
4:30 pm - Solemn Benediction
5:00 pm - Vigil Mass (*St. Mark parish & school staff*)
6:00 pm - Friends of Saint Francis meeting, hall

Mass times

Mon, Wed-Sat: 9:30 am
Saturday: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 8:30 am & 10:30 am

Confession times

Wednesdays: 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Saturdays: 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm
(appointments welcome - call Father)

Pastor

Rev. Jacob Maurer | ext. 101

Administration & Stewardship

Todd Chapman | ext. 106
toddc@saintmarkshoreline.org

Faith Formation

Dcn Kirk Altenhofen | ext. 105
kirka@saintmarkshoreline.org

Parish Involvement

Jeannette Acheson | ext. 100
jeannettea@saintmarkshoreline.org

Facilities Maintenance Manager




Carlos Odicino | ext. 110
carlos@saintmarkshoreline.org

Principal

Kathy Keck | ext. 202
principal@stmss.org

Saint Vincent de Paul Helpline

206-767-6449

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PARISH EVENTS & NEWS



January 15, weekly stewardship report (fiscal year July 2022 - June 2023) St. Mark parish

	Budgeted	Actual	Difference	Online	# In Person	# Online	Givers
Income							
Last Week	\$15,660	\$15,775	\$115	\$7,636	89	79	168
Year to Date	\$454,140	\$426,648	(\$27,492)				

Rachel's Corner *Hope & Healing After Abortion*

Visit us online at www.ccsww.org/projectrachel
or contact us at (206) 920-6413 (english),
(206) 450-7814 (español) or by e-mail at
projectrachel@ccsww.org



Preschool Job Opening

We are looking for an aide for the afternoon preschool class. The class is Monday through Thursday afternoon from 12:00 to 3:15 pm.

Please contact Kathy Keck if you are interested, principal@stmss.org or 206-364-1633.

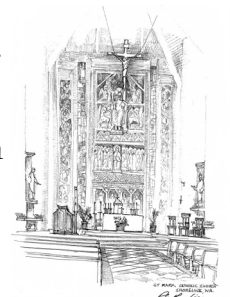


We have a **limited number** of Source & Summit missals available for purchase at the parish office (\$8 each).

This extra quantity that is available for purchase is very limited, so if you are interested, call or come by the parish office soon!

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

As part of our Eucharistic revival, Saint Mark parish is hosting exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every Saturday from 10:30 am to 4:30 pm. In order to continue offering this opportunity for prayer, we need regular scheduled adorers (at least two per hour). Please consider how you and your family might join in prayer before the Lord, benefiting not only your own relationship with the Lord but helping ensure that this devotion continues to be available for others too!



Contact Deacon Kirk (see front page) for more details.

Bible & the Virgin Mary

Wednesday nights at 7:00 pm in Sullivan Hall

January 25th: **Born of a Virgin**

February 1st: **The Promised Mother**

February 8th: **Mother Crowned in Glory**

Facilitator: Greg Insley

RSVP to cristero2012@gmail.com

Free! Everyone welcome!

— Please pray for —

Antoinette Cox

Daniel McMullen, RIP

Maureen Martin, RIP

PARISH EVENTS & NEWS



*“Dear Fr. Maurer and Parishioner of
St. Mark Parish*

*Thank you so much for your faithfulness to
us over many years. Your caring presence
and generosity have truly been a blessing to
us.*

*This year, as in so many years in the past,
your cheerful giving is greatly appreciated.
God bless you and your families.*

Blessed Christmas to each of you.

—The Carmelite Nuns of Shoreline”

BULLETIN ADVERTISING NOTICE

Thank you to all of our parishioners and businesses who have in the past purchased advertising on the back of our bulletin. Your generosity has helped minimize bulletin costs and provide for a quality weekly publication for the entire parish community.

Starting this summer (July 2023), Saint Mark parish is making the transition to in-house publishing of our bulletin – we will no longer be utilizing LPi as our bulletin producer.

Parishioners and businesses looking to assist in supporting our bulletin production are encouraged to contact the parish office for volunteer & donation opportunities.

Come join **Friends of Saint Francis** on **Saturday, January 28th in Sullivan Hall after the 5 PM Mass** for an inspiring movie presentation. The 80-minute documentary, *The Letter*, was released this year by the global Laudato Si Movement. Reflection and discussion follows.

This film visually captures 2 key tenets from Pope Francis’s encyclical, *On Care for our Common Home: the Cry of the Earth and the Cry of the Poor*.



Bring your water bottles and your favorite soup or chili to share (power outlets will be available for your crockpots before Mass).

Please bring family and friends and all ages from middle school and above.

There is much more to learn from the Pope’s encyclical. On Monday evenings from 7:00-8:30 PM in Sullivan Hall (January 30, February 6, and 13) we will host additional videos from Daniel Horan, Franciscan Friar, on selected sections of Laudato Si.

These events are a unique opportunity for Saint Mark parish to grow spiritually closer to God, our Creator and Father and to all our brothers and sisters. Pope Francis is teaching us to spread Christ’s love through daily actions that conserve, preserve, and share the bounty of the earth for all peoples now and into the future!

Food and Entertainment
From around the world



Multi Cultural Potluck

To celebrate the end of Catholic
Schools Week and to kick off
our Annual Lion's Fund

Saturday, February 4, 6:00-8:00pm
in the Saint Mark School Gym

Please bring a culturally-inspired dish
to share with the St. Mark Community.



WHY DO CATHOLICS DO THAT?

- Father Jacob Maurer

O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth.
In his presence are majesty and splendor, strength and honor in his holy place.

Cf. Ps 96 (95): 1, 6

Over the last two weeks we reflected on the baptism of the Lord. Having emerged from waters of baptism to sanctify them, the Lord calls the first of the Twelve from the waters to join Him in sanctifying mankind. What is remarkable about this is their response: “*at once* they left their nets and followed him [emphasis added]”. Without hesitation Peter and Andrew left their nets and followed Him.

Most Christians have had an experience of inspiration. For many, the memory of that encounter with Jesus is enough to elicit a sense of renewed excitement.



The Miraculous Draft of Fishes, Raphael

When was the last time we felt that fervor?
From the evidence in our parish, in our archdiocese, and in the Church around the world, it is clear that we are experiencing a moment of crisis in faith. Perhaps we are struggling like Thomas to believe, like Peter to love, or like those who ran away, overwhelmed.

Though the Lord understands our struggles - and does not hold them against us - His desire is to enliven us anew. I encourage you to pray over the moment(s) of your conversion, of Jesus’ personal invitation to you to discipleship. How is He renewing that call today?

January 25 is the feast of the conversion of Saint Paul.



The conversion of Saint Paul
Luca Giordano

On this day, the Church recalls the call from Christ to one of the greatest persecutors of Christians. Struck blind by God, Saul had to rely on others to help him see - not only literally, but spiritually as well, relying on others to guide him.

With the return of his vision, Paul also saw clearly the truth of the Gospel. He became so convinced that he dedicated his life to proclaiming Christ’s death & resurrection. May we invite the Lord to do likewise for us.

This Sunday, January 22, marks the first passing of this date in 50 years that *Roe vs. Wade* does **not** dominate the conversation. Thanks to the Supreme Court ruling in *Dobbs vs. Jackson*, abortion is no longer the so-called ‘law of the land’ nor enshrined as a ‘right’ under the umbrella of privacy.

Even as we celebrate the progress made in re-establishing basic protections for the most vulnerable, may we not grow idle or complacent! Let us pro-actively look for opportunities to support mothers, fathers, and their children.



respect
life month
called to serve moms in need
respectlife.org/celebrate

A LETTER FROM FATHER

Introducing *Partners in the Gospel*



Dear friends,

This weekend the archdiocese of Seattle begins the public launch of *Partners in the Gospel*. Archbishop Etienne, in consultation with lay & clergy leadership at every level of governance, is inviting us to take part in a three-year process of discernment, reflection, and renewal.

Before going into the details of what this means, let us consider both the history and current state of our archdiocese. It had its beginnings with the first priests who arrived in the Pacific Northwest in 1838. Starting as the diocese of Walla Walla, it became the diocese of Nesqually, then of Vancouver, before finally becoming the diocese of Seattle in 1907 - elevated to an archdiocese in 1951. From the beginning, we have adapted to the needs of the times!

The 1950s and 1960s were arguably a peak in the history of our archdiocese, as the Catholic Church grew by leaps and bounds around the world. The port of Seattle attracted peoples from a wide swath of cultures, languages, and backgrounds - and the archdiocese responded by building many churches, most with multiple priests serving within them.

We enjoy many fruits of the efforts of those Catholics who came before us. We are rightly proud of the many ministries that continue in our archdiocese and here at Saint Mark parish. The work of our school, the outreach of our Saint Vincent de Paul conference, the beauty of our facilities, the reverence of our celebrations of Masses & liturgies, the dedication of the faithful who gather here each week - all of this is a testament to the faith that continues from the border of Canada to that of Oregon, from the Cascade mountains to the Pacific Ocean.

And yet, we are also struggling. This is clearly visible in our pews - not only in the ratio of full and empty, but in the generational gap of who is (and isn't) here. Our five bedroom rectory holds one priest - and he counts himself fortunate to be serving only one community (as opposed to the nine he served prior). Though our facilities are in great shape, our finances are suffering greatly. Moreover, a lethargy currently grips our community, making it difficult for us to find help even to simply pass the basket on Sunday, much less re-start former programs or launch new ones.

I would hasten to say, by the way, that we are not alone in these struggles, which are manifesting themselves in a variety of ways in every parish across the archdiocese.

Mindful of our history and our current circumstances, the archbishop is launching *Partners in the Gospel*. The focus is both profound and simple: to engage anew in living and proclaiming the Gospel. It is not enough to look at what once was - whether in our own lives, the life of Saint Mark, or in the archdiocese. We must also look forward to where it is Christ is calling us.

(cont'd)

Partners in the Gospel has several milestones - the next is in the fall when we will be invited to provide feedback on parish families - the grouping of two or more parishes as a temporary step to becoming one parish. In early 2024 parish families will be announced, going into effect under one pastor in July of 2024. Parish families will then work together to become one parish by 2027.

As we enter this process, we recognize this moment **as a call to personal and communal conversion**. More than material goals or changes, we are being challenged to entrust ourselves to the care of the Lord. This will involve death and resurrection - death of self, new life in Christ.

I also want to emphasize a point you will hear repeated often from the archbishop: **there are no predetermined outcomes**. This is a consultative process: parishioners, pastors, and archdiocesan leadership, in union with the archbishop, discerning God's will together.

At the same time, we must acknowledge and open ourselves to change. **Our archdiocese - and Saint Mark parish - will not stay the same**. We face this reality with confidence, because Jesus will guide and accompany our efforts as we discern His call. Surrendering what is familiar and comfortable will allow us to receive the surprises and joys He is preparing for us.

What the future holds for us is not yet revealed, but I can tell you that **this is worth doing**. If we allow it, this process can transform us, building something new and exciting, enabling us to draw closer to Christ and each other as beloved sons & daughters of our heavenly father.

Rest assured that I will offer as much support and communication as I can. You are in my prayers daily, most particularly in the rosary. Remember also that every Sunday we offer our first Mass *pro populo*, that is, for the people of the parish. Let us more consciously, actively, and fully enter into prayer for ourselves and our community. Above all, let us place our trust in Christ, upon whose love & friendship we can rely.

yours in Christ,

Father Jacob Maurer

P.S. I encourage you to take the time to **read the included overview of *Partners in the Gospel*** from the archdiocese, which describes its purpose, needs, process, and timeline. I also encourage you to watch [the *Partners in the Gospel* launch video](#) and bookmark [our *Partners in the Gospel* webpage](#).

P.P.S. **Pray!** If there was ever a time to renew your prayer life, this is it. Jesus won't let you down.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

(submit your question at saintmarkshoreline.org/partners)



**PARTNERS
IN THE GOSPEL**

Q: What is Partners in the Gospel?

A: Partners in Gospel is the next stage of the strategic pastoral planning effort taking place across the Archdiocese of Seattle to reinvigorate and renew our local Catholic Church.

Q: Why the focus on strategic pastoral planning?

A: The mission of the Catholic Church is at the heart of strategic pastoral planning. To achieve our mission, we must reinvigorate our parish communities which includes adapting to the needs of the faithful and to our current reality. As part of strategic pastoral planning, we continually examine our resources and how we can best use them to support vibrant, sustainable, mission-focused parish communities across the entire Archdiocese of Seattle.

Q: Why now?

Today we face many realities that are impacting parish life and making it difficult to fully live out our mission. We face an urgent yet exciting opportunity to transform parish life.

Over the past few decades our local Catholic Church has experienced a decrease of engaged parishioners, fewer priests, dwindling finances, deteriorating campus conditions and more. Here are just a few statistics:

Today the archdiocese has 80 diocesan priests for 174 locations by 2036, we estimate we will only have 66 diocesan priests, an 18% decrease. (We also have fewer seminarians and fewer lay ministry leaders.)

While the overall population of the Archdiocese of Seattle is growing, registered households are declining, along with Mass attendance baptisms, first communions, marriages in the Church and parish giving:

- From 2010 to 2019, Mass attendance as a percentage of total registered parishioners declined from 40.7% to 35.5%.
- Between 2010 and 2019 baptisms declined 30% and weddings declined nearly 19%.

Currently 67% of parishes operate with a financial deficit (excluding extraordinary income which is income apart from Sundays and Holy Days)

Questions from the archdiocesan 'Overall Q&A for Partners in the Gospel' document, [available online](#)



Overview

As Catholics, we are called to deepen our relationship with Christ, and as missionary disciples, to invite others to grow in their relationship with Christ. We do this in many ways – one of which is through the local parish community. Our parishes are the primary way most Catholics stay connected to their faith and each other. The model of parish life also allows for great flexibility in meeting the needs of Catholics at different times in history.

Today we face many realities that are impacting parish life and making it difficult to fully live out our mission. We face an urgent – yet exciting – opportunity to transform parish life – and the faith of all those who live here.

Pope Francis calls us to “read the signs of the times” while adapting to both the needs of the faithful and to historical changes.

While there is no predetermined outcome for this strategic pastoral planning effort, together we will be praying to the Holy Spirit to guide our efforts so that we can support our mission to encounter, accompany and live the joy of the Gospel.

We are not the first diocese with the courage and the will to be creative with the structure of parish life. Many dioceses have gone before us and have provided models and lessons for how we too can use our limited resources to enhance the Catholic parish experience in the Archdiocese of Seattle.

Archbishop Etienne has appointed a team to lead this strategic pastoral planning work, which will bring most parishes together into a new family structure with two or more other parishes. The pastor, parish leaders and parishioners of the new parish family will determine how they will best join together to carry out the mission of the Church as one parish.

Here is a timeline of the key milestones for Partners in the Gospel:

- January 2023: Public launch
- Fall 2023: Invitation to provide feedback on parish families
- Early 2024: Final parish family structures announced
- July 2024: Parish families go into effect with one pastor
- 2024–2027: Parish families journey together to become one parish

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