

SAINT MARK CATHOLIC CHURCH

We the members of St. Mark Catholic Church, a Faith Community called as one by Christ to serve and witness in His name, seek to celebrate our faith through service and evangelization to each other, our families and our community.

W E E K L Y B U L L E T I N

January 10, 2010

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily: Monday-Friday 9 a.m.; Saturday 9 a.m.

Weekend: Saturday 5 p.m.; Sunday 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m. (signed for the hearing impaired), 11 a.m., 12:30 p.m. (bilingual), and 5 p.m. (Life Teen Mass)

Spanish: Cada Domingo a las 12:30 p.m. Para información sobre los Sacramentos, por favor llame Angeles Murphy (704-947-7870).

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 3:30-4:30 p.m., or by appointment.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

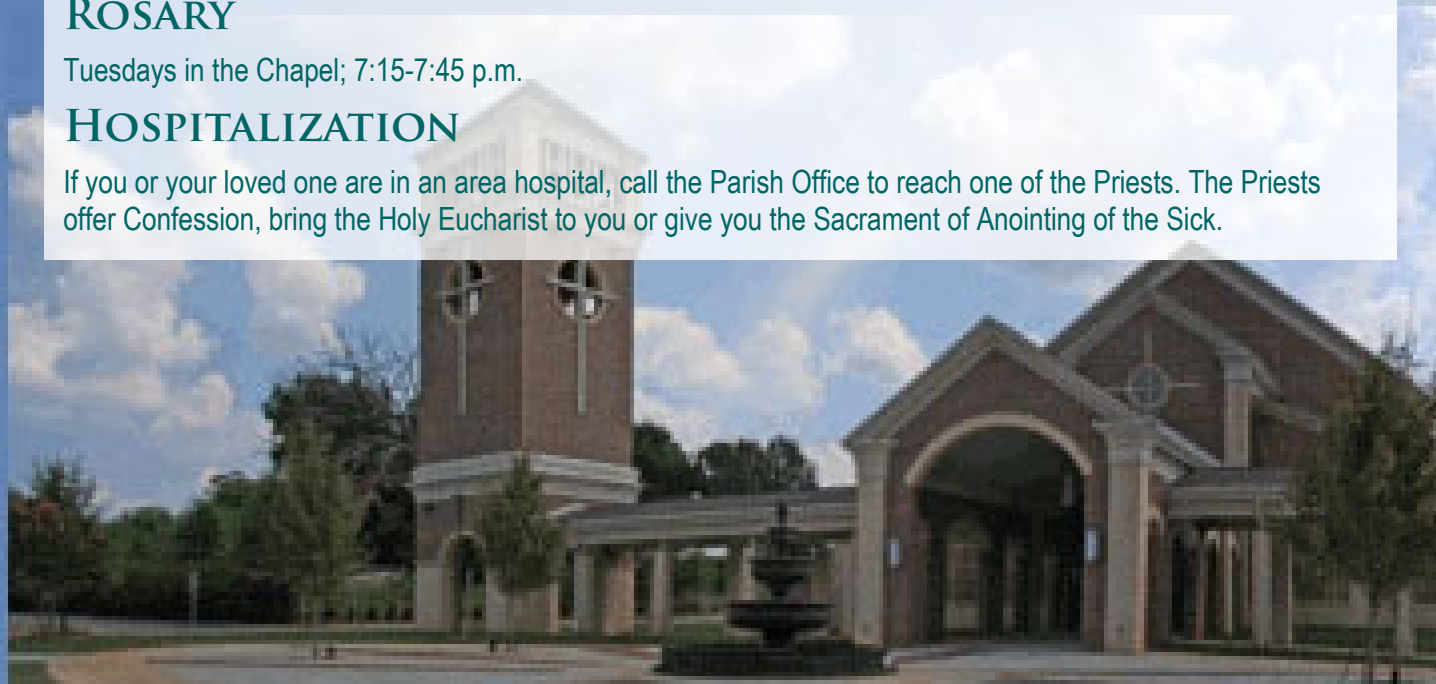
Begins Fridays in the Chapel at 7:30 a.m. and continues overnight until 8:45 a.m. Saturday. Benediction follows at 8:45 a.m. Saturday.

ROSARY

Tuesdays in the Chapel; 7:15-7:45 p.m.

HOSPITALIZATION

If you or your loved one are in an area hospital, call the Parish Office to reach one of the Priests. The Priests offer Confession, bring the Holy Eucharist to you or give you the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick.



Visit us at:
www.stmarknc.org
14740 Stumptown Road
Huntersville, NC 28078

Church Office: Mon-Friday, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
phone: 704-948-0231
fax: 704-948-8018
Emergencies Only: 980-253-1605

CONTACT ST. MARK

www.stmarknc.org ☩ 14740 Stumptown Road 28078
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phone: 704-948-0231 ☩ fax: 704-948-8018
Emergencies Only: 980-253-1605

PARISH STAFF

Pastor

Msgr. Richard M. Bellow

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Brandon Jones

Deacons

Rev. Mr. Robert Murphy (Se Habla Español)

Rev. Mr. Louis Pais

Rev. Dr. Ronald Sherwood

Sacristan

David Hynes 704-252-1609

Director of Music Ministry

Laura Maclean 704-948-0231, Ext. 103

Director of Religious Education

Donna Smith 704-948-1306, Ext. 104

Preschool Director

Jane Petriella 704-948-8015

Sacrament Coordinators 704-948-1306

Elementary and First Communion: Faye Nye, Ext. 115

Confirmation: Katie Herzing, Ext. 117

Youth Ministry Coordinator

Tim Flynn 704-948-1306, Ext. 105

Hispanic Coordinator

Belisario Solorzano 704-948-4239

Wedding Director

Kris Brodof 704-806-4071

Deaf Ministry

Mary Sumeracki 704-784-1838 (V/TTY)

Elder Ministry

Mary Alice Hollars 704-947-4885

Business Manager and Assistant to the Pastor

Tricia McCaa 704-948-0231, Ext. 102

Receptionist

Jackie May 704-948-0231, Ext. 100

Bookkeeper

Melinda Drury 704-948-0231, Ext. 116

Building Superintendent

Scott Bruno 704-948-0231, Ext. 118

AI-Anon

Lisa 704-651-1065

TODAY'S READINGS

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

First Reading — Isaiah speaks of the Servant whom the Lord upholds; he shall bring forth justice to the nations (Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7) or *Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11*.

Psalm — The Lord will bless his people with peace (Psalm 29) or *Psalm 104*.

Second Reading — Jesus was anointed by God with the Holy Spirit; he went out healing and doing good (Acts 10:34-38) or *Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7*.

Gospel — A voice comes from heaven proclaiming Jesus as the beloved Son, with whom God is well pleased (Luke 3:15-16, 21-22).

MANIFESTING THE SPIRIT

The Christmas season closes this Sunday with the Baptism of the Lord. This feast is a sister to last week's feast of the Epiphany. Each of them celebrates an "epiphany," or a manifestation of the Spirit of God in Jesus—first in his birth, and now at his baptism. The divine Spirit is manifested in all of the scriptures for this feast. Psalm 104 highlights the Spirit of God creating and renewing the earth, while the reading from Isaiah describes God restoring Israel. In Luke's account of the baptism of the Lord the Holy Spirit descends upon Jesus. And the letter from Titus reminds us that the Holy Spirit was "richly poured out" on us also, through the "bath of rebirth" (Titus 3:5, 6).

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8; Mk 1:14-20
Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20; Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Mk 1:29-39
Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11; Mk 1:40-45
Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7; 10:22a; Mk 2:1-12
Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a; Mk 2:13-17
Sunday: Is 62:1-5; Ps 96; 1 Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11

QUOTES FOR THE DAY

He saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

— Titus 3:5

Temper is what gets most of us into trouble. Pride is what keeps us there.

—Anonymous

Sin is not hurtful because it is forbidden, but it is forbidden because it is hurtful.

—Benjamin Franklin

IGLESIA CATÓLICA SAN MARCOS

INFORMACIÓN EN ESPAÑOL: Rosalba Rojas (704-895-8866), Andrea Solórzano (704-948-4239)

SERVICIOS SOCIALES CATOLICOS

Programa Esperanza (704) 370-3226 ó 3235

Consejera CSS (704) 370-3242 (familiar)

HORARIOS DE MISAS:

Sábado: 5 p.m.

Domingo: 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., 11 a.m. y 12:30 p.m.
(Bilingüe), 5 p.m. (Juvenil)

Misa Diaria: lunes a viernes: 7 a.m. y 9 a.m.
sábados: 9 a.m.

SACRAMENTOS DE BAUTISMO Y MATRIMONIO

Clases para Bautismo: Avisar 2 meses antes.

Clases Pre-Matrimoniales: Avisar 6 meses antes.

Contacto: Sra. Angeles Murphy (704-947-7870)

PROMOTOR DE SALUD

Te interesaría ser promotor de salud en la Iglesia de San Marcos? Ayúdanos a promover la salud en nuestra comunidad con ayuda del Hospital Presbiteriano. Este es un trabajo voluntario que no te quitará mucho tiempo y te dará la oportunidad de servir a tu comunidad y aprender mucho de salud. Si te interesa, por favor comunícate con Cristina (704-728-2783; crisjus@hotmail.com).

AUTOBÚS DE SALUD

El Hospital Presbiteriano se acerca a la comunidad ofreciendo servicio gratuito para niños de hasta 17 años el segundo viernes de cada mes de 9 a.m. a 3 p.m. con un descanso de 12 a 1pm en la Casa Solomon (200 Main St. Huntersville). Vacunas gratuitas de 9 a 9:30. Exámenes de desarrollo, cuidado primario, pruebas de embarazo, educación preventiva, diagnóstico de enfermedades, asma-prevención y tratamiento y referencias a otros recursos de la comunidad. NO ES NECESARIO HACER CITA. Para más información, por favor llamar (704-384-3031).

AMAMOS LOS UNOS A LOS OTROS

Porque nos amamos los unos a los otros y nos preocupamos por lo que nos sucede a cada uno, es que se ha formado la cadena de oración para que en nuestros problemas, enfermedades y alegrías, estemos juntos, como hermanos, orando por todo lo que nos pasa y sucede a nuestro alrededor. Envía tus necesidades y las de los que te rodean a todos.orando@yahoo.com para que

más de 90 familias recen por ti y tus necesidades. Si quieres inscribirte en este grupo solo tienes que mandar un email a la misma dirección electrónica y serás un "eslabón" más de la cadena. Para más información, llamar a Mariela (704-564-9174).

VISITEMOS AL SANTÍSIMO

Todos están invitados a visitar a Nuestro Señor todos los viernes en la Capilla, desde las 8 a.m. hasta el Sábado a las 8:45 a.m. El te espera para bendecirte, fortalecerte, consolarte, levantarte, dirigirte, acompañarte, liberarte, llenarte de paz y alegría, de forma que dirás como San Pedro en el Monte Tabor: "¡Señor, qué bien se está aquí!" El Ministerio Hispano tiene asignada su hora especial a las 11 p.m. Acompáñanos!!!!

GRUPO DE RENOVACIÓN CATÓLICA CARISMÁTICA

El Espíritu Santo es la fuerza y el poder que nos mueve a ser testimonio de Jesús. Déjate renovar por el poder del Espíritu Santo y tu vida no será la igual. Te llenarás de gozo, paz, bendiciones, y alegría; posible solo por medio de la gracia de Dios. Nos reunimos todos los sábados de 7:15 p.m. a 9 p.m. ¡Los esperamos! Para más informes llamar a Elizabeth (704-763-4245).

¿ME INVITAS A TU CASA?

Ya nuestra Santísima Madre ha visitado casi 150 familias en su peregrinaje y en cada hogar ha dejado un regalo de amor, paz, fe y esperanza. Ella está esperando que tú abras la puerta de tu casa para llegar a ti y a tu familia. Solamente tienes que registrarte para que la Virgencita llegue a tu casa y te visite durante 7 días. Para más información, llamar a Karina (704-892-0254).

PRESENTACIONES DE QUINCEAÑERAS

En nuestra Iglesia se están aceptando las presentaciones de quinceañeras, celebradas totalmente en español, para las hijas de los miembros de nuestra Iglesia que ya hayan recibido los sacramentos. Mayores informes, favor llamar a Elizabeth (704-763-4245).

PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday, January 10

- 8:00 a.m. SPRED (Rooms 200 & 201)
- 1:30 p.m. Lifeteen Scrapbooking (Room 203)
- 3:00 p.m. Baptisms (Hispanic) (Church)
- 6:00 p.m. LifeTeen Program (Parish Hall & Kitchen)
- 6:15 p.m. EDGE & Faith Rocks (St. Mark School)
- 6:15 p.m. HS Confirmation (Room 200 and 201)

Monday, January 11

- 9:30 a.m. Preschool (Preschool Rooms and Rooms 200 & 203)
- 10:00 a.m. Catechist Training CPR Morality (Room 204)
- 1:00 p.m. Young at Heart (Room 200)
- 4:15 p.m. Religious Ed (All Rooms & Parish Hall)
- 6:00 p.m. First Reconciliation (Church)
- 6:00 p.m. Religious Ed (All Rooms & SMCS)
- 7:30 p.m. Ancient Order of Hiberians (Room 200)
- 7:30 p.m. Living Your Strengths (Room 201)
- 7:30 p.m. Stewardship Comm (Room 203)

Tuesday, January 12

- 7:00 a.m. Working Hands Ministry (Parish Hall)
- 9:30 a.m. Preschool (Preschool Rooms & Rooms 200 & 203)
- 10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl (Room 202)
- 3:15 p.m. Religious Ed (All Rooms & Parish Hall)
- 4:15 p.m. Religious Ed (Nursery, Parish Hall, SMCS)
- 6:00 p.m. First Reconciliation (Church)
- 6:00 p.m. RCIA for Children (Rooms 200 & 201)
- 6:00 p.m. Religious Education (PH, Nursery, SMCS)
- 7:30 p.m. Scouts (Parish Hall)

Wednesday, January 13

- 9:30 a.m. Preschool (Preschool Rooms & Room 203)
- 10:00 a.m. After the Boxes... (Rooms 200, 201, 202)
- 11:15 a.m. Elder Ministry Exercise (Parish Hall)
- 3:00 p.m. Children's Choir (Church)
- 6:00 p.m. First Reconciliation (Church)
- 7:00 p.m. Lifeteen Bible Study (Room 215)
- 7:00 p.m. RCIA (Rooms 200 & 201)
- 7:00 p.m. RCIA (Spanish) (Room 202)
- 7:30 p.m. Men's Bible Study (Room 203)

Thursday, January 14

- 9:30 a.m. Preschool (Preschool Rooms & 200 & 203)
- 10:00 a.m. Women of Joy (Parish Hall, 202)
- 1:00 p.m. Living Your Strengths (Room 203)

- 5:30 p.m. LifeTeen Core Mtg (LifeTeen Office Room 215)
- 6:00 p.m. First Reconciliation (Church)
- 7:00 p.m. Choir (Church)
- 7:00 p.m. Women of Joy (Room 202)
- 7:30 p.m. Hispanic Ministry Mtg (Room 203)

Friday, January 15

- 9:30 a.m. Preschool (Preschool Rooms and Rooms 200 & 203)
- 10:00 a.m. Elder Ministry (Parish Hall & Kitchen)
- 3:00 p.m. Parish Spaghetti Dinner (Scouts) (Parish Hall & Kitchen)

Saturday, January 16

- 10:00 a.m. Tai Chi (Elder Ministry) (Parish Hall)

Sunday, January 17

- No Religious Education ()
- 2:30 p.m. Little Flowers (Room 202)
- 6:00 p.m. LifeTeen Program (Parish Hall & Kitchen)

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, Jan. 11

- 9 a.m. Tom Myers

Tuesday, Jan. 12

- 9 a.m. Sgt. Samuel T. Myers

Wednesday, Jan. 13

- 9 a.m. Berkley Myers

Friday, Jan. 15

- 9 a.m. +Thomas Drury

Saturday, Jan. 16

- 9 a.m. +Rita Charbonneau
- 5 p.m. +Romilda Huentelman

Sunday, Jan. 17

- 7:30 am +Dr. Anthony Vento
- 9 a.m. +Rita Charbonneau
- 11 a.m. +Steve Vermillion
- 12:30 a.m. +Bea & John King
- 5 p.m. +Kevin Carosa

To submit bulletin announcements, email bulletin@stmarknc.org. For a list of deadlines, visit www.stmarknc.org and select Bulletins.

LET'S DO IT FOR MONSIGNOR!



TAKE YOUR PHOTO FOR THE PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

The display is up and we're taking names! It has always been Fr. Richard's dream to have a St. Mark Parish Pictorial Directory. Before he had his surgery, he had arranged all of this to take place. Wouldn't it be GREAT to have everyone make their appointments NOW so he'll be really proud when he returns? Sign-ups are now taking place in the Family Center, right outside of the Parish Hall. You can go over there right after Mass or anytime during the week! You can also make your appointments at www.signup.olanmills.com OR by phone at 800-866-2263. The photo sessions begin in February. It is completely free of charge unless you choose to order more pictures at that time (no hard-sell, we promise!). The pictures will be ready in time for Mother's Day! All parish families who participate will receive an 8x10 color portrait AND a Parish Directory.

DEBT REDUCTION CAMPAIGN

DEBT REDUCTION

Thank you to all who have completed and turned in your pledge card, if you have not yet done so please do so at your earliest convenience. The first "designated" debt reduction collection is the weekend of February 13-14. Payments on your pledge can be made using the debt reduction envelope in your monthly packet of envelopes. In January contributions to either the building fund or debt reduction can be made using the debt reduction envelope.



MASS AND SACRAMENTS

SCHEDULE CHANGES

Due to Monsignor's recovery following bypass surgery, there are several schedule changes. We appreciate your understanding, and please continue to pray for Monsignor's speedy recovery.

There will be no Children's Liturgy at the Sunday 9 a.m. Mass until further notice. If you have any questions, please contact Anna Smith (704-875-2334; ASmith2@carolina.rr.com).

Fr. Jones will be the only priest available for Confession on Saturdays. If you choose to come on Saturdays, please be patient. (It'll give you more time to examine your conscience!)

As you know, due to our shortage of priests, the 7 a.m. daily Mass has been cancelled until further notice. So how does that affect Eucharistic Adoration? Beginning January 8, Adoration on Fridays will begin AFTER the 9 a.m. Mass.

Thank you and God bless you for your patience and understanding as we continue to celebrate this holy season without Msgr. Bellow.

SPECIAL NEEDS NURSERY

Our nursery for developmentally delayed children is offered during the 9 a.m. Sunday mass in Room 120. If your child would benefit from this time with our Special Education staff, please register with a call to Connie Andrews (704-489-6099).

MANIFESTING THE SPIRIT

The Christmas season closes this Sunday with the Baptism of the Lord. This feast is a sister to last week's feast of the Epiphany. Each of them celebrates an "epiphany," or a manifestation of the Spirit of God in Jesus—first in his birth, and now at his baptism. The divine Spirit is manifested in all of the scriptures for this feast. Psalm 104 highlights the Spirit of God creating and renewing the earth, while the reading from Isaiah describes God restoring Israel. In Luke's account of the baptism of the Lord the Holy Spirit descends upon Jesus. And the letter from Titus reminds us that the Holy Spirit was "richly poured out" on us also, through the "bath of rebirth" (Titus 3:5, 6).

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Monsignor Richard Bellow, Lucy Blyskal, John Bowen, Charlie Condon, Tom Edwards, Patricia McConnell, George Pacella and all our parishioners who reside at area nursing and assisted living homes who are unable to attend Mass. Names will be listed for one month unless otherwise requested. Please notify the Parish Office when someone is hospitalized.

OUR FAMILY MEMBERS IN THE SERVICE

Pensacola NAS

Ens. William Vey III

USS Chosin

Lt. Carter Stapleton

USS Essex

1st Lt. Nicholas Villarruel

Afghanistan

Spc. Frank Christopher Dunning

Chad Kiekhaefer

Iraq

Sgt. Christopher Holden

PFC Albert Hadley, Infantry/Scout

PFC Tyler Best

PFC NCARNG Derek Koontz

1LT Kevin C.Kachilo

1LT Daniel "DJ" McCormick ,NCARNG-Iraq
Staff Sgt. Andrew Vranek, USAF

Germany

Maj. Scott Michael Breece USAF

Camp Pendleton, CA

Lance Cpl. Thomas R. Guidetti

North Island, CA

Petty Officer 3rd Class Chris Balot, USN, NAS
AG2 (AW) Jenna Hehn, USN, SGOT, NAS

Fort Benning, GA

PFC Jacob Alexander

Fort Knox, KY

Lt. David Fabozzi

Annapolis, MD

Matthew Hartung at USNA

MCAS Cherry Point, NC

USMC PFC Edward Keller, III

Camp LeJeune, NC

USMC-Force Recon Sgt. Samuel T. Myers

Fort Bragg, NC

MSgt. Patrick Heffernan

Minot, ND

Trevor Donahue, USAF Security Forces

Fort Sill, OK

Sgt. Steven Ollie, US Army

FAITH ROCKS & EDGE - LIFE TEEN



IS GOD CALLING YOU TO DO MORE?

We need a few willing men and women to help with our Faith Rocks & Edge program as teachers. All positions are on Sunday evening beginning with the 5 p.m. Mass and staying until 8 p.m.

We need a seventh-grade assistant and three eighth-grade EDGE core team members.

For more information, contact Katie Herzing 704-948-1306, Ext.117 katie.herzing@gmail.com. I look forward to ministering to our middle school students with you!



Holy Mass: 5 pm Sundays
Life Night follows, Dinner Included!
Ends at 8 p.m.

Website: www.stmarklifeteen.com
E-mail: stmarklifeteen@gmail.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: CHILDREN, YOUTH, FAMILY, ADULT

ST. MARK CATHOLIC MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

An exciting movement has spread through many parishes and diocese where men have been meeting twice a month to fellowship and share real life issues confronting Catholic men today. You are invited to take this opportunity as we begin a group at St. Mark. Meet new friends and join us as we work together to grow our faith. Start the New Year in a new way. Gathering in Room 200 in the Parish Center from 7:30am to 8:50am Saturdays January 9th and 23rd. For further information call Sean McSweeney at (704)948-5543

FYI...there will be NO Religious Education Classes the week of January 17th due to the MLK Holiday. All classes resume the week of January 24th.

FYI...Mark you calendars! It is with great pleasure to announce Our St. Mark Parish Mission is scheduled for Sunday, Feb 21st – Tuesday, Feb 23rd. The theme of this year's mission is "Saying Yes to the Father" presented by Vinny Flynn (author of 7 Secrets of the Eucharist). More details will be available in the near future!

Want to Learn More About your Catholic Faith...Our Religious Education Dept is presenting continuing education modules for interested Adults and Catechists who desire to further their understanding of our Catholic Faith. This continuing education program was developed by our Charlotte Diocese and offers participants and rudimentary understanding of the (4) areas of our Catholic Faith: Creed, Sacraments and Liturgy, Christian Living and Prayer.

The following is the schedule of modules being offered during January:

Saturday, Jan 9th	10-12 pm	Morality (Christian Living) (Phase I) Room 204
Monday, Jan 11th	10-12 pm	Morality (Christian Living) (Phase I) Room 204
Monday, Jan 22nd	10-12 pm	Response to Call (Phase II) Room 204
Saturday, Jan 30th	10-12 pm	Response to Call (Phase II) Room 204

In addition to monthly modules available, our RE dept is sponsoring a full day of training. The following are the modules available for Saturday, January 23rd (upstairs in Family Life Center)

Saturday, Jan 23rd	10-12 pm	Call to be Catechist (Phase I)
Saturday, Jan 23rd	10-12 pm	Skills & Theory in the Classroom (Phase I)
Saturday, Jan 23rd	10-12 pm	Prayer: Our Father (Phase II)
Saturday, Jan 23rd	1-3 pm	Scripture (Phase I)
Saturday, Jan 23rd	1-3 pm	Morality (Christian Living) (Phase I)
Saturday, Jan 23rd	1-3 pm	Prayer: Part II (Phase II)

In addition we are offering modules in Spanish. They are:

Saturday, Jan 23rd	10-12 pm	Sacraments (Phase I)
Saturday, Jan 23rd	1-3 pm	Our Father (Phase II)

Registration forms for these modules are available at the education table (across from parish office). Cost is just \$7.00 per module (waived for St. Mark catechists only) Questions or interested in attending, please contact Donna Smith (dsmith18@bellsouth.net or call 704-948-1306)

CATHOLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

Send your child to Catholic school next year!

Mecklenburg Area Catholic Schools (MACS) is accepting applications for all grades (TK through grade 12) for the 2010-2011 school year. If you are interested in providing your child a Catholic school education – please visit www.charlottediocese.org for an application packet. Deadline for the early admission process is January 31, 2010. The second admission round begins February 1. Applications continue to be accepted until all seats are filled. For more information please call the MACS Admission Office (704-370-3273)

ELDER MINISTRY

"YOUNG AT HEART"

A social group for female parishioners age 62+ meets Monday, January 11th at 1:00 p.m. in Room 200. These fine ladies play a lively game of Tripoley (a fun and easy to learn card game). Please call Betty Scattergood at 704-875-9442 for more information on this wonderful group of fun-loving ladies!

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Meets Second and Fourth Tuesday Every Month, 10-11:30 a.m., Room 202...Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 12th

Members pray together as they knit prayer shawls for people suffering through a time of transition, crisis or need; plus infant caps and blankets for the premature babies at area hospital neonatal units. If you don't know how to knit or crochet, we can teach you! To join this group or receive a shawl, infant cap or blanket, contact Carole Lavinio (704-992-5659).

THE SHUFFLERS

Meet new friends! A group of men and women (55+) meet Fridays to play Canasta, Pinochle, Poker, Rummikub, Chicken Foot Dominoes, and more! No money necessary, just come for fun and an opportunity to socialize with your peers. Join us **this Friday**, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. at The Glens Lodge at Birkdale Commons. Call Lois Chlebicki (704-948-9919) for further information.

TAI CHI

Ryan Revak, a parishioner and certified Tai Chi instructor with 20 yrs of experience, offers a Tai Chi class on Saturday's from 10:00 - 11:00 am in the Family Life Center. We meet in the Parish Hall or in Rooms 200/201. Recommended by the Arthritis Foundation, Tai Chi exercises can be performed by older adults with much benefit to one's physical, mental and emotional health. These exercises help to improve high blood pressure, balance, muscle tone, circulation, flexibility and longevity.

PARISH LIFE: GET TO KNOW YOUR CHURCH!

BAKE SALE

Did you know that the monthly bake sales raised \$31,602.89 for the Foundation for the Future Campaign? After our new church was dedicated in August a decision was made to continue the bake sale for three months to see if there was interest in the sale as the parish entered the debt reduction campaign. Parishioners responded by spending an average of \$1,000 each month on cookies, pies, cakes and bread. This weekend (January 9 & 10) the bake sale will be held in the Kerin Center.



WOMEN'S NEWCOMER GROUP - "MOVING ON AFTER MOVING IN"

Are you new to St. Mark? Or not "new", but still feel "new"??? Come join us to laugh, cry and make new friends. This ministry group is based on Susan Miller's book, "After the Boxes are Unpacked" and addresses the spiritual, emotional and practical needs associated with moving. The next session will start on Wednesday, January 13th, 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM in Room 200. We will meet on each Wednesday for 10 weeks thru March 24th. Please call Cathy (704-895-9879) or Lisa (704-875-3469) to register so we can look forward to meeting you.

AFTER THE BOXES ARE UNPACKED ALUMNI AND NEW CLASS LUNCHEON

Wednesday, January 27, 2010, 11a.m.-2p.m., Asbury Park Grove, 9300 Bob Beatty Road, Charlotte. cost \$10.00, Send check by Friday, January 22nd., to Gerry Phillips, 10016 Gladwick Ct., Huntersville, N.C. 28078.(704-895-2388) Grove on your left. Hope to see you there!

ROSARY MAKERS' MINISTRY

If you would like to learn how to make beautiful corded rosaries for our servicemen and women, for Catholic Social Services, nursing homes in Huntersville, and missions here and abroad, please join us on Sunday, January 31, at 2:30 pm in room 204. Contact Susan Wild at susan_wild@msn.com or call 704-601-6938. Our monthly Rosary Makers meeting (no instruction needed) will be begin at 3:15pm - 4:45pm (room 204). Please join us in fellowship and bring your completed rosaries and pick up additional supplies.

ST. MARK PLAYGROU**P**

January 11, 10:30 a.m. Sprangler Children's Library at ImaginOn

Join us for story time and explore all the exciting educational exhibits. Admission is free. For more information contact Deirdre Vesely (704-875-3452).

January 18, 10:30 a.m. Huntersville Fire Station

Meet the firefighters, explore the fire trucks and then take a quick trip down the fire pole. Bring cookies or another sweet treat for the brave firefighters at the Huntersville Fire Station. Please RSVP to Kara Martinez (704-912-3221).

ST. MARK PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR FALL 2010

Registration will open for current preschool families and alumni preschool families January 15-31. Registration for eligible parish preschoolers of St. Mark Church will be held February 1-14. Registration will be accepted in person on Feb. 1 or 2 from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. on the second floor of the family center. Alternatively, enrollment forms can be mailed directly to the preschool. Forms are available on the preschool table in the church hallway or may be downloaded from www.stmarknc.org, click preschool.

A non-refundable registration fee of \$75 must accompany the enrollment form. Programs offered: T/TH or M/W/F for 3's; M/W/F or T-F for 4's and M-F for older 4's/5's. Classes are from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Children must be the age of the class by August 31 and potty-trained by the start of school. A lottery will be conducted if registration numbers exceed available spaces. When all classes are full, a waiting list will be established. After February 14, any remaining spaces will be available on a first-come-first-serve basis. Questions? Call the director (704-948-8015).

HOW TO MAKE ENDS MEET

Having trouble making ends meet with reduced family income? Want to learn how to deal with debt and develop strategies to minimize debt? Just need some guidance when it comes to household budgets, planning for the future, and still being able to tithe? Starting on January 26, 2010, we will be hosting a 13-week program based on Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University. This program teaches you to achieve your financial goals by eliminating debt and saving for your future. This educational program is open to all parishioners and will be hosted and facilitated by credible, licensed financial professionals from our parish. Send an email to financial.education@stmarknc.org to learn more.

ALTAR SERVER MINISTRY ON THE WEB!

The Saint Mark Catholic Church Altar Server Ministry now has its own presence on the St. Mark web site. Go to the St. Mark web site at <http://www.stmarknc.org>, choose Parish Commissions, choose Liturgy and scroll down and choose Resources for Altar Servers. We currently have posted altar server bulletins, the altar server guide and altar server diagrams. Photos and Training Videos shall follow. In addition, we'll soon be expanding into procedures for benediction, Stations of the Cross and use of incense. Every altar server, under the supervision of their parent or guardian, should bookmark, regularly visit and make use of this resource.

STEWARDSHIP

Do our possessions "possess" us?

"... everyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple." (Luke 14:33).

CHILDREN'S STEWARDSHIP

We encourage the children of St. Mark's to use their envelopes each week to share their time, talent and treasure. If you would like your child to participate, please see an usher or the St. Mark welcome representative after Mass.



COMMUNITY LIFE

COMMUNITY OUTREACH DAY 2010

Our two annual community outreach days have organized more than 500 parishioners to serve over 35 local organizations. We have mucked barns, eaten with nursing home residents, built homes, given blood, and more. Plans are underway for 2010 and we need your input, enthusiasm and time! If you have been a project leader, a volunteer or are simply interested in coordinating or chairing this outreach program we would love to hear from you. We need at least five chair people to make community outreach day a yearly event for St. Mark Church and the local community. Please contact Beth (704-995-3055; community.life@stmarknc.org) for further information.

COMMUNITY LIFE COMMISSION NEEDS YOU

If you have a passion for serving the needy and are good at communication, coordination and leadership, we need you on our team! Looking for someone to assist or chair the Community Life Commission as soon as you're ready to join! Please contact Beth (704-995-3055; community.life@stmarknc.org) for further information.

SAMARITAN'S FEET IS COMING TO ST. MARK'S!

On Saturday, January 23, join other parish 6th-12th graders and earn service hours while supporting a great cause! Over 300 million children in the world go without shoes. Samaritan's Feet has a goal of donating 10 million shoes in 10 years and delivering them to those in need. Kmart has just blessed this organization with the donation of 1 million shoes and we have agreed to help tie and sort them to be shipped around the world - we need lots of hands! It's easy and you'll get lunch too! It costs \$5 to warehouse and ship each pair of shoes so just a \$5 donation towards shipping is requested. Go to www.samaritansfeet.org/ to learn more about this wonderful charity. Please email Tim Flynn or Katie Herzing (stmarklifeteen@gmail.com) to sign up for a shift: 11 a.m.-2 p.m. or 1-4 p.m. Contact Beth (704-995-3055; community.life@stmarknc.org) with any questions.

LIVING YOUR STRENGTHS

SIGN-UP WEEKEND FOR LIVING YOUR STRENGTHS

January 30 and 31 after Saturday and Sunday Masses in the parish center

Reward yourself this year and participate in a Living Your Strengths series. You will have the chance to:

- Learn more about your strengths
- Appreciate the special gifts of others' in your life
- Assess how you can better use your strengths in your family, parish and community
- Better relate to those who are very different from yourself

Select one of the following series that meets your schedule:

Tues., March 2, 9, 16, 23, 2010	1:00 pm – 2:30 pm.	Last session 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm)
Wed., March 3, 10, 17, 24, 2010	7:00 pm – 8:30 pm.	Last session 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm)
Thurs., April 8, 15, 22, 29, 2010	1:00 pm – 2:30 pm.	Last session 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm)
Tues., April 6, 13, 20, 27, 2010	7:00 pm – 8:30 pm.	Last session 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm)
Wed., May 5, 12, 19, 26, 2010	1:00 pm – 2:30 pm.	Last session 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm)
Thurs., May 6, 13, 20, 27, 2010	7:00 pm – 8:30 pm.	Last session 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm)

There is no charge for the series other than the \$18 cost of the book that provides survey access and series' material. For questions, contact rosemary_keeley@att.net or call 704-399-0672.

WORKING HANDS MINISTRY

Mission: The mission of the Working Hands Ministry is to help parishioners integrate their faith and spiritual formation with their work. One component of the Working Hands Ministry is to assist those who are unemployed, under-employed, and returning to the workforce, transition to new employment.

WORKING HANDS MINISTRY *continued*

ST. MARK SMALL BUSINESS GROUP MEETING

Parish Hall, January 12, 7-8:30 a.m.

The Working Hands Ministry welcomes all St. Mark's business owners and entrepreneurs to start off your New Year right as we kickoff a great new program to support our parish business community. This meeting will be a great opportunity to meet and connect with fellow parish business people, share experiences and work to help each others' businesses grow. We are planning several educational programs over the next few months are looking for input from the local business community on how we can help you in the New Year. Don't miss this great networking opportunity! **For more information please contact Matt Burkinshaw at mburkinshaw@carolina.rr.com or (704) 399-8708.**

ONLINE HELP

The Working Hands Ministry website contains many helpful documents under the following headings:

Career Assessment: Self assessments to identify your natural work etc. preferences

Career Fundamentals: Helpful documents for those beginning a career transition

Career Connections: Opportunities to connect with other likeminded people

Thoughts For Newcomers: Things to consider when beginning a career transition

Prayers For Employment: An assortment of prayers to help bring our Faith into our work

Support Services: Local agencies that can provide services for those in transition

Recommended Reading: Various books, etc. chosen to help people focus on next steps

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

DIOCESAN SENIOR APARTMENTS

The Diocese of Charlotte is announcing the availability of its first affordable senior apartment development in Mooresville, NC. This new 40-unit complex is named Curlin Commons in honor of our retired Bishop. The 1 and 2 bedroom apartments will be available to those who are at least 55 years old and capable of independent living and who meet the low income and other qualifications for acceptance. Those who are interested are asked to contact the Excel Property Management company at

(919) 878 0522 so that information can be obtained to put them on a list to receive application and qualification packets.

The apartments are anticipated to be ready for occupancy by March, 1, 2010.

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING... FOR THE 21ST CENTURY!

Modern methods of NFP are based on sound science and are effective. You can keep track of your signs of fertility online or even on your iPhone! Find out how the practice of NFP fosters a deep communication between spouses, leading to a divorce rate of less than 3%. Attend a class sponsored by Catholic Social Services: January 19, 7:30 pm (class is taught in Spanish) Where: Our Lady of Gaudalupe Catholic Church, Charlotte RSVP Required: Batrice Adcock, MSN, RN (704-370-3230; email cssnfp@charlottediocese.org).

RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT

There is hope and healing after abortion. Men and women are invited to begin their healing journey at our next Rachel's Vineyard retreat, January 29-31, 2010. For further information, please call the Respect Life Office (704-370-3229) or visit rachelsvineyard.org. (Sponsored by Catholic Social Services, Diocese of Charlotte.)

PRO-LIFE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Room At The Inn is a Catholic maternity and after care program that provides long term housing, professional counseling, spiritual support and material assistance to single moms in need. Currently there are two rewarding positions available:

Part Time Bilingual Counselor (Must be a licensed counselor and fluent in English/Spanish) and **Full Time Program Support Specialist** (Entry level position, must be fluent in English/Spanish.) For information, contact Debbie Capen (704-525-4673, Ext. 14; debbiecaben@rati.org).

DIRECT GIVE

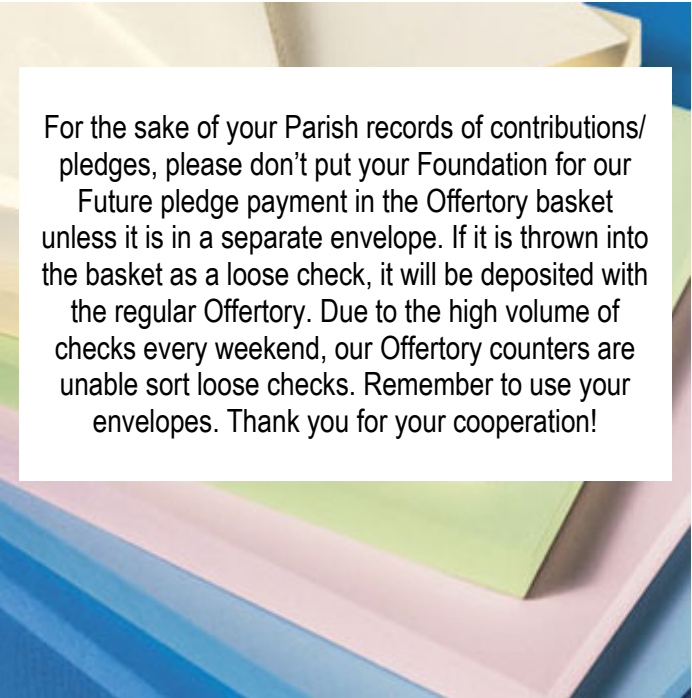
EVERYBODY WINS WITH DIRECTGIVE

DirectGive provides a convenient way for parishioners to make their weekly Offertory via automatic bank draft. It saves you the time of writing a weekly check; it saves our Church the time of processing weekly contributions.

This is an easy way to budget your regular contribution. If you are on vacation or find yourself visiting another church, please keep St. Mark's in mind and mail your contributions or contact us about the DirectGive program.

Pick up a DirectGive enrollment form in the Parish Office or at the Welcome Table today! Forms are also available on the Finance Council page on our website. (Drafts are withdrawn only *once per month*.) Thank you for your commitment to St. Mark Catholic Church!

PARISH ENVELOPES



For the sake of your Parish records of contributions/pledges, please don't put your Foundation for our Future pledge payment in the Offertory basket unless it is in a separate envelope. If it is thrown into the basket as a loose check, it will be deposited with the regular Offertory. Due to the high volume of checks every weekend, our Offertory counters are unable to sort loose checks. Remember to use your envelopes. Thank you for your cooperation!

PARISH REGISTRATION CHANGES

Please remember to notify the Parish Office as soon as possible! You may drop this form in the collection basket or mail it to the Parish Office.

Please circle one:

Address Change

Other Change

Delete from Parish Roll

Envelope # _____

Effective Date: _____

Family Name: _____

New Email: _____

New Address: _____

New Home Phone # _____

New Member to Family? _____

Comments: _____
