



# ST. MARK *the* EVANGELIST

## CATHOLIC CHURCH

### *Our Mission*

To invite all  
on our journey to:

**L**earn

**O**rar (Pray)

**G**i**V**e

**E**vangelize

### *All Are Welcome!*

If you are a visitor,  
we hope you will find our  
bulletin to be a reflection of  
our vibrant and spirit filled  
parish, and that you will  
consider becoming a part of  
our family!

To join us,  
please register online at  
[www.stmarktampa.org/join](http://www.stmarktampa.org/join)  
or call the Parish Office at  
813-907-7746.

*For more information,  
visit our website at:  
[www.stmarktampa.org](http://www.stmarktampa.org)*



LOVE

## *2nd Sunday of Advent*

December 10, 2023

2nd Sunday of Advent



## Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM  
Sunday: 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM, 5:30 PM  
Sunday in Spanish: 12:30 PM  
Monday\* & Thursday: Noon  
Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday: 8:30 AM  
\*Mondays that fall on a holiday: 8:30 AM

### Reconciliation

Saturdays 3 PM - 3:45 PM (or by appt.)

### Rosary

Every weekday half hour before Mass

### Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Every weekday after Mass

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Open during Parish Hours

### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

First Wednesday of Month: 9 AM - 7 PM

Closes with Benediction at 7 PM

### Church Hours

Monday 9 AM to 4 PM

Tuesday & Thursday

8 AM to 4 PM

Wednesday 8 AM - 8 PM

Friday 8 AM - Noon

## Pastor

**Rev. Richard Jankowski**

FrRichard@stmarktampa.org

### Parochial Vicar

Rev. Cosmas O. Amadi

Frcosmas@stmarktampa.org

### Priests in Residence

Rev. Jose George

### Assisting Deacons

Deacon Moises Gutierrez

DeaconMoises@stmarktampa.org

Deacon Jose Moronta

DeaconJMoronta@stmarktampa.org

Deacon Scott Paine

DeaconScott@stmarktampa.org

Deacon Hector Rios

DeaconHector@stmarktampa.org

Deacon Mike Kopczynski

DeaconMike@stmarktampa.org

## Parish Hours

Mon through Wed 9 AM - 4 PM  
Thursday 9 AM - 8 PM  
Friday 9 AM - Noon  
(changes on holidays - please call)

Phone: (813) 907-7746

Fax: (813) 907-7556

9724 Cross Creek Blvd  
Tampa, FL 33647.

Website: [www.stmarktampa.org](http://www.stmarktampa.org)

Email: [info@stmarktampa.org](mailto:info@stmarktampa.org)

Venetian Rental Info: (813) 508-2735

### Events Calendar and Tickets

[www.stmarktampa.org/calendar](http://www.stmarktampa.org/calendar)

### Bulletin Submissions

[Bulletin@stmarktampa.org](mailto:Bulletin@stmarktampa.org)

Weekly deadline: Tuesdays at 9 AM  
the week prior to publication,  
earlier holiday deadlines TBA

## Ministry Contacts

To find out more information about our many ministries  
or to contact the ministry leader visit our website:

[www.stmarktampa.org/ministries](http://www.stmarktampa.org/ministries)

Or contact our Ministry Coordinator at  
[mstrickland@stmarktampa.org](mailto:mstrickland@stmarktampa.org)

## Sign Up Now! [www.FORMED.org](http://www.FORMED.org)

Enjoy Catholic content (like Netflix!) all in one place!  
Go to <https://formed.org/> - Choose "I'm a Parishioner of a Parish"  
next type in our name: "St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church"  
and then out of the many St. Mark the Evangelist parishes...  
choose the one with our address  
(9724 Cross Creek Blvd, Tampa, FL 33647).  
That's all there is to it!

## Deanery Events

For more information about our Deanery and their events,  
visit our website:

[www.stmarktampa.org/our-deanery](http://www.stmarktampa.org/our-deanery).

## Social Media



[www.facebook.com/stmarktampa](http://www.facebook.com/stmarktampa)



[www.instagram.com/StMarkLOVE](http://www.instagram.com/StMarkLOVE)

## Donate / Support

Credit Card/Online: [www.DonateStMark.org](http://www.DonateStMark.org)

Text to Give: 813-296-5116

To set up Recurring Automatic Donations: Contact

Claudia Garcia at [cgarcia@stmarktampa.org](mailto:cgarcia@stmarktampa.org) or 813-907-7746 x 322

## Sacramental Preparation

### Baptism

Please call (813) 907-7746 to sign up  
for required pre-baptism classes.  
Brochures, forms, and sponsor letters can  
be found online at: [stmarktampa.org/baptism](http://stmarktampa.org/baptism).

### Marriage

Couples planning their marriage should call  
(813) 907-7746 ext. 317 at least six months  
prior to their wedding date in order to complete  
their pre-marital assessment, discernment,  
and marriage preparation enrichment.  
For info go to: [stmarktampa.org/marriage](http://stmarktampa.org/marriage).

### RCIA

Adults, older children, or teens who have not  
been baptized, or have been baptized in another  
Christian Community, who desire to enter into  
full communion with the Catholic Church,  
please call (813) 907-7746 ext. 317.  
For info go to: [stmarktampa.org/RCIA](http://stmarktampa.org/RCIA)

### First Communion & Confirmation

Adults who have been baptized, but have not  
received their First Communion and/or Confirmation,  
should call (813) 907-7746 ext. 317.

Children and Teens: Students must attend  
two consecutive years. Preparation in the parish  
is necessary for the sacraments  
(even for those at parochial schools).  
Brochures and forms can be picked up at the  
Parish Office or found online at:  
[stmarktampa.org/communion](http://stmarktampa.org/communion) or  
[stmarktampa.org/confirmation-1](http://stmarktampa.org/confirmation-1)



# THE ADVENT WREATH



The weekend of December 2-3, we begin the season of Advent as we prepare for the celebration of Christmas.

We invite you to bring your family Advent Wreath to Mass on December 2-3 and place it on the table by the Mary statue before Mass with your name on it to avoid confusion since some wreaths may be the same.

During Mass the celebrant will bless these wreaths. After Mass you can bring them home.

The Advent Wreath is a circle of green branches with four candles representing the four weeks of Advent. During Advent we celebrate the first coming of Christ at Christmas, his continued presence among us especially in the Eucharist (the real presence of the Body and Blood of Christ), and the hope of his second coming at the end of time. The candles for the first week (representing hope), second week (representing peace), and fourth week (representing love) are purple but the candle for the third week (representing joy) is rose colored as we celebrate Gaudete (a Latin word meaning rejoice) Sunday expressing our joy as we prepare to celebrate Christmas.

We have an Advent Wreath in the Church during Advent and encourage families to also have one in their homes. One suggestion is to light the candles together as a family at meal time each evening (the Sunday celebration begins on Saturday night). You can use the following prayer as you light the candles on the wreath as listed below.

Lord our God,  
we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ:  
he is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples,  
he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us,  
he is the Savior of every nation.  
Lord God,  
let your blessing come upon us  
as we light the candles of this wreath.  
May the wreath and its light  
be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation.  
May he come quickly and not delay.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen

December 2 through 8  
Light one purple candle

December 9 through 15  
Light two purple candles

December 16 through 22  
Light two purple candles and the rose candle

December 23-24  
Light all four candles

The fourth week of Advent is only one day since Christmas Day December 25 is on Monday



# JOIN US FOR ALL OF OUR ADVENT & CHRISTMAS EVENTS

## **This Weekend – Second Sunday of Advent**

### **Tuesday, December 12**

Parish Reconciliation Service begins at 7pm until the last penitent is heard.

### **Wednesday, December 13**

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament beginning after our 8:30am Daily Mass, ending with Night Prayer & Benediction at 7pm & Annual Parish Christmas Tree Lighting – enjoy treats and hot chocolate!

## **Weekend of December 16/17 - Third Sunday of Advent**

### **Saturday, December 16**

Experience Bethlehem 9am – walk through town and visit our Columbiette Kid's Market & Pancake Breakfast

### **Sunday, December 17**

Pastorella – our traditional Spanish Christmas pageant

### **Wednesday, December 20**

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament beginning after our 8:30am Daily Mass, ending with Night Prayer & Benediction at 7pm

## **Weekend of December 23/24 – Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Mass Times: Saturday 4pm, Sunday 8:30am, 10:30am, 12:30pm (Spanish). NO 5:30pm MASS

### **Sunday, December 24 – Christmas Eve**

Vigil of Christmas Mass Times: 4pm (Church), 4:10pm (The Venetian), 6:30pm (Church)

### **Monday, December 25 – Christmas Day**

Christmas Day Mass Times: 12 Midnight, 8:30am, 10:30am, 12:30pm (Spanish), NO 5:30 MASS

## **Weekend of December 30/31 – Feast of the Holy Family**

Blessing of Families after Communion at all Masses

### **Monday, January 1 – Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God**

Mass Time—8:30am Daily Mass (NOT A HOLYDAY THIS YEAR)

## **Weekend of January 6/7 - Solemnity of the Epiphany**

Three Kings Procession at all Masses; distribute House Blessing Kits & Candy after all masses

Nativity Showcase in The Venetian: Saturday 5-6pm and Sunday after 8:30am & 10:30am Masses



## Mass Intentions

Monday, December 11 through Sunday, December 17

Mon., Dec. 11	Noon	Avilio Munoz & Family (I) By Nicole Regush
Tues., Dec. 12	8:30 am	Anthony Montalbano (d) By Maureen Montalbano
Wed., Dec. 13	8:30 am	Vocations
Thurs., Dec. 14	Noon	Nick Piscitelli (d) By Lydia Piscitelli
Fri., Dec. 15	8:30 am	Tony Benchina (d) By Susie Benchina
Sat., Dec. 16	4:00 pm	Janet Majirsky (d) By Jim Majirsky
Sun., Dec. 17	8:30 am	George Novac (d) By Teresa Novac`
	10:30 am	Mary Anne Simmons (d) By Dennis & Catherine Alvarez
	12:30 pm	Parishioners of St. Mark
	5:30 pm	Leticia Valencia (I) By her family

The Sanctuary Candle burns this week in memory of Tony Benchina  
By Susie Benchina

**Monthly Finance Reports**  
<https://stmarktampa.org/finances>

**Low Gluten Hosts Available**  
See Luther Ferris

**Ministry Meeting Room Reservations**  
[roomschedule@stmarktampa.org](mailto:roomschedule@stmarktampa.org)



Orar ~ Pray

### Pray for Our Heroes



**Harold  
LaRock**

\*No Photo

Brian Artienda  
Ulio & Francisco Arocho  
Christina Bennett  
Ryan John Berardi  
Morgan Boruty  
\*Stephen Brown  
Tanya Buckley  
\*Ron Caputo  
Neal Cheramie  
Ryan Clisset  
Adrian A. Cruz  
Tyler Emerick  
\*Jorge Farchakh  
Christopher A. Garcia  
\*Ian Garia  
Olivia Faith Giarrizzo  
Kevin Howell  
Samantha Howell  
\*Bryan Hunt  
\*Ryan Irwin  
Mark Kieweg  
Harold La Rock  
Leticia Larson  
Robert Letzeisen Jr.  
Louis Ludwig

Jacob Meier  
Jack Manning  
George Martin  
Yerandy Molina  
Merridith Morrison  
Ismael A. Olivo-Alvarez  
Anthony Orcajo  
Christopher Parkes  
Jorge A. Perez III  
James Phillips  
Paul Pita  
Pedro Rico  
Daniel Sabarese  
Michael Schiano  
Nicholas Stiegler  
Tiffany Stiegler  
Bobby Thomas  
Nicholas Tyrbus  
Ana Maria Vargas  
\*Camilo Andres Vargas  
Disney Velez  
Khiry White  
Daniel Woodard  
Steven Woodard  
Robert Woodards

### Get Well Prayers

**Bob Cabana  
Patty Dawsen  
Daniel Byrne  
Dan Gonzalez  
Michael Wilps  
Oliver Warnock  
Ralph Palomba  
Bob Russo**

Please send your request to [Prayers@stmarktampa.org](mailto:Prayers@stmarktampa.org)

### Altar Flower Donation

The week of 11/26 altar flowers were  
in memory of  
**Tanya and James Posheluk**



## Learn ~ Aprender Deacon Jose Moronta

### **Advent is a season of two distinguishable parts.**

The first two weeks concerned with the Lord's coming as Judge of all at the end of time and the second two weeks serving as the proximate preparation for His coming in the flesh.

The Church's readings reflect this dual character. The Old Testament readings of Advent set the mood and theme each week. As we hear these readings, we need to look at our own dreams and expectations. The prophets of the Old Testament used beautiful poetic expressions, such as the lamb lying at peace with the lion, swords being beaten into plowshares, and the great banquet to come that will be presided over by the Lord.

The first reading from the book of Isaiah expresses how the prophet spoke words of encouragement to his people who would be in exile years after Isaiah prophesied. He wrote "Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God." During the time of Isaiah, conquered peoples were often put to work building roads for the victors. In the process of road building, they would be filling in the valleys and cutting down the high places to make the road smoother. Sometimes roads would be built especially for the victorious ruler to ride in triumph. This would become the "king's way."

After their liberation from Babylon, they will build "a highway for our God." In this "highway builder" role they will be preparing the way for their Lord. In the gospel reading, Mark quotes this passage from Isaiah in introducing John the Baptist. He is a key symbol of Advent preparation. The prophet Isaiah is quoted to show how John is preparing the people for Christ's coming. When the Jews were held captive in Babylon, they built roads for their captors. A day would come, Isaiah wrote, when they would build a highway for their God to prepare the way for His coming. Valleys would be filled in, and hills would be lowered for the "king's highway."

In a similar fashion John the Baptist is calling on us to prepare a road so that Christ can be welcome on his second coming. As Christians we are also called to be highway builders preparing the way for Christ to enter more fully into our lives. We are proclaimers of "glad tidings."

### **And now a story for our personal reflection**

The evil one appeared to three monks and told them: if I gave you the power to change something from the past, what would you change? The first of them, with great apostolic fervor, replied: "I would prevent you from making Adam and Eve fall into sin so that humanity could not separate from God." The second, a man full of mercy, told him: "I would prevent you from turning away from God and condemning yourself eternally."

The third of them was the simplest and, instead of responding to the tempter, he got down on his knees, made the sign of the cross and prayed, "Lord, deliver me from the temptation of what could have been and was not."

The evil one, giving a stentorian cry and shaking with pain, vanished. The other two, surprised, said to him: "Brother, why have you reacted like this?"

He replied: "First: we must NEVER dialogue with the enemy.

Second: NO ONE in the world has the power to change the past.

Third: Satan's interest was not to test our virtue, but to trap us in the past, so that we neglect the present, the only time in which God gives us his grace and we can cooperate with it to accomplish his will."

Likewise, Advent is not a look to the past, but to the future. We are waiting for the Second Coming of the Lord. The Church is living not a "Liturgical Advent" of four weeks, but a real Advent (so far, twenty centuries) until Jesus will come again. Advent is a look to the future that comes but using the present day to be prepared for that Day of Glory.

**Thanks for Reading! Want to read more?**

*Every week I publish a reflection for each of the three readings of the Sunday Mass, a week ahead.*

*I invite you to go to our website at [stmarktampa.org](http://stmarktampa.org)*

*and click on "Mass Times" at the top, then scroll down to "Sunday Mass Reflection".*



## CHILD, FAMILY AND YOUTH MINISTRY

Variety of programs for ages 3 to 12th grade



### Family, Faith, Fellowship & Fun events:

Friday, Dec 8th  
after 7:30pm mass  
until  
Sat, Dec 9th 7:00am

#### *This Advent, together we walk from Darkness into the Light*

On Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed through the night, starting with exposition after the 7:30pm mass and finishing with Benediction on Saturday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00am.

Jesus is inviting all of us to accompany him during his time of sorrow, come and spend a holy hour with Jesus.

*"A Holy Hour in front of the Blessed Sacrament is worth more than a thousand years of human glory."*  
- St. Padre Pio



## Christmas Tree Lighting

Wednesday, December 13th  
6pm - 8pm

JOIN US  
THIS WEEK!

### Family

#### 6pm Christmas Carols and Symbols

- We'll sing familiar carols and share Christmas symbols

### Faith

#### 7pm Benediction

- Join the community in solemn prayer

### Fellowship & Fun

#### 7:15pm Christmas Tree Lighting

- Followed by cookies and hot cocoa

*Bring your family for some or all of the event!*



## Experience Bethlehem

Saturday, December 16th  
9am - 12noon

### All Are Welcome!

#### *Experience Bethlehem is back this year!*

- Travel together through Bethlehem, visit the booths (free)
- Hear stories from villagers
- Crafts, activities and games (free)
- Kids shop at the Market for loved ones (bring cash)
- Pancake breakfast (bring cash)



If you have any questions, reach out to our team!

email: [childandfamilyministry@stmarktampa.org](mailto:childandfamilyministry@stmarktampa.org)

For Edge & Life Teens email: [deaconhector@stmarktampa.org](mailto:deaconhector@stmarktampa.org)

office: 813-907-7746 x 308





Look at all this #StMarkLOVE! In this beautiful picture in just some of our community of Latinos many are dressed in their distinctive ministries' colors.

(Front to back) Children/Youth Choir, Altar Servers, Legion of Mary, Charismatic Prayer Group, Cursillo, Ushers, Music Ministry, EMHC, Sacristan, Readers, Brotherhood of the Lord of the Miracles, Emmaus, with Fr. Eduardo Chinchá and Deacon Jose Moronta.

We are so blessed that next June we will celebrate the 25th anniversary of our first Mass in Spanish at St. Mark (back then we met in the auditorium of Wharton High School).

## Pastorela Navideña

Te invitamos a recordar el verdadero significado de la Navidad con esta maravillosa representación escénica

**Domingo 17 de Diciembre, 2023**  
**a las 7:00pm**  
**St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church**  
**VENETIAN CENTER**

**Boleto:** Donación a San Vicente de Paul  
 (Can Fruits, Rice, Cereal, Can Pasta, Chunky Soup, Mac & Cheese, tuna, peanut butter, jelly, mashed potatoes, can vegetables, can beans, etc... )







First Friday Mass at St. Mark  
8:30 AM

SMARTS meeting at The Venetian  
11:00 AM  
Second Wednesday of the month.

Miniature Golf at Plantations Palms  
First & Third Monday,  
11:00 AM

Card Social at St. Mark  
First & Third Thursday  
11:00 - 3:00 PM

Bowling at Bowlero  
Second & Fourth Friday  
11:00 AM

Game Day at Venetian  
Third Wednesday  
11:00 – 2:30 PM

**All those interested in joining  
SMARTS are always welcome.**  
**Contact Paulette Nardelli**  
**843-540-5571/**  
**Pnardelli51@gmail.com**  
**or Roe Black,**  
**813-383-8360/**  
**Roe1Black@yahoo.com**



**Our Food Pantry  
Is open for those in need!**

**Drive-up open  
on 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month  
from 1 pm - 4 pm**

**Please help stock our Food Pantry!**

**Mac & Cheese and  
Canned Fruit or Apple Sauce**

drop off at the cart inside our Social Narthex

by our Information Desk during the week

or

outside during Weekend Mass Hours.

Drop off times will coincide with our church hours:

&

at all Masses

Thank you for your continued support!

If you would like to volunteer to help distribute food at our food pantry  
please go to: [www.stmarktampa.org/FoodPantrySchedule](http://www.stmarktampa.org/FoodPantrySchedule)  
to check the schedule for vacant dates & send an email to:  
[smpantry@gmail.com](mailto:smpantry@gmail.com) with the vacant date(s) you would like to volunteer.

SvdP Thrift Store: 12310 N. Nebraska Ave in Tampa. (813) 977-7057.

Please consider joining our

***St. Mark the Evangelist Legacy Society***

To remember St. Mark in your will or trust,  
please ask your attorney to use the following terminology:  
**I give, devise, bequeath (amount, article, stock, property, etc.)**

to

**St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church**  
**9724 Cross Creek Blvd,**  
**Tampa, FL 33647**

For more information, please contact Val anytime at 813-508-2735  
or [vmainguy@stmarktampa.org](mailto:vmainguy@stmarktampa.org)



# **WE'RE HIRING !!**

## **Facilities and Maintenance Manager – Full-Time St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church**

St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church has a Full-Time opening. The Facilities Manager provides facilities support to all ministry and parish functions. Responsible for implementing a preventative maintenance program that ensures that all parish buildings and grounds are maintained to the highest standards of safety, functionality, operational efficiency, and appearance. Ensures that any required repairs are completed in a timely and professional manner. Manages vendors and contractors that assist in facilities upkeep and repair such as janitorial, pest control, landscaping, HVAC repair, roofers, etc.

This position requires a team player attitude, excellent interpersonal and communication skills, attention to detail, and project coordination with the ability to multitask on an ongoing basis. The Facilities Manager can collaborate with and support the Pastor, General Manager, parish staff, and parishioners.

### **Ideal Candidate must have the following criteria:**

- High School Diploma with training in the maintenance of buildings
- 5 years experience in facilities management or building trade.
- Experience in supervising others
- Knowledge of plumbing, electrical and HVAC
- Ability to safely lift a minimum of 50 lbs.
- Ability to work a flexible schedule, including evenings and weekends.
- Must successfully pass a level II FBI background screening and attend a Safe Environment Training

Interested candidates, please send your resume to: Claudia Garcia [Cgarcia@stmarktampa.org](mailto:Cgarcia@stmarktampa.org)

## **Ministry Coordinator – PT St. Mark the Evangelist**

St. Mark the Evangelist is looking for a Ministry Coordinator. This is a Part-Time position. This position is responsible for providing training and support to all our ministries and provides a single point of contact for the ministry leaders needing assistance. The coordinator will also maintain up-to-date info on all the ministry members, as well as the yearly scheduling of events on the calendar. This position helps new leaders in formulating a new ministry for approval.

The ideal candidate will have training and volunteer management experience. Candidate must be able to work alone and available on evenings and some weekends.

Proficient with computers and programs including Google Apps, Word, Excel, and ParishSoft. And bilingual is a plus.

The candidate must successfully pass a Level II (FBI) Criminal History Background Check and successfully complete mandated Safe Environment training programs.

Interested candidates must submit their resume to [cgarciastmarktampa.org](mailto:cgarciastmarktampa.org)



## DIVINE MERCY CENACLES

(Small Faith Sharing Groups)

Come join us as we delve more deeply  
into the writings of St. Faustina  
and the messages Jesus gave to her regarding the Eucharist  
and God's great love and mercy.

Cenacle gatherings meet every Thursday at 1:00pm  
in the St. Michael the Archangel classroom located in the church.

For more information, please contact  
Divine Mercy Ministry at [leader-divinemercury@stmarktampa.org](mailto:leader-divinemercury@stmarktampa.org).



**Grief Ministry**  
Meets every 2nd and 4th Monday  
of each month  
at 6:30 to 8 pm.  
in The Venetian, Matthew 1.

## THE BETHLEHEM MARKET

The Columbiettes will present another wonderful shopping experience during the Experience Bethlehem event.  
Come after the 8:30 and 10:30 Masses and have a cup of coffee or juice and shop for lovely hand made gifts at  
reasonable prices.

All are welcome. Credit cards are accepted. Secret shopping and free gift wrap will be offered.





**www.DonateStMark.org**

Text to Give: 813-296-5116

## **It is in Giving that we receive**

Thank you ALL for your support through the pandemic  
and your continual generosity!

### **Ways to Give:**

Traditional Envelopes

Using Credit or Debit Cards at the Kiosks at the Information Desk  
located inside the front church doors.

Text to Give: 813-296-5116

Simply use your own personal Online Banking / Bill Pay  
and add St. Mark as a payee

Scan your phone camera on our QR Code:



To set up Recurring Automatic Credit Card Donations:  
Contact the Parish Office at 813-907-7746 for support.

**God Bless You!**

## **Catholic Youth Sports League**

### **St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church Soccer**

A Catholic Youth Sports League soccer program for boys and girls ages 6 – 18 and all athletic abilities is ready for a sixth (Winter 2024) season at St. Mark.

The season begins in January, with first practice January 4 (early Thursday evenings at St. Mark) and the first game (Saturday mornings) on January 6. Games will be at St. Mark the Evangelist soccer fields as well as a two other churches in the North Tampa area. There will be one practice and one game per week.

The program uses small sided games: 4 players on U8 and 7 players including a goalie on U10 and above teams.

Teams include U6 (born before 1/1/2017), U8 (1/1/2015), U10 (1/1/2013), U13 (1/1/2010) and U18 (born before 1/1/2005).

Register online using the registration link at [www.stmarktampa.org/sports](http://www.stmarktampa.org/sports). Registration opened on 10/1/2023. Cost per player is \$120 per player. Cost after November 15 increases to \$160 per player. Registration cost includes a uniform. Number of players is limited, so please register early.

Contact: Don at [soccer@stmarktampa.org](mailto:soccer@stmarktampa.org) for more information or if you would like to volunteer. Coaches and referees (Grade 8 and above) are always needed and will be trained at St. Mark.





# Our Virtual Church Offerings

[www.stmarktampa.org](http://www.stmarktampa.org)

## Sunday Masses:

Our Saturday 4pm Vigil & Sunday 12:30pm (Spanish) Masses will be Livestreamed onto our Facebook Page or our YouTube Channel.

To view the Livestream Mass, on Facebook: type into your URL: either [www.facebook.com/stmarktampa](http://www.facebook.com/stmarktampa) or [www.youtube.com/stmarktampa](http://www.youtube.com/stmarktampa).

## Ways to Give:

Donate online to support St. Mark at [donatestmark.org](http://donatestmark.org)

Scan code with your phone camera to go directly to our donate page >>>



## Additional Offerings:

Deacon Jose's weekly *Bilingual Liturgical Reflections*: Website.

Deacon Scott holds a livestream *Morning & Evening Prayers* daily:  
Facebook - Deacon Scott Paine.

Abbot Isaac & the Benedictine Monks celebrating their *LIVESTREAMED Daily Mass at Noon each weekday*: Facebook - St. Leo Abbey.

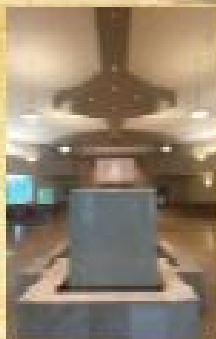
And last - a link to our FREE Catholic "Netflix-type" resource: *FORMED.org*

# The Venetian Event Center

<http://thevenetiantampa.com>



- Over 11,000 sq ft Event Space
- Seats Up to 880 Banquet Style
- Seats Over 1,000 Theatre Style
- Wet Bar / Cafe & Reception Area
- Outdoor Event Space available on our Terrace
- Piano Available
- Adjustable Lighting and Room Darkening Shades
- Tables Included
- Floating 16 ft x 9 ft HDMI Projection Screen
- Shure Clear Audio and Components
- Your Choice of Caterers & Vendors
- Catering Staging Area



Wedding Receptions ~ Anniversary Parties  
Banquets ~ Quinceañeras  
Birthdays ~ Concerts

For rental information call or text 813-508-2735



# Tax Free Contribution Information

If you are over 73 and have an IRA or similar retirement account you may be required to take annual distributions prescribed by the IRS. These distributions are usually taxed at your ordinary income tax rate.

**New laws have been passed which may allow you to contribute any part of your IRA including these required distributions to St. Mark TAX FREE!**

**Example: If you contribute \$5000 from your IRA to St. Mark and are in a 20% tax bracket, the church receives the \$5000 and you may save \$1000 in taxes.**

***A WIN-WIN for both the church and the parishioner!***

If your tax advisor agrees and you want to contribute from your 2021/2023 required annual distributions or even from your current IRA,

instruct your IRA custodian to make the check out to: St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church.

They can either send it to you or directly to the church.

**This is a great way to fulfill your pledge and/or contribute your annual offering in a lump sum.**

Questions: please contact Val at 813-508-2735