# ST. MARK the EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

# Our Mission

To invite all on our journey to:

Learn
Orar (Pray)
GiVe
Evangelize

# 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 or call the Parish Office at 813-907-7746.

For more information, visit our website at: www.stmarktampa.org

has ridden. Untie it and bring 3 If anyone says to you, you doing that?' say, 'Th needs it but he will send it t at once." 4 So they went finding a colt tethered out street near a gate, they un 5 Some of the bystanders "What do you me untying that colt?" 6 The swered as Jesus had told th and the men let them take They brought the colt to Jes threw their cloaks across its and he sat on it spread their while others sp had cut in the ceding as well as

"Hosanna!

cried out:

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

10 Blessed is the reign of our father David to come!
Hosanna in the highest!"

The Passion of the Lord

**HOSANNA!** 

Mark 11:9

he entered the to began to drive o engaged in buyir overturned the tables and the stal doves; moreover, permit anyone through the temp 17 Then he be "Does not Script" My house sh

My house sh house of

look for

hey were at the him because to der the spell en the even his disciples arly next mand along, ed to in bered and the figure."

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# JOURNEY FROM DARKNESS TO THE LIGHT



## Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

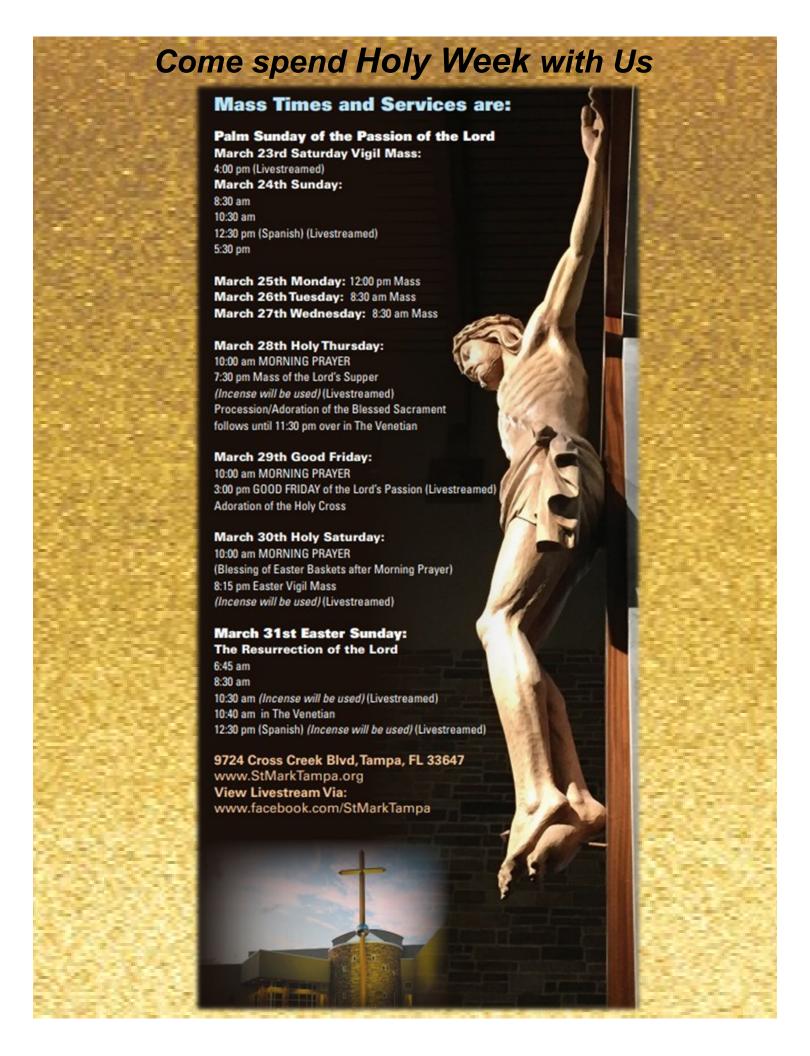
This Sunday begins the most intense week in the Church's liturgical calendar. There is the glorious high of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. There is the solemn gathering, tinged with anxiety, in commemoration of the Passover, in which Jesus establishes a new and eternal covenant of God with humanity. There is the sorrow and horror of the Passion and Crucifixion. The week ends in the darkness of the tomb.

If ever there was a time to tremble in shadow, it is at the foot of the Cross, the sky stormy and dark, the Earth itself trembling as if in fear.

But even in the midst of this darkness, there shines a light.

Jesus warns his closest followers, "All of you will have your faith shaken." But he also promises that he will be "raised up" and will continue to go ahead of us on our journey into deeper faith in him.

Let us find the courage to make this journey through the darkness, that we may come at last to the Light.



#### **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

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: <a href="www.stmarktampa.org">www.stmarktampa.org</a> Email: <a href="mailto:info@stmarktampa.org">info@stmarktampa.org</a>

Venetian Rental Info: (813) 508-2735

Events Calendar and Tickets www.stmarktampa.org/calendar

#### **Bulletin Submissions**

Bulletin@stmarktampa.org
Weekly deadline: Tuesdays at 9 AM
the week prior to publication,
earlier holiday deadlines TBA

## **Ministry Contacts**

#### Sign Up Now! 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.

#### **Social Media**



www.facebook.com/stmarktampa



www.instagram.com/StMarkLOVE

#### **Donate / Support**

Credit Card/Online: www.DonateStMark.org
Text to Give: 813-296-5116
To set up Recurring Automatic Donations: Contact
Claudia Garcia at 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.

#### 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.

#### **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

#### 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.

<u>Children and Teens</u>: 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 or stmarktampa.org/confirmation-1

#### **Mass Intentions**

#### Sunday, March 24th

Palm Sunday

8:30 am

† María Ofelia Pérez González by Virginia O. Díaz

10:30 am

† Franco and Anthony Trani by Lucia Trani

12:30 pm

Parishioners of St. Mark

5:30 pm

† Jeanne O'Dell by David & Jan Bootcheck

#### Monday, March 25th

Monday of Holy Week

12:00 pm

† George Ammar by Cindy & Joe Terrano

#### Tuesday, March 26th

Tuesday of Holy Week

8:30 am

† Leo D'Souza by Family

#### Wednesday, March 27th

Wednesday of Holy Week

8:30 am - Vocations No intentions for this Mass

#### Thursday, March 28th

Thursday of Holy Week

7:30 pm - Holy Thursday

† Jacinto Rafael Perez by Jacin Perez

#### Saturday, March 30th

Holy Saturday

8:15 pm - Easter Vigil

Carole Beasley (Living) by Mary Beth & Muhammed Syed

#### **Sanctuary Candle**

For † Tracy Crew by Tom and Ellie Crew

Thanks to all who generously contribute
to this year's
Catholic Ministry Appeal
to help us meet
our 2024 diocesan responsibility.

#### **Mass Intentions**

&

#### **Sanctuary Candles**

Online purchases are available for 2024 www.stmarktampa.org.
The cost is \$25.00

#### **Monthly Finance Reports**

https://stmarktampa.org/finances

Low Gluten Hosts Available
See Luther Ferris

#### **Ministry Meeting Room Reservations**

roomschedule@stmarktampa.org

#### **Procedures for Filing Abuse Complaints**

Last September, the Diocese of St. Petersburg successfully completed an on-site audit to determine its compliance with the norms of the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. However, in its follow-up letter, the auditing firm reminded the Diocese that "Parishes should publicize the procedures for making complaints the abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult at least annually." If you are not already doing so on at least an annual basis, please plan to include this item in your various communications tools. For information on how to file an abuse complaint, please go to <a href="https://www.dosp.org/safe-">https://www.dosp.org/safe-</a> environment/how-to-file-an-abusecomplaint/

#### **Prayers for Healing and Protection**

Tim Donavan
Bob Cabana
Bob Thomas
Fr. William Hartung
Ann Wilkie
Gary Higbie
Girard Drazda
Yolanda Trejo Ramirez
&
All of our Military and First Responders

#### **Dearly Departed**

Gabe Hassan

Please send your request to Prayers@stmarktampa.org

# Learn ~ Aprender Deacon Jose Moronta

#### After recalling "God's Plan of Salvation", we arrive to Palm Sunday

We have been reflecting during these five Sundays of Lent in what may be called the "Plan of Salvation", unveiled by God after sin was introduced in the world and twisted his original plan of happiness for mankind. This Plan of Salvation should be seen as a series of coordinated events along the centuries that preceded the coming of Christ. Today we have the rich texts of Palm Sunday, opening the Holy Week.

This week ends our celebration of Lent. Our Lenten preparations have been focused on reviewing God's Plan of Salvation, to trigger our response to God's call so that we are better prepared to celebrate the most important day of the year, the day of Jesus Christ's Resurrection.

Our readings today show us how Jesus freely became the eternal perfect sacrifice – the one sacrifice which could open the gates of heaven so that we could have our sins forgiven and forgotten. This sacrifice instituted the New Covenant with God; the covenant in which we are no longer God's slaves, but His children. As with all covenants, this covenant is sealed with a meal, a meal in which all parties partake, and which is offered to God. The meal in which we partake is the Holy Eucharist promised by Jesus at Capernaum "Unless you eat the flesh of the son of man and drink His blood you have no life within you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day." This meal was provided for us by Jesus Christ at the Last Supper.

Today's liturgy offers an additional reading, the Gospel before the Mass begins, for the procession with the blessed palms. This is Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Jesus had visited Jerusalem various times before, but He never did so in this way. Previously He had not wanted to be recognized as the Messiah; He avoided the enthusiasm of the crowd; but now He accepts their acclaim and even implies that it is justified, by entering the city in the style of a peaceful king. Jesus' public ministry is about to end: He has completed His mission; He has preached and worked miracles; He has revealed Himself as God the Father wished He should; and now in this triumphal entry into Jerusalem He shows that He is the Messiah.

Then we have the traditional lengthy reading of the Passion of the Lord. The Gospel of Mark has been described as a passion narrative with a long introduction. This observation throws into relief how important the final part of the Gospel is to the whole. Jesus knows beforehand what awaits Him. Throughout, He behaves as the Suffering Servant and shows Himself to be the King of the Jews despite the mocking and blindness of His opponents. The disciples, however, reach the bottom of their descent in Judas' betrayal and Peter's denial.

I'd like to share a couple of very interesting facts and words recorded in this reading of the Passion. First, the fact that Jesus and the apostles left the upper room to go to the Mount of Olives. The apostles are leaving the upper room without completing the Passover liturgy they all had come to Jerusalem to celebrate. Can they all have forgotten the liturgy? Exodus 12:22 prescribed that no Israelite was to leave his house after the Passover meal until morning. But then, when Jesus is about to expire, he says "It is finished": the same words which consummated the Passover meal. We must see the Last Supper and Crucifixion as a continued event. They cannot be separated or seen as two distinct acts.

Then we have the words from the Roman centurion,

# «...When the centurion who stood facing him saw how he breathed his last he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!" ...»

We had heard God's voice in Jesus' baptism and in the event of the Transfiguration, and now in the most solemn moment of all, we hear instead the voice of a man, a pagan one. He is the first to recognize Him – a centurion of the hated Roman army. This answers the question posed by the High Priest when he was being judged *«...the high priest asked him, "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?" ...»* 

God surprises us all the time. He surely knows how things work well, as in this case, when He uses the Roman soldier to confirm the identity of the one who died on the cross for all human races and nations.

# Learn ~ Aprender Deacon Jose Moronta

#### **Palm Sunday and Paschal Triduum**

Passion week ends our celebration of Lent. Our Lenten preparations have been focused on improving our response to God's call so that we, His children, will be ready to come home and live for all eternity. Jesus Christ has shown us how to live His life so that we can gain eternal life. Our readings on this Palm Sunday show us how Jesus freely became the eternal perfect sacrifice – the one sacrifice which could open the gates of heaven so that we could have our sins forgiven and forgotten.

#### Palm Sunday

This is Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Jesus had visited Jerusalem various times before, but He never did so in this way. Previously He had not wanted to be recognized as the Messiah; He avoided the enthusiasm of the crowd; but now He accepts their acclaim and even implies that it is justified, by entering the city in the style of a peace-loving king. Jesus' public ministry is about to end: He has completed His mission; He has preached and worked miracles; He has revealed Himself as God the Father wished He should; and now in this triumphal entry into Jerusalem He shows that He is the Messiah. We have a first proclamation of his passion, what will be done again on Good Friday.

#### Paschal Triduum

The Sacred Paschal Triduum is the three most solemn days of the liturgical year, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil. These most holy days celebrate the Paschal Mystery, first, the passion, suffering, and death of the Lord Jesus, followed by his resurrection, the triumph of the holy cross, and Christ's decisive victory over sin and death.

The Triduum is a single liturgy celebrated over three days. The three holiest days of the entire liturgical year. It is ironic that feasts like the Assumption on August 15, All Saints Day on November 1, and the Immaculate Conception on December 8, are holy days of obligation while the three days of the Triduum are not. There is no Church law that requires attendance for the Triduum, but good laws only make compulsory what should be done anyway.

If there were ever three days that Christians should want to go to church to pray, it would be the Triduum. These days rank at the head of the liturgical calendar. They celebrate the most sacred mysteries of our faith.

#### What exactly is the Paschal Triduum?

The Paschal Triduum is a single liturgical celebration that spans three days. It begins on the Thursday before Easter and ends the evening of Easter Sunday. "Isn't that four days?" you might ask yourself. The Church counts these days liturgically, so the "day" begins the evening before. (Remember, "evening came, and morning followed, the first day" from Genesis).

Another unique element about the Paschal Triduum is that a single liturgy encompasses all three days. They are not three separate "masses".

At the end of the liturgy on Holy Thursday, you'll notice there is no final blessing or dismissal, as happens with every Mass. Instead, we are invited to pray quietly before the Blessed Sacrament and then leave when we have prayed. The liturgy doesn't formally conclude; it simply pauses.

It picks up again on Good Friday with the Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Passion. You'll notice that this solemn liturgy doesn't have the usual, formal beginning we are used to: the entrance procession or greeting by the priest. Rather, the priest and ministers enter the sanctuary when they are ready and, after prostrating before the altar, they simply pick up where they left off the evening before. Like Holy Thursday, the Good Friday liturgy doesn't have a formal dismissal; rather, the priest simply says a prayer over the people before departing. Another pause. And although the Easter Vigil begins with the sign of the cross, it begins in a different location — outside, around a fire without an opening song or procession. We pick up our prayer from where we left off the day before. And it is only at the end of the Easter Vigil Mass we hear the formal dismissal of the assembly, "Mass is ended," with the double alleluia. The Easter Vigil, which always is to begin after sunset on Saturday, takes place on the third day of the Triduum, so the vigil is considered the Easter Mass. Subsequent Masses are celebrated on Sunday for those unable to attend the vigil.

The Hebrews had three high holy days, three pilgrimage feasts, Passover, Pentecost, and Booths, and those who lived outside of Jerusalem made pilgrimage to the Temple to celebrate these solemn occasions. The three days of the Triduum are our "high holy days," our "pilgrimage feast," and we ought to make a pilgrimage from our homes to church to commemorate and honor how the Lord Jesus laid down his life for us, for our salvation.

Please make it a top priority to go to church to celebrate the Triduum this year. Reserve the time. Rearrange your schedule if necessary. Plan to attend the Paschal Triduum. You will not regret it.

#### CHILD, FAMILY AND YOUTH MINISTRY

Variety of programs for kids age 3 to the 12th grade

Family, Faith, Fellowship & Fun event:





No Faith Formation class Sunday, 3/31 and Monday, 4/1

If you have any questions, reach out to our team!
email: childandfamilyministryestmarktampa.org
For Edge & Life Teens email: deaconhectorestmarktampa.org
office: 815-907-7746 x 508



Grief Ministry

Meets every 2nd and 4th Monday

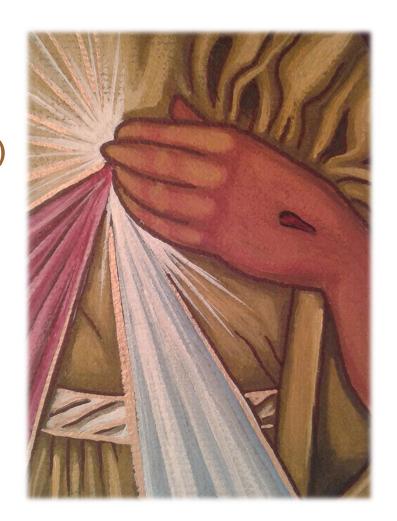
of each month

at 6:30 to 8 pm.

in The Venetian, Matthew 1.

# DIVINE MERCY CENACLES Divine Mercy Cenacles (Small Faith Sharing Groups) ALL ARE WELCOME

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.



**NEW!!:** English Cenacle Gathering meeting the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month.

NEW!!: Hispanic Cenacle Gathering meeting the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month.

When and Where: At 1:00 in the St Michael classroom located in the church.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The **Divine Mercy Chaplet** is prayed every weekday immediately after each of our Daily Masses. All are welcome to join us to lift your prayers up to the Lord.

Also, you can add your prayer requests into the **Divine Mercy Prayer Request Book** which can be found by the Font as you enter the Nave.

### **JESUS WE TRUST IN YOU**



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!

# No Collection Next Weekend Happy Easter!

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 to check the schedule for vacant dates & send an email to: 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

# **Our Virtual Church Offerings**

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 or www.youtube.com/stmarktampa.

#### Ways to Give:

Donate online to support St. Mark at 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



# **Financial Report**

# **Second Quarter - Finance Report**

	10/1/23 - 12/31/23	YTD
Offertory Revenue	\$ 469,071.00	\$ 862,647.00
Total Operating Income	\$ 695,123.00	\$ 1,287,507.00
Operating Expenses	\$ 626,680.00	\$ 1,148,053.00
Total Net Revenue	\$ 68,443.00	\$ 139,454.00

Your generous support to St. Mark has allowed us to make the following improvements :

- Visibility project around the main pond, hedging around the Family Center for safety and tree pruning \$29,850
- Paving the church area parking lot, resealing the parking lot, and roads on the property, filling in potholes and, adding rocks around the tree beds \$161,384.61
- The Faith Formation department received a much-needed remodel which consisted of demolishing and re-designing the office space. Cubicles were added for the privacy of staff and the families they serve. \$60,205.91

Our next projects include security cameras in the Church, exterior lights by emergency exits, security cameras in the Family Center, and remodeling the main office spaces to accommodate our growing Clergy and needs.

#### Catholic Ministry Appeal - Diocesan Initiative

<b>2023</b> (Final)	Goal \$203,043.77, Total Paid \$195,196.28, Total Participation 16%, Total Goal Reached 96%	
2024	Our New Yearly Goal: This number is our new assessment set by the Diocese, please helps us achieve this goal.	
	Goal \$223,760.00, Total Paid \$54,679.39, Total Participation 8%, Total Goal Achieved 24%	

"You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God". 2 Corinthians 9:11

Thank You for your Generosity!

# 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.

# The Venetian Event Center





- 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 HDM1 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 that IRS requires you to take annual distributions 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 \$5,000 from your IRA to St. Mark and are in a 20% tax bracket, the church receives the \$5,000 and you may save \$1,000 in taxes.

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

If your tax advisor agrees and you want to contribute any of your required annual distributions/required minimum distributions or even from your current IRA, instruct your IRA custodian to make the check out to St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic 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