St. Mark Shoreline



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

September 19, 2021

Reverend Jacob Maurer, Pastor

Parish Office

Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9am-4pm, Friday, 9:00am-12noon (206) 364-7900 (206) 367-3919 (fax) 18033 15th Place NE Shoreline, WA 98155

School Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm (206) 364-1633 (206) 367-3919 (fax)

Saturday Vigil Mass

5:00 pm

Sunday Mass 8:30 am & 10:30 am

Weekday Mass Monday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday: 9:30 am Wednesday: 6:30 pm

Confessions Wednesday: 5:00 pm Saturday: 3:00 pm

Appointments are welcome! Call Fr. Maurer.

PARISH INFORMATION



The Week Ahead

Sunday, September 19 Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time8:30 am, Mass, Church (Pro Populo)10:30 am, Mass, Church (Archbishop Etienne & all Clergy)Parish Picnic is Canceled

Monday, September 20 No 9:30 am Mass 6:30 pm, Boy Scouts, Cafeteria

Tuesday, September 21 No Morning Mass 7:00 pm, St. Gianna Molla, Sullivan Hall

Wednesday, September 22

5:00 pm, Confessions, Church5:00 pm, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Church6:00 pm, Benediction & Evening Prayer, Church6:30 pm, Mass, Church (Paul Stibre, RIP)7:00 pm, Faith Matters, Sullivan Hall

Thursday, September 23

No 9:30 am Mass 10:30 am, Rosary Preceding Funeral, Church 11:00, am, Funeral Mass for Romulo "Romy" Ramos, Church 2:00 pm, Bible Study, Sullivan Hall 6:30 pm, School commission

Friday, September 24 9:30 am, Mass, Church (Claudia Noble, RIP) 11:30 am, Funeral Mass for Claudia Noble, Church

Saturday, September 25 9:30 am, Mass, Church (Dolores Ridge, RIP) 3:00 pm, Confessions, Church 5:00 pm, Vigil Mass, Church (St. Mark Parish & School Faculty & Staff)

Sunday, September 26 Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:30 am, Mass, Church (Pro Populo)
10:30 am, Mass, Church (Archbishop Etienne & all Clergy)
11:30 am, Community Rosary, Affirmation of Life Memorial

Pastor

Rev. Jacob Maurer | (206) 364-7900 ext. 101

Pastoral Assistant for Administration & Stewardship

Todd Chapman | (206) 364-7900 ext. 106 toddc@saintmarkshoreline.org

Pastoral Assistant for Liturgy & Parish Life Veronica Olson | (206) 364-7900 ext. 108 veronicao@saintmarkshoreline.org

Pastoral Assistant for Faith Formation Dea. Kirk Altenhofen | (206) 364-7900 ext. 105 kirka@saintmarkshoreline.org

Administrative Assistant Laura Lynch | (206) 364-7900 ext. 100

Facilities Maintenance Manager Carlos Odicino | (206) 364-7900 ext. 110 carlos@saintmarkshoreline.org

St. Mark Parish School (206) 364-1633 www.stmss.org

St. Mark Parish School Principal Kathy Keck | (206) 364-1633 principal@stmss.org

St. Mark Parish Preschool (206) 363-7100

St. Mark Parish Website www.saintmarkshoreline.org

St. Mark Parish Location 18033 15th Pl. NE, Shoreline, WA 98155

"The musical tradition of the universal Church is a treasure of inestimable value, greater even than that of any other art. The main reason for this pre-eminence is that, as a combination of sacred music and words, it forms a necessary or integral part of solemn liturgy" (Sacrosanctum Concilium, no. 112). The composition and singing of inspired psalms, often accompanied by musical instruments, were already closely linked to the liturgical celebrations of the Old Covenant. The Church continues and develops this tradition: "Address . . . one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart." "He who sings prays twice" (Eph 5:19; St. Augustine, En. in Ps. 72,1:PL 36,914; cf. Col 3:16). ~From the USCCB Website



₩JMJ WHY DO CATHOLICS DO THAT?

- Father Jacob Maurer

Dear friends,

As always, I hope this finds you well and blessed as we transition from summer into fall. The first day of autumn is this coming Wednesday, which seems just about perfect as we enjoy the return of Washington showers (or at least, I do!).

"The martyrdom of the Virgin is set forth both in the prophecy of Simeon and in the actual story of our Lord's passion. The holy old man said of the infant Jesus: He has been established as a sign which will be contradicted. He went on to say to Mary: And your own heart will be pierced by a sword."

"Do not be surprised, brothers, that Mary is said to be a martyr in spirit. Let him be surprised who does not remember the words of Paul, that one of the greatest crimes of the Gentiles was that they were without love. That was far from the heart of Mary; let it be far from her servants."

St. Bernard, Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows (Sept. 15), Office of Readings

Today's letter is not about updates at the parish or changes from the archdiocesan and state. I would like this to be more of an approach to you on a personal level. Short of visiting with each of you personally after Masses or coming to your homes - things in which I delight whenever the opportunity presents itself! - I hope to take this opportunity to open my heart to you and, perhaps, speak to yours.

Before anything else, please know that you are not alone in feeling the heaviness of all that is going on. The weight of it all seems to make itself known at regular intervals - I find that the hardest days for me tend to be on Monday mornings and at Saturday evening Mass, which mark the beginning of my week and weekends respectively. Perhaps you've noticed your own cycle of ups and downs on a daily, weekly, or monthly basis. Sometimes it is simply a matter of lacking enthusiasm for a moment, other times it takes great effort to keep from weeping openly.

I highlight this because I want to emphasize a simple but profound truth: **you are not alone in your suffering**. Our roles are different, with varying understanding, perspectives, and approaches, but we remain united in both faith and experiences. We are not only together as Catholics, but we are enduring the trials of our current circumstances together, as a people united.

Last week I was on vacation with six friends in the woods. Only two of us are practicing Catholics, though a couple others share some faith in Christ. All are fairly opinionated in matters theological, political, and personal. As you might imagine, we formed quite the motley crew as we discussed, debated, and otherwise solved the problems of the world! I am happy to report that these improbable friendships not only survived but grew stronger over our six days together.

During that time, I also joined in a virtual meeting with Archbishop Etienne and my brother priests. Unlike my group of friends in that remote house in the woods, all of us on the call were practicing Catholics and, priests to boot! But there was great diversity even in that gathering. As

₩JMJ ₩ WHY DO CATHOLICS DO THAT?

- Father Jacob Maurer

Archbishop Etienne closed our meeting with a passage from scripture that he had chosen for reflection. I don't remember which chapter and verse he had selected - something from Saint Paul, I think - but the change in his demeanor touched me greatly. As he started to read, it was clear that he was deeply emotional, only just getting through the words he was saying aloud.

One of the temptations of the devil is the urge to approach a person in terms of their words, actions, or simply our perception of them. Despite knowing that each individual is a mysterious combination of personality, experiences, culture, and beliefs, we can reduce them to a statement, a position, or another caricature. When we do so, we are usually just a short distance away from dismissing them - and absolving ourselves of any responsibility to know and love them.

Despite being a priest and a pastor, I would be lying if I pretended that this temptation is not present in my own heart - even (especially!) in ministry. I have a multitude of excuses, especially when I feel wounded, lonely, or sorrowful. I have felt this temptation in relation to our archbishop, my brother priests, my family, my friends, even towards our community, as a whole or individually.

Last week, I found that that hardness of heart could not withstand even a brief moment of vulnerability, offered to me and my brother priests by our archbishop. I don't know if he intended or realized the value of the gift he had given us, but I have been thinking about it since. The Church has often spoken about the gift of tears, usually in the context of how our own sorrow can be a blessing. I had not fully recognized how precious is the offering of someone else's tears.

I wish I could promise you this gift, but I struggle with even the idea of being so openly emotional. But I want you to know that I have and do feel for and with you, sometimes to the point of tears, albeit privately. In those moments when others have given that gift to me, I have felt profoundly honored and grateful for the vulnerability entrusted to my care.

Maybe that's the takeaway, that we need to be willing to look past simple words, actions, and our perceptions of each other. Though those things matter, they tell a part - not the whole - of the story. It may be that the kindest thing we can do is to be willing to accept everything about the person in front of us - and likewise offer ourselves as much as we can, especially the messy parts. Jesus reminds us that suffering is unavoidable in this life - but that the path to unity with Him and with each other is in being willing to suffer wholeheartedly together.

I pray for you daily, and I invite you to join me in praying daily for our community. And as best I can, I am with you in all of this. Together in Christ, great fruit will be brought from our sharing in this portion of His Passion and cross. May God help us do so well.

- Father Maurer

PARISH EVENTS & NEWS



St. Mark Fall Faith Formation Programs

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) begins on Wednesday, October 6 at 7:00 pm in Sullivan Hall. RCIA is for adults who have not been baptized, or were baptized in a Christian church, and want to become Catholic.

First Reconciliation and First Eucharist preparation classes begin on Thursday, October 14 at 3:30 pm in Sullivan Hall.

First Sacrament Classes are for St. Mark parishioners and St. Mark Catholic Classical School students.

Confirmation preparation classes for baptized youth begin on Thursday, October 7 at 6:45 pm in Sullivan Hall.

Confirmation is for baptized youth of the parish who are in 7th grade or older.

Faith Matters, Adult Continuing Education, continues Wednesday, September 22 at 7:00 pm in Sullivan Hall with **The Sacraments of Initiation**.

Faith Matters is an adult formation program for anyone who wants to know more about the Catholic faith.

St. Mark Bible Study meets on Thursdays at 2:00 pm in Sullivan Hall. We resumed our exploration of the Gospel of Saint Mark.

For Registration Forms, or for more information, see the Sacraments and Faith Formation tab on the Parish website at <u>https://saintmarkshoreline.org/faith-formation/</u> or contact Deacon Kirk Altenhofen at (206) 364-7900 or kirka@saintmarkshoreline.org.

Parish Prayer Intentions

For the ill...

Joaquin Naputi, Tom Epps, Ron Dion, Sr., Ray Fortney, Kayla Culp, Susan Harris, Robert BanNatta

For the deceased...

Romulo "Romy" Ramos

Judy Perry

Maria Elizabeth Lizama

Sulpicia Monterde Osabel

Suzanne Alcorn

Parish Picnic Canceled

Our much anticipated parish picnic will not happen this weekend. Recent directives from the state of Washington make large gatherings, other than Mass, not possible at this time.

It has been a very long time since we have been able to gather and we all so looked forward to this time together. As it may be some time before large gatherings can happen again, a new date for the picnic has not been set.

Okay, we can't do large gatherings, other than Mass, but we can do smaller gatherings. Let's focus on what we can do. Do you have something you have always wanted to initiate? A prayer group? A crafting club? Something else? Please call Laura in the office at (206) 364-7900. In lieu of lamenting what we cannot do let's work together to find ways we can come together.

Autumn Forty Days for Life, 2021

From September 22 through October 31, you are invited to join other Christians for the **Fall 40 Days for Life** campaign. There will be 12 fall vigils in our state including Northgate, Lynnwood and Everett.

To sign up for your hours on the sidewalk in Lynnwood go to: <u>http://www.40daysforlife.com/en/lynnwood.</u>

Community Rosary at the Affirmation of Life Memorial

The next Community Rosary at the Affirmation of Life Memorial will be Sunday, September 26 immediately following the 10:30 am Mass. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. Even though we will be outside, those attending will need to wear masks.

St. Mark Preschool Openings

There is room in both the three year old and the four year old programs for the 2021-2022 school year. Students are in person for learning. Register today by visiting www.stmss.org.

Go to the Admissions tab and look for tuition and affordability. Don't wait! Register today!

PARISH EVENTS & NEWS



Funeral Mass Announcement

Funeral Mass for

Romulo "Romy" Ramos

Thursday, September 23 at 11:00 am Rosary Preceding at 10:30 am

Rosary & Mass will be livestreamed on Facebook

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul rest in peace. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

St. Mark St. Vincent de Paul Conference

Our St. Mark parish St. Vincent de Paul conference has some very specific needs for the pantry. Can you help? They need toilet paper, canned fruit and vegetables, canned tuna, laundry detergent, breakfast cereal, rice, flour and sugar. If you can help, thank you very much! Just leave your donations in the basket in the church vestibule marked for St. Vincent de Paul on any Sunday, or whenever the church is open. Thank you for continuing to support SVdP's work to help the most vulnerable in our community.

Sacred Heart Radio

Sacred Heart Radio, 100.3 FM and 1050 AM, is listener supported local Catholic radio. You have likely listened to the Mass at 9:00 am on weekdays, but have you explored any of the programs?

Catholic Answers Live (Monday - Friday at 4:00 pm) is a daily program dedicated to Catholic apologetics and evangelization. As a call-in program, Catholic Answers Live connects listeners to prominent leaders in the Church today. Discussions include doctrinal controversies, family concerns, social issues, evangelization, ethics and more.

Funeral Mass Announcement

Funeral Mass for

Claudia Noble

Friday, September 24 at 11:30 am

Mass will be livestreamed on Facebook

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul rest in peace. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Daily Mass Cancelations

- † Daily Mass at 9:30 am is canceled Monday, September 20
- † Daily Mass at 9:30 am is canceled Thursday, September 23
- † Daily Mass at 6:30 pm is canceled Wednesday, October 6
- † Daily Mass at 9:30 am is canceled Monday, October 18

Thank You to the St. Mark Flower Committee

Our St. Mark parish flower team created beautiful arrangements for a recent wedding in our church. The couple, and their families, are so very thankful and impressed. Well done St. Mark Flower Committee!

Frequently Requested Numbers

Boy Scouts: Dennis Halpin (206) 365-1971 Knights of Columbus: Greg Insley (206) 271-4599 St. Vincent de Paul Helpline: (206) 767-6449 Queen of Heaven Guild: Sylvia Ebert (206) 419-3115 Marriage Help: Retrouvaille (206) 706-2608 Holyrood Cemetary: (206) 363-8404 Beck's Funeral Home: (425) 771-1234 Harvey Funeral Home: (206) 632-0100

September 12, weekly stewardship report (fiscal year July 2021-June 2022) St. Mark parish

	Budgeted	Actual	Difference	Online	# In Person	# Online	Givers
Income							
Last Week	\$16,555	\$11,132	(5,423)	\$3,972	93	78	171
Year to Date	\$182,105	\$145,340	(36,765)				
September 19, 2021Parish Events & News, Page 2							



8' x 8' Mosaic by Artist Ken Zeran St. Mark Catholic Church, Shoreline, Washington Fr. Theodore P. Sullivan Council 11217

God Himself was born as a child. The greatness of a person does not depend on size, for the newborn King is very small. Let us pray for an end to prejudice against the tiny babies threatened by abortion.

This unique and beautiful mosaic was sponsored, built and is maintained by Council 11217. The idea for a memorial started over 15 years ago. The final project cost over \$100,000 and is truly a sight to behold as a testimonial to the support of life by Knights of Columbus and our many supporters.

The composition of mosaic tiles allows the entire picture to change with the light, affording the viewer an ongoing change during their meditation, prayer or viewing time.

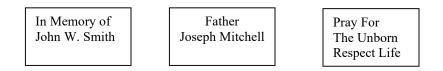
Many of our supporters, parishioners, friends and family members have purchased memorial pavers in this tranquil garden to support the Knights' Pro-Life activities. You too now have the chance to have your family, group or council memorialized with a name or message on a paver in this garden. There are fewer than 300 spaces available. If you are interested, please see the back of this flyer for more information.

To learn more about this memorial, internationally acclaimed artist (Ken Zeran), its designer, construction or dedication go to: <u>http://www.theaffirmationoflife.org</u>.

Affirmation of Life Memorial at the Holy Family Meditation Garden

You can participate in "The Affirmation of Life" and memorialize family, loved ones, organizations or a personal expression!

Pavers are engraved bricks. For donations of \$100 or more, you may have a paver placed on the ground, in front of the memorial. Each brick can have three lines, of 16 characters or fewer each. Examples could be:



To order a Paver, fill out this form. Limit one letter per space

(Line 1) _____

(Line 3) _____

Please return this form with your payment and your contact information. Forms can be dropped off at the St. Mark Parish Office, with checks made out to the **Fr. Theodore P. Sullivan Council 11217** or you can mail them to the following address: **Care of Council 11217 Financial Secretary** 18033 15th Place NE Shoreline, Washington 98155

Name:_____

Phone:_____ E-Mail_____

<u>Questions</u> Contact: **Fr. Theodore P. Sullivan Council 11217** <u>http://www.saintmarkshoreline.org/parish-life/knights-of-columbus-council-11217</u> or Council 11217 Financial Secretary – cowanmkirda@aol.com

Religious Exemption Explained

Archbishop Paul D. Etienne

Some people have recently associated my actions in relation to the COVID pandemic with those of the state. While the state's guidance and declarations do have direct implications for us as Church and as an employer, I want to be clear — my actions are to protect life as a shepherd and pastor in the face of a worldwide pandemic that continues to take human life at an astonishing pace.

We are not yet living in a post-pandemic world, and we must remain vigilant. We all have an obligation to love our neighbor, to protect our health and to protect the health of others. The immediate need to protect human life against the evil of the pandemic outweighs the remote connection to the evil involved in the testing and/or production of the vaccines.

According to our Holy Father and the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, because the connection between receiving the vaccines and abortion is so remote, and the danger of the pandemic is so grave, the moral prohibition of cooperation with evil does not apply. Therefore, a Catholic may be vaccinated in good conscience. Since the Catholic Church does not prohibit receiving a vaccine, a religious exemption to the COVID-19 vaccine mandate cannot be granted. However, in an effort to follow the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's (EEOC) language around "traditional religious views," I am willing to consider accommodations on moral grounds, but not exemptions on religious grounds.

While *in principle* there is no moral obligation to receive a vaccine, there can be reasons in *particular circumstances* for saying that there is a moral obligation to place more weight on the common good than on the individual. Today, the best life-saving defense against the pandemic is the vaccine. It is important that the formation of the individual conscience be informed by and directed toward the *common good*.

Catholics have the moral obligation to form their conscience with the mind of the Church, which encourages us all to be vaccinated, with the exception of those who have valid medical reasons for exemption.

Please hear me loud and clear: I strongly urge all of us to be vaccinated.

Once an employee has seriously considered the weight of the Church's teaching and still chooses not to be vaccinated, then that individual may request an accommodation to continue employment on *moral* grounds. If an accommodation can be provided, the employee will need to agree to an extra set of protocols to ensure the safety of all.

~Archbishop Paul D. Etienne, C2P, Office of Communications, Tuesday, September 14, 2021



St. Mark Church, Shoreline, WA

A 4C 05-1552