

St. Mark's Roman Catholic Church

345 Glad Park Ave., Whitchurch Stouffville, ON L4A 1E4

Tel. no.: 905-640-6954

Email: stmarksoffice@bellnet.ca

Fax no.: 905-640-0642 Parish

Website: <http://stmarkstouffville.ca>

PASTORAL TEAM

Fr. Michael Hughes - Pastor

Deacon John Schwarzbauer, Deacon Wayne McCulloch

STAFF

Mary Ann Mehes-Administrator

Lisa Baker-Admin. Asst.

Krystiana Garde-Lyn-Youth Minister

Lad Mehes - Custodian

Emy Lomibao-de Asis-Friday Asst.

prepare the way...



ADVENT

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Mass Intentions For The Week

Monday, December 19th @ 8:30 am

Private Intention req. by Anonymous

Tuesday, December 20th @ 7:00 pm

† Paul MacDonald req. by Family

† Teresa Shaw req. by Elizabeth and Domenic Flagello

† Catherine, Clem & Mary Kelly req. by Kelly Family

Wednesday, December 21st @ 8:30 am

† Antonio, Angelina & Costanzo Spedaliere req. by Mary Di Pasqua

Thursday, December 22nd @ 8:30 am

† Charlie & Winnie Dawson req. by Carol Morin

Friday, December 23rd @ 7:00 pm

† Leonor Cuenca Canaon req. by Cellie Canaon and Family

Saturday, December 24th @ 9:00 am

Pope, Bishops, Priests, Hughes & McConville Families req. by Fr. Michael

† Dorothea Garcia req. by Medina Family

† Matthew Benincasa req. by Mary & Emilio Benincasa

† Dino Raponi req. by Mary and Emilio Benincasa

† Beverley Semon req. by Michael Semon

@ 5:00 pm

St. Mark Community req. by Fr. Michael

@ 7:30 pm

† Michael Shewchuk req. by Bev and Family

@ 10:00 pm

St. Mark Community req. by Fr. Michael

Sunday, December 25th @ 9:00 am

† Renato Colosimo req. by Angela Colosimo and Family

@ 11:00 am

† Salvatore Battaglia req. by Dorothy Battaglia and Family

@ 12:30 pm

St. Mark Community req. by Fr. Michael

Pray For The Sick

Debbie Beauchamp, Modesta Manias, Clayton Parry

Pray For The Recently Deceased

Connie Desousa, Mario Raponi, Patricia Petura, Paola Malandrino

St. Augustine's Seminary Courses

Courses are being offered for the Laity at

St. Augustine's Seminary, 2661 Kingston Rd, Scarborough

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For further information: go to www.staugustines.on.ca, call 416-261-7207 or email ioft@sastoronto.org

Thank You For Your Generosity

Weekly Offering \$ 6,369

Spiritual Corner



Excerpt from:

St. Therese of Lisieux by those who knew her Testimonies from the process of beatification

Edited and translated by Christopher O'Mahony.

Published by Veritas Publications.

“Asked how the Servant of God reacted to this delay in her profession, she said: Therese’s first reaction was one of disappointment, but almost immediately she understood in prayer that the delay was God’s will. She said, “I understood that my eagerness to be professed had a strong streak of self-love in it. I had given myself to Jesus for his pleasure and consolation, so I ought to have been doing what he wanted, and not trying to do what I wanted.” – Testimony of Mother Agnes of Jesus (Therese’s sister and prioress of the Lisieux Carmel.)

Weekly Holy Hour at St. Marks

Every Thursday from 9 am – 10 am



Euthanasia/Assisted Suicide

Did You Know?

The Government of Canada passed legislation in June 2016, legalizing euthanasia/assisted suicide. Despite wording intended to protect doctors and facilities, the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario is forcing health care workers to arrange for the killing of their patients. No other country does this. Provinces across Canada do not do this. Yet, Ontario refuses to protect doctors who object to ending the life of their patients.

Please visit www.CanadiansforConscience.ca to learn more and write to the Ontario government.

St. Mark Parish - Confessions

December 20th and 23rd

Confession Times

Tuesday, December 20th at 7:30 pm

Friday, December 23rd at 7:30 pm

Fr. Michael will hear confessions after Mass on these two evenings.



St. Mark Library Reading Contest

Don't forget our library reading contest!

Draw to take place in February.

Ask Bookstall staff for prize details.

Suggested children's book for this month:

The Bronze Bow

Suggested adult book for this month:

Essential Catholic Survival Guide

DECEMBER 18, 2016

Christmas Schedule 2016



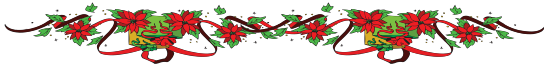
CHRISTMAS MASSES

Saturday, December 24, 2016

- ◆ 4:30 pm Caroling (Voices of Praise)
- ◆ 5:00 pm Family Mass
- ◆ 7:30 pm Family Mass
- ◆ 9:30 pm Caroling (St. Mark's Choir)
- ◆ 10:00 pm Mass

Sunday, December 25, 2016

- ◆ 9:00 am, 11:00 am and 12:30 pm



MARY MOTHER OF GOD SOLEMNITY (NEW YEAR)

Saturday, December 31, 2016

- ◆ 5:00 pm Vigil Mass

Sunday, January 1, 2017

- ◆ 9:00 am, 11:00 am and 12:30 pm

FORMED™

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Access code to be distributed Christmas weekend

FORMED™ is a faith formation tool for parishes that connects Catholics to the best teaching, videos, audio, and eBooks to deepen their relationship with Christ and His Church. **Anytime. Anywhere. On Any Device.**



Thank you!

Thank you to all of the ladies who helped clean the Church in preparation for Christmas: **Meg Bodnar, Cellie Canaan, Navis Cruzada, Dot Gourley, Jodi Harker, Natalia Horscroft, Sylvia Usling and Jeri-Lynn Vogan**

2016 Tax Receipts

The books will be closed for 2016 donations on Monday, December 26th, 2016

Any donations you wish to make for 2016 must be received by this date. Anything after this date will apply to the 2017 year. Your name and address will appear exactly as it does on your offertory donation box. If there are any changes, please contact the office before December 19th.

Alpha

Alpha is coming January 31, 2017! Watch for upcoming Bulletin and Mass announcements.

New Foundations CD

LOOKING FOR CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS?

Give the gift of Sacred Music!

PLEASE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT ST. MARK'S MUSIC MINISTRY "NEW FOUNDATIONS CD" FOR THE CHURCH EXPANSION PROJECT.



GREAT NEWS! We have sold over 200 CD'S in 2 weekends. CD's are available for purchase at the Book Stall after all masses or at the Parish Office. Price \$20/each. Net proceeds will go to our church expansion project.

For more information

ContactUs@NewFoundationsCDStMarksStouffville.com
OR EugenieVLandry@rogers.com.

Church Office Holiday Hours

December 26, 27 and 30 Closed

December 28 and 29 Open from 9 am to 12 pm

January 2nd Closed



Catholic Corner

Do you have an URGENT prayer request?

Life is not always easy and we all run across some serious problems that we want our Lord to miraculously answer.

Have you considered praying a Novena?

A Novena is a prayer that is said over 9 consecutive days with the purpose of obtaining a special favour from heaven. Some Novenas have one prayer that is said for 9 consecutive days while other Novenas have a different prayer for each of the 9 consecutive days.

So why the 9 days? In Acts 1 & 2, when Jesus left his mother and the apostles and made his final ascension into heaven, the apostles and the Virgin Mary waited expectantly, fasted, and prayed for 9 days until the Holy Spirit came at Pentecost in a very powerful way. Thus, when we say a novena we follow their example and wait expectantly and pray for the consecutive 9 days.

Have a serious need...there is a novena for you!!

There are a few hundred different types of Novenas. The Saints all have specific patronages. If you're pregnant, ill, missing an item, lost a loved one, have mental illness or a sickness, or you or a loved one faces drug addiction....there is a Novena for you. We also have more general novenas to

Our Lady and Jesus available at St. Mark's bookstall for \$3.00 or you can find a specific novena online.

Recording your Novena Requests


In a little book, you can keep a list of all the petitions you've made and how they have been granted as well as the unexpected favours received...this allows you to look back and remember Our Lord's faithfulness and help in times of need. It's also an encouragement in the times of waiting to see how God has provided in the past.

Moving??? Please inform the Parish Office.

This will help us keep parish databases up to date and reduce future costs and administrative effort.

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