



St. Mark's Roman Catholic Church

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

Tel. no.: 905-640-6954

Email: stmarkschurch@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.
Emy Lomibao-de Asis-Friday Asst.
Lad Mehes - Custodian

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday - Friday
9 am - 3:30 pm
Closed for lunch 12-1pm
JULY & AUGUST
9 am - 12 noon
CLOSED MONDAYS

WINTER SCHEDULE

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday & Friday - 7:00 pm
Wed. & Thurs. - 8:30 am
Saturday - 9:00 am
Statutory Holidays - 9:00 am
Weekday Solemnities - 7:30 pm only

SUNDAY EUCHARIST

Saturday - 5:00 pm
Sunday - 9:00 am
-11:00 am
-12:30 pm

FIRST FRIDAY

Holy Hour, Adoration &
Benediction
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

RECONCILIATION

Saturday - 4:00 - 4:45 pm
(or by appointment)

DEVOTIONS

Recitation of the Rosary
(Tues., Wed. & Thurs. before
Mass)

**Mother of Perpetual Help
Novena**

(Tuesday Evening Mass)

Divine Mercy

(Before Friday pm Mass)

St. Therese of Lisieux Novena
(Saturday Morning Mass)

BAPTISM

Please pick up a Baptismal Package from the foyer of the Church. Upon submission of the "Request for Baptism" form, please allow for up to 3 months for an anticipated Baptismal date given only after the parents attend the Preparation Class. This time delay is because of the very large number of baptisms and because we limit the number attending the bi-monthly classes and celebrations to six families, to preserve the dignity of the celebration.

MARRIAGE

Couples must contact the parish **one year in advance**. If either party has previously gone through any form of civil or religious marriage no date may be set until the Bishop's office has been consulted.

NEW PARISHIONERS

Welcome to all new parishioners. We encourage you to register using the Registration Forms available from the foyer.

COMMUNION FOR THE

SICK AND HOUSE-

BOUND

Please call the Parish Office to arrange.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the Parish Office.

MEMORIAL MASS POLICY

Please see website for policy explanation.

PARISH MINISTRIES

Altar Servers
Altar Society
Children's Liturgy
Counter's Ministry
Eucharistic Ministers
Finance Committee
Funeral Luncheon Committee
Knights of Columbus
Lectors
Ministry of Hospitality
Parish Council
Parish Music Ministry
Prayer Group
Sacramental Preparation
Squires
St. Vincent de Paul Society
Women's Ministry
Youth Ministry

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CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

St. Mark's School
333 Glad Park Ave.
T: 905-640-2915

St. Brendan's School
751 Hoover Park Dr.
T: 905-642-6728

St. Brigid's School
223 Millard St.
T: 905-642-5100

VOCATIONS TORONTO

Serra House
T: 416-968-0997
W: vocationstoronto.ca

ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO

T: 416-934-0606
W: archtoronto.org

PASTORAL REFERENCE LETTERS FOR SCHOOL

As evidence of living one's faith the person requesting a reference must be registered for at least 12 months and genuinely trying to attend Mass every Sunday, as well as supporting the Church, its charities and mission work. Must also have recently volunteered as a Parish Catechist!

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Mass Intentions For The Week

Tuesday, December 16th @ 7:00 pm

† Marg Sunnucks req. by Fr. Michael
Intentions of Phyllis Casados req. by
Lynn Sullivan

† Francisco Lomibao req. by Emy
Lomibao-de Asis
Intentions of Grace Ginatolli req. by
Phyllis Casados

Wednesday, December 17th @ 8:30 am

† Joseph Lobo req. by Jerome Lobo

Thursday, December 18th @ 8:30 am

Santan and Margaret Lebo req. by
Fr. Michael

Friday, December 19th @ 7:00 pm

† Paul MacDonald req. by Marion
MacDonald

Saturday, December 20th @ 9:00 am

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

† Maude Stapley req. by St. Mark Choir

† Angela Bramson req. by Mary Pescador
@ 5:00 pm

† Vincent Quinn req. by Quinn Family

Sunday, December 21st @ 9:00 am

† Matthew Benincasa req. by Emilio and
Mary Benincasa

@ 11:00 am

St. Mark Community req. by Fr. Michael

@ 12:30 pm

† Vincenzo Turco req. by Franca Turco and
Family

Vocations

There was a man named John, sent by God, who came as a witness to testify to the Light, so that through this person all people might believe. Is it possible God could be calling your name to witness to the Light of Christ in our day? If you think God is calling you to a Church vocation, **contact Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director at 416-968-0997** or by email at vocations@archtoronto.org.

Pray For The Sick

Beverly Semon, Darrel Boddington, Lynda Ticknor,
Debbie Beauchamp & Douglas Ciceri Sr.

Pray For The Recently Deceased

Otto Erkinger and Cahal Stewart

Christmas Schedule 2014



CHRISTMAS MASSES

Wednesday, December 24, 2014

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

Thursday, December 25, 2014

- ◆ 10:00 am and 12:00 noon



MARY MOTHER OF GOD SOLEMNITY (NEW YEAR)

Wednesday, December 31, 2014

- ◆ 5:00 pm Vigil Mass
- ◆ 11:00 pm Holy Hour
- ◆ 12:00 Midnight Mass

Thursday, January 1, 2014

- ◆ 10:00 am
- ◆ 12:00 noon

Sunday Missals

The 2015 Sunday Missals are available
in the foyer of the church for \$5.

We Belong To God

You and I are called to BELONG to Jesus Christ by making a concrete commitment/renewing our commitment to Jesus as our personal Saviour!

Experience more at our website:

<http://stmarkstouffville.ca> under the heading
"I BELONG" or e-mail: stmarkibelong@bellnet.ca

2013 Tax Receipts

The books will be closed for 2014 donations on
Monday, December 29th, 2014

Any donations you wish to make for 2014 must be received by this date. Anything after this date will apply to the 2015 year. Your name and address will appear exactly as it does on your offertory donation box. If there are any changes to be made, please contact the office before December 20th.

Holiday Office Closures

The Parish Office will be closed beginning Wednesday, December 24th at noon and will re-open on Tuesday, December 30th. It will be closed again from Wednesday, December 31st at noon until January 2nd.

DECEMBER 14, 2014

Light Up the Tree of Life

December

Christmas is fast approaching, and as is tradition, the St. Mark Squires will be conducting their Light Up the Tree of Life Advent Fundraiser. In the foyer, the Squires have set up a tree. We invite all parishioners to select one or more of the candle tags that have suggested items for babies and their young mothers (ex. diapers, baby clothes etc.) **By the December 20/21st weekend, we ask that you bring what is written on the tag and drop it off underneath the tree.** You can then hang the candle tag on the tree to help light up the "Tree of Life." All donations support the Rose of Sharon. Thank You - St. Mark Squire Circle 5486

The Flame of Love Prayer Group

December 16th at 3 pm

Pray with us each Tuesday at 3:00 pm in St. Anne's Room. Meditated rosary and other prayers for the salvation of souls. For more information, please **contact Jeanette Woodley at 905-640-7884.**

Youth Ministry Night

December 19th

Please note that due to the holidays the next Youth Ministry Night for high school aged youth has been moved to **Friday, December 19th after the 7 pm mass.**

Pray Out the Old Year Pray in the New Year

December 31st 11 pm

St. Mark's Parish will host a Holy Hour for the last hour of 2014. We will then commence the New Year celebrating the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Mark the date on your calendar and start the New Year with Jesus by your side.

Steubenville Youth Conference

August 7 - 9, 2015

The Steubenville Conference will be returning to Toronto from August 7 - 9, 2015. Youth who will be in Grade 9 in September 2015 up to those who will be graduating high school by the end of 2015 can attend this exciting conference. **Registration forms can be found in the church foyer.** A non-refundable deposit of \$50 must be paid when booking a spot. Please visit the website www.steubenvilletoronto.com for further details.

Financial Feasibility Executive Study Report

To see a copy of the recently released Church Building Expansion, Financial Feasibility Executive Study Report produced by the fundraising firm, M&M International, please see our parish website at www.stmarkstouffville.ca under the Church Expansion heading.

Pulpit Announcements

To arrange for your Ministry Group to make an announcement after Mass, please contact the church office **at least two weeks in advance.**

Pastor's Corner

Let us call it that for now. **And why** a Pastor's Corner – A stolen idea, I admit, to facilitate a more personal ongoing communication with you. We have just celebrated the Second Sunday of Advent – some might be wondering where are the Christmas decorations and why are they going up so slowly? The answer is because we are in Advent. We know our world is driven by a different spirit that would grant a day to Christmas for commercial motivations. Yet Christmas is a joyful season of celebration as is fitting for one of the greatest events of human salvation history – **the birth of God's Son, Jesus, Our Saviour** – and so a day could never be enough! – or even a triduum or a novena of days. Twelve Days of Christmas it is! This present season, Advent, is one of preparation, especially Spiritual preparation and waiting, praying that Christ's birth and reign will take greater effect in our lives and avoiding the cultural pressure to reduce humans to mere consumers. And this waiting has a very special role to play in our Spiritual psychology and the joy that follows.



**Come Lord Jesus!
Wishing you a Blessed Advent!
Fr. Michael**



Before concluding a special word of sincere thanks to **Eugenie Villanueva-Landry and her key assistants – Elena Medina and Connie Quadrini** - for organizing the Christmas Pageant and to the families and parents who supported the beautiful celebration and made it all possible.

York Catholic District School Board

The York Catholic District School Board has launched a new Multi-Year Strategic Plan; The Board has introduced a new Mission, Vision, Core Values and Strategic Commitments. For more information about the Multi-Year Strategic Plan, the Board's commitment to Catholic Education, as well as the Board's priorities and direction for the future, please visit www.ycdsb.ca/strategicplan/

Many Thanks To Our Parishioners

We would like to sincerely thank the following people.

- **Sandro Velocci** for cleaning all of the church carpets
- **Jodi Harker, Mary Comeau, Jeri-Lyn Vogan, Susan Logan, Bernice van Herpt, Susan Dizon, Dot Gourley, Angela Contreras, Cellie Canaon, Anna Marie Pierotti and Claire** who did a wonderful job of cleaning the Church in preparation for Christmas.
- **Francis Kelly** for installing the outdoor Christmas Lights.
- **Eugenie Villanueva-Landry and her team of volunteers** for organizing the beautiful Christmas Pageant.

May God bless you all!

Thank You For Your Generosity

**Weekly Offering \$ 6,214
Saint Vincent de Paul \$ 4,127**

Please note the funds will go to SVDP Society but the donation will be included in your yearly church tax receipt.

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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