

St. Mark Roman Catholic Parish

55 Driftwood Drive, Kitchener, Ontario N2N 3A2 • 519-571-9200 • www.stmarkcatholicparish.org

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Stephen Murrin – *Pastor*

Rev. Mr. Philip Fernandez – *Deacon*

Mrs. Pam Olinski – *Secretary*

The Parish Office is open by appointment only.

Please call or email ahead to schedule your visit.

LORD'S DAY MASSES

Saturday at 5:00 PM

Sunday at 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM

No Children's Liturgy of the Word until further notice.

WEEKDAY MASS

Wednesday 12:00 NOON

followed by Adoration and Benediction

CONFESSIONS

Saturday at 4:15 PM or by appointment.

BLESSED SACRAMENT ADORATION CHAPEL

Closed until further notice.

PANDEMIC PROTOCOL

Seating capacity in the church is restricted to 30%. Doors open 30 minutes before Mass. Seating will be first come, first served. Under the Ontario guidelines, we ask that:

- all who are not feeling well, or have an elevated temperature, please stay home.
- when you visit the church you wear a face covering over your nose, mouth, and chin. Required by the Face Covering By-law 20-035.
- you practice generous social distancing (minimum 6 ft.) and follow the signs and ushers' directions.
- that you use your washroom before coming to church.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We invite you to become a registered parishioner. Please fill out a form from the church lobby and drop it in the collection basket or at the parish office. Please call if you would like Father to bless your home.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES / PRE-AUTHORIZED DEBIT

To receive an annual tax receipt for your donations you are encouraged to use offertory envelopes and/or to enroll in our monthly debit plan. Offertory envelopes can be requested by filling out a parish registration form, or if you are already registered, simply call the office to request a box. Debit plan enrollment forms are available in the church lobby.

BAPTISM

Baptisms are celebrated during Sunday Mass. Two months' notice is required. Please pick up a baptism form in the church lobby, introduce yourself to Father after Mass and give him your completed form at that time. Dates for preparation and the baptism will be confirmed by the parish office only after you have met with Father.

MARRIAGE

At least 6 months' notice is required. Please introduce yourselves to Father after Mass to set up an appointment.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK / HOSPITAL VISITATION

If you or someone you know is in need of the Sacrament of the Sick, please call the parish office or see Father after Mass. Please advise the office of hospital admissions to request Anointing or a pastoral visit.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Call 519-571-8485 for information on food distribution.



"... The seed is sprouting and growing ..." (Mark 4:27)

MASS INTENTION REQUEST FORM

To have a Mass celebrated for a living or deceased loved one, please fill out this request form, place it in a plain envelope marked "Mass Intention," and drop it in the Sunday collection, or drop it in the mail. Your intention will be printed in the bulletin and announced at Mass.

If you require a Mass card please call the parish office to make pick-up arrangements.

The offering (stipend) for a Mass Intention is \$10 per Mass.

I would like to have _____ Mass(es) celebrated for
HOW MANY?

the intentions of (living) **OR** the repose of the soul of (deceased)

NAME OF LIVING OR DECEASED PERSON(S)

Please choose your preferred way of setting the date for this Mass:

The date of the Mass does not matter.

OR

I would like the Mass to be on this specific date*: _____

**Please submit requests as far in advance as possible to reserve preferred dates.*

Sunday Masses may only be requested twice per year.

All other requests will be satisfied on weekdays.

Requested by: _____

Daytime Phone # or email: _____

We will attempt to contact you if we are unable to accommodate your request.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Church doors are open 30 minutes before the start of Mass, and seating is restricted to **15% capacity** (first come first seated) until further notice.

Mass Intentions for the Week



April 12 - 18, 2021

Wednesday, April 14

12 Noon + Martin Abu – St. Mark Parish

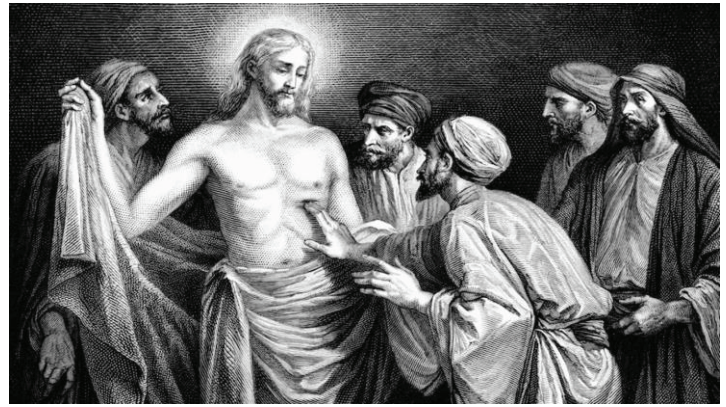
3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER - April 17/18

Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; 1 John 2:1-5a; Luke 24:35-48

Sat. 5:00 PM + Michael Foldvari – St. Mark Parish

Sun. 9:30 am + Mehdi Salehoun – Marc Murchie

11:30 am – Intentions of the Parishioners of St. Mark



Today's reading from the Gospel of John is proclaimed on the Second Sunday of Easter in each of the lectionary cycles. This fact alone should alert us to the significance of the encounters with the resurrected Jesus that are described in this reading. This Gospel combines two scenes: Jesus' appearance to his disciples after his Resurrection and Jesus' dialogue with Thomas, the disciple who doubted.

Part of the mystery of Jesus' Resurrection is that he appeared to his disciples not as a spirit, but in bodily form. We do not know, however, exactly what this form looked like. Earlier in John's Gospel, when Mary of Magdala first encountered the risen Jesus, she did not recognize him until he spoke to her. In Luke's Gospel, the disciples walking along the road to Emmaus did not recognize Jesus until he broke bread with them. We know from readings such as today's that in his resurrected form, Jesus was not bound by matter; he appeared to the disciples inside a home even though the door was locked. Yet the disciples could still touch the marks of his Crucifixion.

In today's Gospel, Jesus greets his disciples with the gift of peace. Jesus then commissions his disciples to continue the work that he has begun; as Jesus was sent by God, so Jesus sends his disciples. He gives his disciples the gift of the Holy Spirit so that they will be able to accomplish this task. Jesus' words to his disciples also highlight the integral connection between the forgiveness of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit. With the grace of the Holy Spirit, we can share forgiveness and reconciliation with others.

Thomas, the doubting disciple in today's reading, represents the reality of the Church that comes after this first community of witnesses to Jesus. All but the first disciples of Jesus must believe without seeing. Like Thomas, we may doubt the news that Jesus, who was crucified and buried, appeared to his disciples. Our human nature seeks hard evidence that the Jesus who appeared to his disciples after his death is indeed the same Jesus who was crucified. Thomas is given the opportunity to be our representative in obtaining this evidence. He gives witness to us that the Jesus who was raised is the same Jesus who died. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, we are among those who are blessed, for we have not seen and yet believe. ■

CHURCHES REMAIN OPEN AT 15% CAPACITY

(updated April 8, 2021)

Under ONTARIO REGULATION 11/21, section 3 religious gatherings are allowed and residents of Ontario may leave their homes to attend religious gatherings. "Attending a gathering for the purpose of a wedding, a funeral or a religious service, rite or ceremony that is permitted under the Stage 1 Order or making necessary arrangements for the purpose of such a gathering".

Therefore within the Diocese of Hamilton, religious services, weddings and funerals are allowed but are restricted to 15% capacity of the room.

Sacramental Preparation

Those who have registered their child to receive their **First Communion** should have received an email this past week concerning the preparation and celebration of the sacraments. If you did not receive it, please contact the parish office. Those who have registered for the sacrament of **Confirmation** will receive an email within the next couple of weeks concerning the same.

C.W.L. Membership Dues

If you haven't had the opportunity to submit your membership dues for 2021, there is still time. You can either drop it into the collection basket at the church, or mail it to the church. No change to the cost from last year (\$30) and cheques can be made to St. Mark's C.W.L. Cash is also accepted.



Liturgical Ministers

April 17-18	5:00 PM	9:30 AM	11:30 AM
Reader:	D. Behl	T. Lee	R. Kubica
Ushers:	P. Fernandez, E. Miller, C. Weber, S. Morgan	J./K. Snyder, L. Koehler, M. Walser	B./C. Voisin, I. Kangaloo, E. Weiss
Eucharistic Ministers:	A. Joseph, G. Kubisewsky	T./K. Boettger	D. Seymour-Weber, B. Denomme

Today is Divine Mercy Sunday

APRIL 11, 2021 – SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER



Celebrating God's Merciful Love

In the Jubilee Year 2000, Pope John Paul II proclaimed that from that year forward the Second Sunday of Easter would be celebrated as Divine Mercy Sunday. This was proclaimed at the Canonization Mass of St. Faustina Kawalska, who worked throughout her life to make all aware of the merciful love of God. St. Faustina (1905–1938) was born and raised in Poland. Following a vocation to religious life, she was accepted by the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy. As a member of the Congregation, she worked as a cook, gardener, and porter. In her spiritual life, her contemplation on the Mercy of God led her to develop a childlike trust in God and deep love for her neighbor.

In her years in the convent, St. Faustina heard a call from God to make God's mercy known to the world so that the world may more fully receive God's healing grace. St. Faustina promoted the Chaplet of Divine Mercy which consists of the recitation of prayers to the Eternal Father with the use of the rosary for the sake of Christ's sorrowful passion.

The Chaplet is prayed as follows:

- 1** Begin with the Sign of the Cross, one Our Father, one Hail Mary, and the Apostles' Creed.
- 2** On the Our Father beads, recite the following:
"Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of your dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world."
- 3** On the ten Hail Mary beads, say the following:
"For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world."
- 4** Repeat steps two and three for all five decades of the rosary.
- 5** Conclude by reciting three times:
"Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world."

When celebrating Divine Mercy Sunday, the faithful are called to reflect more personally on the graces won through the life, death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. In this way their hearts may be more fully aware of the mercy of God for them personally and for the sake of the world.

Absolution – The full text of the absolution given by the priest is:
"God, the Father of mercies, through the death and resurrection of his Son has reconciled the world to himself and sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins; through the ministry of the Church may God give you pardon and peace, and I absolve you from your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." **Included in this text are several important messages:**

1. Forgiveness comes from the mercy of God.
2. Reconciliation takes place through the death and resurrection of Jesus.
3. The presence of the Holy Spirit among us is a sign of God's forgiveness.
4. The Church plays a role in the extension of God's forgiveness to us.
5. The priest acts as judge of the person's sincerity in seeking forgiveness.
6. Forgiveness is granted in the name of the three persons of the Trinity.

Next month, April 25th observes the feast day of our patron, Saint Mark. But just who is our patron saint?



4th Installment – St. Mark Parish Motto

The gospels of St. Mark, St. Matthew and St. Luke record many of the same incidents in the mission of Jesus and repeat some of the same teaching parables He used. For example, everyone is familiar with the parable of the seed scattered by the sower landing on different soils and yielding various success.

But there is another unique Markan 'scattered seed' story which has yielded our parish motto: The "... seed is sprouting and growing". [Mk. 4:27]. *[Jesus] said, "This is how it is with the Kingdom of God: it is as if a man were to scatter seed on the land and would sleep and rise night and day and the seed would sprout and grow, he knows not how. Of its own accord the land yields fruit, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the grain is ripe, he wields the sickle at once, for the harvest has come."* [Mk. 4:26-29]

The apostles did not understand this parable at the time; the sower does not understand how the growth occurs; the teacher does not know how the teaching creates spiritual growth in the listeners. Scholars explain that Jesus is saying God holds many mysteries which He will reveal at the appropriate time and He hints at the coming of the Holy Spirit who will reveal truths, including Jesus is the Messiah, that He will die to redeem sinners, and that His salvation will be for Gentiles as well as Jews.

The oldest and shortest of the four gospels, St. Mark's emphasizes Jesus' rejection by humanity while being God's triumphant envoy. Mark's gospel is the gradual manifestation of a 'scandal': a crucified Messiah.

MORE TO COME NEXT WEEK!



St. Dominic Savio Kindergarten Registration for the 2021-2022 school year is now open.

Children born in 2017 are eligible for JK/Year 1 Kindergarten. Children born in 2017 are eligible for SK/Year 2 Kindergarten (If your child is already a student at St. Dom's you do not re-register). Please visit:

Entering Kindergarten: <https://www.wcdsb.ca/our-schools/register-for-school/entering-kindergarten/> to register for JK or SK at St. Dominic Savio! Once you have completed your online registration (or paper copy), please contact the school at 519-576-5503 to book your appointment to finish your registration. We will be preparing next year's homerooms shortly!





528 Victoria St. N., beside Weston's Bakery
519-745-6136



Delicious Food • Excellent Service
Guaranteed Satisfaction
Catering for all occasions for over 35 years.

Let us serve you today!
519-578-1030



Shopping Locally Saves Gas!



2M Taylor

Alterations & Tailoring
for men, women & children
Custom Tailoring
519.578.6054
milicabojo@hotmail.com

Call
1-800-268-2637
for this space

We  our
Residents™
Lanark Village

Something for Everyone...

*Independent Living &
Full Service. Call us today
for a personal visit & lunch.*

44 Lanark Cres.
519-743-0121

**THE PERFECT SPOT
TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS!**



**TO ADVERTISE IN THIS SPACE PLEASE CALL
1-800-268-2637**



FAMILY FUNERAL HOME
Family Owned Since 1946
171 King St. S. Waterloo
519.745.8445
www.erbgood.com

Remember...

Let our advertisers know
you saw their ad here.



**Shop LOCAL • Spend LOCAL
Eat LOCAL • Enjoy LOCAL**

*and support the local businesses
that support your parish*



AN INDEPENDENT FAMILY -
OWNED FUNERAL HOME
507 FREDERICK ST. (at expressway)
519-749-8467



REITZEL HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

665 Superior Drive, Waterloo, Ont N2V 2C8 **519-884-3510**

- Commercial • Radiant Heaters
- Industrial • Gas Furnaces
- Residential • Air Conditioning