

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.

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Mass Intentions for the Week



April 19 - 25, 2021

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.

Wednesday, April 21

12 Noon + Loretta Catherine O'Brien – Gil & Doreen Swant

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER - April 24/25

Acts 4:7-12; 1 John 3:1-2; John 10:11-18

Sat. 5:00 PM + Angemiro Correia – Nicolina Correia

Sun. 9:30 am – Intentions of the Parishioners of St. Mark

11:30 am + Jose Antonio Antero Correia – Nicolina Correia

The Sanctuary Lamp burns this week for:
A Private Intention

In our church, two sanctuary lamps continuously burn on either side of the tabernacle, to signify the Real Presence of Jesus.

You may now request to have one or both lamps burn for a special intention or for the repose of someone's soul.



Public intentions will be published each week in the bulletin; private intentions will appear as you see above.

Requests will be received by the parish office in much the same way you would request a Mass Intention – please write “Sanctuary Lamp” on a plain envelope, insert \$5 for one candle or \$10 for both candles. Include your intention, and whether or not you would like it published or private.

Requests can be dropped in the collection or slipped under the office door, or mailed.

April is the month in the church dedicated to the Holy Eucharist

Act of Spiritual Communion: My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

CHURCHES REMAIN OPEN AT 15% CAPACITY

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.

Pre-Authorized Giving -- Since the Fall of 2015, our Parish has been offering pre-authorized giving as an option to parishioners. Pre-authorized giving allows you to give to the parish intentionally and faithfully through scheduled monthly transfers from your bank account. It helps to ensure regular, dependable contributions to the parish. Even more importantly, it affords an opportunity to reflect on all that God has given you, and prayerfully decide how much of this you will return to God through your offering to the parish. For more information or to enroll, please contact the parish office at stmark@rogers.com.



On the third Sunday of Easter, we continue to hear Gospel accounts of Jesus' appearances to his disciples following his Resurrection. Today's reading, taken from the Gospel of Luke, follows immediately after the report of Jesus' appearance to his disciples on the road to Emmaus. This is the event being recounted by the disciples in the opening verse of today's Gospel.

Consistently in the reports of Jesus' post-Resurrection appearances, Jesus greets his disciples with the words, “Peace be with you.” This is a most appropriate greeting. The disciples have witnessed the death of someone they loved, and they now fear for their own lives as well. Peace is what they need more than anything else. Jesus often connects this greeting of peace with another gift—forgiveness. In today's Gospel, this connection is made in the final verses.

Even as they hear Jesus' greeting of peace, the disciples are startled and terrified. They are uncertain about what to make of the figure before them and, quite understandably, they mistake Jesus for a ghost. Yet the figure before them is not a ghost; Jesus invites them to experience his resurrected body with their senses, to look and to touch. The figure before them is flesh and bone, still bearing the marks of crucifixion. Although the disciples cannot forget his suffering and death, peace begins to take root in their hearts, as their fears turn to joy and amazement.

As further proof of his identity and of his resurrected body, Jesus eats with his disciples. The disciples have known Jesus best through the meals that he has shared with them. Descriptions of these meals are a defining element of Luke's Gospel. By eating with his disciples after his Resurrection, Jesus recalls all these meals, and most importantly, he recalls the Last Supper.

Luke's report of the Last Supper and the meals that Jesus shared after his Resurrection unveil for us the significance of the Eucharist. Having shared a meal with his disciples, Jesus now uncovers for them the significance of what was written about him in the Scriptures. So, too, our celebration of the Mass is an encounter with Jesus, through the Word and the Sacrament of the Eucharist. As Jesus commissions his disciples to be witnesses to what Scriptures foretold, our celebration of the Eucharist commissions us. Like the disciples, we are sent to announce the good news of Jesus' forgiveness of sins. ■

Liturgical Ministers

April 24-25	5:00 PM	9:30 AM	11:30 AM
Reader:	K. Krigner	T. Germann	S. Roma
Ushers:	J./G. Morgan, C. Weber, B. Benner	I./D. Culley, P. Drohan, T. Lee	T./K. Boettger, J. Smith, D. Feick
Eucharistic Ministers:	H. Psutka, J. Swartz	G. Kubisewsky, M. Walsler	F. Kangaloo, E. Weiss

THE HOLY FATHER'S MONTHLY INTENTION

Each year, the Holy Father asks for our prayers for a specific intention each month. You are invited to answer the Holy Father's request and to join with many people worldwide in praying for this intention each month. **This month is for Fundamental Rights**, specifically, "We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis."



Thank you

Many thanks to all who donated toward this year's Easter flowers, and helped to make the church look festive for the Easter Season.

C.W.L. Membership Dues

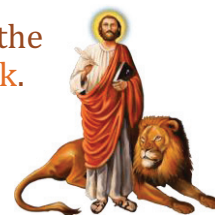
If you haven't had the opportunity to submit your membership dues for 2021, there is still time. You can either drop it into the collection basket at the church, or mail it to the church. No change to the cost from last year (\$30) and cheques can be made to St. Mark's C.W.L. Cash is also accepted.



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 2016 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!

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



Fifth and Final Installment

Perhaps the most significant teaching of St. Mark's gospel is his identification of Jesus' Way as being the Way of Discipleship which necessarily involves sacrifice, suffering and even death. The apostles often missed this point as do we, but St. Mark chooses never to mention the cross without linking it to suffering rather than to glory. St. Mark's Jesus is reluctant to reveal Himself as the Messiah. He refers to himself only as the "Son of Man." He resists the "Son of God" identity during His mission and 'while tacitly acknowledging St. Peter's declaration that Jesus is the Christ' [Mk.8:29] He warns the apostles not to reveal this identity.

Secrecy is a regular device used by St. Mark with curious results. People who are told *not to tell* often do just that. At the beginning of His mission, after cleansing a leper, Jesus says to him "*See that you tell no one anything... The man went away and began to publicise the whole matter. He spread the report abroad so that it was impossible for Jesus to enter any town openly.*" [MK. 1:43-45]

At times just the reverse happens. People who are told to spread the word do not do so. The angel at the tomb says to the women who arrived there searching to anoint Jesus' body, "*You seek Jesus of Nazareth, the crucified. He is not here. Behold the place where they laid him. But go and tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going before you to Galilee; there you will see Him as He told you.'* Then they went out and fled from the tomb, seized with trembling and bewilderment. They said nothing to anyone for they were afraid." [MK. 16:6-8]

For St. Mark, Jesus' Way is not the Way of Glory. St. Mark's Jesus makes no 'superstar' claims.

St. Mark's dates are usually given as: born in Cyrene, North Africa [now Libya] in 5 AD; died at Alexandria, Egypt, aged 62/63. His writing is usually dated between 65-75 CE and was probably written for gentile hearers in Rome [remember his translations of Aramaic and the explanation of Jewish customs for their benefit - Mk 5:41; 15:34; 14, 36, 7:34].

His major shrines are St. Mark's Basilica in Venice, Italy, and St. Mark's [Coptic Orthodox] Cathedral in Cairo, Egypt. His feast day, celebrated by Roman Catholics, is April 25, this year, for us falling next Sunday.

* * *

N.B. - CE Common Era dates are equivalent to AD; BC Before Christ; AD Anno Domine - Year of the Lord.

Sources: *Losing the Lion* - Leroy A Huizenga; *Destroying Jerusalem* - Wilhelm von Kaulbach; *The Catholic Study Bible* - 1990 Oxford University Press; *The Ecclesiastical History of the English People* - the Venerable Bede; BibleRef.com; Britannica.com; www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-mark.

For more information, go to: https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=305



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