

# St. Mark Roman Catholic Parish

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

## PARISH STAFF

Rev. Roque Concepcion – *Pastor*  
Rev. Mr. Philip Fernandez – *Deacon*  
Mrs. Pam Olinski – *Parish Secretary*

## LORD'S DAY MASSES

Saturday 5:00 PM  
Sunday 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM

## WEEKDAY MASS

Tuesday - Friday 12:00 NOON  
First Saturday of the Month 9:00 AM

## CONFESSIONS

Wednesdays & First Fridays 11:00 - 11:45 AM  
Saturdays 4:15 - 4:45 PM or by appointment

## 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. A date for 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 start the process.

## **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.

## **PARISH SCHOOLS**

### **St. Dominic Savio Catholic Elementary School**

Principal: *Marylin Dawson*  
3 Westforest Trail 519-576-5503

### **St. Mark Catholic Elementary School**

Principal: *Gary Lankowski*  
240 Autumn Hill Crescent 519-743-4682

### **Resurrection Catholic Secondary School**

Principal: *Marisa Munroe*  
455 University Avenue West 519-741-1990



*“... 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 and your name will appear in the bulletin, and will be announced during Mass.

**If you require a Mass card** please call or email 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 several weeks in advance 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 ADVENT

### Mass Intentions for the Week



Dec. 12 – 18, 2022

**Tuesday** (MEMORIAL – ST. LUCY)

12 Noon - Int. of Marilyn Dufresne

**Wednesday** (MEMORIAL – ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS)

12 Noon – Int. of Bianca Norte – *Sugar & Boyet Norte*

**Thursday** (FERIAL)

12 Noon + George Brezina – *Brian & Marie Lynch*

7:00 PM - ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE (with multiple priests)

**Friday** (FERIAL)

12 Noon + Albert & Theresa Prince – *Margaret Gregg*

7:00 PM - Filipino Traditional Mass Before Christmas

+ Glenn John Nemenzo – *Brian & Sharon Garrucho*

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT – Dec. 17-18

*Isaiah 7:10-14; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-24*

Sat. 5:00 PM + Soma & Quintus Rodrigo – *Sam Dias*

7:00 PM - Filipino Traditional Mass Before Christmas

Sun. 9:30 am – Int. of Parishioners of St. Mark

11:30 am + Ana & Josip Zunica – *Perham family*

5:00 PM - Filipino Traditional Mass Before Christmas



LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER!

*The Sanctuary Lamps burn this week for:*

† Soma & Quintus Rodrigo

You may request to have one or both lamps burn for a special intention or for the repose of someone's soul. Cost is \$5 per candle, per week. Simply drop a plain envelope marked "Sanctuary Lamp" into the collection and include the stipend and the name of the person(s) you wish to remember.

### NEXT WEEKEND (Dec. 17/18):

#### Sacramental Enrollment for First Communion and Confirmation

If your family missed the Sacramental Enrollment Mass last month, please plan to attend one of the Masses **NEXT WEEKEND** to submit your child's enrollment form for First Communion or Confirmation. Father Roque will call the children up as a group near the end of Mass (please attend whichever Mass time suits your family next weekend). Blank forms along with a letter from Fr. Roque were sent to families of children in grades 2 and 7 via email through the parish schools. Please check your inbox. If you did not receive one, or have children in another school, please contact the parish office a.s.a.p. or pick up a letter and form in the church lobby (on the info wall).



### Christmas Mass Schedule

**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
(SATURDAY, DEC. 24)

6:00 PM

8:00 PM

10:00 PM

**CHRISTMAS DAY**  
(SUNDAY, DEC. 25)

9:30 AM

11:30 AM

Liturgical ministers are asked to please sign-up in the narthex for Christmas & New Year's. Thank you!



The **Third Sunday of Advent** repeats an Isaiah reading from earlier in the week, filled with promise, healing and a hope for our longing: "Then will the lame leap like a stag, then the tongue of the mute will sing.... They will meet with joy and gladness, sorrow and mourning will flee." In **Matthew's Gospel**, John the Baptist hears of Jesus' work and sends a message to his cousin: "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" Jesus replies that his work speaks for itself. "The blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them."

We continue to focus on the first readings in this first part of Advent. From the **Book of Numbers**, we have the proclamation that "a star shall advance from Jacob..." **Zephaniah** is the prophet of impending doom, if the people don't abandon their idolatry. But this week we read about consoling healing, "on that day," when the Lord comes. **Isaiah's** message is full of promise: "Turn to me and be safe ... for I am God; there is no other!" "Fear not, you shall not be put to shame ... with great tenderness I will take you back ... My love shall never leave you."

Gospels are chosen to show Jesus as the fulfillment of these promises: his question to the Pharisees who challenge his authority; the parable of the two sons; the Baptizer's question about whether Jesus is the promised one; the fulfillment Jesus points to; Jesus' praise of John the Baptist; Jesus points to his works as his testimony.

Saturday is December 17th, which begins the second part of Advent. In these last eight days of Advent the focus returns to the gospels with stories from Jesus' family in the time before he was born. In **Matthew's** gospel, we read the genealogy, the list of Jesus' ancestors. Joseph decides to divorce the pregnant Mary until an angel appears to him in a dream, saying, "It is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her."

*~ Used with permission by Online Ministries, Creighton University*

### Filipino Traditional Mass Before Christmas

Dec. 16 & 17 at 7:00 pm – followed by light refreshments

Dec. 18 at 5:00 pm – followed by Pot-Luck supper

**ALL ARE INVITED!**

### CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES across the Diocese

The Diocese of Hamilton has launched a wonderfully convenient webpage: [\(https://crm.hamiltondiocese.com/special-events/\)](https://crm.hamiltondiocese.com/special-events/) which shows the times of Christmas Masses and events in each parish across the diocese – a truly useful tool, especially if you will be visiting another city for the holidays, or know of someone who would like to return to Mass.



## Liturgical Ministers

Dec. 17-18	5:00 PM Mass	9:30 AM Mass	11:30 AM Mass
<b>Altar Servers:</b>	C. Perkovic J./P./V. Miller	E. Burkholder A./D. Jacobs	C. Chacon J./S. Garrucho
<b>Commentator:</b>	A. Fernandez	T. Angel	D. DeSousa
<b>Reader:</b>	D. Behl	J. Flanigan	L. Gimenez
<b>Ushers:</b>	B. Benner E. Miller	I./D. Culley	B./C. Voisin
<b>Eucharistic Ministers:</b>	P. Fernandez H. Psutka	P. Fernandez J. Swartz	P. Fernandez D. Seymour-Weber

**Liturgical ministers are asked to please sign up in the narthex for Christmas & New Year's Masses. Thank you!**

## Christmas Flowers for the Church

For those who wish to donate toward the cost of Christmas flowers, you will find special envelopes in the narthex. Please write the names of your deceased loved ones on the back of the envelope, or include them inside with your donation, then place the envelope in the gift box in the narthex. Mass on Christmas morning will be celebrated for the Rest of the Souls of your deceased loved ones.



## 2023 Offertory Envelopes & Pre-Authorized Debits

**ENVELOPES:** Boxes of Offertory Envelopes will soon be ready for pick up. If your address needs updating, please contact Pam at the office. **Please DO NOT use your 2023 envelopes until January**, as you will have a new I.D. number that isn't linked to you until then. Likewise, please discard any unused 2022 envelopes in the New Year.

**MONTHLY DEBIT PLAN:** If you are enrolled in our pre-authorized debit plan, you will also still receive a box of envelopes in order to donate toward special causes (Christmas, Good Friday, World Missions, St. Vincent de Paul, etc.) so please look for your box in the lobby once they are available.

**If you would like to start using envelopes or enroll in the monthly debit plan** (or wish more information) please pick up a form from the information wall in the narthex, or contact Pam at the office to have one emailed to you.

## COMING SOON: ALPHA 2023

Alpha is back! This 11-week program brings people together for conversations about life, faith and Jesus, helping to answer questions like: Who is Jesus? Why and how do I pray? Does God heal today? More information to come. In the meantime, tell your friends and mark your calendar: **Thursday evenings, February 16 to April 27** from 6:45 to 9:15 p.m.

**BIBLE STUDY... Fridays from 7:00-8:00 p.m. in the St. John Room** -- All are welcome! Please bring your bible and paper and pen. Questions? Please contact Karen at [bkkrieger@rogers.com](mailto:bkkrieger@rogers.com).



**Winter Clothing Drive ...** The Knights are also collecting winter coats, hats, mitts, scarves for the Salvation Army to distribute to those in need. Donations of gently used items can be placed in the bin in the narthex.

**PARKING ON DEC. 16<sup>TH</sup>** -- We will be assisting the House of Friendship with this year's Christmas program by providing the use of our parking lot on December 16<sup>th</sup> for food hamper pick-ups. Entry to the parking lot may be hindered or delayed that day, so please plan accordingly if you plan to attend the 12noon Mass that day.

## C.W.L. News...

**Our Membership Drive continues!** Do you wish you were part of a group that fed mind, body and soul? Do you yearn for a way to 'right' some of the 'wrongs' in today's world? All that and so much more awaits for only \$40 with a membership in the St Mark Catholic Women's League! Gift memberships are also available for a special woman in your life. For more info, please contact Sue Sawchuk, Organization Chair at 519-277-1898 or email [stmarkcwl@gmail.com](mailto:stmarkcwl@gmail.com).



## Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) (AND CATHOLIC FAITH REFRESHER COURSE)

RCIA is a program and faith journey for Adult Baptism, Confirmation, and First Communion. We meet on **Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. in the St. John Room**. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming Catholic, please fill out an RCIA form in the foyer or call Fr. Roque at 519-571-9200 for more details. This is also open to anyone who would like to have a refresher course on the Catholic Faith -- **all are welcome!**

## ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH
Dec. 13	7 pm	St. Joseph
Dec. 14	6 pm	St. Aloysius
Dec. 14	7 pm	St. Boniface (Maryhill)
Dec. 15	7 pm	ST. MARK
Dec. 15	7 pm	St Mary's

DATE	TIME	CHURCH
Dec. 17	4 pm	St. Teresa (Kit.)
Dec. 18	3 pm	Sacred Heart
Dec. 20	8 to 8	St. Michael (Wloo.)
Dec. 21	7 pm	St. Anthony Daniel
Dec. 22	7 pm	Blessed Sacrament

## ❄️ Bulletin Submission Deadlines for the holidays:

<b>Please email articles to the parish office no later than:</b>	For inclusion in the bulletin that will be distributed on:
<b>Mon. Dec. 12 (tomorrow! AM)</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> Sun. of Advent (Dec. 18)
<b>Wed. Dec. 14</b>	Christmas (Dec. 25)
<b>Mon. Dec. 19</b>	New Year's (Jan. 1)

## Christmas Toy Drive

Our K of C council is joining other councils in the Christmas Toy Drive. **Those who wish may drop donations of UNWRAPPED children's gifts into the brown bin in the church narthex.** All toys will be distributed to needy families. Thank you!



**Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes ...** Thank you to everyone who filled Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. Through your generous support 110 shoeboxes will be delivered to needy children in seven different countries around the globe.

**Evenings with His Excellency** -- Auxiliary Bishop Wayne Lobsinger invites everyone to join him for an opportunity to learn more about our Catholic Faith based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Class is the **2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month** from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at St. Ann Parish in Ancaster. **It is also available ONLINE on St. Ann's YouTube channel.** No cost, no homework, just an opportunity to learn about our faith. All are welcome.

**MASKING / FACE COVERING:** Please note that Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health is strongly recommending that Ontarians wear masks in indoor areas of public settings during the current surge in viral illnesses. While there is no mask mandate in the province at this time, we kindly ask everyone to please be considerate of everyone's personal choice.





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