

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. Basil Markides – *Deacon*
Mrs. Pam Olinski – *Secretary*

LORD'S DAY MASSES

Saturday at 5:00 PM
Sunday at 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday 7:00 PM
Wednesday 12:00 NOON
Thursday, Friday 7:00 AM *
Saturday 9:00 AM
(*First Friday 7:00 PM followed by Benediction)

CONFESSIONS

Saturday following 9:00 AM Mass
and 4:15–4:30 PM or by appointment.

BLESSED SACRAMENT ADORATION CHAPEL

Perpetual Adoration – Spots available, please
see chapel bulletin board

Divine Mercy – Sundays 3:00 PM
Our Lady's Rosary – First Saturday at 10 AM

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 – White Box Collection on the last Sunday of the month. 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 slip it under the door of the parish office if it is closed. Your intention will be printed in the bulletin and announced at Mass.

If you require a Mass card please make your request in person at the parish office during business hours, or call the office to make pick-up arrangements.

The offering for a Mass (for living or deceased) 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

The exact date does not matter, but I would prefer it to be on any:

☐ Tues. 7 PM ☐ Wed. 12 NOON ☐ Thur. 7 AM ☐ Fri. 7 AM ☐ Sat. 9 AM
☐ Sat. 5:00 PM ☐ Sunday 9:30 AM ☐ Sunday 11:30 AM

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 ADVENT

Mass Intentions for the Week

Dec. 16 – 22, 2019

Monday – NO MASS

Tuesday (FERIAL)

2:00 PM – Mass at Bankside Terrace

7:00 PM + Joaquina Costa – Fatima Gomes

Wednesday (FERIAL)

12:00 noon + Annette Roussel – Margo Schimus

12:30 PM – 1 hour of Confessions in the Chapel (Fr. Steve)

6:00 PM – 1 hour of Confessions in the Chapel (Fr. Earl Talbot)

Thursday (FERIAL)

7:00 am + Joseph Dias – Agnello & Dolorosa Dias

10:00 am – School Advent Mass with St. Dominic School

3:00 PM – Mass at Forest Heights Long Term Care

7:00 PM – 1 hour of Confessions in the Chapel (Fr. Ray Reitzel)

Friday (FERIAL)

7:00 am – Int. of Gary Lewington – Pam, Adam & Ana

Saturday – NO MORNING MASS OR CONFESSIONS

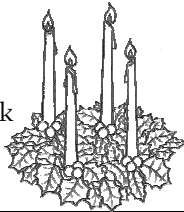
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

Sat. 5:00 PM – Int. of the Parishioners of St. Mark

Sun. 9:30 am + Ron Eagle – Marilyn Dufresne

11:30 am + Olivia Baptista – Jose & family



New Living With Christ Sunday Missals for 2019-2020

\$5 each in the narthex ~ just a few left

Weekly Offertory Report for Dec. 7/8, 2019

	<u>THIS WEEK</u>	<u>YTD - WEEK 49</u>
Offertory Collection:	\$ 4,239.81	\$ 157,039.25
Pre-Authorized Debits:	\$ 1,425.35	\$ 62,452.00
Total Offerings:	\$ 5,665.16	\$ 219,491.25
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>\$ 5,200.00</i>	<i>\$ 249,600.00</i>
<i>Under/Over Budget:</i>	<i>\$ 465.16</i>	<i>(\$35,308.75)</i>

Mortgage Offerings to date this year: \$ 27,056.50

One Heart, One Soul Diocesan Campaign Update

Goal for St. Mark's Parish: \$ 295,000.00

Total pledges raised as of Dec. 6: **\$ 331,441.44**

Your dedicated support is greatly appreciated!

Watch the bulletin for further updates...

Advent Reconciliation Services

Wednesday, Dec. 18 at 7:00 p.m. at:

St. Teresa Church, Elmira

St. Anne Church, Kitchener

Blessed Sacrament Church, Kitchener

Extra Confession Times at St. Mark's

Wednesday, Dec. 18: 12:30 – 1:30 PM & 6:00 – 7:00 PM

Thursday, Dec. 19: 7:00 – 8:00 PM

Meetings & Events This Week:

DATE	TIME	ROOM	EVENT
<u>Mon. Dec. 16</u>	6:00 pm	(M)	Children's Liturgy team meeting
	8:00 pm	(H)	Alcoholics Anonymous
<u>Wed. Dec. 18</u>	6:30 pm	(CH)	9:30 Choir practice
	7:00 pm	(M)	11:30 Choir practice
	7:30 pm	(B)	Women's Prayer Group
<u>Thur. Dec. 19</u>	6:15 pm	(M)	Legion of Mary
	7:00 pm	(H)	C.W.L. General meeting
	7:30 pm	(CH)	5:00 Choir practice
<u>Fri. Dec. 20</u>	6:00 am	(M)	Men's group

Meeting Rooms: B = Basement CH = Church H = Hall * = Offsite
J = St. John Room L = St. Luke Room M = St. Matthew Room

The third Sunday of Advent is traditionally called *Gaudete Sunday*. *Gaudete* is the Latin word meaning "rejoice." This Sunday is so named because "rejoice" is the first word in the entrance antiphon for today's Mass taken from Philippians 4:4,5: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! The Lord is near." Some people mark this Sunday on their Advent wreath with a pink candle instead of a purple candle. This Sunday is a joyful reminder that our salvation is near.

This week's Gospel Reading continues our Advent reflection on the person and message of John the Baptist. Last week we heard John speak about his relationship to the coming Messiah, Jesus. This week, we hear Jesus' message to John the Baptist, now in prison, about the signs of the kingdom found in Jesus' ministry and Jesus' assessment of John's role in the Kingdom of God.

The Gospel of Matthew tells the story of John's arrest in chapter 14:3-12. In today's Gospel, John sends word to Jesus from prison, asking if Jesus is the Messiah for whom he has been waiting. Jesus responds by pointing to the miracles that he has worked and invites John and the other hearers to make their own determination. In his next breath, however, Jesus praises John for his role in preparing the way for Jesus. Then Jesus says that all of those who work for the Kingdom of God will be as great as John and even greater.

Jesus' message to John about the signs of the kingdom being performed recalls the salvation described by the prophet Isaiah. This passage is a reminder that the beginning of salvation is already mysteriously present to us, but also yet to be fulfilled. Salvation is already in our midst as manifest in the miraculous deeds of Jesus and in the Church. But salvation is also to be fulfilled in the coming reign of God. Even as we observe our world today, we can find glimpses of God's work among us. Even more, we help to prepare the way for God's kingdom by our words and our deeds. This message is indeed a cause for rejoicing. ■

Christmas Mass Times at St. Mark's

Christmas Eve - 6:00 PM & 11:00 PM

Christmas Day - 10:00 AM

New Year's Mass Times at St. Mark's

New Year's Eve - 5:00 PM

New Year's Day - 10:00 AM



★ All Liturgical Ministers are reminded to **sign-up for Christmas and New Year's Masses** in the binder on the table in the narthex.

Dec. 21/22	5:00 PM Mass	9:30 AM Mass	11:30 AM Mass
Altar Servers:	V./P./J. Miller G./S. Morgan	E./T./T. Morgan	N./J. D'Souza N./A. Gallagher
Commentator:	B. Crawley	J. Meenan	M. Monte
1 st Reader:	S. Rellinger	D. Cutting	M. Oram
2 nd Reader:		T. Lee	M. Smith
Ushers:	L. Macedo	J. Kelly T./J. Germann	C. Dignam
Gift Bearers:		<i>Children's Liturgy Kids</i>	Coe
Eucharistic Ministers:	A. Bendia C. Dokis G. MacNeil	M. Fernando A. Joseph H. Kress	B. Starr B. Denomme D. S-Weber

Missed the Enrollment Mass? (for Gr. 2's and Gr. 7's)

If you and your child were unable to attend the Enrollment Mass for **First Communion** and **Confirmation** on Dec. 1st, please be sure to have your child submit their enrollment form (along with a photocopy of their baptism certificate) personally to Fr. Steve after any Mass during the month of December. All forms must be submitted to Fr. Steve no later than January 1st.

Diocesan Prayer Calendar

This week, let us pray for...

- Dec. 16 - Rev. Alessandro Tirelli, C.R.S.P.
- Dec. 17 - Rev. Fernando F. Pinto, C.S.Sp.
- Dec. 18 - Youth Ministers
- Dec. 19 - Rev. Tim Hingston
- Dec. 20 - Rev. David Avila
- Dec. 21 - Rev. George Nowak, C.R.

Prayer for Vocations:

*God, the source of creation and love,
You invite each of us to serve you
through the life which is your gift.
May your grace encourage men and
women to heights of holiness through
service to the Church as priests,
sisters, brothers, and lay ministers.
Make me an instrument to encourage
others to give themselves and
challenge me to do the same. Amen.*

Donations to purchase Christmas Flowers for the Church

Please use one of the envelopes provided on the table in the narthex. Write the names of your deceased loved ones on the back of the envelope, or insert them inside, and place the envelope in the gift box on the table in the narthex. All names will be included on a special insert in the Christmas bulletin, and Mass on Christmas morning will be celebrated for the Repose of their Souls.



Manger Blessing

This prayer may be used to bless your Christmas Manger at home:

God of every nation and people, from the very beginning of creation you have made manifest your love: when our need for a Savior was great you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary. To our lives he brings joy and peace, justice, mercy, and love. Lord, bless all who look upon this manger; may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus, and raise up our thoughts to him, who is God-with-us and Savior of all, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

C.W.L. Membership Dues

Please look for the blue envelope for 2020 membership fees in your December envelopes. All councils have been asked to submit membership renewals as of December 31st each year. This will help National office have an accurate snapshot of our membership at Parish, Diocesan, Provincial and National levels. It will also ensure that The League Magazine will continue to be sent to you, uninterrupted. **New members are always welcome.** Come out to any General Meeting, talk to members in the Narthex during our membership drive or contact Kim Montag (519) 500-1964 or kim.a.montag@gmail.com for more information.

THANKS to everyone who participated in the Italian Spaghetti Supper held on Sunday, Nov. 3rd. Enough funds were raised for the future purchase and installation of a new AED (automatic external defibrillator).

- St. Mark's Knights of Columbus

SIGN-UP FOR NEW LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Please see the list of volunteer positions in the narthex. Most needed at this time are Ministers of the Word, Ministers of the Eucharist and Altar Servers. Any questions, please see Fr. Steve.

Children's Liturgy of the Word Program

Every Sunday during the 9:30 Mass for children aged 5 to grade 3.

No registration is necessary, just bring your children to Mass.

Please note: No Children's Liturgy on Dec. 29 nor Jan. 5.

ADVENT O ANTIPHONS

One of the Liturgical indications of the days of preparation for Christmas is the Antiphons for the Canticle of Mary at Evening prayer, called the "O" Antiphons, as "O" begins each one. The Antiphons are also used as the Gospel Acclamation verse for the day. The hymn "O Come, Emmanuel!" is based on these Antiphons and is fittingly used at Eucharist and the Liturgy of the Hours. They cover the special period of Advent preparation known as the Octave before Christmas, Dec. 17-23, with Dec. 24 being Christmas Eve and Vespers for that evening being for the Christmas Vigil.

The importance of O Antiphons is twofold: Each one highlights a title for the Messiah: *O Sapientia* (O Wisdom), *O Adonai* (O Lord), *O Radix Jesse* (O Root of Jesse), *O Clavis David* (O Key of David), *O Oriens* (O Rising Sun), *O Rex Gentium* (O King of the Nations), and *O Emmanuel*. Also, each one refers to the prophecy of Isaiah of the coming of the Messiah.

December 17 ~ O Wisdom of our God Most High, guiding creation with power and love: come to teach us the path of knowledge!

December 18 ~ O Leader of the House of Israel, giver of the Law to Moses on Sinai: come to rescue us with your mighty power!

December 19 ~ O Root of Jesse's stem, sign of God's love for all his people: come to save us without delay!

December 20 ~ O Key of David, opening the gates of God's eternal Kingdom: come and free the prisoners of darkness!

December 21 ~ O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: come and shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

December 22 ~ O King of all nations and keystone of the Church: come and save man, whom you formed from the dust!

December 23 ~ O Emmanuel, our King and Giver of Law: come to save us, Lord our God!



SUPERIOR
MEMORIALS
Since 1924

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

J Jane Petrovich
B.Sc. M.Sc. B.Ed. OCT
Professional
Tutoring Services

All Grades: JK-12
All subjects & including
Special Education &
Essay/Report Writing
519-886-0725
oceans@primus.ca



FundEX
INVESTMENTS INC.

- Financial Planning
- Life Insurance
- Investments

3-450 Westheights Dr. 519-746-8423
Robert L. Beaupre
Financial Advisor
fundexinvestments@rogers.com

ARC Angels
SACramentals

215 Lancaster St. W.
519.744.8330



CONESTOGA Place
& **Conestoga**
Food Services Ltd.

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!

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



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



**2M
Taylor**

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



S&R
Lanark Village
Steeves & Rozema Group

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

44 Lanark Cres.
519-743-0121

'It's All About Choice'

Call **1-800-268-2637** for this space



Irvin
Accounting & Tax Services

539 King St E.
519-578-5781
www.irvinaccounting.com



**Westvale Dental
Centre**
Family & Cosmetic Dentistry
Dr. George Ho
520 University Ave. W., #202
(University & Ira Needles)
519.571.5050

Remember...
Let our advertisers know
you saw their ad here.




**COLDWELL
BANKER**

PETER BENNINGER REALTY, Brokerage
Independently Owned and Operated

HANNA LEPI SZ
Sales Representative
Years of Experience
Friendly Hassel Free Service
519-742-5800



ERB & GOOD

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



PS PHARMASAVE

Prescription Delivery • Medication Reviews
Easy Prescription Transfers
Medication Compliance Packaging
10% Seniors Discount Everyday
12-450 Westheights Dr. **519-584-7484**



Henry Walser
FUNERAL HOME LTD.

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

**Shop LOCAL • Spend LOCAL
Eat LOCAL • Enjoy LOCAL**
and support the local businesses
that support your parish