

St. Mark Catholic Parish

55 Driftwood Drive

Kitchener, Ontario N2N 3A2

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FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Worship This Week

Dec. 29 – Jan. 4, 2014

Monday

7:00 am + David Baggey – *the Baggey family*

Tuesday

7:00 pm + Miss Connie Whiteside – *Eleanore & Duane Moore*

FEAST OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Wednesday, Dec. 31st (New Year's Eve)

5:00 pm - Int. of the Parishioners of St. Mark's

Thursday, Jan. 1st (New Year's Day)

9:30 am - Int. of the sick and dying – *E. Ward*

11:30 am - Int. of Cheryl & Louis McHugh

★ NO EVENING MASS



Friday (MEMORIAL – ST. BASIL THE GREAT & ST. GREGORY NAZIANZEN)

★ 7:00 pm - Int. of Drew Depratto – *Jeanne Robinson*

Saturday

9:00 am - Int. of Kathy Smith – *Catherine Mackid*

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12

Sat. 5:00 pm - Int. of the Parishioners of St. Mark's

Sun. 9:30 am + Francisco De Sousa – *Brigida*

11:30 am + Jose Medeiros – *Maria*

★ Please Note: Mass on Friday, Jan. 2 has been moved to the evening.

*Wishing you a blessed, healthy
and happy New Year!*

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED – THUR. JAN 1ST

Coffee Sundays ... Are resuming on the 2nd weekend of each month starting in January. If you are interested in helping out please contact **Denise Case** at sdcase@rogers.com or 519-744-1368 (email preferred).



MARY: A BIBLICAL WALK WITH THE BLESSED MOTHER is an extraordinary pilgrimage that reveals Mary's unique role in God's Kingdom and in our lives. Filmed on location in the Holy Land, this 8-week DVD series by Edward Sri will take place **Saturdays at 10:00am** in the Lower Hall at **St. Mary's Church**, 56 Duke St. West, **beginning January 17**. Join us in the full study course, or just come and enjoy the DVDs and discussion. To order study guide materials contact the church office by December 18.

ORDINARIATE (ANGLICAN USE)

The Sodality of St. Edmund, King and Martyr, a congregation of the Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of St. Peter, is now meeting at **St. Mary's Church**, 56 Duke St. W., Kit.. Their new priest, Fr. Jason Catania, is also in residence at St. Mary's rectory. The Ordinariate is a jurisdiction within the Catholic Church for former Anglicans. **Sunday Mass** (according to the Ordinariate, or Anglican Use, liturgy) is at 5 pm, preceded by confessions. All are welcome!

LITURGICAL ROLES

JAN. 3 - 4	Sat. 5:00 PM	Sun. 9:30 AM	Sun. 11:30 AM
Altar Servers:	V./P./J. Miller	R./K. Ertel O. Dixon	J./A. Arruda A. Paz
Commentator:	M. Dufresne	T. Angel	T. Boettger
Lector:	J. Robinson	J. Flanigan	I. Kangaloo
Ushers:		T./J. Germann	C. Dignam F. Sawaya
Gift Bearers:	Weber	Seaward	Devine
Eucharistic Ministers:	C. Dokis G. Balm C. Baumtrog A. Bendia	T. Angel/C. Haid S. Cerantola B. Coutinho B. Cutting	C./K. Dignam R./P. Masbad

NEW YEAR'S SIGN-UP: If you are available to serve on New Year's Eve or New Year's Day, please sign up on the pages posted on the glass at the far end of the narthex. Thank you!

Prayer for the New Year

Dear Lord,

We pray that this New Year will bring us closer to You. May we take the time to get to know You. Help us to truly celebrate the gifts You have graciously given us and use them to serve You and spread Your word,

May we also see and love you in all the people we meet, so that in turn, they can see You in us.

We know that all human relations take time if they are to grow and deepen. This is also true of our relations with You, the Father and the Holy Spirit, which must grow over the course of our lives. In this new year, let us realise that every action of ours no matter how great or small enables us to be in touch with You.

Let us accept You in our lives, in the way it pleases You, as Truth, to be spoken, as Life, to be lived, as Light, to be lighted, as Love, to be followed, as Joy, to be given, as Peace, to be spread about, as Sacrifice, to be offered among our relatives, friends, neighbours and all people.

Amen.

Pope Francis to attend World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia

– The Diocese of Hamilton is planning a trip to the World Meeting of Families, **Sept. 22-28, 2015**. Both Bishop Crosby and Bishop Miehm will be attending. The World Meeting is designed to be significant to people of all ages at all stages of life. Every keynote address and workshop will be based on the concepts of marriage, family and relationship. This is a family event with workshop streams for those 18 and older, 6 to 12 years, and day care for those 5 and younger. The first 100 people to register for the Hamilton Diocesan trip will have both their registration and transportation (by bus) paid by the Diocese, leaving only the cost of hotel and food. For more information and to register, please go to www.hamiltondiocese.com, or call 905-528-7988 ext. 2250 (Teresa Hartnett). "I believe that this event has the power to transform, in deeply positive ways, not just the Catholic Church, but our entire community," stated Archbishop Charles Chaput of Philadelphia.



FIRST COMMUNION and CONFIRMATION

Attention Parents of students in grades 2 or 7:

If you have not yet registered your child for First Communion (gr. 2) or Confirmation (gr. 7) at St. Mark's Parish, please be sure to do so as soon as possible. Registration forms and handouts from missed meetings can be found on the information wall in the narthex, or call the parish office with your questions (519-571-9200).

Gr. 2 FIRST COMMUNION ~ 2015 Catechism Program

Optional but highly recommended for all Grade 2 students preparing to receive First Holy Communion at St. Mark's Parish in 2015 (*for all schools but especially for public students*).

The Sisters of Our Lady Immaculate will lead an excellent **12-week program** for First Communion & First Reconciliation here at St. Mark's Parish on **Tuesday evenings starting in February**. The program also includes one Saturday afternoon retreat. If you have not yet registered your child for these classes, please call the parish office or pick up a First Communion handout from the information wall in the narthex.

Gr. 7 CONFIRMATION ~ 2015 Preparation Sessions

Required for all Grade 7 students preparing to be confirmed at St. Mark's Parish in 2015 (*regardless of school affiliation*)

As part of the preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation, Father Don will hold a few sessions for candidates, sponsors (if possible) and parents.

Sessions will take place following the Sunday 11:30 Mass (*take a 10-minute break after Mass and reassemble in the church for 12:45 p.m. – in this way, you can come to Mass without having to return to the church during the week for these sessions*).

Remember to be present at Mass each and every Sunday as well as for these sessions.

These mandatory sessions provide an opportunity to learn more about our faith so that Confirmation itself will be a truly meaningful celebration of the sacrament. Listed below are the dates, times and topics to be covered:

(Sunday Afternoons 12:45–1:30 PM at St. Mark's Church)

DATE	TOPIC
JAN. 18	– Who is Jesus Christ?
FEB. 1	– The Meaning of Baptism
FEB. 15	– The Sacrament of Confirmation
MAR. 1	– The Mass and the Eucharist
MAR. 15	– The Call to Holiness (The 10 Commandments)
<i>(3-week break due to Holy Week and Easter)</i>	
APR. 19	– The Sacrament of God's Mercy

“Thinking of You” ... Cards for our Parishioners

If you know of someone in St. Mark's Parish who has lost a loved one or is ill, the parish would like to send a card to express our prayerful thoughts. Please contact Marie or Betty with the **name, address and postal code** of the intended recipient, and a card will be sent on behalf of St. Mark's Parish.

Information can be emailed to either:

Marie: marie_brian@sympatico.ca
 or **Betty:** bpenticott@rogers.com



**St. Paul School
 50th Anniversary Open House**



Sunday, January 25th ~ the Feast of St. Paul!

- 11:00 am - 1:15 pm** **Open House**
at St. Paul School, 45 Birchcliff Ave.
 - 12:30 pm** **Blessing of the School**
by Fr. Joseph de Viveiros, C.R.
 - 2:00 pm** **Anniversary Mass**
at St. Francis of Assisi Church
- Reception after Mass in the Church Hall.**

Please join us! All former students, staff, parents, and volunteers are especially invited, but everyone is welcome to come and join the celebrations. We encourage you to drop off any memorabilia or photos that you may have from your years as a St. Paul Panther, for display at the open house. To do so, please contact St. Paul School at 519-743-4401. If you would like to assist with this event, please contact the school or Donna Henri (519-579-9492).

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2016: KRAKOW, POLAND

Join us **July 19 – August 2, 2016** as we participate in World Youth Day activities, both in Days in the Diocese and in Krakow, Poland. Pilgrimage includes return flight, 14 days in Poland, accommodation, busing and most meals (five “Days in the Diocese,” seven days World Youth Day, two days sightseeing). Space is limited so book today! Participants must be 18-35 years of age at time of travel. Contact David Dayler at the Discipleship & Parish Life Office at 905-528-7988, ext.2226 or ddayler@hamiltondiocese.com or visit www.hamiltondiocese.com for more information and registration forms. **Initial registration and deposit of \$100 is due by Jan. 31.**

PARENTING TIP OF THE MONTH

Tip #83 – In the Christmas carol ‘O Holy Night’ we hear these words: “*Long lay the world in sin and error pining. Till He appeared and the Soul felt its worth.*” The words are a beautiful reminder that we are loved by God and that Christ's birth reminds us of our inherent value. In a world that can, at times, be hurtful, our children can seek refuge in loving families and through a personal relationship with Jesus. Christmas is a lovely time to remind our children that when Jesus was born he came to live among us and that he still wants to be with each of us today. Through prayer, attending Mass and simply talking to God about the highs and lows of their day, children can develop a friendship with Jesus who loves them deeply. This Christmas, give your children a powerful gift by helping them develop a friendship with our Saviour.

MARRIAGE TIP OF THE MONTH

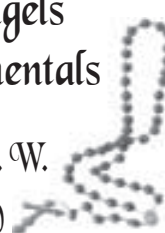
Tip #63 – Christmas is a time of joy in families, but also a time of stress as we often do too much, eat too much and spend too much! This year make Christmas truly special by slowing things down just a little. Spend some time together, just the two of you; tell your spouse why you see them as a gift all year long. Express your love to your spouse – knowing how you feel about them and why you feel that way may be the greatest gift they will receive.

Tips submitted by Teresa Hartnett, Family Ministry Office, 905-528-7988 ext.2250

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