

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.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Mass Intentions for the Week

December 2 – 8, 2019

Monday – NO MASS

Tuesday – NO MASS

Wednesday (FERIAL)

12:00 noon – Int. of William Victor & Eric Kubica – Rosemary

Thursday (FERIAL)

7:00 am – Int. of Eric Kubica – Rosemary Kubica

Friday (MEMORIAL – ST. NICHOLAS)

*** 7:00 PM** + Michael MacIsaac – Mom

Saturday (MEMORIAL – ST. AMBROSE)

9:00 am – Int. of Steve & Marg Hartman – Krista Krevs

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 11:1-10; Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12

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

Sun. 9:30 am – Int. of Marie Rosario – Frederika Comeau

11:30 am + Ennio Rennon – Angela Lowry



PARISH OFFICE CLOSED: Friday, December 6

St. Nicholas – The great veneration with which St. Nicholas has been honored for many ages and the number of altars and churches all over the world that are dedicated in his memory are testimonials to his wonderful holiness and the glory he enjoys with God. As an episcopal see, and his childhood church falling vacant, the holy Nicholas was chosen bishop, and in that station became famous by his extraordinary piety and zeal and by his many astonishing miracles.

St. Ambrose (340-397) was born at Treves in Gaul, a territory which embraced modern France, Britain, Spain, and part of Africa. He studied in Rome and later became governor of Liguria and Aemelia with residence at Milan. While supervising the election of a new bishop of Milan in 374, he himself was suddenly acclaimed the bishop. He was only a catechumen at the time and was ordained a priest and consecrated a bishop on Dec. 7. He wrote much on the Scriptures and Fathers, preached a homily every Sunday, resisted the interference of the secular powers with the rights of the Church, opposed the heretics, and was instrumental in bringing about the conversion of St. Augustine. He composed many hymns, promoted sacred chant, and took a great interest in the Liturgy.

Weekly Offertory Report for Nov. 23/24, 2019

	THIS WEEK	YTD - WEEK 47
Offertory Collection:	\$ 3,198.62	\$ 150,129.99
Pre-Authorized Debits:	\$ 1,425.35	\$ 62,452.00
Total Offerings:	\$ 4,622.97	\$ 212,581.99
Budget:	\$ 5,200.00	\$ 244,400.00
Under Budget:	(577.03)	(31,818.01)

Mortgage Offerings to date this year: \$ 25,719.50

Please refrain from adjusting the thermostats in the meeting rooms. Our heating system is based upon zones, and temperatures are currently set to keep a balanced temperature in the church and the rest of the building. Adjusting the temperature on one thermostat may affect the temperature in that zone, but also causes the other units to overcompensate.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Meetings & Events This Week:

DATE	TIME	ROOM	EVENT
<u>Mon. Dec. 2</u>	8:00 pm	(H)	Alcoholics Anonymous
<u>Tue. Dec. 3</u>	7:30 pm	(B)	SVDP year-end social
	7:00 pm	(M)	11:30 Choir practice
<u>Wed. Dec. 4</u>	6:30 pm	(CH)	9:30 Choir practice
	6:30 pm	(L)	Finance & Maintenance Meeting
	7:30 pm	(B)	Women's Prayer Group
<u>Thur. Dec. 5</u>	6:15 pm	(M)	Legion of Mary
	7:00 pm	(J)	C.W.L. Executive meeting
	7:30 pm	(CH)	5:00 Choir practice
<u>Fri. Dec. 6</u>	6:00 am	(M)	Men's group
<u>Sat. Dec. 7</u>	7:15 am	(H)	That Man Is You!

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

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, which is also the first Sunday of a new liturgical year for the Church.

The Advent season includes the four Sundays that precede Christmas. It is a time of preparation for the coming of the Lord. In this season, we recall two central elements of our faith: the final coming of the Lord in glory and the incarnation of the Lord in the birth of Jesus. Key themes of the Advent season are watchful waiting, preparation, and justice.

In this new liturgical year, the Gospel of Matthew will be the primary Gospel proclaimed (Lectionary Cycle A). In today's Gospel, we hear Jesus speak about the need for wakefulness, for watchful waiting, for the coming of the Son of Man.

Matthew's Gospel is dated by most scholars after 70 A.D. Most believe that Matthew wrote for a primarily Jewish community, but one that was no longer centered on the Temple in Jerusalem. These were Jewish Christians trying to come to terms with their relationship to Judaism in a new situation: Judaism after the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem. There may have been Christians who believed that the events of the world around them gave evidence of the imminent return of the Lord in glory.

The passage from Matthew we read today is rather straightforward. No one knows the precise time of the coming of the Lord in glory, so watchful waiting and vigilance are required. The passage speaks to the uselessness of looking for signs; there will be none. As a thief sneaks in during the night, so will the Lord's coming in glory be.

The question for us as members of the Christian community, then, is how do we prepare for this? Today's passage speaks more about the manner of waiting, rather than the details of the preparation. Jesus compares the vigilance required of Christians to the vigilance of a homeowner who knows the plans of the thief. If one knows that the thief's action is imminent, one remains watchful. As Christians, we know *that* our Lord is coming even if we cannot know the precise timing. Jesus calls us to be watchful and vigilant, like the homeowner. If we become lax in our Christian living, we may be caught unprepared. ■

New Living With Christ Sunday Missals for 2019-2020

\$5 each ~ while supplies last

ANGEL TREE GIFTS DUE TODAY



★ 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. 7 & 8	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:	M. Dufresne	J. Germann	M. Smith
1st Reader:	B. Crawley	T. Germann	R. Kubica
2nd Reader:		J. Deneau	M. Monte
Ushers:	I. Cimermancic	J./K. Snyder D. DeSousa	M. Monte
Gift Bearers:		<i>Children's Liturgy Kids</i>	Kubica
Eucharistic Ministers:	A. Bendia; C. Dokis G. MacNeil	T./K. Boettger S. Cerantola	B./C. Voisin S. Markides

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.



Christmas Potluck Social

Sunday, December 15
★ 2:00 – 5:00 PM ★
St. Mark Parish Hall



This is a **FREE** event! Bring a dish and a friend!
Please sign-up in the narthex if you plan to attend.

VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP SUNDAY

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.

Diocesan Prayer Calendar

This week, let us pray for...

- Dec. 2 - Rev. Michael Vanderbeek, L.C.
- Dec. 3 - Rev. Todd Arsenaault, L.C.
- Dec. 4 - Diocesan Priests
- Dec. 5 - Rev. Pierre Caouette, L.C.
- Dec. 6 - Rev. Thomas Flynn, L.C.
- Dec. 7 - Very Rev. John Van Hees

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.



Thank you to everyone who donated coats and other winterwear to our Winter Coat Drive. The Salvation Army was grateful to receive them.
~ St. Mark's Knights of Columbus

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.



6" Red Poinsettias

ON SALE FOR ONE WEEKEND ONLY

December 14 & 15 \$10 each (6-inch pot)
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!

40th ANNUAL ADVENT NOVENA: **Dec. 6-14**

An Invitation to Prepare Well for Christmas

Nine daily Masses at 6:30AM at St. Agnes Church, Waterloo
Friday, Dec. 6th to Saturday, Dec. 14th.

(Note exception: On Sunday, Dec. 8th you are welcome to attend your OWN CHURCH (or St. Agnes at 9 AM or 11 AM.)

Make this Advent a special time of preparation for Christmas by joining your Twin-City friends who have been keeping this Advent tradition for many years. Bring along a friend! Everyone is welcome! Plenty of time to get to work or school afterwards! A free will offering will be taken for St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Hampers. Daily coffee and fellowship after each Mass.



Advent Reconciliation Services

(Multiple priests available for confession)



Mon. Dec. 9	7:30 pm	St. Louis Church, Waterloo
Tue. Dec. 10	7:00 pm	St. Agatha Church, St. Agatha
	7:30 pm	St. Agnes Church, Waterloo
Wed. Dec. 11	6:30 pm	St. Aloysius Church, Kitchener
	7:00 pm	St. Mary's Church, Kitchener
	7:00 pm	St. Joseph Church, Kitchener
	7:30 pm	St. Michael's Church, Waterloo
Thur. Dec. 12	7:30 pm	Our Lady of Lourdes, Waterloo
Wed. Dec. 18	7:00 pm	St. Teresa Church, Elmira
	7:00 pm	St. Anne Church, Kitchener
	7:00 pm	Blessed Sacrament Church, Kitchener

We offer our sympathy and prayers to the family and friends of



Indra Sirju ♦ Wife of Oscar and mother of Amanda Reiter and the late Michelle Sirju.



Kenneth Gutscher ♦ Husband of (the late) Hilda and father of Brad (Chyanne), Shannon (Randy) and Kyle (Paola).



Trevor Smydo ♦ Husband of Angie and father of Tiffany (Chris), Natasha and Lucas.



Mickey Lowe ♦ Husband of Brenda and father of Monique (Michael), Melanie (Chad), Joseph and Jay (Karol).

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.



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