

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 – *Parish Secretary*

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

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

CONFESSIONS

Saturday at 4:15 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: Pat Runstedler
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 will appear in the bulletin.

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 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.

Mass Intentions
for the Week



Feb. 28 – Mar. 6, 2022

Seating is restricted to physical distancing of 2 metres (6 feet) between households, until further notice. Masks are mandatory. Please stay home if you are feeling unwell.

Tuesday

(FERIAL)

12 Noon - Int. of Leonor Fonseca

ASH WEDNESDAY (SEASON OF LENT BEGINS)



12 Noon + Mary & Lofty Shipp – Nick & Sharon Cerantola

7:00 PM + Maria Campos – Campos family

Thursday

(FERIAL)

12 Noon + Jeannette Belliveau Lavoie – White family

First Friday

(FERIAL)

12 Noon + Claire & Fernand Mainguy – Penny L.

12:30 PM - STATIONS OF THE CROSS

First Saturday

(FERIAL)

9:00 am + Jose Varkey – Sijimol Jose

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT – March 5-6

Deuteronomy 26:4-10; Romans 10:8-13; Luke 4:1-13

Sat. 5:00 PM + John Zuk – Marilyn Dufresne

Sun. 9:30 am + Malcolm McNeil – Kathy Smith

11:30 am – Intentions of the Parishioners of St. Mark

STATIONS of the CROSS will follow the 12 noon Mass on Fridays during Lent.



Lent is the yearly celebration by the Church of its corporate conversion in Jesus Christ.

During Lent, the liturgy prepares catechumens to celebrate the Paschal Mystery by the various stages of Christian Initiation. It also prepares the faithful for Easter as they recall their Baptism and do penance in preparation for the greatest Feast of the year. Lent has two major purposes: it recalls or prepares for Baptism and emphasizes a spirit of penance. Through forty days of closer attention to God's Word and of more fervent prayer, believers are prepared to celebrate the Paschal Mystery. Lenten instructions stress these baptismal and penitential themes.

During Lent, it is important to teach the social consequences of sin as well as the fact that the heart of the virtue of penance is hatred of sin as an offence against God. The Church encourages penitential practices that are external and social, reflecting the circumstances of individuals and communities, as we pray and do penance for sinners.

VOCATION SEEDS ♦ 8th Sun. Ordinary Time ♦ Feb. 27, 2022

"In the Lord your labour is not in vain." Is the Lord calling you to work in His vineyard? Pray to hear God's call. If God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, contact Bishop Wayne Lobsinger, Director of Vocations and Priestly Formation, Diocese of Hamilton: 905-528-7988, vocations@hamiltondiocese.com, www.hamiltondiocese.com/vocations.



Potato Blitz – Bring your spuds to the Church over the next few weeks and the Knights of Columbus will deliver them to the House of Friendship for their annual Potato Blitz.



What Do You Produce?

Luke 6:39–45 ♦ Each tree is known by its yield.

The third and final section of Luke's Sermon on the Plain begins: **And he told them a parable.** There are actually four parables, three of which we read today. They are all about how to be a good disciple.

The blind cannot lead the blind. And a disciple cannot be a good disciple unless he or she has learned from the teacher. Everyone who is fully trained is like the teacher who knows how to cure the blind. Before you can be a good disciple and teach others you must take care of yourself. Do not try to take a speck out of your brother's eye until you have taken the board out of your own. Finally, only when you have purified yourself can you produce the good works that the teacher requires. Discipleship asks us to produce good deeds. But to produce them requires the integrity and purity of heart found in the teacher. When people see your good deeds they will know that this is because you have a good heart.

The final parable, which we do not read today, is about building on the solid foundation of rock and not on sand. This is the only way to face the difficulties a disciple will encounter and survive. ■

Ash Wednesday – A Day of Fasting and Abstinence

The Church has specified certain forms of penance, both to ensure that the Catholic will do something, as required by divine law, while making it easy for Catholics to fulfill the obligation. Thus, the 1983 Code of Canon Law specifies the obligations of Latin Rite Catholics.

ABSTINENCE - Refraining from eating meat or another type of food. In Canada, it is permitted to substitute the law of abstinence with an act of charity. **Days of Abstinence (14 yrs or older):** As Catholics, we are to refrain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and Fridays, especially during Lent.

FASTING - Eating only one full meal that day. (The total amount of food consumed in the other meals must not exceed the main meal).

Days of Fasting (under the age of 60): Catholics are required to Fast on Ash Wednesday AND Good Friday.



The custom of wearing ashes on Ash Wednesday

comes from the ancient Jewish tradition of penance and fasting. The practice includes the wearing of ashes on the head. The ashes symbolize the dust from which God made us.

As the priest applies the ashes to a person's forehead, he speaks the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." Alternatively, the priest may speak the words, "Repent and believe in the Gospel." Ashes also symbolize grief, in this case, grief that we have sinned and caused division from God. Writings from the Second-century Church refer to the wearing of ashes as a sign of penance. Priests administer ashes during Mass and all are invited to accept the ashes as a visible symbol of penance. Even non-Christians and the excommunicated are welcome to receive the ashes. The ashes are made from blessed palm branches, taken from the previous year's Palm Sunday Mass.

Liturgical Ministers

MAR. 5-6	5:00 PM Mass	9:30 AM Mass	11:30 AM Mass
Reader:	A. Fernandez	T. Boettger	J. Petrovich
Ushers:	E. Miller C. Weber	L. Koehler P. Drohan	C. Dignam E. Weiss
Eucharistic Ministers:	J. Fernandez A. Bendia	M. Walsler M. Lynch	B./C. Voisin

Preparation for First Communion & Confirmation

If you have not yet contacted the parish to enroll your child for the Sacrament of First Communion (grade 2), or Confirmation (grade 7), please contact Pam at the parish office a.s.a.p. (stmark@rogers.com / 519-571-9200) and provide the following info: Child's name, school, grade and preferred email address. We will then send you an enrollment form to complete and return along with a photo of your child's baptism certificate. Preparation for these sacraments will begin in the next few weeks via emailed materials for you to study with your child.

LEARNING MORE ABOUT OUR CATHOLIC FAITH

Evenings with His Excellency

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Live Online **OR** In-person (Hamilton)

Friday, March 11th ♦ 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

2nd Friday of every month: April 8 ♦ May 13 ♦ June 10

Join Bishop Lobsinger online or in person at Canadian Martyrs Church (1349 Main Street West, Hamilton).

Each month we will methodically go through the "Catechism of the Catholic Church". There is no registration, no fee and no homework. Come ready to learn and ask all the questions you always wanted to ask about our Catholic Faith.

Watch live online at: www.canadianmartyrshamilton.com, or view past sessions on YouTube: <https://tinyurl.com/mxz7dtuv>



NEWLY BAPTIZED

With joyful hearts St. Mark's Parish congratulates and welcomes into the Roman Catholic Church these newly baptized children of God:

Richard, Zoey, Grace and Cole.

"God has saved us by living water which gives our lives a fresh beginning, and He put his Spirit in us, so that healed by His grace, we may share His life and hope to live forever." (TITUS 3:5,7)

Thank-you Father Steve, Pam & Parishioners of St. Mark!

It is with great joy that we wish to share the long-awaited news from Immigration Canada. On February 14, 2022, we received an email stating that we had been granted Permanent Residence Status!

Since January 2017, you have supported us with your prayers, kindness and many forms of assistance. We are truly grateful and thank you so much!

**Thank you, Almighty Father!
May God bless our Parish Family!**

Sincerely,
Christianah & Francis,
Davina & Damian Akinkuotu



C.W.L. NEWS...

♦ **FRIDAY, MARCH 4TH** – Come celebrate **World Day of Prayer** as we celebrate the theme, "I Know the Plans I Have for You." The women of England, Wales and Northern Ireland have prepared the service this year. The evening will begin with Mass at 7:00 p.m. followed by a video presentation.

♦ **SATURDAY, MARCH 5TH** – Save the Date! 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. the annual **Lift Jesus Higher Rally** will be held in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and virtually live-streamed. Please visit www.lijhr.ca to register.



World Day of Prayer

The World Day of Prayer is observed annually on the first Friday in March. It is an invitation for Christians to pause and pray together ecumenically. This recalls our Christian responsibility to be sensitive to the signs of the times so that we might bring a more authentically Christian dimension to the concerns of our world, our country, our community. Sponsored by the Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada and its national counterparts around the world, it is celebrated in approximately 165 countries.



K of C 2022 Ontario Charities 50-50 Online Raffle

- ♦ Early Bird Draw: March 1, 2022
- ♦ Jackpot Draw: March 31, 2022

To purchase tickets visit: <https://www.kofcontario5050.com>

DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR | This week let us pray for...

FEB. 28	MAR. 1	MAR. 2	MAR. 3	MAR. 4	MAR. 5
Rev. Ranjan D'Sa O.C.D.	Rev. Joseph Ahilan, C.R.S.P	<i>Ash Wednesday</i>	Rev. Louis Lenssen, C.R.S.P.	Rev. Fernando Ferreira Pinto, C.S.Sp.	Rev. Allen Varlaki

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.



LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

**The Sanctuary Lamp burns this week for:
A PRIVATE INTENTION**



You may 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 in the bulletin and on our website; private intentions will not. 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.

Do you use our Pre-Authorized Debit Plan?

Don't forget to pick up your box of special envelopes in the narthex for 2022. Many important collections that are not covered by your automatic withdrawals are included in this box (New Year's Day, St. Vincent de Paul, Good Friday, Easter, Christmas), as well as all the Diocesan collections (Seminary Education, Share Lent, Pope's Pastoral Works, Care for Retired Priests, Needs of the Canadian Church, World Mission Sunday) and even an envelope for C.W.L. membership dues. **Please remember to pick yours up the next time you're at Mass.** Thanks!



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