

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
Monthly Filipino Mass: Third Saturday 7:00 PM

WEEKDAY MASS

Tuesday - Friday 12:00 NOON
First Saturday 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
3 Westforest Trail 519-576-5503

St. Mark Catholic Elementary School
240 Autumn Hill Crescent 519-743-4682

Resurrection Catholic Secondary School
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 make your request in-person at the parish office during business hours.

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*: _____

* **Requests for specific dates (birthday, anniversary of death or wedding) must be submitted several weeks/months in advance to avoid disappointment.**

* **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.

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Mass Intentions for the Week



February 20 – 26, 2023

Tuesday (FERIAL)

12 Noon + Patricia Gohl & Peter Nickl – *Judy Nickl*

Ash Wednesday (UNIVERSAL DAY OF FASTING & ABSTINENCE)

12 Noon + name – *name*

7:00 PM + Lawrence Fernandes – *A. Toscano & family*



Thursday (FERIAL)

12 Noon + Maria Campos – *Campos family*

Friday (FERIAL)

* **NO NOON MASS ON FRIDAYS DURING LENT**

* 6:30 PM + Teresa Viveiros – *Justina Costa & family*

7:00 PM - STATIONS OF THE CROSS

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT – Feb. 25/26

Genesis 2:7-9, 16-18, 25; 3:1-7++; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11

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

Sun. 9:30 am + Gilbert, Shirley, Linda, Joseph & Laura Schneider

11:30 am + Joe Arruda – *Darah & Gaby*

★ Please note Lenten changes to the liturgical schedule:

Friday noon Mass is replaced with evening Mass at 6:30 p.m., followed by Stations of the Cross at 7:00 p.m.



LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER!

The Sanctuary Lamps burn this week for:

A Special Intention

(requested by A. Hauck & D. Hopf)



Pancake Supper CANCELLED

Regrettably, due to very low ticket sales, we have been forced to cancel this Tuesday's Pancake Supper.

Those who did purchase tickets, can bring them back after any of the weekend Masses on Feb. 18/19, Feb. 25/26 or March 4/5, where a member of the Knights will be available in the narthex to issue a full refund for the return of your original ticket(s). We are hopeful for, and look forward to, a much better turn-out next year.



~ St. Mark Knights of Columbus



POTATO BLITZ – Bring your spuds to the Church during the month of February and the Knights of Columbus will deliver them to the House of Friendship for their annual Potato Blitz.

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

FEB. 20	FEB. 21	FEB. 22	FEB. 23	FEB. 24	FEB. 25
Rev. James Link, CR	Rev. David Mowat, CR	ASH WEDNESDAY	Rev. Harry Reitzel, CR	Rev. Ray Reitzel, CR	Rev. Florian Stasinski, CR

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.

Monday, February 20 is Family Day.

The Parish Office will be CLOSED.

Meetings & Events This Week ...



DATE	TIME	ROOM	EVENT
Mon. Feb. 20	8:00 pm	(H)	Alcoholics Anonymous
Tue. Feb. 21	6:30 pm	(CH)	11:30 Choir practice
Thu. Feb. 23	6:45 pm	(H)	Alpha (<i>all rooms</i>)
	7:00 pm	(CH)	5 o'clock Choir Practice
Fri. Feb. 24	7:00 pm	(J)	Bible Study
Sat. Feb. 25	7:30 am	(H)	That Man Is You!

MEETING ROOMS: B - Basement CH - Church H - Hall J - St. John Room
L - St. Luke Boardroom M - St. Matthew Room

On the Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time, Jesus gives us one of the biggest challenges to living the Christian life: Love Your Enemies. "I say to you, offer no resistance to one who is evil. When someone strikes you on your right cheek, turn the other one as well." ~ Used with permission by Online Ministries, Creighton University



Lenten Practices...



Ash Wednesday: A day of fasting and abstinence

Lent is a time of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving in preparation for our celebrations of Easter, when Christ died and rose from the dead for our salvation. Ash Wednesday is also a day of fasting and abstinence.

There are two days of compulsory fasting and abstinence prescribed by the Church: Ash Wednesday and Good Friday (Code of Canon Law #1251).

Fasting means eating less than normal. We are asked to eat one regular size meal and two smaller meals. Catholics between the ages of 16-60 are asked to abide by this discipline.

Abstinence means abstaining from eating meat on this day. Catholics older than 14 years of age are asked to abide by this discipline. Note: We are also encouraged to continue the traditional practice of abstaining from meat every Friday. As well, one should not engage in excessive entertainment throughout the Lenten Season, and most certainly not on Good Friday.

Women's Bible Study – Please join us for a look at the culture and society in the first century in the Middle East. In this captivating study, *Jesus and Women* by Kristi McLelland, we will be transported back to when Jesus was with us in the flesh. This study (feast) will begin with a time to chat about the homework that we completed throughout the week, an hour-long teaching video and then a chance to unpack the video. This 7-week program runs from **Feb. 28 to April 11** (Tuesday evenings) from 7 to 9 pm in the St. John Room. Please email Denise Case at debestgramma64@gmail.com if you are interested in joining. Study manual can be purchased through Amazon for \$35: https://www.amazon.ca/Jesus-Women-Bible-Access-Century-dp-1087773954/dp-1087773954/ref-dp_ob_title_bk. If you experience difficulties purchasing online, please let Denise know. To view a sample of the study guide and video, please visit: <https://www.lifeway.com/en/product-family/jesus-and-women-bible-study?intcmp=1w:jesusandwomen:smrch>

Next Sacramental Preparation Meetings

CONFIRMATION: Sunday, Feb. 26 at 1:00 p.m.

FIRST COMMUNION: Wed. March 8 at 5:45 p.m.

Liturgical Ministers

FEB. 25/26	5:00 PM Mass	9:30 AM Mass	11:30 AM Mass
Altar Servers:	J./P./V. Miller	E. Burkholder R./R. Jerold	C. Chacon T. Pereira
Commentator:	S. Rellinger	V. DeVries	T. Fernandes
Reader:	S. Benner	J. Deneau	G. Tran
Ushers:	B. Benner P. Smith	J./K. Snyder	P. Abalos M. Schimus
Eucharistic Ministers:	D. Fernandez C. Weber	T. Angel M. Walsler	D. Seymour-Weber E. Weiss

WANTED! The 11:30 Sunday Mass is really in need of **READERS** and **USHERS**. If interested, please email your name and contact info to Pam at the parish office (stmark@rogers.com) or see Fr. Roque after Mass. Thank you!

TIME TO SMILE!

For our 2023 Photo Directory!

We invite ALL PARISHIONERS to participate in our Parish Family Photo Directory for 2023!

★ **Photo Shoots begin this week!** If you have not yet signed up for a sitting time, please check the sign-up table after Mass this weekend to book your free session!

Each participating family will receive a FREE 30-minute sitting and FREE photo directory (at no cost to you or the parish) as well as an opportunity (but not an obligation) to purchase studio quality portraits at less than studio prices. All photography and viewing of photos is done in one convenient appointment at the church.

Also! ... If you have snapshots of parish activities or groups from the last 10 years, and are willing to submit them for possible inclusion in the directory, please email the parish office (stmark@rogers.com).



IN MEMORIAM...

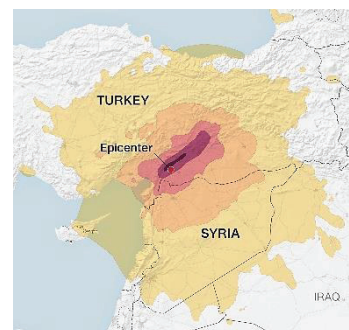
We offer our sympathy and prayers to the family and friends of the late **Theresa Nessner** (wife of Andy).
"Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen."

"TRUSTING GOD IN THE STORM" - Life's circumstances can sometimes feel overwhelming: relationships, finances, health, family issues & loss...we may feel fearful and anxious when the future looks so uncertain. We might wonder what could possibly be God's purpose in all of this? This event will focus on trusting in God, relying on Him to calm our internal storms of fear, doubt and uncertainty. **Sunday March 5th** at 2:00 p.m. **St. Agnes Parish in Waterloo** with guest Fr. Vivek Trindade. More info: www.saintagnescatholicchurch.org/events

DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS – Couples celebrating their 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, or 60+ Wedding Anniversary in the year 2023 are cordially invited to join couples from across the Diocese of Hamilton for a Wedding Anniversary Mass on **Sunday, April 16, 2023** at 1:30 p.m. at the **Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King in Hamilton**. (Space allows room for Anniversary couples only – those married 60 years or more may bring 1 guest if you require assistance). **Please register** online at www.hamiltondiocese.com/offices/family-ministry/sfm/anniversary-mass.php or call the Diocese at 905-528-7988 for assistance. **Registration closes March 26th**.

Earthquake Relief

On February 6th, parts of Turkey and Syria experienced a devastating earthquake. It is estimated that over 22,000 people have lost their lives and more than 77,000 reported injured. The earthquake has left both countries in a state of crisis that is made worse by exposure to aftershocks and winter storms.



Those wishing to support the relief effort are encouraged to contribute to one of the following Catholic entities currently mounting humanitarian responses on the ground:

CNEWA Catholic Near East Welfare Association – CNEWA has been a lifeline for the poor throughout the Middle East, Northeast Africa, India and Eastern Europe for 90 years. They are currently serving 2,000 families specifically in Syria seeking emergency shelter:

<https://cnewa.org/ca/work/emergency-syria/>

Caritas International – The International Caritas team is rallying to support Caritas Turkey whose facilities, staff and volunteers have all been impacted by the earthquake. Caritas Turkey has begun working with local authorities to raise shelters, medical supplies and communication pathways between survivors and support services:

<https://www.caritas.org/>

Catholic Relief Services – CRS is partnering with Caritas Turkey, Caritas Syria and Caritas Anatolia, all hardest hit by the earthquake:

<https://support.crs.org/donate/earthquakes?ms=agicrs2023eqk00her00&ga=2.58454440.387174977.1675953053%20-1953421407.1675953052>

ACN – Aid to the Church in Need, like CNEWA is serving impacted Christian communities specifically in Syria: <https://acn-canada.square.site/>

No special collection will be taken up in the Diocese at this time.

Let us continue to prayer for the suffering communities in Turkey and Syria and to commend the dead to God's mercy.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - March 3, 2023 at **St. George's Anglican Church**, Kitchener at 10:00 a.m. All at welcome!

YOUNG ADULTS NIGHT (20-35 yrs.) – Fr. Mark Morley invites all young adults of our diocese to attend a night of Adoration, Fellowship and Praise Music. Arrival and Holy Hour (6:30pm-7:30 pm), Social with Food (7:30pm-8:30pm), Praise Night and Vocation Testimony (8:00pm-9:00pm), and Compline (9:00pm) on **Saturday, March 4th** at **St. Michael's Catholic Church** (80 University Avenue West, Waterloo). Sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton. For more information, please contact: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com.

LIFT JESUS HIGHER RALLY: "Empowered to Stand"

March 4, 2023 at the **Metro Toronto Convention Centre**. A bus has been arranged to leave from the parking lot at Highway #6 South and the 401. To book a seat on the bus call Lisa Reitzel at 519-749-2579. **Seats are limited, and it's on a first come first booked basis.**

HELP FOR EVERY MARRIAGE – Are you frustrated or angry at each other, or have you just stopped talking to each other? Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times and allows you to rediscover the relationship that drew you together. This program has helped tens of thousands of couples find a better way for their marriage. For confidential information about, or to register for the program, happening the weekend of **March 10-12** please call **905-664-5212** or email: 1013@helpourmarriage.org or visit the web site at www.retrouvaille.org.



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