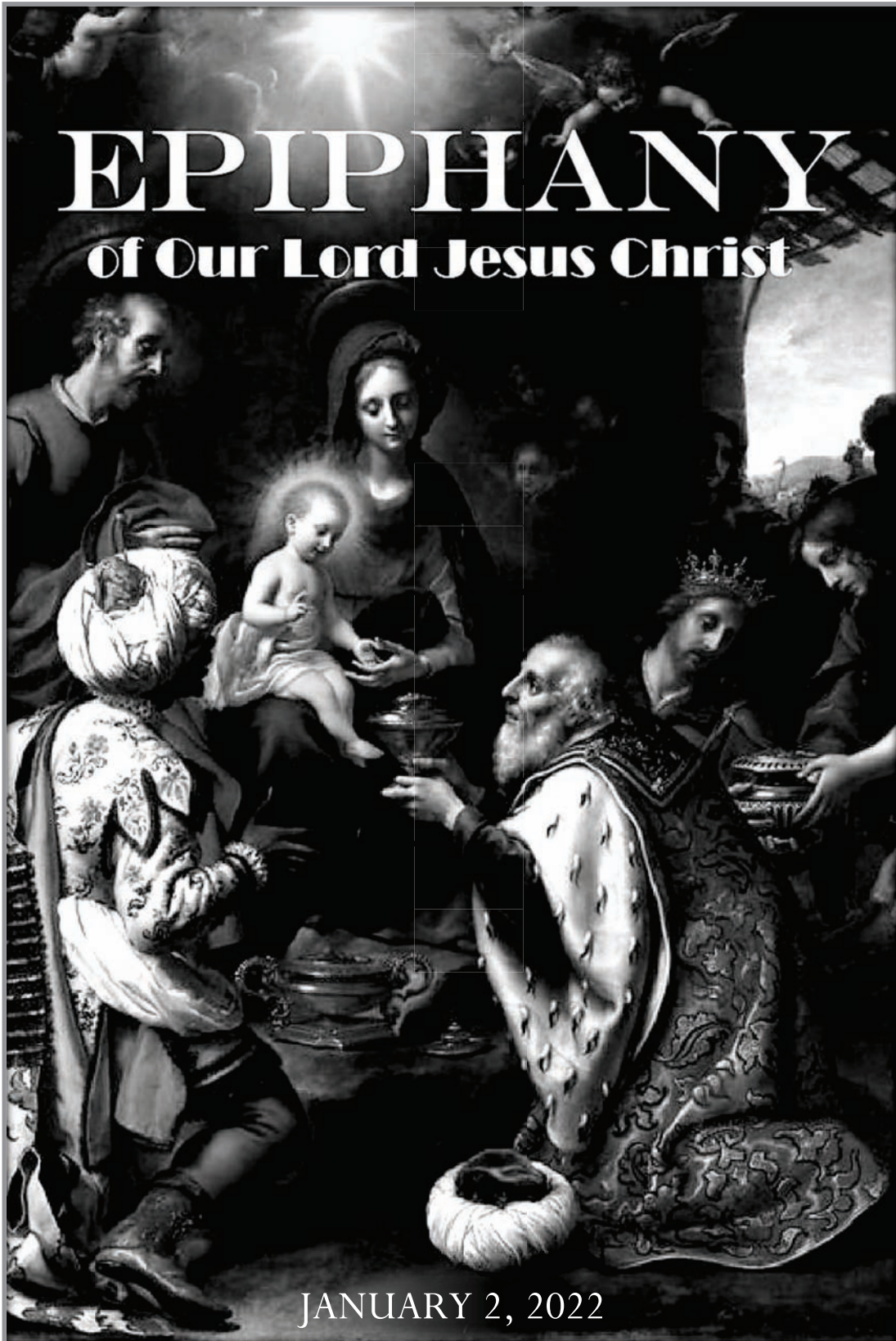


St. Mark Roman Catholic Parish

55 Driftwood Drive, Kitchener, Ontario N2N 3A2
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EPIPHANY

of Our Lord Jesus Christ



JANUARY 2, 2022

Mass Intentions for the Week

January 3 – 9, 2022

Seating is restricted by 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 + Ivan Cimerancic – Michelle

Wednesday (FERIAL)

12 Noon + Jack Soares – Maria

Thursday (FERIAL)

12 Noon + Maria Silvestre – Joao

First Friday (MEMORIAL – ST. ANDRE BESSETTE)

12 Noon + Souls in Purgatory – Amelia DeSousa

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD – Jan. 8-9

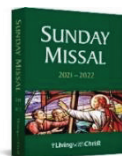
Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7; Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

Sat. 5:00 PM + Gary Lewington – Pam Lewington

Sun. 9:30 am – Intentions of the Parishioners of St. Mark

11:30 am + Tony Laugalys – Barb & Ron Denomme

St. André Bessette – This Holy Cross Brother, known as "Frere Andre," has been credited with thousands of cures. He was the founder of St. Joseph's Oratory in Montreal, Canada, perhaps the world's principal shrine in honor of St. Joseph. When he died at the age of 91, it was estimated that close to a million people came to the Oratory to pay their last respects. He was beatified in 1982. André was the eighth child in a family of twelve and at baptism he was given the name Alfred. Orphaned at the age of 12, he tried his hand at various trades but was not successful in any of them. He could barely read and write and was sickly most of his life. At the age of 15 he became a Brother of Holy Cross but was rejected at the end of the novitiate. At the insistence of the bishop of Montreal, however, Brother André was allowed to make his religious profession. For forty years he worked as a porter at the College of Notre Dame, until he was needed full time at the shrine of St. Joseph. People from all over Canada came to him for cures or for spiritual direction. The Oratory that he built in honor of St. Joseph was solemnly dedicated in 1955 and raised to the rank of a minor basilica.



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VOCATION SEEDS ♦ Epiphany of the Lord ♦ Jan. 2, 2022

"On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." God asks us to give our lives. What treasures have been given to you to share with others in Christ's name? 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



"Keep Christ in Christmas"
CAR MAGNETS

\$5 each in the narthex
 PROCEEDS TO THE C.W.L.



SUNDAY, JANUARY 2, 2022

The visit of the Magi occurs directly before the story of the Holy Family's flight into Egypt. Matthew's Gospel tells a version of Jesus' birth that is different than the one in Luke. Of the actual birth of Jesus, Matthew tells us little more than, "When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod . . ." The story of the census is found only in Luke's Gospel, but we hear about the visit of the Magi only in Matthew's Gospel.

We know little about the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe them to be astrologers. We assume that there were three Magi based upon the naming of their three gifts. The Gospel does not say how many Magi paid homage to Jesus. In Matthew's Gospel, they represent the Gentiles' search for a savior. Because the Magi represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus.

We have come to consider the gifts they bring as a foreshadowing of Jesus' role in salvation. We believe the meaning of the gifts to be Christological. Gold is presented as representative of Jesus' kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of his divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus' death.

The word Epiphany means "manifestation" or "showing forth." Historically several moments in Christ's early life and ministry have been celebrated as "epiphanies," including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana. ■





January 8-9	5:00 PM Mass	9:30 AM Mass	11:30 AM Mass
Reader:	S. Benner	V. DeVries	L. Gimenez
Ushers:	C. Weber P. Fernandez	V. Chen P. Drohan	I. Kangeloo E. Weiss
Eucharistic Ministers:	J./D. Fernandez	T./K. Boettger	K. Dignam F. Kangeloo

Hamilton Diocesan Speaker Series (Online via ZOOM)

- YEAR OF AMORIS LAETITIA FAMILY -

The kick-off to the Diocesan speaker series, meant to celebrate the year, will be in January, with a special 3-part presentation by Bishop Lobsinger, with input from the Pastoral Offices staff.

The evening sessions will be held from 7-8:30 p.m. on January 12th, 19th and 26th, and will unpack the great wisdom in *Amoris Laetitia: The Joy of Love in Families and Church*.

The presentations, by Zoom, are meant to engage all members of the Diocese in looking at both the challenges and blessings of families in the world today. **Check the Diocesan website at <https://amorislaetitia.hamiltondiocese.com> for more information about both the year and the Diocesan Speaker Series.** Online registration will be necessary to receive the link, where you can join in by phone or internet. For more information contact Teresa Hartnett at thartnett@hamiltondiocese.com, or 905-528-7988 ext. 2250.

Pre-Authorized Debit Plan – Enroll anytime!

"Pre-Authorized Giving" enrollment forms are available year-round on the wall in the narthex. Withdrawals take place once per month. Thank you to all who have signed up for this plan so far (74 families currently). Don't forget to continue using the special (coloured) envelopes in your offertory box, for donating toward special collections (i.e. diocesan, Christmas, Easter, St. Vincent de Paul, etc.) as these collections are not covered by your automatic withdrawals. White Sunday envelopes and green Mortgage envelopes can also still be used for those times when you may wish to augment your automatic monthly contribution.

Questions? Please feel free to contact Pam at the parish office, by phone 519-571-9200 or email, stmark@rogers.com.

All envelope users are reminded to PLEASE DISCARD any unused 2021 envelopes.

Your I.D. number changes every year, therefore the number on last year's envelopes now belongs to someone else, and they could easily get credit for your donation this year. Thank you for your assistance.

New to the Parish?

Welcome!

Please feel free to introduce yourself to Fr. Steve after Mass and be sure to fill out a **Parish Registration Form** (found on the information wall in the lobby) so that we can serve you better!



LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

The Sanctuary Lamp burns this week for:
Intentions of St. Mark's Prayer Network



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.

When does the Christmas Season end?

We all know that Christmas officially begins on Christmas Eve, but when does Christmas officially end? The answer gets a bit complicated...



On January 6th, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Epiphany but in most places such as Canada and the U.S., this feast is transferred to the Sunday between January 2nd and January 8th. Therefore, many believe that this is the date when the Christmas season officially ends, being the end of the traditional 12 days of Christmas.

However, according to the Roman Catholic liturgical calendar, Ordinary Time doesn't officially begin until the Monday after the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, which falls on the Sunday after the Epiphany. This means that the Christmas season actually extends beyond the popular "Twelve Days of Christmas" and this year ends on Sunday, January 9th.

In the older tradition of the Church, Christmas lasts until Candlemas, or the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Presentation of the Lord, which isn't until February 2nd. This marked the end of a long 40-day "Christmastide" that corresponded to the 40 days of Lent. On February 2nd the Church celebrates the day that Mary entered the temple with the Child Jesus when her days of purification after giving birth were fulfilled, according to the Mosaic law, and when Simeon made his well-known prophecy about Mary and the Child. It is historically called "Candle-mas" because of Simeon's prophecy of Jesus being a light for the Gentiles. Today it is better known as the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord.

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

JAN. 3	JAN. 4	JAN. 5	JAN. 6	JAN. 7	JAN. 8
Most Rev. Douglas Crosby, O.M.I.	Rev. Vivek Trindade	Diocesan Priests	Rev. Murray McDermott, C.R.	Rev. Stanley Zaryczny, C.R.	Rev. Raphael Ma, 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.



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