

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
Wed., Thur., Fri. 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,
see chapel bulletin board
Divine Mercy – Fridays 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 one of the following:

7:00 AM on any weekday 5:00 PM on any Saturday

7:00 PM on any Tuesday 9:30 AM on any Sunday

9:00 AM on any Saturday 11:30 AM on any Sunday

OR

I would like the Mass to be on this specific date*: _____

* Please keep in mind that our ability to accommodate a request for a specific date (especially for a weekend) can be difficult without sufficient notice. For this reason, we recommend submitting requests for weekend Masses several months in advance.

Requested by: _____

Daytime Phone # or email: _____

We will attempt to contact you if we are unable to accommodate your request.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Mass Intentions for the Week

Jan. 28 – Feb. 3, 2019

Monday – NO MASS

Tuesday (FERIAL)

7:00 PM + Catherine Hunter – *the Flood family*

Wednesday (FERIAL)

7:00 am + Veronica & Alfred Broderick – *Gloria Kubisewsky*

Thursday (MEMORIAL – ST. JOHN BOSCO)

7:00 am + Paddy Madden – *Mark & Eleanor Lawlor*

First Friday (FERIAL)

*** 7:00 PM** - Int. of Mary Greaney – *Mark & Eleanor Lawlor*

Saturday (FEAST – THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD)

9:00 am + Lucinda Rodrigues – *the Legion of Mary*

(Blessing of Candles during Mass; Blessing of Throats after Mass)

4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19; 1 Corinthians 12:31–13:13; Luke 4:21-30

Sat. 5:00 PM + Bernie Burns – *Derek & Connie Keough*

Sun. 9:30 am - Int. of the Parishioners of St. Mark's

11:30 am + Louise Murphy – *Margaret Simas & Leona Frank*

St. John Bosco – In 1859, Fr. Bosco established the Society of St. Francis de Sales. He organized 15 seminarians and one teenage boy into the group. Their purpose was to carry on his charitable work, helping boys with their faith formation and to stay out of trouble. The organization still exists today and continues to help people, especially children around the world. In the years that followed, Fr. Bosco expanded his mission, which had, and still has, much work to do. He died on January 31, 1888. The call for his canonization was immediate. Pope Pius XI knew Fr. Bosco personally and agreed, declaring him blessed in 1929. St. John Bosco was canonized on Easter Sunday, 1934 and he was given the title, "Father and Teacher of Youth."

Feast of the Presentation of our Lord ~ Saturday, February 2nd

At the end of the fourth century, a woman named Etheria made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. Her journal, discovered in 1887, gives an unprecedented glimpse of liturgical life there. Among the celebrations she describes is the Epiphany, the observance of Christ's birth, and the gala procession in honor of his Presentation in the Temple 40 days later. (Under the Mosaic Law, a woman was ritually "unclean" for 40 days after childbirth, when she was to present herself to the priests and offer sacrifice—her "purification." Contact with anyone who had brushed against mystery—birth or death—excluded a person from Jewish worship.) This feast emphasizes Jesus' first appearance in the Temple more than Mary's purification. The observance spread throughout the Western Church in the fifth and sixth centuries. Because the Church in the West celebrated Jesus' birth on December 25, the Presentation was moved to February 2, forty days after Christmas. At the beginning of the eighth century, Pope Sergius inaugurated a candlelight procession; at the end of the same century the blessing and distribution of candles which continues to this day became part of the celebration, giving the feast its popular name: Candlemas.

If you have any candles to be blessed, please bring them to the 9:00 AM Mass where they will be blessed at the beginning of Mass.

Meetings & Events This Week:

DATE	TIME	ROOM	EVENT
<u>Mon. Jan. 28</u>	8:00 pm	(H)	Alcoholics Anonymous
<u>Tue. Jan. 29</u>	7:00 pm	(M)	11:30 Choir practice
	7:00 pm	(B)	Keys to Loving Relationships
<u>Wed. Jan. 30</u>	6:30 pm	(H)	First Communion meeting (candidates)
	6:30 pm	(CH)	9:30 Choir practice
	7:00 pm	(B)	Women's Prayer Group
<u>Thu. Jan. 31</u>	6:15 pm	(M)	Legion of Mary
	7:30 pm	(CH)	5:00 Choir practice
<u>Fri. Feb. 1</u>	6:00 am	(L)	Men's group
	7:00 pm	(L)	Writers' group
<u>Sat. Feb. 2</u>	10:30 pm	(L)	Writers' group
<u>Sun. Feb. 3</u>	9:30 am	(CH)	Commissioning of Eucharistic Ministers

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

Today's Gospel reading combines two separate passages taken from the Gospel of Luke. First we hear the opening verses where Luke establishes the purpose of his Gospel. His style is typical of polished Greek and Roman literature. In this passage, we learn that Luke may have written to a specific person, Theophilus; but the word Theophilus may also be a general reference, functioning as the phrase "Dear Reader" might in contemporary writing. In Greek, the word Theophilus translates as "lover of God."

Today's Gospel reading then skips several chapters in which one would find the Infancy Narratives, Jesus' baptism by John, the temptations Jesus faced in the desert, and the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. In chapter four of Luke's Gospel, we hear that Jesus is in his hometown of Nazareth, attending the synagogue on the Sabbath, which is said to be his custom. In this account, we find another important clue that Jesus lived as a faithful, observant Jew. We will continue to read from Luke's Gospel in sequence for the next two Sundays.

As Jesus stands in the synagogue, he reads from the scroll handed to him; it contains the words of the prophet Isaiah. At this early moment in his ministry, Jesus announces his mission in continuity with Israel's prophetic tradition. This reading from Isaiah defines Jesus' ministry. We will find more evidence of this as we continue to read from Luke's Gospel throughout the year. Jesus' ministry will include bringing glad tidings to the poor, liberty to captives, healing to the sick, freedom to the oppressed, and proclaiming a year acceptable to the Lord.

Through this text from Isaiah, Jesus announces God's salvation. The "year acceptable to the Lord" is a reference to the Jewish tradition of Sabbath years and jubilee. The Sabbath year was observed every seventh year. It was a year of rest when land was left fallow and food stores were to be shared equally with all. A year of Jubilee was celebrated every fiftieth year, the conclusion of seven cycles of Sabbath years. It was a year of renewal in which debts were forgiven and slaves were freed.

This tradition of Jubilee is the framework for God's promise of salvation. And yet in Jesus, something new begins. Jesus not only announces God's salvation, he brings this salvation about in his person. Jesus is Yahweh's Anointed One, filled with the Spirit of God. The Kingdom of God is now at hand. It is made present in Jesus, in his life, death, and Resurrection. Jesus will send the Holy Spirit so that the Kingdom of God can be fulfilled.

The Holy Spirit is Jesus' gift to the Church. The Holy Spirit enables the Church to continue the mission of Jesus. When we do what Jesus did—bring glad tidings to the poor, liberty to captives, healing to the sick, and freedom to the oppressed—we serve the Kingdom of God. ■

OFFERTORY REPORT

Jan. 19/20, 2019

Sunday envelopes	\$ 2,724.00
Christmas, New Year's, Initial envelopes.....	\$ 120.00
Sunday pre-authorized debits (MONTHLY AMOUNTS x12÷52)	\$ 1,200.46
Loose monies.....	\$ 611.00
TOTAL SUNDAY OFFERINGS	\$ 4,655.46
Mortgage envelopes.....	\$ 125.00
Mortgage pre-authorized debits (MONTHLY AMOUNTS x12÷52).....	\$ 254.88
TOTAL MORTGAGE OFFERINGS.....	\$ 379.88



Ministers, please check your email for the Feb. schedule.

FEB. 2 - 3	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./A. Gallagher R. Robin
Commentator:	K. Friesen	J. Germann	I. Kangaloo
Lectors:	M. Dufresne	V. DeVries T. Germann	M. Oram
Ushers:	L. Macedo I. Cimermancic	M. Walser I./D. Culley	M. Monte
Gift Bearers:		Cerantola	Coe
Eucharistic Ministers:	K. Smith G. MacNeil F. Tully	T. Angel T./K. Boettger	E. Weiss C./K. Dignam

Attention All Eucharistic Ministers (at Mass and to the Sick) ...
Rite of Commissioning for All Eucharistic Ministers
 All Ministers of Holy Communion have been contacted to attend a Rite of Commissioning at one of the following Masses:

Saturday, Jan. 26 at the 5:00 pm Mass,
Sunday, Jan. 27 at the 11:30 am Mass,
 or **Sunday, Feb. 3 at the 9:30 am Mass**

If you are unable to attend one of these commissionings, but wish to continue in this ministry, please contact Pam at the parish office. Also, if you are a Eucharistic Minister and you did not attend one of the training sessions last February or April, please call Pam at the office.

FEAST OF ST. BLAISE

This year, the feast day of St. Blaise (February 3rd) is not celebrated because it falls on a Sunday, which always takes precedence over a feast day.

The traditional blessing of throats, therefore, will take place after the 9:00 AM Mass on Saturday, February 2nd.

Through the intercession of Saint Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from all ailments of the throat and from every other evil: ✠ in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Alpha ... Come and See!

The Alpha Course is an opportunity for anyone to explore the Christian faith. It's relaxed, low-key, friendly and fun. There is a meal together at the beginning of each session, which gives you the opportunity to get to know each other. Listen, learn, discuss, discover and ask anything. Alpha is a place where no question is too simple or too hostile. **You are invited to a "Come and See" on Thursday, Feb 14th at 7:00 p.m. here at St. Mark's.** There will be an opportunity to ask questions and check out a sample video. Refreshments will be provided. **The Alpha Course will run Feb. 28th through May 2nd** here at St. Mark's. Questions? ... Please feel free to contact Ian Kangaloo at 226-808-4733 or stmarkalpha@gmail.com.



JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR SEPT. 2019

for students currently in the St. Mark School boundary will be held at **St. Mark Catholic School**, 240 Autumn Hill Crescent, Kitchener
 - **Tues. Feb. 5, 2019** any time from 4:00 – 6:45 p.m.
 - **Tues. Feb. 12, 2019** any time from 9:45 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Please make an appointment in advance (Tel: 519-743-4682). Children born in 2015 are eligible for Junior Kindergarten. Children born in 2014 are eligible for Senior Kindergarten and only need to register if they were not in Junior Kindergarten this year.

Families Preparing for the Sacraments of Confirmation or First Eucharist

Parents, please be reminded of the remaining dates and details:

FIRST EUCHARIST SESSIONS (Grade 2):

WEDNESDAYS from 6:30 - 7:30 PM:

- Jan. 30 Candidates only *Called by Name: Parable of the Good Shepherd*
- Feb. 20 Candidates & Parents *Jesus present in the Mass through the Priest*
- Apr. 3 Candidates only *Parable of the Found Sheep*
- Apr. 24 Candidates & Parents *The Forgiving Father*



CONFIRMATION SESSIONS (Grade 7):

SUNDAYS from 12:45 - 1:45 PM:

- Feb. 3 Candidates & Parents *Reviewing the Seven Sacraments*
- Feb. 17 Candidates only *Discussing "The Gifts of the Holy Spirit"*
- Mar. 3 Candidates & Parents *Teaching Mass with Father Steve*



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"Hope in the Midst of Suffering"

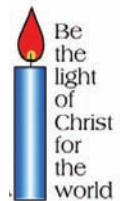
Saturday, March 2, 2019 | 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM
METRO TORONTO CONVENTION CENTRE

Inspired talks by Sr. Ann Shields, Peter Herbeck and keynote guest speaker Father Mark Goring, CC. Separate youth event (ages 13-18) with great music, dynamic talks and inspirational skits. St. Mark's C.W.L. has organized a **BUS** to take us to and from this wonderful event. **Bus leaves St. Mark's Parish at 6:50am sharp and returns at 7:30pm. Cost for the bus is \$18 each** (light refreshments and driver gratuity is included). **Rally Tickets: \$25 adults and \$15 youth. Call Anna Joseph at 519-577-8519 to reserve your ticket and seat on the bus. Don't be disappointed, the bus fills up quickly.**

Diocesan Prayer Calendar

This week, let us pray for...

- Jan. 28 - Rev. Fernando Ferreira Pinto, C.S.Sp.
- Jan. 29 - Rev. Tim Hingston
- Jan. 30 - Fraternity of the Poor of Jesus Christ (p.j.c.)
- Jan. 31 - Rev. David Avila
- Feb. 1 - Rev. Jerzy Tomon



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.*



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.

REMINDER REGARDING OFFERTORY ENVELOPES:

Please throw away any leftover envelopes from last year's box. If you have not yet picked up your 2019 box, they are still available in the narthex. If you do not currently use envelopes and would like to start, please fill out a parish registration form and drop it in the collection basket. Pamphlets to enroll in our Pre-Authorized Debit Plan are also available in the narthex.

Today is White Box Sunday... The St. Vincent de Paul Society has placed a White Box in the narthex this weekend (Jan. 26/27) for anyone wishing to make a donation.



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