

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.

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Mass Intentions for the Week



January 6 – 12, 2020

Monday – NO MASS

Tuesday (MEMORIAL – ST. ANDRÉ BESSETTE)

7:00 PM + Joaquina Costa – *Fernanda*

Wednesday (FERIAL)

12 noon – Int. of Colette Dokis – *Luiz Macedo*

Thursday (FERIAL)

7:00 am + Lorna Hudder – *Pat & Margaret Drohan*

Friday (FERIAL)

7:00 am + Ronald Ferguson MacKenzie – *Yvonne McIsaac*

Saturday (FERIAL)

9:00 am + Ray Anstett – *Jerry & Helen Kieffer*

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7; Acts 10:34-38; Matthew 3:13-17

Sat. 5:00 PM + Joanne McIntosh – *Helen Boutillier*

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

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

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.

Weekly Offertory Report for Dec. 28/29, 2019

	<u>THIS WEEK</u>	<u>YTD - WEEK 52</u>
Offertory Collection:	\$ 4,522.00	\$ 179,108.80
Pre-Authorized Debits:	\$ 1,425.35	\$ 68,628.50
Total Offerings:	\$ 5,947.35	\$ 247,737.30
<i>Budget:</i>	\$ 5,200.00	\$ 270,400.00
<i>Under/Over Budget:</i>	\$ 747.35	(\$22,662.70)
Mortgage Offerings to date this year:	\$ 29,574.00	
<i>Christmas Collection (Dec. 24/25):</i>		\$ 7,388.95

Omitted Names on Offertory Envelopes

When labels were produced for the 2020 offertory envelopes, some mysteriously printed with only one name on labels that should have had two names (e.g. "John & Jane Doe" printed as "John Doe" only). Our apologies to those for whom this happened, and please be assured that you and your spouse/partner are still listed together in our system. The problem only appears when printing a label or correspondence. We will be working in the New Year to remedy this. Thank you for your understanding.

Meetings & Events This Week:

DATE	TIME	ROOM	EVENT
<u>Mon. Jan. 6</u>	8:00 pm	(H)	Alcoholics Anonymous
<u>Wed. Jan. 8</u>	6:30 pm	(CH)	9:30 Choir practice
	7:00 pm	(B)	Women's Prayer Group
<u>Thu. Jan. 9</u>	6:15 pm	(M)	Legion of Mary
	7:30 pm	(CH)	5:00 Choir practice
<u>Fri. Jan. 10</u>	6:00 am	(M)	Men's group

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

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. ■

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 TODAY (Jan. 5).

Program resumes January 12th

Newly Baptized

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



Leo Adam MacGillivray
James Gabriel Bester

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!



Jan. 11 / 12	5:00 PM Mass	9:30 AM Mass	11:30 AM Mass
Altar Servers:	V./P./J. Miller N./J. DeSouza	D./D. Jacobs	C. Chacon B. Starr R. Robin
Commentator:	S. Rellinger	T. Boettger	M. Monte
1 st Reader: 2 nd Reader:	G. Balm	B. Sawarna T. Angel	I. Kangaloo D. DeSouza
Ushers:	L. Macedo	J. DeSouza I./D. Culley	C. Dignam
Gift Bearers:		<i>Children's Liturgy Kids</i>	Coe
Eucharistic Ministers:	K. Smith F./Y. Tully	T./K. Boettger S. Cerantola	A. Monte F. Kangaloo B. Starr

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 12th.

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. 6 - Rev. Piotr Golinski
- Jan. 7 - Rev. Andrew Czarny
- Jan. 8 - Sisters of St. John the Baptist
- Jan. 9 - Rev. John Redmond
- Jan. 10 - Rev. Phillip Cook
- Jan. 11 - Very Rev. L. Kopaniak, S.A.C.

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.

All envelope users are reminded to PLEASE DISCARD any unused 2019 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.

Candidates Preparing for the Sacraments of First Eucharist or Confirmation

A reminder to families of children in Grade 2 or Grade 7 that Sacramental Preparation begins this month with a **Parents' Meeting on Sun. Jan. 12th after the 11:30 Mass in the church.** See below for a full list of dates.

FIRST EUCHARIST (Grade 2)

Preparation Meetings at the church:

- | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Sunday, January 12 | after 11:30 Mass | Parents only |
| Sunday, January 26 | after 11:30 Mass | Candidates |
| Sunday, February 2 | after 11:30 Mass | Candidates (& Parents w/ Fr. Steve) |
| Sunday, February 9 | after 11:30 Mass | Candidates |
| Sunday, February 23 | after 11:30 Mass | Candidates (& Parents w/ Fr. Steve) |



CONFIRMATION (Grade 7)

Preparation Meetings at the church:

- | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Sunday, January 12 | after 11:30 Mass | Parents only |
| Sunday, March 29 | after 11:30 Mass | Candidates |
| Sunday, April 19 | after 11:30 Mass | Candidates (& Parents w/ Fr. Steve) |
| Sunday, May 3 | after 11:30 Mass | Candidates |
| Sunday, May 17 | after 11:30 Mass | Candidates (& Parents w/ Fr. Steve) |



If your child did not submit an Enrollment Form to Fr. Steve in December, please call Pam at the parish office on Monday.

Keys to Loving Relationships – "Keys" is a 10-week, video-based program meant for anyone (married or single) who is looking for a more meaningful relationship with a spouse, family member or friend. Learn how to become a better "me" in all your relationships! The program runs Tuesday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. **starting Jan. 28th until March 24th here at St. Mark's Parish.** The cost is \$45. For more information, please call the Family Ministry Office at (905) 528-7988 ext. 2249

Church Bulletin Advertising – Liturgical Publications will begin setting up the advertisements that support the printing of our church bulletin for the coming year. Please consider lending your support by advertising your business weekly on the back cover of our bulletin. Call **Liturgical Publications** at 1-800-268-2637. Ads will begin running in February 2020.

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.



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