

# St. Mark Catholic Parish

55 Driftwood Drive, Kitchener, Ontario N2N 3A2

519-571-9200

[www.stmarkcatholicparish.org](http://www.stmarkcatholicparish.org)



*We saw his star in the East  
and have come to worship Him*

# EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

## Mass Intentions for the Week

January 7 – 13, 2019

**Monday – NO MASS**

**Tuesday** (FERIAL CHRISTMAS)  
7:00 PM + Rosalia Kellner

**Wednesday** (FERIAL CHRISTMAS)  
7:00 am + Jack Soares and Family – Maria

**Thursday** (FERIAL CHRISTMAS)  
7:00 am + Teodulo Estrada Sr. – Cora Reyes

**Friday** (FERIAL CHRISTMAS)  
7:00 am + Jennifer Anne Durante – Brenda & Ray Klochnyk

**Saturday** (MEMORIAL – ST. MARGUERITE BOURGEOYS)  
9:00 am - Int. of Deacon Raphael Ma – Olinski Family

### FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7; Acts 10:34-38; Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

**Sat. 5:00 PM** + Jennifer Anne Durante – Brian & Marie Lynch

**Sun. 9:30 am** + Gail Barrett – Joanne Brohman  
11:30 am - Int. of the Parishioners of St. Mark's

**St. Marguerite Bourgeoys** – the French founder of the Congregation of Notre Dame of Montreal in the colony of New France, now part of Québec. She lived in Fort Ville-Marie (now Montreal) as of 1653, educating young girls, the poor, and natives until her death at the turn of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. She is also significant for developing one of the first uncloistered religious communities in the Catholic Church. Marguerite had an exceptional and practical love of God and neighbor. She had a great desire to serve the Church in its most local form, the parish. She exhorted her extern congregation of educators to be "daughters of the parish" – to worship with the people and use the local church as a source of spiritual nourishment.

### Offertory Collection

Dec. 29/30, 2018

Sunday envelopes.....	\$ 3,549.00
Christmas envelopes.....	\$ 290.00
Sunday pre-authorized debits (MONTHLY AMOUNTS x12÷52).....	\$ 1,200.46
Loose monies .....	\$ 410.00
<b>TOTAL SUNDAY OFFERINGS.....</b>	<b>\$ 5,449.46</b>
Mortgage envelopes.....	\$ 70.00
Mortgage pre-authorized debits (MONTHLY AMOUNTS x12÷52) .....	\$ 254.88
<b>TOTAL MORTGAGE OFFERINGS.....</b>	<b>\$ 324.88</b>

Due to advanced bulletin deadlines during the month of December, the Christmas offertory report will appear in next weekend's bulletin.

**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 2019.

2019 Sunday Missals – \$5 each

2019 Catholic Faith Calendars – Free will offering

### Meetings & Events This Week:

DATE	TIME	ROOM	EVENT
<u>Mon. Jan. 7</u>	8:00 pm	(H)	Alcoholics Anonymous
<u>Tue. Jan. 8</u>	6:30 pm	(J)	Search & Rescue
	7:30 pm	(M)	Knights of Columbus Executive mtg.
<u>Wed. Jan. 9</u>	6:30 pm	(M)	9:30 Choir practice
	6:30 pm	(CH)	Sacramental Prep Parents' Meeting
	7:00 pm	(B)	Women's Prayer Group
<u>Thur. Jan. 10</u>	6:15 pm	(M)	Legion of Mary
	7:30 pm	(CH)	5:00 Choir practice
<u>Fri. Jan. 11</u>	6:00 am	(L)	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 which tells us that Jesus was no longer in the manger but now a child at home. "They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage." Although we do not know the exact age of Jesus, it is believed that he was under the age of 2 (because of Herod order to kill boys under the age of 2) and no longer an infant but a child.

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. ■

Thank you to the many people who offered their time and talents to make the church, inside and out, look so beautiful and festive during Christmas and especially to Colette and Judy for their creativity in creating the manger scene. As a parish, we also thank our three choirs for their beautiful music and dedication of time in enhancing our Christmas Liturgies. If you donated one of the Christmas Trees in the narthex and would like it returned, please call Pam at the parish office to arrange for pick up, otherwise, it will be stored until next year.





Please check your email inbox for the January schedule. Limited hard copies are available in the narthex for those who do not have email.

**We would like to thank everyone that supported our Christmas Hamper Program.** Many thanks to the parishioners who took an Angel from the Angel Tree and purchased a gift or gave a monetary gift. Our family of schools, Resurrection CSS, St. Dominic CES and St. Mark CES, who donated hats, scarves, mitts and gifts for the children plus food for our shelves. A special thank you to our faithful volunteers, and the students of St. Mark CES that helped give out the hampers and gifts. This year, thanks to your generosity, we were able to assist 65 families, and give gifts to 125 children. You have given these families hope at this difficult time of year. We wish everyone many blessings this Christmas and in the coming year. – **St. Mark's Society of St. Vincent de Paul**

**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 6<sup>th</sup>, 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and January 8<sup>th</sup>. 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 13<sup>th</sup>.

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 2<sup>nd</sup>. This marked the end of a long 40-day "Christmastide" that corresponded to the 40 days of Lent. On February 2<sup>nd</sup> 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. 7 - Rev. Stipe Renic, O.F.M.
- Jan. 8 - Rev. Peter Watters
- Jan. 9 - Felician Franciscan Sisters (C.S.S.F.)
- Jan. 10 - Rev. Ilija Petkovic
- Jan. 11 - Rev. Msgr. Ivan Vuksic
- Jan. 12 - Rev. Michael Vanderbeek, L.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.*

*C.W.L. Corner*

- ♦ "Keep Christ in Christmas" CAR MAGNETS - \$5 each in the narthex.
- ♦ Next Mass for CWL Intentions: Sat. Jan. 26<sup>th</sup> at 5pm

**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 Wed. Jan. 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the church.** See below for a full list of dates.

**If your child missed attending one of the Enrolment Masses on Dec. 1/2 and has not yet handed in their form,** please bring it to Fr. Steve after Mass as soon as possible. If you require a blank form, please contact the parish office at [stmark@rogers.com](mailto:stmark@rogers.com).



**FIRST EUCHARIST (Grade 2)**

**Preparation Meetings at the church:**

Wednesday, January 9	6:30-7:30 pm	Parents only
Wednesday, January 30	6:30-7:30 pm	Candidates only
Wednesday, February 20	6:30-7:30 pm	Candidates & Parents
Wednesday, April 3	6:30-7:30 pm	Candidates only
Wednesday, April 24	6:30-7:30 pm	Candidates & Parents

**CONFIRMATION (Grade 7):**

**Preparation Meetings at the church:**

Wednesday, January 9	6:30-7:30 pm	Parents only
Sunday, January 20	following 11:30 Mass	Candidates only
Sunday, February 3	following 11:30 Mass	Candidates & Parents
Sunday, February 17	following 11:30 Mass	Candidates only
Sunday, March 3	following 11:30 Mass	Candidates & Parents



**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. 22<sup>nd</sup> until March 26<sup>th</sup> 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

The Diocese of Hamilton is conducting the *One Heart, One Soul* campaign to raise money for every Parish in the Diocese and for shared ministries. A compilation of "Frequently Asked Questions" are available throughout the campaign at [www.oneheartonesoul.ca](http://www.oneheartonesoul.ca).

**Vocation Seeds** – "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 you think God is calling you to be a priest, contact Fr. Michael King, Vocation Director, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988 or email [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com).

**FAITH ENRICHMENT AT ST. LOUIS PARISH, WATERLOO**

♦ **Frances Hogan's Gospel of Luke** is a detailed study of the author, setting and all the action in this Gospel which we hear on Sundays during 2019. No cost. Bring your Bible. **Mondays from 7:30 to 9:00 pm starting on Jan. 14<sup>th</sup> in the Large Hall of St. Louis Church (53 Allen St. E, Waterloo).** Enter via side elevator. For more information call 519-743-4101.





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