

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. Philip Fernandez – *Deacon*
Mrs. Pam Olinski – *Parish Secretary*

LORD'S DAY MASSES

Saturday at 5:00 PM
Sunday at 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM
No Children's Liturgy of the Word until further notice.

WEEKDAY MASS

Tuesday through Friday at 12:00 NOON
First Saturday of the Month at 9:00 AM

CONFESSIONS

Saturday at 4:15 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

Principal: Pat Runstedler
3 Westforest Trail 519-576-5503

St. Mark Catholic Elementary School

Principal: Gary Lankowski
240 Autumn Hill Crescent 519-743-4682

Resurrection Catholic Secondary School

Principal: Marisa Munroe
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 will appear in the bulletin.

If you require a Mass card please call or email the parish office to make pick-up arrangements.

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*: _____

**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.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Mass Intentions for the Week



March 21 – 27, 2022

Tuesday (FERIAL)

12 Noon + Peter & Theresa Nguyen – Melissa Nguyen

Wednesday (FERIAL)

12 Noon – Int. of Betty & Paul Enticott – M.&M. Woodhouse

Thursday (FERIAL)

12 Noon + Maria Campos – Cutting family

Friday (SOLEMNITY – ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD)

12 Noon + Malcolm McNeil – Kathy Smith

12:30 PM - STATIONS OF THE CROSS

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT – March 26-27

Joshua 5:9a, 10-12; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Sat. 5:00 PM + Schreiber family – Helen & Frank Simpson

Sun. 9:30 am – Int. of Allan & Quinton Musclow & Joanne Heaney

11:30 am – Intentions of the Parishioners of St. Mark

The SOLEMNITY of the ANNUNCIATION

Friday, March 25

Celebrates the coming of the Angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary to announce to her the special mission God had chosen for her in being the mother of His only son.

We are continually reminded of the importance of this feast to our salvation in various devotional prayers. Two examples that highlight the importance of this feast are the joyous mysteries of the Rosary and the Angelus.

The feast of the Annunciation began to be celebrated on this day during the fourth and fifth centuries, soon after the date for celebrating Christmas was universalized throughout the Church. This feast celebrates the Incarnation of the Second Person of the Trinity and the salvation of all mankind. This point of our salvation was deeply discussed by many of the Church fathers, to explain it to the faithful and to show the deep love God has for us. Some of the Church fathers who wrote on this were St. Athanasius, St. Gregory of Nyssa and St. Augustine.

Please note that in the event of a FUNERAL MASS on a weekday, the daily noon Mass will be cancelled. Whenever possible, cancellations will be announced at previous Masses and posted on the church doors and parish website.

STATIONS of the CROSS follows the 12 noon Mass on Fridays during Lent.



POTATO BLITZ – Bring your spuds to the Church over the next few weeks and the Knights of Columbus will deliver them to the House of Friendship for their annual Potato Blitz.

Do you have a key to the church?

As per diocesan policy we are performing a periodic reconciliation of church key holders, making sure our list is up-to-date. **If you currently hold a key to the church** (regardless of whether or not you still use it) please contact the parish office before the end of March (519-571-9200 or stmark@rogers.com) to let us know if you still require a key.



Luke 13:1-9 ♦ Jesus preaches a lesson on repentance.

Now into the third week of the Season of Lent, our Sunday Gospel prepares us to hear Lent's call to conversion and repentance. Today's reading is found in the chapters of Luke's Gospel that describe Jesus' journey to Jerusalem. During this journey, Jesus teaches and heals. He must also respond to those who question and challenge his authority and actions. There is no parallel in Mark's or Matthew's Gospels for today's reading from Luke. While Mark and Matthew describe an incident in which Jesus curses the fig tree, today's reading makes the barren fig tree the subject of a parable.

Luke tells us that some among the crowds report to Jesus a massacre of Galileans by Pilate. The intention of the crowd seems to be to ask Jesus to explain why these people suffered. It was commonplace to render people's suffering as evidence of their sinfulness. Jesus challenges this interpretation. Those who were massacred were no more or less sinful than the ones who report the situation to Jesus. Jesus replies that even a fatal accident, a natural disaster, ought not to be interpreted as punishment for sin.

Jesus' words at first appear to have a fire-and-brimstone quality. Jesus says in essence, "Repent or perish as these people did; if are sinful before God and deserving of God's punishment." The tone changes, however, in the parable that follows. The parable of the barren fig tree contrasts the patience and hopefulness of the gardener with the practicality of the property owner. When told to cut down the fig tree because it is not producing fruit, the gardener counsels patience. If properly tended, the barren fig tree may yet bear fruit.

Throughout his journey to Jerusalem, Jesus has been teaching about the Kingdom of God. In this parable, we find an image of God's patience and hopefulness as he prepares his Kingdom. God calls us to repent, and it is within his power to punish us for our failure to turn from our sinfulness. And yet God is merciful. He delays punishment and tends to us so that we may yet bear the fruit he desires from us.

This, then, is our reason for hope: Not only does God refuse to abandon us, he chooses to attend to us even when we show no evidence of his efforts. Next week's Gospel will give an even clearer picture of the kind of mercy that God shows to us. ■

Preparation for First Communion & Confirmation

If you have not yet contacted the parish to enroll your child for the Sacrament of First Communion (grade 2), or Confirmation (grade 7), **please contact Pam at the parish office a.s.a.p.** (stmark@rogers.com / 519-571-9200) **and provide the following info:** Child's name, school, grade and preferred email address. We will then send you an enrollment form to complete and return along with a photo of your child's baptism certificate. Preparation for these sacraments will begin in the next few weeks via emailed materials for you to study with your child.

Liturgical Ministers

March 26-27	5:00PM Mass	9:30AM Mass	11:30AM Mass
Reader:	S. Benner	T. Germann	I. Kangaloo
Ushers:	B. Benner P. Fernandez	I./D. Culley	C. Dignam E. Weiss
Eucharistic Ministers:	C. Weber J. Fernandez	A. Joseph P. Enticott	B./C. Voisin



The SYNOD on SYNODALITY

This is the final week that Deacon Philip will be facilitating small group discussions, in-person and virtually, on the upcoming Synod. **The following dates are still open, and you need only attend one session:**

IN-PERSON SESSION DATES: March 22 or 24

Beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the St. John's Meeting Room off the parish hall. Each evening will be limited to a maximum of 15 participants.

VIRTUAL SESSION DATES: March 21 (via ZOOM)

Beginning online at 6:30 p.m. and limited to a maximum of 10 participants. An electronic link to join the virtual session will be sent to the email address you provide when you sign-up.

Sign-up sheets can be found in the narthex, or you can contact Deacon Philip at 519-578-6459 or pfernandez@hamiltondiocese.com. Once registered, you will receive further information via email.

LEARNING MORE ABOUT OUR CATHOLIC FAITH

Evenings with His Excellency

BISHOP WAYNE LOBSINGER

Live Online **OR** In-person (Hamilton)

Friday, April 8th ♦ 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Remaining dates: May 13 ♦ June 10

Join Bishop Lobsinger online or in person at Canadian Martyrs Church (1349 Main Street West, Hamilton).

Each month we will methodically go through the "Catechism of the Catholic Church". **There is no registration, no fee and no homework.** Come ready to learn and ask all the questions you always wanted to ask about our Catholic Faith.

Watch live online at: www.canadianmartyrshamilton.com
or view past sessions on YouTube: <https://tinyurl.com/mxz7dtuv>

K of C 2022 Ontario Charities 50-50 Online Raffle

Jackpot Draw: March 31, 2022

To purchase tickets visit: <https://www.kofcontario5050.com>



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C.W.L. NEWS...

♦ ST. MARK'S C.W.L. ELECTIONS!

This is the last weekend to submit your nominations. **TODAY IS THE DEADLINE – SUNDAY, MARCH 20.**

You will find nomination sheets on the table in the Narthex. It only takes a couple of minutes to submit the name of your CWL Sister. ****We will be holding our elections on Saturday, March 26th at 10:00 a.m.** This will also be our Secret Praying Sister reveal, and an opportunity to pick your Secret Praying Sister for the next year. Refreshments will be provided.

♦ **PRAYING FOR UKRAINE:** This is open for anyone that would like to join. The Provincial Christian Family Life Chair, Colleen Martin, will be reciting the Divine Mercy Chapel with the assistance of an online video **each morning at 8:00 a.m. EST** until there is peace in Ukraine once again. Please feel free to join her any day you may wish. If there are volunteers to recite the chapel in person on any day, please email Colleen Martin in advance at: cwlcfl@tbaytel.net. Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82848869346?pwd=WmJac2RXZTlhYWdzZlhmNjZBYytKdz09>

Meeting ID: **828 4886 9346** / Passcode: **b9Yh73**



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

MAR. 21	MAR. 22	MAR. 23	MAR. 24	MAR. 25	MAR. 26
Rev. Mark Morley	Rev. Paul Vellimoozhayil	Franciscan Fathers (O.F.M.)	Rev. James McSharry	Most Rev. Matthew Ustrzycki	Rev. Ireneusz Koziak, 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.



LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

The Sanctuary Lamps burn this week for:
My Daughter & Husband and A Private Intention



You may request to have one or both lamps burn for a special intention or for the repose of someone's soul. 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.

3 Keys to Creating Your Catholic H.O.M.

(Household On Mission)

- Third talk in the Hamilton Diocesan Speaker Series -

What does it take to create a happy, holy family life? Is that even possible these days? *It is!* Join us on **Tuesday, March 22nd from 7:00-8:30 p.m.** for a dynamic discussion of the three things every Catholic family can do to relate more lovingly, connect more meaningfully, and care for each other and the world more deeply. Discover simple, practical ways you can create a more joyful, peaceful family life, encounter Christ more meaningfully at home, and experience your faith as the source of warmth in your home. For this session we welcome **Dr. Greg and Lisa Popcak**, creators of CatholicHOM (CatholicHOM.com) a dynamic online community, directors of CatholicCounselors.com, founders of The Peyton Institute for Domestic Church Life, as well as authors of over 20 popular books integrating the timeless wisdom of our Catholic faith with contemporary research in counseling psychology. **The entire series runs once per month until June and is presented online via ZOOM. You must register for each talk, but can join in by internet or phone.** To register, or for more information please visit the Diocesan website at <https://amorislaetitia.hamiltondiocese.com/speaker-series> or contact Teresa Hartnett at thartnett@hamiltondiocese.com or 905-528-7988 ext. 2250. PLEASE SEE POSTER IN THE NARTHEX FOR SUBSEQUENT TALKS.



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