

# 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.*

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

### Mass Intentions for the Week



Mar. 28 – April 3, 2022

**Tuesday** (FERIAL)  
12 Noon + Maria & Ernesto Camara & family – D. Costa

**Wednesday** (FERIAL)  
12 Noon + Nellie & Bill Yarosh – Nick & Sharon Cerantola

**Thursday** (FERIAL)  
12 Noon + Ivan Cimermanic – Michelle

**First Friday** (FERIAL)  
12 Noon + Antero Correia & family – Justina Costa  
12:30 PM - STATIONS OF THE CROSS

**First Saturday** (FERIAL)  
9:00 am + Maria Campos – Campos family

### FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT – April 2-3

Isaiah 43:16-21; Philippians 3:8-14; John 8:1-11

Sat. 5:00 PM + Claire & Fernand Mainguy – Judy Swartz

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

11:30 am + Una Marie Delaney – Paul, Joanne, Connor & Colby



### Luke 15:1-3,11-32 ♦ Parable of the Prodigal Son

The parable Jesus tells in today's Gospel is unique to the Gospel of Luke. Jesus has been teaching the crowds as he journeys to Jerusalem. As he teaches, the Pharisees and scribes complain and challenge Jesus because he is welcoming sinners at his table. Today we hear the third of three parables that Jesus tells in response to his critics. These three familiar parables—the lost sheep, the lost coin, and today's parable of the prodigal son—invite us to consider the depth of God's mercy and love.

The Pharisees taught a scrupulous observance of Jewish Law. In their interpretation and practice, observant Jews who shared table fellowship with sinners would be made unclean. Like Jesus, the Pharisees hoped to lead sinners back to God. The Pharisees, however, required that sinners first become ritually clean—observant of the Pharisees' interpretation of Jewish Law—before sharing table fellowship. This appears to be one of the major differences between the Pharisees and Jesus. Jesus reaches out to sinners while they are still sinners, inviting them to conversion through fellowship with him. Jesus is God acting among us; by befriending us, he is inviting us to return to friendship with God. Through friendship with Jesus, our sins are forgiven and we, in turn, bear fruit for God. Recall last Sunday's Gospel and the barren fig tree.

Our familiarity with today's parable risks dulling us to its tremendously powerful message. We call this the parable of the lost son or the prodigal son. Any focus on the younger son, however, must also be balanced by an examination of the unusual behavior of the father.

First we must imagine our first response to the audacity of a son who asks for his inheritance before his father has died. Indignation would certainly be a justifiable response to such a request. Yet the father in this parable agrees to honor the son's request and divides his property among his two sons. How might we describe such a father? Foolish comes to mind, but so does trusting. Without property of his own, the father must rely upon his sons to provide for his well-being.

The younger son takes his inheritance and leaves home. The older son remains, continuing to provide for the father and the household. Having been disgraced by the younger son, the father spends some time watching the road for the return of the lost son. When he eventually sees his wayward son returning, the father not only welcomes him but also runs out to greet him and then honors him with a party. We say that this father is loving and forgiving. Yet these adjectives only begin to describe the depth of love and mercy that characterize the father.

We find no surprise in the anger of the older son. Yet the father appears sad and even confused by the older son's indignation. He says in reply that they should celebrate because the lost son had returned. The father is filled with gratitude and love for the older son's faithfulness. This love is in no way diminished by the father's rejoicing at the return of the younger son. Yet the older son's jealousy reveals his limited understanding of the depth of his father's love.

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is traditionally called Laetare Sunday. Laetare is a Latin word that means "rejoice." Today's Gospel describes the reason for our joy: God's great love for us has been revealed in Jesus. Through his Passion, Death, and Resurrection, Christ has reconciled us with God and one another. ■

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



### 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](mailto:stmark@rogers.com)) to let us know if you still require a key.

### Easter Flowers

Contributions toward the purchase of Easter Flowers may be made in memory of a loved one; Mass on Easter Sunday morning will be offered for the repose of their souls. Look for the pink box in the narthex with envelopes for donations.



We offer our sympathy and prayers to **Al & Diane Bendia** on the death of Al's mother, **Domenica**; and also to **Pat & Margaret Drohan** on the death of Pat's brother, **Thomas**.

*"Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen."*



LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

The Sanctuary Lamps burn this week for:

PEACE IN UKRAINE



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.

## Liturgical Ministers

As mentioned last week, the diocese has given the okay for all liturgical ministers to resume their ministries at Mass (i.e. altar servers, ushers, gift bearers, readers, Eucharistic ministers). **If you would like to resume or sign-up for one of these roles**, please see Fr. Steve after Mass, or give Pam a call at the office.

April 2-3	5:00 PM Mass	9:30 AM Mass	11:30 AM Mass
<b>Reader:</b>	M. Dufresne	P. Enticott	M. Oram
<b>Ushers:</b>	E. Miller C. Weber	T. Germann J. Kelly	B./C. Voisin
<b>Eucharistic Ministers:</b>	J. Fernandez A. Bendia	J. Swartz M. Lynch	I./F. Kangaloo

LEARNING MORE ABOUT OUR CATHOLIC FAITH  
**Evenings with His Excellency**  
BISHOP WAYNE LOBSINGER

Live Online **OR** In-person (Hamilton)  
Next Session: **Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup> ♦ 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.**  
Remaining dates: May 13 and 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](http://www.canadianmartyrshamilton.com) or view previous sessions on YouTube at: <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>



### Ontario March Membership Drive

TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE

This weekend St. Mark's Knights of Columbus will be in the Narthex after Mass inviting men to apply for membership and join them in their special works here at St. Mark's Parish.

[www.kofc9276.org](http://www.kofc9276.org) | [www.ontariokofc.ca](http://www.ontariokofc.ca) | [www.kofc.org/joinus](http://www.kofc.org/joinus)

### First Communion & Reconciliation

Preparation for these sacraments has begun. If you are not receiving the study sessions via email, please contact the parish office.



### Heartache to Healing - Grief Support Group

Wednesday evenings – **April 20 to May 25** – 7:00-8:30 pm (doors open at 6:30 pm) at **St. Michael's Parish**, 80 University Ave. West, Waterloo. This program is designed to assist people after the death of a loved one or a significant loss, and follows the process developed by Dr. Bill Webster, an experienced leader in grief counselling. Everyone is welcome. There is no fee, but you must register by April 13<sup>th</sup> by contacting St. Michael's parish office at 519-884-9311 or [parish@stmichaelw.ca](mailto:parish@stmichaelw.ca). For more info visit [www.stmichaelw.ca/grief-support](http://www.stmichaelw.ca/grief-support).

### C.W.L. NEWS...



**DAILY PRAYER 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 wish. If you wish to volunteer to recite the chaplet in person on any day, please email Colleen Martin in advance at: [cwlcfl@tbaytel.net](mailto:cwlcfl@tbaytel.net). Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82848869346?pwd=WmJac2RXZTlhYWdzZlhmNiZBYytKdz09>  
Meeting ID: **828 4886 9346** / Passcode: **b9Yh73**

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

MAR. 28	MAR. 29	MAR. 30	MAR. 31	APRIL 1	APRIL 2
Rev. William Trusz	Rev. David Reitzel	Sisters of St. Joseph of Canada (C.S.J.)	Rev. Ross Campbell	Rev. Peter Robinson	Rev. David Reilander

**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.

### The Real Me: Drawing Teens Out of the Shadows

- 4th talk in the Hamilton Diocesan Speaker Series -

Join Roy Petitfils on **Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup> from 7:00-8:30 p.m.** for practical and experiential antidotes on how to assist teens to feel empowered, supported and strong enough so they can come out of the shadows and thrive in their lives. Roy has spent his life helping teens so they will not feel invisible. He will provide insights into how parents/teachers/parish staff/others can help ensure no child ever feels this way. An internationally sought-after speaker and recognized expert in understanding and raising teenagers, Roy is a therapist at Pax Renewal Center in Lafayette, Louisiana, and holds a Masters in Mental Health and School Counseling from the University of Louisiana. Roy uses humor, passion, clinical and life experience to help adults connect with teens and teens to know, understand and love themselves.

**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](mailto:thartnett@hamiltondiocese.com) or 905-528-7988 ext. 2250. **PLEASE SEE POSTER IN THE NARTHEX FOR SUBSEQUENT TALKS.**

### Canadian Food for Children (CFFC) requests your help

The Catholic parishes in our area have always been so generous with donations to CFFC, donations particularly of clothes, housewares, school supplies, bedding and hygiene goods. With the onset of Covid two years ago, our donations drastically diminished. If your parish has not already heard of our present needs, we are appealing to you now to help us. With springtime approaching, many of us are tidying up and cleaning out drawers and cupboards, moving and/or downsizing. Why not give those gently used, unwanted items a new home? **Our warehouse is located at 843 Guelph Street in Kitchener and we are open on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 12:30 to 3:00 p.m. to accept your donations.** If desired, our expanded "Wish List" can be accessed by emailing [pinn@golden.net](mailto:pinn@golden.net). We thank you in advance for helping us clothe and provide for the poor in so many Third World Countries.



**PRAY FOR PEACE IN UKRAINE ♦ Interfaith Prayer Service ♦ Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.**  
St. Anthony Daniel R.C. Church, Kitchener ♦ corner of Ottawa St. & Franklin St. ♦ ALL ARE WELCOME.





528 Victoria St. N., beside Weston's Bakery  
519-745-6136

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