

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 – *Secretary*

The Parish Office is open by appointment only.

Please call or email ahead to schedule your visit.

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

Wednesday 12:00 NOON

followed by Adoration and Benediction

CONFESSIONS

Saturday at 4:15 PM or by appointment.

BLESSED SACRAMENT ADORATION CHAPEL

Closed until further notice.

PANDEMIC PROTOCOL

Seating capacity in the church is restricted to 30%. Doors open 30 minutes before Mass. Seating will be first come, first served. Under the Ontario guidelines, we ask that:

- all who are not feeling well, or have an elevated temperature, please stay home.
- when you visit the church you wear a face covering over your nose, mouth, and chin. Required by the Face Covering By-law 20-035.
- you practice generous social distancing (minimum 6 ft.) and follow the signs and ushers' directions.
- that you use your washroom before coming to church.

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 SOCIETY

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 drop it in the mail. Your intention will be printed in the bulletin and announced at Mass.

If you require a Mass card please call 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 8 – 14, 2021

Lent



Church doors are open 30 minutes before the start of Mass, and seating is restricted to 30% capacity (first come first seated) until further notice.

Wednesday, March 10 (FERIAL)

12 noon + Ivan Cimermancic – Michelle

12:30 PM - STATIONS OF THE CROSS

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

2 Chronicles 36:14-17a, 19-23+; Ephesians 2:4-10; John 3:14-21

Sat. 5:00 PM + Maria Silvestre – Joao

Sun. 9:30 am – Special Intention – Pam & Andrew Olinski

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



Mass of Chrism

His Excellency, Bishop Crosby, will celebrate the Mass of Chrism on **Monday, March 29th** in the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, Hamilton. This year, due to COVID capacity limitations and social distancing requirements, attendance at the Chrism Mass will be **limited to Priests only**. Each year at the Mass of Chrism, the Bishop blesses the Oil of the Sick, and the Oil of Catechumens, and consecrates Sacred Chrism. The blessed and consecrated Oils are taken to the Parishes of the Diocese to be used in the celebration of the Sacraments for the coming year. The Priests serving in the Diocese, together with the Bishop, renew the promises of their Ordination in which they committed themselves to serve this local Church in imitation of Christ the Priest, Prophet and Shepherd. Let us pray for all who minister to God's holy people in our Diocese – our Bishops, Priests, Deacons, lay leaders, and all God's holy people.



Bring your SPUDS to the Church during the month of March and the Knights of Columbus will deliver them to the House of Friendship for their annual Potato Blitz.

Anniversary Mass 2021 Registration

The Anniversary Mass scheduled for June of 2021 has been **cancelled** due to restrictions and concerns around COVID-19. We invite you to register your 25, 40, 50, 60 and 60 plus years of marriage on the Diocesan website at www.hamiltondiocese.com. The Anniversary Mass is listed on the home page – click on the icon and you can register your anniversary. We will send you the certificate you would have received from Bishop Crosby at the Mass.

In today's Gospel we read about how Jesus overturned the tables of the merchants and the moneychangers in the Temple at Jerusalem. In order to understand the relevance of Jesus' action, we must learn more about the activities that were going on in the temple area. Worship at the Temple in Jerusalem included animal sacrifice, and merchants sold animals to worshipers. Moneychangers exchanged Roman coins, which bore the image of the Roman emperor, for the temple coins that were needed to pay the temple tax.

Jesus' action at the Temple in Jerusalem is recorded in all four Gospels and is often understood to be among the events that led to Jesus' arrest and Crucifixion. The Gospel of John, however, places this event much earlier in Jesus' public ministry than do the Synoptic Gospels. In John's Gospel this event occurs at the very beginning of Jesus' ministry, after his first miracle at the wedding feast at Cana.

We must read the Gospel of John carefully, especially in its presentation of Jesus' relationship to Judaism. The Gospel of John tends to reflect greater tension and animosity between Jesus and the Jewish authorities than the Synoptic Gospels. The Gospel of John was the last of the four Gospels to be written, and its narrative reflects the growing divide between the Jewish community and the early Christian community. Thus, greater emphasis on the distinction between Christianity and Judaism is found in John's Gospel.

Reflecting upon the destruction of the Temple of Jerusalem (A.D. 70), John recalls Jesus' cleansing of the Temple and uses that story to interpret this later event. John explains to his audience, an early Christian community, that temple worship would no longer be necessary because it was surpassed in the passion, death, and Resurrection of Jesus. With greater frequency than the other Evangelists, John intersperses post-Resurrection reflections of this Christian community in his narrative.

After clearing the Temple of the merchants and the moneychangers, John's Gospel tells us that the people asked for a sign of Jesus' authority to do such an audacious act. In response, Jesus predicted his death and Resurrection. Throughout John's Gospel, the language of signs is distinctive. Jesus' miracles are called signs, and the people look to these signs for proof of his authority. Here we learn that the sign par excellence will be Jesus' passion, death, and Resurrection.

During Lent we reflect upon the meaning of this sign for us and for our world. We might take this opportunity to consider the quality of our prayer and worship. In our prayers we seek to deepen our relationship with the person of Christ. In our worship with the community, we gather to experience anew the passion, death, and Resurrection of Jesus and its significance in our lives. Christ promises to be present with us when we gather for prayer.

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MAR. 13/14	5:00 PM	9:30 AM	11:30 AM
Reader:	S. Rellinger	T. Germann	I. Kangaloo
Ushers:	J./G. Morgan, C. Weber, B. Benner, P. Fernandez	I./D. Culley, V. Chen, M. Murchie, P. Drohan,	T./K. Boettger, E. Weiss C. Dignam, D. Feick
Eucharistic Ministers:	J. Swartz, A. Joseph	T. Angel, T. Lee	F. Kangaloo, C. Voisin



THE BATTLE OVER THE BRIDE

The St. Mark Men's Group hasn't let the pandemic slow us down!

***That Man is You!* resumes Saturday mornings January 23rd - April 24th at 8:15 AM on Zoom.**

That Man is You! honestly addresses the pressures and temptations that men face in our modern culture, especially those relating to their roles as husbands and fathers. The program harmonizes current social and medical science with the teachings of the Church and the wisdom of the saints to develop the vision of man fully alive! **Visit www.tmiy.org for more info.**

Until we return to our breakfast meeting format, men watch a 30-minute video during the week, then meet to discuss via Zoom on Saturdays

Contact ian.kangaloo@gmail.com with your questions and to receive the weekly email with the Zoom link and access to the videos.

Pornography: The Threat, Impact and Catholic Remedy

Pornography is one of the most important issues to understand in our world today. With the ease of its availability on the internet, it has affected people of all ages and backgrounds, whether male or female. Pornography today is violent and degrading and often involves young people who have been sex-trafficked. **Join us on Zoom (by internet or phone) Thur. March 25th from 7-8:30 p.m.** and hear more about the threat and impact of pornography on children and adults, how we can educate ourselves and our children to counter its negative influence, and how our Catholic faith provides hope to those impacted.

Presented by Mrs. Teresa Hartnett and Deacon Joseph Di Loreto. **Registration is required so we can send you the Zoom link, but the session is free of charge.**

This is an important issue which will not go away unless we provide tools for people (including parents) to end its destructive use. To learn more on this issue, consider registering at:

<https://hamiltondiocese.com/offices/family-ministry/pornography-help>.



ARE YOU ON OUR E-MAILING LIST?

If you are not already receiving emails from the parish and would like to, please send an email to stmark@rogers.com with the subject line "ADD ME" and we will do just that!



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

St. Mark's Knights of Columbus (Council 9276) is extending an invitation to all men of the parish (18 yrs. of age and older) to join their Fraternity. **Membership is free until June 30, 2021.** If you are interested, please contact John Deneau at jdeneau@sympatico.ca or by text at 226-789-1094. This is a good opportunity to boost their membership and join a good cause for the parish and community.

Cash & Cars 50/50 Draw

Dear Parishioners,

Due to Covid restrictions, the Ontario Knights of Columbus is no longer able to hold our annual Cash & Cars lottery ticket sale in person. To continue our support of local charities, we are holding a series of online 50/50 draws. There will be 4 draws per year (April 1, June 30, September 30 and December 31).

PLEASE NOTE: The message in last weeks' bulletin contained a link to the ticket purchase website that unfortunately didn't work as intended. Here is the correct link to click: [Kitchener 9276](http://Kitchener9276). It will direct you to the ticket purchase site where credit card payments can be made. Kitchener9276 is the reference for our local Council number so that ticket sales can be directed to our local charities.

The prize amount depends on the number of tickets sold across the province. The estimated prize amount is indicated on the ticket purchase page.

If you are interested in learning more about St. Mark's Knights of Columbus and our local activities, please visit our webpage at www.kofc9276.org.

Tickets for the April 1 draw are available now. Thank you very much for your support.

Full rules for the draw are available at www.ontariokofc.ca.

The Reel Justice Film Festival is back for another year!

A partnership between the Bishop Farrell Library & Archives and Development and Peace, the *Reel Justice Film Festival* shines a spotlight on issues of social, political, and economic injustice. Films are screened once a month and provide an opportunity for community discussion about ways we can all support actions for change. Details and the full schedule can be found at: reeljusticefilmfestival.wordpress.com.

This year the festival is going virtual! All of the films will be available online. **Special family friendly screening March 25th 6:30pm – 8:00pm - *To the Arctic***, narrated by Oscar winner Meryl Streep. The film takes audiences into the lives of a mother polar bear and her twin seven-month-old cubs, as they navigate the changing Arctic wilderness they call home. RSVP online or by email at library@hamiltondiocese.com. Join the discussion!



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

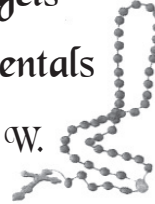
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