St. Mark Catholic Parish

55 Driftwood Drive, Kitchener, Ontario N2N 3A2 • 519-571-9200 • www.stmarkcatholicparish.org

PASTOR: Fr. Don Sanvido DEACON: Mr. Basil Markides SECRETARY: Mrs. Pam Olinski

LORD'S DAY MASSES

Saturday at 5:00 PM Sunday at 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM

WEEKDAY MASSES

Mon., Wed., Thu., Fri. at $7:00\,\mathrm{AM}$ Tuesday at $7:00\,\mathrm{PM}$ Saturday at $9:00\,\mathrm{AM}$

CONFESSIONS

Saturday $9:30-10:30\,\mathrm{AM}\ \&\ 3:45-4:45\,\mathrm{PM}$ or by appointment.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: First Tuesday evening of the month at the 7:00 p.m. Mass. No prior notice necessary.

ADORATION CHAPEL

Perpetual Adoration: Spots open, see Chapel

Divine Mercy: Fridays 3:00 PM

Our Lady's Rosary: 1^{st} Saturday at 10:00 AM

Benediction: 1st Sunday at 7:00 PM

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: We invite you to register. Please fill out a form from the church lobby and drop it off at the parish office. Please call if you would like Father to bless your home.

BAPTISM: Infant baptism is celebrated on the 2^{nd} Sunday of the month at 1:30 pm. A Preparation Meeting is held on the Wednesday evening preceding the baptism. Please fill out a form from the church lobby and drop it off at the parish office at least one month in advance. You will then be contacted by a member of the Baptism team.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

October through May at the $11:30\,\mathrm{AM}$ Mass. Two separate drop-in programs for K-1 & Gr. 2-3. No need to register.

HOSPITAL VISITATION: Please advise the office of area hospital admissions to request a pastoral visit or the Sacrament of the Sick.

FIRST FRIDAY VISITS: Father will bring Communion to the sick on the 1st Friday of the month. Please call the office to schedule a visit.

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING:

Instructions by appointment. Call 519-742-3979 or nfp@golden.net.

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 the beginning of Mass.

Mass cards are available at the parish office during office hours, or you can find them already signed in the church lobby and in the adoration chapel.

If you prefer to make arrangements in person, you may do so during office hours, or over the phone. There is no charge for Mass intentions. The Bishop suggests an offering of \$10 per Mass.

offering of \$10 per Mass.				
I would like to have $\frac{1}{1000 \text{ MANY?}}$ Mass(es) celebrated for				
\square the intentions of (living) OR \square 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 one of the following: ☐ 7:00 AM on a Weekday ☐ 5:00 PM on a Saturday ☐ 7:00 PM on a Tuesday ☐ 9:30 AM on a Sunday ☐ 11:30 AM on a Sunday OR				
☐ I would like the Mass to be on this specific date*:				
* Please keep in mind that our ability to accommodate a request for a specific date (especially for a weekend) can be difficult without sufficient notice. For this reason, we recommend submitting requests for weekend Masses a few months in advance.				
Requested by:				
Daytime Phone Number:				

We will attempt to contact you by phone if we are unable to accommodate your request.

Worship This Week

Nov. 28 - Dec. 4, 2016

<u>Monda</u> y	* PARISH MISSION *			
* 10:30 am	+ John Blanchette – Lisa Reitzel			
★ 7:00 PM	- Int. of Diane Blanchette – Lisa Reitzel			
<u>Tuesda</u> y				
* 10:30 am	+ Ben McKinnon – Marilyn Dufresne			
★ 7:00 PM	- Int. of Mary Jo Flood — Ralph & Marcella Tomlinson			
Wednesday (FEAST – ST. ANDREW)				
* 10:30 am	- Int. of Andrew Olinski – Pam			
★ 7·00 PM	- Talk & Exposition of Sacred Relics (parish hall)			

Thursday

7:00 am + Fern Mainguy - Karen Krigner 2:00 PM - MASS AT BANKSIDE TERRACE

Friday

7:00 am + Sonja Runhart – J. Ferrier

Saturday (MEMORIAL – ST. FRANCIS XAVIER)

9:00 am + Cody Andrews – Diane Hunt

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 11:1-10; Romans 15:4-9; matthew 3:1-12

SAT. 5:00 PM - Int. of Andrew Caruk - Marta Melik

SUN. 9:30 am + Jeanne Turner - George & Marjorie Brezina

11:30 am - Intentions of the Parishioners of St. Mark's

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED: Tues. Nov. 29th for Diocesan Workshop

Offertory Collections	Nov. 19/20, 2016
Sunday envelopes	\$ 2,694.00
Sunday pre-authorized debits (MONTHLY AMOUNT x12÷52)	
Loose monies	<u>\$ 412.10</u>
TOTAL SUNDAY OFFERINGS	\$ 4,427.83
Mortgage envelopes	\$ 185.00
Sunday pre-authorized debits (MONTHLY AMOUNT x12÷52)	
TOTAL MORTGAGE OFFERINGS	\$ 452.69
Thank you for your generosity!	

2017 Offertory Envelopes & Pre-Authorized Debits

ENVELOPES: Envelopes will be ready for pick up at the beginning of December. If your address or phone needs updating or if you currently do not use envelopes and wish to start, please contact Pam at the parish office a.s.a.p. at stmark@rogers.com or 519-571-9200.

P.A.D. PLAN: If you are enrolled in our pre-authorized debit plan, you will still receive a box of envelopes in order to donate toward special causes (Christmas, Good Friday, World Missions, St. Vincent de Paul, etc.) so please look for your box in the lobby in December.

If you are not currently enrolled in the P.A.D. plan and would like to start (or wish more information) please pick up a form from the information wall in the narthex, or contact Pam at the office.

Church Bulletin Advertising: At the end of November, Liturgical Publications will begin setting up the advertisements that support the printing of our church bulletin for the coming year. Please lend your support by advertising your product or service regularly on the back page of our bulletin. Call **Liturgical Publications** at 1-800-268-2637. Ads will begin running in February 2017.

LITURGICAL ROLES				
Dec. 3 & 4	Sat. 5:00рм	Sun. 9:30 AM	Sun. 11:30 AM	
Altar Servers:	B./C. Morgan	Vacant: Can you help?	N./A. Gallagher	
Commentator:	M. Dufresne	J. Germann	B. Starr	
Lector:	J. Deneau	D. Bristol	J. Petrovich	
Ushers:	K./S./T. Friesen	M. Walser K./J. Culley-Snyder	C. Dignam F. Sawaya M. Schimus	
Gift Bearers:	Weber	Rye	Vacant: Can you help?	
Eucharistic Ministers:	K. Friesen L. Macedo C. Dokis	M. Walser R. Groothuis J. Detzler	K./T. Boettger A. Monte	

<u>USHERS NEEDED</u>: The 5:00 and 11:30 Masses are short on ushers. If you would like to join the rotation, please contact Colm Dignam at 519-570-3973 or the Pam at the parish office at 519-571-9200 or stmark@rogers.com.

COMMENTATORS NEEDED: If you would like to commentate at the Saturday 5:00 p.m. Mass on any of the following dates, please email Pam at stmark@rogers.com (or call the office): Dec. 10, Jan. 7, Jan. 28, Feb. 18, Mar. 11, Apr. 1, Apr. 29, May 20, June 10, July 1. The Commentator's role includes an opening greeting, announcing the hymns, and reading the final announcements at the end of Mass.

Angel Tree... If you would like to buy a gift to make Christmas special for a child, please choose an angel, purchase your gifts, and return them to the church (unwrapped) with the angel attached **no later than Sun. Dec. 11th.** Please do not buy clothing, as we do not know the sizes (winter accessories accepted). Gift certificates are always appreciated, especially for older children. Any donations of extra wrapping paper or gift bags are always appreciated. Thank you for your ongoing support! - St. Mark's Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Children's Christmas Mass... Attention all children of the parish! We will be having a special Children's Mass on Christmas Day. The children of St. Mark's will participate in every aspect of our Holy Mass – from readings, to ushering, to commentating, to bearing gifts and more. We would love to see as many children as possible participating in this great celebration of Jesus' birth. Our Children's Mass will be on **Sunday, December 25th at 9:30 a.m.** (This Mass replaces the one originally scheduled for Dec. 4th.) Please see the blackboard at the back of the church to sign up, or call Jessica Heine at (519) 496-2328. **Practice will be on Friday, Dec. 23rd at 5pm.**

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! I regret not yet having advertised the EWTN (Eternal Word Television Network) to you. It is a Catholic network worth having for all households. Some of the things you will see on EWTN are: great Catholic speakers, marriage programs, shows for youth of all ages, retreats, Masses, prayer events and devotions, Catholics news and reflections on global events. Anything and everything you would want to help develop and enhance your Catholic life. Depending on your TV service provider, it costs approx. \$3 to \$4 per month. As one lady put it, "is your Eternal Salvation worth \$0.15 cents a day?" Of course I'm sure it is. Let me just say you'll have the Church at her best at the tip of your fingers. Below are two popular providers and how to order this channel. It would also be a wonderful Christmas gift to others! -- Fr. Don

BELL www.bell.ca/tv 1-888-759-3474 \$4.00/month ROGERS www.rogers.com/consumer/tv 519-741-1099 \$3.00/month For more info visit www.EWTN.com

Winter Coat Drive now over: St. Mark's Knights of Columbus extends a grateful "thank-you!" to all who dropped off winter clothing this month ... we estimate that we collected approximately 50% more than last year! Thank you for helping to keep others warm this winter.

PARISH MISSION: Nov. 26-30 with Fr. Carlos A. Martins

St. Mark's invites all to partake in an opportunity for spiritual renewal as we lead into the holy season of Advent! Throughout the years, missions have served as a kind of parish retreat. A mission helps us to regroup in the Lord, to rejuvenate us, to give us a spiritual "shot in the arm," so to speak. This year's mission will be conducted by a fine young priest, Fr. Carlos Martins. As well as having a great sense of humour, Fr. Martins has a most interesting personal conversion story to tell us about and he is one of the world's foremost experts on relics and their importance in the life of the Church. His focus, of course, will be on the Lord, how He is working in our lives and how we can be His disciples in this troubled world. Fr. Martins will undoubtedly bring us many important messages – but always in the context of Christ's victory over sin, evil and death. **The basic structure of our mission is as follows:**

(CONFESSIONS will be heard before and after all Masses)

(CONTESSIONS Will be near a before and after all mass				
Nov. 26:	5:00 pm	Fr. Carlos preaching		
Nov. 27:	9:30 am	Fr. Carlos preaching		
	11:30 am	Fr. Carlos preaching		
Nov. 28:	10:30 am	Mass & Talk by Fr. Carlos		
	7:00 pm	Mass & Talk by Fr. Carlos		
Nov. 29:	10:30 am	Mass & Talk by Fr. Carlos		
	7:00 pm	Mass & Talk by Fr. Carlos		
Nov. 30:	10:30 am	Mass & Talk by Fr. Carlos		
	7:00 pm	Talk & Exposition of Sacred		
		Relics in the Hall (*NO MASS)		

EXPOSITION OF SACRED RELICS: TREASURES OF THE CHURCH Wed. Nov. 30 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall

(*Please note there will be NO 7:00 p.m. Mass on Wednesday

Fr. Martins invites you to join him in the parish hall for a teaching and exposition of Sacred Relics. Over 150 relics will be shown, some believed to be as old as 2000 years. Among the treasures will be relics of St. Maria Goretti, St. Therese of Lisieux (the "Little Flower"), St. Francis of Assisi, St. Anthony of Padua, St. Thomas Aquinas, and St. Faustina Kowalska. In addition, there will also be present a portion of the veil of Our Lady, as well as one of the largest remaining pieces of the True Cross in the world.

Those in attendance will be able to examine and venerate each relic. In the Church's history many miracles and healings have been worked in the presence of relics, and many have been healed through this ministry.

You are encouraged to bring your articles of devotion (such as rosaries, holy cards, etc.) and pictures of ill friends/family members which you will be able to touch to the reliquaries as a means of intercession.

Please do not miss this opportunity.

CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULTS CHRISTMAS PARTY

This year Catholic Young Adult groups across the diocese and beyond are coming together for the first time for one big Christmas party. All Catholics between the ages of 19-39 (single, couple or married) are invited to meet other Young Adult Catholics at this pre-Christmas social with dinner, entertainment and games. **Saturday, Dec. 17th** beginning with Mass at 5:00 p.m. Suggested \$10 donation at the door. **St. Thomas the Apostle Church (Waterdown).** More info in the narthex, or pick up next week's bulletin for further details!

C.W.L. Corner

As the 2-year term of your current executive comes to a close, it is time to consider who should lead our council for the next 2 years. If you know someone who would be an enthusiastic and committed member of a like-minded group of ladies please consider submitting a 'no-obligation' nomination! Maybe that someone is YOU ... It is perfectly acceptable to nominate yourself! Our council needs ladies to answer the call to serve and bring their experiences and talents to the group. Please take a nomination form from the C.W.L. table in the narthex with position descriptions attached. Think and pray about your nominations and drop the completed form in the nominations box on the table on or before Dec 31st.

Euthanasia/Assisted Suicide - Did You Know?

Now that Canada has legalized assisted suicide/euthanasia, did you know that doctors in Ontario are forced to provide direct referrals for patients seeking to end their lives? Doctors who object to helping to kill their patients see a direct referral as being an accomplice to assisted suicide. No foreign jurisdiction in the world that has legalized euthanasia/assisted suicide has forced health care workers or facilities to act against their conscience. Eight (8) other provinces in Canada have adopted protocols to protect doctors and institutions. Visit www.CanadiansforConscience.ca to learn more and to write directly to the Ontario government. *Father Don will speak more about this next weekend.*

Commenting on Politics

There was some wonderment among the faithful when I said last Sunday that I "voted" for Mr. Trump over Mrs. Clinton. In principle, that is true and for very definite reasons. Mrs. Clinton supports abortion (i.e. pro-choice) and funds Planned Parenthood – notoriously anti-life with even stronger racist roots. As for Mr. Trump – not my first choice, other than him not being Mrs. Clinton. That being the case, all I really wanted to say was that we all must try to know what is at stake and vote with the best Christian conscience possible. I'm sure there were legitimate Christian perspectives that would cancel out Mr. Trump as an option

So should politics become a topic to be brought up from the pulpit? Sometimes, yes. Political life, when it affects the moral fabric of a society, should be commented upon in the light of Christs' teaching. That is what I try to do, and will continue to do so if I put in the effort to hear the issues and listen to what the Church teaches about them. Even if it is at the risk of being misunderstood, at least the faithful will be reminded that we cannot separate our experience of Christ in church from practical life. God knows how we so imperfectly bridge these two in all aspects of our life.

I hope the recent political clamour wakes us all up to the need to raise up leaders who have a sound philosophy as to what it means to be a good and just society. We need virtuous people to lead us, those who have unselfish hearts, who care for others, who are well educated in political life, and willing to be directed from above and prudent in judgement when choosing one course of action versus another. How will such leaders be found? Only, I think, in a society that rears its children to understand that freedom is not first about securing my rights, but rather my responsibility to safeguard the rights of others. – *Fr. Don*

ADVENT RETREAT - St Anne's Parish, Kitchener, Sat. Dec. 10th

'Our Hearts are Restless' is a seminar presented by Marcel Dion of Magnificat Ministries. The day will focus on how the emptiness we sometimes experience can only be fulfilled and transformed by God, through an experience of Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Join us for a grace-filled day and powerful testimonies. 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. Please bring a bag lunch. Refreshments will be served. Free will offerings will go to support the work of Magnificat Ministries. For more information please contact Bob Borys at 519-590-7761 – text or voice.

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