

St. Mark Roman Catholic Parish

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

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Roque Concepcion – *Pastor*
Rev. Mr. Philip Fernandez – *Deacon*
Mrs. Pam Olinski – *Parish Secretary*

LORD'S DAY MASSES

Saturday 5:00 PM
Sunday 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM

WEEKDAY MASS

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

CONFESSIONS

Wednesdays & First Fridays 11:00 - 11:45 AM
Saturdays 4:15 - 4:45 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: *Marylin Dawson*
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 and your name will appear in the bulletin, and will be announced during Mass.

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 several weeks in advance 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.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Mass Intentions for the Week



Nov. 27 – Dec. 4, 2022

- Tuesday** (FERIAL)
12 Noon ★ Liturgy of the Word with Communion (NO MASS)
- Wednesday** (FEAST – ST. ANDREW)
12 Noon ★ Liturgy of the Word with Communion (NO MASS)
- Thursday** (FERIAL)
12 Noon ★ Liturgy of the Word with Communion (NO MASS)
- First Friday** (FERIAL)
12 Noon ★ Liturgy of the Word with Communion (NO MASS)
- First Saturday** (MEMORIAL – ST. FRANCIS XAVIER)
9:00 am ★ Liturgy of the Word with Communion (NO MASS)

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT – Dec. 3/4

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

Sat. 5:00 PM – Int. of Parishioners of St. Mark

Sun. 9:30 am + Maria Campos – Campos family

11:30 am – Int. of Eric Kubica – Rosemary



This weekend's Masses are being celebrated by **Fr. Earl Talbot**. Next weekend's Masses will be celebrated by **Fr. Ray Reitzel, C.R.** Please offer these visiting priests your gratitude and a warm welcome. In your charity, please remember Fr. Roque and his family in your prayers while he is visiting the Philippines on compassionate leave.

Sacramental Enrollment for First Communion and Confirmation

If your family missed last week's Enrollment Mass, please plan to attend one of the Masses on the weekend of Dec. 17-18, when Father Roque will welcome the children in grades 2 and 7 who missed the opportunity to submit their enrollment form this month. Blank forms along with a letter from Fr. Roque were sent to families of children in grades 2 and 7 via email through the parish schools. Please check your inbox. If you did not receive one, or have children in another school, please contact the parish office a.s.a.p. or pick up a letter and form in the church lobby (on the info wall).



Christmas Toy Drive

Our K of C council is joining other councils in the Christmas Toy Drive. **Those who wish may drop donations of UNWRAPPED children's gifts into the brown bin in the church narthex.** All toys will be distributed to needy families. Thank you.



Christmas Mass Schedule

CHRISTMAS EVE	CHRISTMAS DAY
(SATURDAY, DEC. 24)	(SUNDAY, DEC. 25)
6:00 PM	9:30 AM
8:00 PM	11:30 AM
10:00 PM	

Liturgical ministers are asked to please sign-up in the narthex for Christmas. Thank you!



ENTERING INTO THE ADVENT SEASON:
First Sunday of Advent Reflection

The **First Sunday of Advent** begins a new liturgical year and the beginning of a season filled with the riches of our scripture readings. For the next few weeks, as we focus on **Isaiah**, we read of the promise of peace offered to the people of God: "They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks." **Matthew's gospel** is the story of Noah and a caution from Jesus to prepare "for an hour you do not expect."

Unlike most of the liturgical year, the focus during the first part of Advent is on the first readings, this week from **the Prophet Isaiah**. These readings are about promises. Isaiah is consoling, building up and preparing his people to have hope. "One nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again." He promises "luster and glory" for the people: "and the fruit of the earth will be honor and splendor for the survivors of Israel." Even though the family lines of King David and his father, Jesse, are almost wiped out, Isaiah proclaims hope: "On that day, a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom." The prophet tells of feasting and security: "On this mountain the LORD of hosts will provide for all peoples a feast of rich food and choice wines, juicy, rich food and pure, choice wines" and "A strong city have we; he sets up walls and ramparts to protect us." Even Jesus' own statement about his mission is seen in the powerful images Isaiah uses to give us courage and hope: "On that day the deaf shall hear ... the eyes of the blind shall see ... the lowly will ever find joy in the LORD ... " "On the day the LORD binds up the wounds of his people."

The gospels for these weeks are chosen from several gospels. They are meant to match the first readings and to show the promises are fulfilled in Jesus. Jesus brings healing. He raises up the childlike. And Jesus calls and sends the twelve apostles to continue his ministry.

~ Used with permission by Online Ministries, Creighton University

COMING SOON: ALPHA 2023

Right here at St. Mark's ... and you're invited!

Alpha is back! This 11-week program brings people together for conversations about life, faith and Jesus, helping to answer questions like:

Who is Jesus? Why and how do I pray? Does God heal today?

More information to come.

In the meantime, tell your friends and mark your calendar:

**Thursday evenings, February 16 to April 27
6:45 to 9:15 p.m.**

MASKING / FACE COVERING

Please note that Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health is strongly recommending that Ontarians wear masks in indoor areas of public settings during the current surge in viral illnesses. While there is no mask mandate in the province at this time, we kindly ask everyone to please be considerate of everyone's personal choice.

Liturgical Ministers

Dec. 3-4	5:00 PM Mass	9:30 AM Mass	11:30 AM Mass
Altar Servers:	C. Perkovic J./P./V. Miller	A./D./D. Jacobs	C. Chacon J./S. Garrucho
Commentator:	M. Dufresne	T. Germann	L. Gimenez
Reader:	A. Fernandez	T. Boettger	D. DeSousa
Ushers:	B. Benner E. Miller	J./K. Snyder	B./C. Voisin
Eucharistic Ministers:	J./D. Fernandez	T. Angel P. Enticott	I./F. Kangaloo

Liturgical ministers are asked to please sign up in the narthex for Christmas Masses. Thank you!

Christmas Flowers for the Church

For those who wish to donate toward the cost of Christmas flowers, you will find special envelopes in the narthex. Please write the names of your deceased loved ones on the back of the envelope, or include them inside with your donation, then place the envelope in the gift box in the narthex. Mass on Christmas morning will be celebrated for the Repose of the Souls of your deceased loved ones.



Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) (AND CATHOLIC FAITH REFRESHER COURSE)

RCIA is a program and faith journey for Adult Baptism, Confirmation, and First Communion. We meet on **Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. in the St. John Room**. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming Catholic, please fill out an RCIA form in the foyer or call Fr. Roque at 519-571-9200 for more details. This is also open to anyone who would like to have a refresher course on the Catholic Faith – **all are welcome!**

BIBLE STUDY... Fridays from 7:00-8:00 p.m. in the St. John Room – All are welcome! Please bring your bible and paper and pen. Masks are optional. Questions? Please contact Karen at bkkriagner@rogers.com.

Living With Christ 2022-2023 Sunday Missals
\$5 each ~ still a few left!

Spiritual Bouquet

The Bishop of Hamilton, Most Rev. Douglas Crosby, O.M.I., will be celebrating his 25th Anniversary of Episcopal Ordination on January 2nd, 2023. To mark this occasion, the Diocese of Hamilton has invited all its parishes to take part in a Spiritual Bouquet for the Bishop's intentions. **There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex** for those who wish to commit to a number of: Rosaries, Morning Offerings, Acts of Charity, Acts of Mercy, and Holy Communions. **This weekend is the last opportunity to indicate your gift** (sign-up sheets will be forwarded to the diocese this week). May God continue to bless Bishop Crosby in his Episcopal role!

C.W.L. News...

Our Membership Drive continues!

Do you wish you were part of a group that fed mind, body and soul? Do you yearn for a way to 'right' some of the 'wrongs' in today's world? All that and so much more awaits for only \$40 with a membership in the St Mark Catholic Women's League! Gift memberships are also available for a special woman in your life. For more info, please contact Sue Sawchuk, Organization Chair at 519-277-1898 or email stmarkcwl@gmail.com.



LADIES' ADVENT RETREAT

All ladies are warmly invited to an Advent Retreat on **Thursday, December 8th starting with Mass at 7 p.m.** for the FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.

Guest celebrant **Fr. Edward Henhoeffler** will lead us on a **journey through the Christmas account according to the Gospel of Luke**.

Take part with Mary and Joseph and the C.W.L. as we make this journey!

Lecture Series at Holy Rosary Parish, Guelph

This **Wednesday, Nov. 30th** from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Community Room. Topic is: **God's Design for Us: Who are we Called to Be? Who are we Capable of Being?** with Mrs. Teresa Hartnett.

Young Adults Night – Saturday, December 3rd

Fr. Mark Morley invites all young adults (ages 20s and early 30s) of our diocese to attend a night of Adoration, Fellowship and Praise Music. Arrival and Holy Hour (6:30-7:30 pm), Social with Food (7:30-8:30pm), Praise and Vocation Testimony (8:00-9:00pm), and Compline (9:00pm). **Saturday, Dec. 3rd at the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate** (28 Norfolk Street, **Guelph**). Sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton. For more information, please contact: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com.

St. Agatha Christmas Concert

On **Sunday, December 4th** at 3:00 pm the Heart Cry Choir, composed of 42 Mennonite youth singers, will be at **St. Agatha Church in St. Agatha** (1839 Notre Dame Drive) to give a Christmas performance! All are invited to come enjoy their acapella choral stylings in 4 and 8-part harmony! They will be singing many Advent and Christmas favourites and more. There is no cost to attend.

St. Teresa's C.W.L. Online Auction

Begins Sunday, Nov. 27th at Noon until Sunday, Dec. 4th at 5:00 PM online auction at: <https://www.32auctions.com/StTeresaCWL Auction2022>. Proceeds go to support the ongoing endeavours of St. Teresa's Catholic Women's League.

Open House and Christmas Market

Saturday, Dec. 10th, 10 am to 4 pm at **Mount Mary Immaculate Retreat Centre** (437 Wilson St. East, **Ancaster**). Guests are welcome to tour the grounds and buildings, enjoy some refreshments and do some Christmas shopping. Free admission, all are welcome! More info: www.mountmary.ca.



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