

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.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Mass Intentions for the Week



Nov. 29 – Dec. 5, 2021

Seating is restricted by physical distancing of 2 metres (6 feet) between households, until further notice. Masks are mandatory. Please stay home if you are feeling unwell.

Tuesday (FEAST – ST. ANDREW THE APOSTLE)
12 Noon + Maria Campos – Campos family

Wednesday (FERIAL)
12 Noon – Int. of Jordan/Tammy/Tim Bellingham/Jessica Drogen

Thursday (FERIAL)
12 Noon – Int. of the Lahey family – M./M. Woodhouse & family

Friday (MEMORIAL – ST. FRANCIS XAVIER)
12 Noon + Maria Silvestre – Joao

First Saturday (FERIAL)
★ 9:00 AM + Ivan Cimermancic – Michelle

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT – Dec. 4-5

Baruch 5:1-9; Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11; Luke 3:1-6

Sat. 5:00 PM + Sr. Irene Mainguy – Dokis family

Sun. 9:30 am + Ron Kirkman – Christine & family

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



Today is the first Sunday of Advent, which is also the first Sunday of the new liturgical year. The Advent season includes the four Sundays that precede Christmas. Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of the Lord. In this season, we recall two central elements of our faith: the final coming of the Lord in glory and the incarnation of the Lord in the birth of Jesus. The key themes of the Advent season are watchful waiting, preparation, and justice.

In this new liturgical year, the Gospel of Luke will be the primary Gospel proclaimed (Lectionary Cycle C). Today's Gospel is taken from the last chapter before the passion narrative in which Jesus is teaching in the Temple. We hear Jesus speak to his disciples about the need for vigilance and prayer as they wait for the coming of the Son of Man in glory. This passage marks the conclusion of a lengthy dialogue in which Jesus predicts the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem, warns about the persecution and tribulations to follow, and identifies the signs that will signal the coming of the Son of Man in glory.

The community for whom Luke wrote his Gospel may have believed that they were already experiencing some of the events Jesus described. Most scholars believe that Luke's Gospel was written after the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in 70 A.D. At the time, many Christians interpreted this event as an indication that Jesus' second coming was near.

Though Jesus predicts a time of destruction and fear, Jesus indicates that others will be frightened; Jesus' disciples are not to fear, but are to stand tall. Yet Jesus does not promise deliverance from anxiety or tribulations. He encourages his disciples to pray for strength. The early Christian communities did not find consolation in the promise of a utopia, nor should we. Instead, we find in our Christian faith the means by which we witness to God's unfailing love for us in all circumstances.

Jesus' predictions about the end times may sound dire, but in the next paragraph Luke tells us that people woke early to listen to Jesus' teaching in the Temple area. In his person and in his message, those who heard Jesus found strength and consolation. Like the first Christians, we may encounter events and circumstances that could lead us to despair. Through prayer, however, we find strength and consolation in Jesus' words and in his continuing presence with us to endure all things and to witness to the action of God in our world. ■

★ **First Saturday Devotions to the Immaculate Heart of Mary**
Mass on the First Saturday of every month at 9:00 a.m.

St. Andrew was a native of Bethsaida in Galilee, a fisherman by trade, and a former disciple of John the Baptist. He was the one who introduced his brother Peter to Jesus, saying, "We have found the Messiah." Overshadowed henceforth by his brother, Andrew nevertheless appears again in the Gospels as introducing souls to Christ. After Pentecost, Andrew took up the apostolate on a much wider scale, and is said to have been martyred at Patras in southern Greece on a cross which was in the form of an "X". This type of cross has long been known as "St. Andrew's cross."

St. Francis Xavier – Ordained a priest in 1537, Xavier went on to Lisbon and from there sailed to the East Indies, landing at Goa, on the west coast of India. For the next 10 years he labored to bring the faith to such widely scattered peoples as the Hindus, the Malaysians, and the Japanese. He spent much of that time in India, and served as provincial of the newly established Jesuit province of India. Wherever he went, Xavier lived with the poorest people, sharing their food and rough accommodations. He spent countless hours ministering to the sick and the poor, particularly to lepers. Very often he had no time to sleep or even to say his breviary but, as we know from his letters, he was filled always with joy. His remains are enshrined in the Church of Good Jesus in Goa. He and Saint Thérèse of Lisieux were declared co-patrons of the missions in 1925.

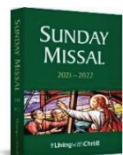


LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

The Sanctuary Lamp burns this week for:
PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR INTENTIONS



You may request to have one or both lamps burn for a special intention or for the repose of someone's soul. Public intentions will be published in the bulletin and on our website; private intentions will not. 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.



Living with Christ
2021-2022 Sunday Missals
AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE
IN THE NARTHEX ~ \$5 EACH

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

Thank you to everyone who packed Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. We took 124 boxes to the Collection Centre in Kitchener. The boxes will be heading to Calgary to be processed and then to Senegal, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Sierra Leone, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Costa Rica for distribution. Through the boxes children will know they are loved and feel joy! Thank you!

Church Bulletin Advertising – Liturgical Publications are currently setting up the advertisements that support the printing of our church bulletin for the coming year. Please consider lending your support by advertising your business weekly on the back cover of our bulletin. Please call Greg at **Liturgical Publications** at 1-800-268-2637 ext. 161.

 *Litururgical Ministers*

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Dec. 4-5 | 5:00PM Mass | 9:30AM Mass | 11:30AM Mass |
| Reader: | A. Humphrey | V. DeVries | L. Gimenez |
| Ushers: | B. Benner E. Miller | J./K. Snyder | C. Dignam I. Kangaloo |
| Eucharistic Ministers: | J. Swartz G. Kubisewsky | T./K. Boettger | K. Dignam E. Weiss |

2022 Offertory Envelopes & Pre-Authorized Debits

ENVELOPES: Boxes of Offertory Envelopes will be ready for pick up in mid-December. If your address or phone needs updating, please contact Pam at the parish office [this week](#).

MONTHLY DEBIT PLAN: If you are enrolled in our pre-authorized debit plan, you will also 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 mid-December.

If you would like to start using envelopes or enroll in the monthly debit plan (or wish more information) please pick up a form from the information wall in the narthex, or contact Pam at the office to have one emailed to you.

Are you troubled? Do you need spiritual support?

The Sisters of the Carmel of Saint Joseph will pray for you during the NOVENA TO THE INFANT JESUS: December 16th to 24th

You can participate in the Novena to Infant Jesus by sending your prayer intention slip with your name and address to:

*Carmel of Saint Joseph, 1127 Carmel-Koch Road,
R.R. #1, St. Agatha, ON NOB 2L0*

AN UPDATE FROM...

St. Mark's Society of St. Vincent de Paul

It's been well over a year since we have been able to provide families in need with food hampers from the portable at St. Mark's. Various groups have worked together to provide other distribution options during this difficult period.

Recently, we joined with the Food Bank and used the majority of our remaining funds to support the 'Christmas Bureau' in Waterloo Region. During the Christmas season this project will provide families in our community with gifts for their children and food for a Holiday meal.

As we move beyond the Christmas Season, we do not know if or when we will get back to providing food hampers from our portable as we had in the past. But we do know many families continue to need our help.

As in the past, you will find blue SVDP envelopes in your offertory box in the months of November and March. If you are able to provide any financial support it is greatly appreciated. Please know that your generosity will continue to be used in some way to support those in our community who need our assistance the most. Thank you for your continued support.

VOCATION SEEDS ♦ 1st Sunday of Advent ♦ November 28, 2021

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life."

Are worldly cares dragging you down? Be a follower of the Master. If God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, contact Bishop Wayne Lobsinger, Director of Vocations and Priestly Formation, Diocese of Hamilton (905-528-7988).

vocations@hamiltondiocese.com | www.hamiltondiocese.com/vocations

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
NEW TOYS FOR NEEDY KIDS**



For 25 years, the Waterloo Knights of Columbus have been collecting new toys for needy children at Christmas and throughout the year. It is the largest Toy Drive in Waterloo Region and has collected and distributed more than \$5,000,000 in toys and donations to date. Multiple volunteers work tirelessly to make sure every child in need receives a gift at Christmas and other special times.

Since St. Mark's is unable to have an Angel Tree this year, our Knights have decided to collect toys to augment the already successful Waterloo toy drive. **Those interested in contributing may place new, unwrapped toys in the designated bin in the narthex between now and Christmas.** Our Knights will then deliver them to the Waterloo Knights to be sorted and distributed. Thank you for your consideration.

2021 Ontario Charities 50-50 Online Raffle

Early Bird Draw Dec. 1, 2021 ~ Jackpot Draw Dec. 31, 2021



To purchase tickets:

- visit: <https://www.kofcontario5050.com>
- click the "Buy Tickets Now" button
- select your number of tickets and click the "Checkout" button
- fill in your [Billing Information](#), and
 - under "Organization" select **"Kitchener St. Mark's 9276"**
 - then click "Continue"
- fill in your [Payment Information](#) and click "Submit Order"
- **You will then receive an email from KofC Ontario with your Order Confirmation ... this is your OFFICIAL TICKET and must be presented if you win, so keep it in a safe place. You will not receive any physical tickets.**

C.W.L. Membership Dues

Please look for the blue envelope for 2022 membership fees in your December envelopes. All councils have been asked to submit membership renewals as of December 31st each year. This will help National office have an accurate snapshot of our membership at Parish, Diocesan, Provincial and National levels. It will also ensure that The League Magazine will continue to be sent to you, uninterrupted. New members are always welcome.



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

| NOV. 29 | NOV. 30 | DEC. 1 | DEC. 2 | DEC. 3 | DEC. 4 |
|--------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Rev. Tony O'Dell, O.M.I. | Rev. Kiwook Kim | Discalced Carmelite Fathers (O.C.D.) | Rev. Henryk Krajewski, C.R. | Rev. Krzysztof Szkubera, C.R. | Rev. Michal Kruszewski, C.R. |

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.

43rd Advent Novena | St. Agnes Church, 75 Bluevale St. N., Wloo

In keeping with the tradition that has been celebrated for many years, please join fellow K-W friends at St. Agnes Parish, **beginning Friday, December 3rd at 7:00 p.m.** Please note Mass times for the rest of the week: Saturday 9:00 am, Sunday at your own parish (or 9/11 am at St. Agnes); Mon., Tues., Wed. 9:00 am; Thur., Friday 7:00 pm; Saturday 9:00 am. Help us spread the word! Invite a friend to join you in preparing for the beautiful season of Christmas. If you or someone you know could assist in music ministry, please contact Marg Weber at 519-747-5937.



528 Victoria St. N., beside Weston's Bakery
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