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.



"... The seed is sprouting and growing ..." (Mark 4:27)

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:

Requested by:

Daytime Phone # or email: _____

- 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.

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
☐ 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.

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

Mass Intentions for the Week



November 9 - 15, 2020

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, Nov. 11 (MEMORIAL – ST. MARTIN OF TOURS)

- **12 noon** + Vincent Plati Plouffe family
 - + Deceased Bishops, Priests and Deacons of the Diocese of Hamilton

33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Nov. 14/15

Proverbs 31:10-13, 16-18, 20, 26, 28-31++; 1 Thess. 5:1-6; Matthew 25:14-30

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

Sun. 9:30 am - Intentions of Fr. Steve Murrin - M. Dufresne

11:30 am + Clarence Voisin - Marilyn Dufresne

St. Martin of Tours - A soldier at the age of 15, Martin became a Christian catechumen and was baptized when he was 18. As a priest, he fought against the Arians who denied the divinity of Christ and it is believed that he may have opened the first monastery in France. Acclaimed by the people, Martin reluctantly became the Bishop of Tours. Even in old age, Martin continued to live an austere life focused on the care of souls. His disciple and biographer, St. Sulpicius Severus, noted that the bishop helped all people with their moral, intellectual and spiritual problems. He also helped many laypersons discover their calling to the consecrated life of poverty, chastity and obedience. He died in the year 397 at the age of 81.

THE PARISH OFFICE IS OPEN BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Please call ahead or email to schedule your visit: 519-571-9200 / stmark@rogers.com

Meetings & Events This Week:

Mon. Nov. 9 8:00 pm Hall Alcoholics Anonymous

Wed. Nov. 11 6:00 pm Church First Reconciliations (& rehearsal)

Sat. Nov. 14 7:15 am Hall That Man Is You!

Offertory Report for Oct.31/Nov.1, 2020

Not available at time of printing.

MASKS: A note from Bishop Crosby's October 7th letter:



"Those who are unable to wear a mask because of an underlying medical condition which inhibits their ability to wear a mask, are to be admitted to the church, and are to be seated in a designated area at least four metres away from others. They may not come forward to receive Communion with others; the priest or extraordinary minister will bring them Communion where they are seated." Read the full letter here.

In this week's Gospel, Jesus talks about what it means to be prepared to receive the Kingdom of Heaven. This week's reading follows a series of warnings and predictions by Jesus about the coming of the Son of Man. Jesus wants his disciples to understand that the exact day and time cannot be predicted. He teaches the disciples that they must remain vigilant so that they will not be caught unprepared.

When thinking about the parable of the wise and foolish virgins, it is important to consider the first-century wedding traditions of Palestine. Scholars tell us that it was the custom of the day for young maidens—friends and family members of the bride—to meet the bridegroom when he came to bring his bride to her new home

As with many of Jesus' parables, several levels of interpretation are possible. In last week's Gospel, (which was superseded by the Feast of All Saints) Jesus warn against following the example of the Pharisees and scribes. If read in the context of early Christianity's struggle to define itself against Pharisaic Judaism, this parable is a continuing critique of Judaism. It suggests that the Jewish leaders were like the foolish virgins, unprepared to meet Jesus, the bridegroom of Israel.

In the chapter preceding this parable, however, Jesus warns about the destruction of Jerusalem, the tribulation of the end times, and the coming of the Son of Man. When read in this context, today's parable is a warning to the Christian community to remain vigilant and prepared to receive Jesus, the Son of Man who will return at the end of time. This interpretation is supported by the reference to the delay of the bridegroom. The Christian community for whom Matthew wrote this Gospel was coming to terms with the realization that the promise of Jesus' return would not be fulfilled within their lifetimes. The question remains for us to ask ourselves, Are we ready to receive Jesus? Will we be prepared to receive him?

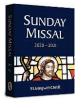
Do you like to paint?

The church washrooms are in need of a fresh coat of paint (walls and stalls) and we are looking for a couple of volunteers who would be willing to freshen them up. Please see Fr. Steve or leave a message at the parish office if you are up to the task.



GENTLY USED CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

The Catholic Youth Organization (C.Y.O.) is looking for gently used Christmas decorations for an upcoming event. If you have any ornaments or lights you can donate, please contact Katie at katiemoncrieffe@campbrebeuf.ca or 519-856-4671 ext. 101.



Living with Christ 2020-2021 Sunday Missals

Now available for purchase in the narthex ~ \$5 each



Congratulations

St. Mark's Parish congratulates all of the boys and girls who received their **First Holy Communion** on November 7th & 8th ...

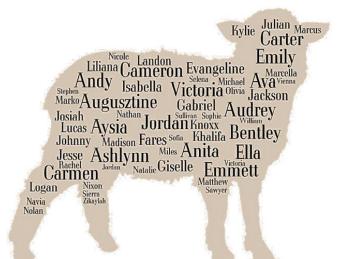
Johnny Miles Evangeline Zikaylah Sierra

Emily Jackson Khalifa Benjamin Ava Matthew Fares Carmen

Sacred Heart of Jesus, ever present in our lives, grant your loving grace to our first holy communicants.

Help still their hearts with mindful prayer and worship whenever they receive the Body and Blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

May the Holy Spirit shine a guiding light throughout the course of their lives, always leading these blessed children one step closer to the Kingdom of Heaven. Amen.



Sacrament of Confirmation

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on Tuesday, November 24th at 7:00 p.m.

This is only for children who have re-enrolled after their inability to receive the Sacrament in May. A letter has been sent to all parents, outlining the changes to this year's celebration. Preparation material for the sacrament has been emailed to parents who re-enrolled their children.

NOVEMBER IS THE MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

Purgatory is not, as many people think, one last trial; rather, all of those who make it to Purgatory will one day be in Heaven. Purgatory is where those who have died in grace, but who have not fully atoned for the temporal punishments resulting from their sins, go to finish their atonement before entering Heaven. A soul in Purgatory may suffer in longing for heaven, but the assurance is that they will ultimately enter Heaven when purification and atonement is complete. Catholics believe Purgatory is an expression of God's love, His desire to cleanse our souls of all that might keep us from experiencing the fullness of joy in Heaven.

As Christians, we don't travel through this world alone. Our salvation is wrapped up with the salvation of others, and charity requires us to come to their aid. The same is true of the Holy Souls. In their time in Purgatory, they can pray for us, and we should pray for the faithful departed that they may be freed from the punishment for their sins and enter into Heaven.

We should pray for the dead throughout the year, especially on the anniversary of their death, but in this Month of the Holy Souls, we should devote some time every day to prayer for the dead. We should start with those closest to us—our mother and father, for instance—but we should also offer prayers for all the souls, and especially for those most forsaken.

We believe that those Holy Souls for whom we pray will continue to pray for us after they have been released from Purgatory. If we live Christian lives, we too will likely find ourselves in Purgatory someday, and our acts of charity toward the Holy Souls there now will ensure that they remember us before the throne of God when we are most in need of prayers. It's a comforting thought, and one that should encourage us, especially in this month of November, to offer our prayers for the Holy Souls.

Prayer for The Eternal Rest

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES

Help bring joy and hope and the Good News of the Gospel to a child living in remote corners of the world who are victims of war, disease and recently the COVID pandemic, disaster and poverty. This Christmas Season pack a shoebox filled with school supplies, hygiene items and toys. **Empty boxes can be picked up in the narthex beginning November 7th.** Please return filled shoeboxes to the Church by Sunday, November 22nd. Thank you for helping this worthy cause.

WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE CANCELLED... The program as we knew it last year does not seem to be running this year, so we will try again next year.

Toasty Toes VIRTUAL Sock Drive

The annual Toasty Toes Waterloo Region campaign is asking for donations of FUNDS rather than socks this fall due to pandemic precautions. We regret that we CANNOT ACCEPT SOCKS this year. If you wish to support this worthy cause this year, please consider a monetary donation by visiting: www.kwcf.ca/toastytoes



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