

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.

Mass Intentions for the Week



October 4 – 10, 2021

Seating is restricted by physical distancing of 2 metres (6 feet) between households, until further notice.

Tuesday (FERIAL)
7:00 PM + Maria Campos – *Campos family*

Wednesday (FERIAL)
12 Noon + Ivan Cimermanic – *Michelle*

Thursday (MEMORIAL – OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY)
12 Noon + Maria Silvestre – *Joao*

Friday (FERIAL)
12 Noon + Eileen Plouffe – *Maurice*

28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Oct. 9-10

Wisdom 7:7-11; Hebrews 4:12-13; Mark 10:17-30

Sat. 5:00 PM + Fr. Jim Malone – *Sr. Kathleen Howard, C.S.J.*

Sun. 9:30 am + Ann Marie James – *David James*

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

Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary – Known for several centuries by the alternate title of “Our Lady of Victory,” the feast day takes place in honor of a 16th century naval victory which secured Europe against Turkish invasion. Pope St. Pius V attributed the victory to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who was invoked on the day of the battle through a campaign to pray the Rosary throughout Europe.

The Sanctuary Lamp burns this week for: A Private Intention

In our church, two sanctuary lamps continuously burn on either side of the tabernacle, to signify the Real Presence of Jesus.

You may now 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 each week in the bulletin; private intentions will appear as you see above.



Requests will be received by the parish office in much the same way you would request a Mass Intention – please write “**Sanctuary Lamp**” on a plain envelope, insert \$5 for one candle or \$10 for both candles. Include your intention, and whether or not you would like it published or private. Requests can be dropped in the collection or slipped under the office door, or mailed.



Congratulations

St. Mark’s Parish congratulates all the boys and girls who received their **First Holy Communion** today (October 3):

Landon	Caitlin	Grayson	Ryan	Violet	Grace
Brooklyn	Theodore	Leo	Westley	Isla	Annabelle
Rachel	Julian	Reid	Ava	Layla	Haily

“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.”

Today we continue to read from the Gospel according to Mark. For the past three Sundays, we have been hearing Mark’s reports of conversations between Jesus and his disciples. Recall that in Mark’s Gospel, Jesus uses these private moments to teach his disciples in greater detail about the Kingdom of God. Beginning with today’s Gospel, Jesus returns to Judea, Jewish territory, and resumes his public ministry. The first verse of chapter 10 of Mark’s Gospel tells us that crowds gathered around Jesus, and he taught them, as was his custom. Immediately, the Pharisees approach Jesus to test him.

The Pharisees question Jesus about the lawfulness of divorce. Under specific conditions, divorce was an accepted practice among the Jewish people during the time of Jesus. It was regulated by the Law of Moses, as found in [Deuteronomy 24:1-5](#). This law only permits that a husband may divorce his wife if he finds her to be indecent. This is the justification that the Pharisees reference when Jesus inquires about the commandment of Moses. In reply, Jesus quotes from the Book of Genesis and counters that God’s original intention was that men and women would become one flesh in marriage. Jesus describes the teaching of Moses as a concession made to God’s original intention because of human stubbornness.

In private, Jesus’ disciples question him further about this teaching on divorce. It is to his disciples that Jesus lays out the implications of his teaching by explaining that remarriage after divorce is adultery. Jesus’ teaching was more restrictive than the teaching of the Pharisees, which permitted remarriage. Jesus further distinguished his teaching from the cultural norms of his time by applying his words equally to men and women. Jewish culture permitted only that a husband may divorce his wife. Wives were not permitted to divorce their husband for any reason, including adultery.

At first glance, the final part of today’s Gospel seems unconnected to the previous teaching about divorce. When read together, however, these passages present a strong picture of Jesus’ emphasis on the importance of family. God intended for women and men to be joined together in marriage. Among the purposes of marriage is the raising of children. By welcoming children and fostering their relationship with God, parents and families bear witness to the Kingdom of God.

At the end of today’s Gospel, the people were bringing their children to Jesus, and again Jesus’ disciples show that they just don’t get it. Recall that in the Gospel for each of the past two Sundays, Jesus has taught his disciples the value and importance of these “little ones” in the Kingdom of God. Yet in today’s Gospel, the disciples try to prevent people from bringing their children to Jesus. Jesus reprimands his disciples and welcomes these children. Again Jesus offers these children as an example of the kind of complete trust and dependence upon God that ought to be the attitude of all believers. ■

Sacrament of Confirmation

Tuesday, October 26 and Thursday, October 28



Families with a child currently in Grade 8 or 9, who missed being Confirmed in the spring, are asked to email Pam at the parish office (stmark@rogers.com) to re-enroll your child and indicate which date you prefer so a pew can be reserved for your family.

Please keep the children in your prayers!



October 9-10	5:00PM Mass	9:30AM Mass	11:30AM Mass
Reader:	A. Fernandez	T. Boettger	L. Gimenez
Ushers:	C. Weber S. Morgan	V. Chen L. Koehler	E. Weiss I. Kangaloo
Eucharistic Ministers:	K. Smith C. Weber	T. Angel M. Walsler	B./C. Voisin

Bishop Crosby has requested that the following announcement be published in all parish bulletins:

Covid Vaccines

The official position of the Catholic Church is that all available COVID vaccines are ethical and all Catholics who are able are encouraged to receive the vaccine. All employees serving in the Diocese of Hamilton are encouraged to be fully vaccinated or to submit to a COVID rapid test every Monday and Thursday in order to carry out their responsibilities. Volunteer liturgical ministers are required to be fully vaccinated. Bishop Douglas Crosby, O.M.I., encourages every member of the Catholic Church within our Diocese of Hamilton to be fully vaccinated.

Statement from the Canadian Catholic Bishops on Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples of Canada

The Catholic Bishops of Canada, gathered in Plenary this week, took the opportunity to affirm and acknowledge to the Indigenous Peoples the suffering experienced in Canada's Indian Residential Schools. Many Catholic religious communities and dioceses participated in this system, which led to the suppression of Indigenous languages, culture and spirituality, failing to respect the rich history, traditions and wisdom of Indigenous Peoples. They acknowledged the grave abuses that were committed by some members of our Catholic community; physical, psychological, emotional, spiritual, cultural, and sexual. They also sorrowfully acknowledged the historical and ongoing trauma and the legacy of suffering and challenges faced by Indigenous Peoples that continue to this day. Along with those Catholic entities which were directly involved in the operation of the schools and which have already offered their own heartfelt apologies, the Catholic Bishops of Canada expressed their profound remorse and apologized unequivocally.

Together with the many pastoral initiatives already underway in dioceses across the country, the Bishops pledged to undertake fundraising in each region of the country to support initiatives discerned locally with Indigenous partners. Furthermore, they invited the Indigenous Peoples to journey with us into a new era of reconciliation, helping us to prioritize initiatives of healing, to listen to the experience of Indigenous Peoples, especially to the survivors of Indian Residential Schools, and to educate our clergy, consecrated men and women, and lay faithful, on Indigenous cultures and spirituality. They further committed to continue the work of providing documentation or records that will assist in the memorialization of those buried in unmarked graves.

A delegation of Indigenous survivors, Elders/knowledge keepers, and youth will meet with the Holy Father in December 2021. Pope Francis will encounter and listen to the Indigenous Peoples, so as to discern how he can support our common desire to renew relationships and walk together along the path of hope in the coming years. The Bishops of Canada have pledged to work with the Holy See and our Indigenous partners on the possibility of a pastoral visit by the Pope to Canada as part of this healing journey.

We are committed to continue the journey with the First Nations, Métis and Inuit Peoples of this land. For more information, please contact the diocese or visit www.cccb.ca.

YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH

A Beloved Father

Reflection

Patris Corde, 1

(Apostolic Letter by Pope Francis, 2020)

The greatness of Saint Joseph is that he [...] concretely expressed his fatherhood “by making his life a sacrificial service to the mystery of the incarnation and its redemptive purpose. He employed his legal authority over the Holy Family to devote himself completely to them in his life and work. He turned his human vocation to domestic love into a superhuman oblation of himself, his heart and all his abilities, a love placed at the service of the Messiah who was growing to maturity in his home.”

Prayer: For the Family, the Domestic Church

Saint Joseph, beloved father, we ask that you intercede with your Son, the Saviour of the world, for the domestic church, that its members may imitate the Holy Family in practicing the virtues of Christian family life so that, one day, they may delight in eternal rewards.

V. Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us,

R. Even as we hope in you. (Ps 33.22)

Action: Perform an act of selfless service for a member of your family.

Diocese of Hamilton Year of St. Joseph Novena Prayers



THAT MAN IS YOU!

“The Revelation of the Father”

St. Mark's Men's Group meets Saturday mornings, both IN PERSON and on ZOOM (Sept. 18 to Dec. 11) from 7:15 – 9:00 a.m. (8:15 a.m. on Zoom). Breakfast in the Parish Hall begins at 7:15 a.m., followed by a video and group discussion. Social distancing, contact tracing, sanitizing and masking rules all apply as they did before. **Can't make it in person? Join via Zoom at 8:15 a.m. after watching the video during the week.**

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

St. Mary's Hospital – Hope & Hygiene Drive

St. Mary's General Hospital has begun collecting hygiene products and in-demand seasonal products for patients in need. This drive is a meaningful initiative for both givers and receivers. Packages must be new and unopened: **Tooth paste, Tooth brushes, Floss, Soap, Body wash, Body lotion, Shampoo, Conditioner, Wash cloths and towels, Menstrual hygiene products, Deodorant, Band aids, Hair brushes and combs, Baby wipes, Diapers, Sunscreen, Hearing aide batteries, Shaving cream.** Items may be dropped off here in the narthex and Deacon Philip will take them to the hospital.

QUILTS for the hospital ... The hospital also accepts donations of quilts of different sizes to send home with patients. **If you have fabric to donate (must be washable) or would like to participate in sewing the quilts, please contact Betty at 519-743-0908.** The first sewing date will be **Saturday, Oct. 16 from 10:30 to 3:30 p.m.**



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