

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**



Sept. 13 – 19, 2021

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

Tuesday (FEAST – THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS)

7:00 PM + Maria Campos – *Campos family*

Wednesday (MEMORIAL – OUR LADY OF SORROWS)

12 Noon + Antonio Lerit – *Helen & Keith Reinhardt & family*

Thursday (MEMORIAL – ST. CORNELIUS & ST. CYPRIAN)

12 Noon + Maria Alvaro – *Anna & Cuthbert Joseph*

Friday (FERIAL)

12 Noon + Elizabeth Mercier – *Marilyn Dufresne*

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Sept. 18/19

Wisdom 2:12, 17-20; James 3:16-4:3; Mark 9:30-37

Sat. 5:00 PM – Intentions of Colette Dokis – *Luz Macedo*

Sun. 9:30 am + John Donovan – *Brian & Marie Lynch*

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

The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross celebrates two historical events: the discovery of the True Cross by Saint Helena, the mother of the Emperor Constantine, in 320 under the temple of Venus in Jerusalem, and the dedication in 335 of the basilica and shrine built on Calvary by Constantine, which mark the site of the Crucifixion. The basilica, named the Martyrium, and the shrine, named the Calvarium, were destroyed by the Persians in 614. The Church of the Holy Sepulcher which now stands on the site was built by the crusaders in 1149.

However the feast, more than anything else, is a celebration and commemoration of God's greatest work: his salvific death on the Cross and His Resurrection, through which death was defeated and the doors to Heaven opened. The entrance antiphon for the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is: "We should glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, for he is our salvation, our life and our resurrection: through him we are saved and made free."



The Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows commemorates the seven great sorrows which Mary lived in relation to Her Son, as they are recorded in the Gospels or through tradition. Today we are invited to reflect on Mary's deep suffering: 1. At the prophecy of Simeon: "You yourself shall be pierced with a sword - so that the thoughts of many hearts may be laid bare." (Luke 2:35). 2. At the flight into Egypt; "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt." (Mt 2:13). 3. Having lost the Holy Child at Jerusalem; "You see that your father and I have been searching for you in sorrow." (Luke 2:48). 4. Meeting Jesus on his way to Calvary; 5. Standing at the foot of the Cross; "Near the cross of Jesus there stood His mother." (John 19:25). 6. Jesus being taken from the Cross; 7. At the burial of Christ.

St. Cyprian was important in the development of Christian thought and practice in the third century, especially in northern Africa. Saint Augustine remarks that Cyprian atoned for his anger by his glorious martyrdom.

A note about Funerals...

Please note that on days when a Funeral Mass is celebrated in the church, the parish Mass for that day will be cancelled. (This does not affect the Saturday evening or Sunday morning Lord's Day Masses.) Because funerals are typically scheduled on short notice, any Mass cancellations will be announced verbally as much as possible during the week, since it will usually not be possible to give notice in the Sunday bulletin.

Today's reading is the turning point in Mark's Gospel.

In the presentation of the life and ministry of Jesus found in the Gospel of Mark, the deeds of Jesus have shown Jesus to be the Son of God. Yet many, including Jesus' disciples, have not yet realized his identity. In today's Gospel, Jesus asks the disciples for a field report by asking what others say about him. He then turns the question directly to the disciples and asks what they believe. Peter speaks for all of them when he announces that they believe Jesus to be the Christ.

The word *Christ* is the Greek translation of the Hebrew word for Messiah, which means "the anointed one." At the time of Jesus, the image of the Messiah was laden with popular expectations, most of which looked for a political leader who would free the Jewish people from Roman occupation. Jesus does not appear to have used this term for himself. As we see in today's reading, Jesus refers to himself instead as the Son of Man, a term derived from the Jewish Scriptures, found in the Book of Daniel and in other apocryphal writings. Many scholars suggest that the phrase Son of Man is best understood to mean "human being."

Now that the disciples have acknowledged Jesus as the Christ, Jesus confides in them the outcome of his ministry: he will be rejected, must suffer and die, and will rise after three days. Peter rejects this prediction, and Jesus rebukes him severely. The image of Christ that Jesus is giving is not the image of the Messiah that Peter was expecting. Jesus then teaches the crowd and the disciples about the path of discipleship: To be Christ's disciple is to follow in the way of the cross.

We can easily miss the fear that Jesus' words must have evoked in his disciples. Death by crucifixion was all too familiar as a method of execution in Roman-occupied territories. It was also an omnipresent danger to the Christian community for whom Mark wrote. The path that Jesus was inviting his disciples to share meant tremendous suffering and death. This is the kind of radical commitment and sacrifice that Jesus calls us to adopt for the sake of the Gospel. ■

First Holy Communion

Sunday, Sept. 26 and Sunday, Oct. 3

Families have been preparing their children for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion via material emailed over the course of the last few months. **If you have a child entering Grade 3 or 4 who has not yet received these sacraments, please email Pam at the parish office (stmark@rogers.com) as soon as possible.** Children entering Grade 2 will enroll and prepare for the sacraments in the winter.

Please keep the children in your prayers!

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.**



Dear Readers, Ushers and Eucharistic Ministers ...

Please watch your inbox for the September schedule. *Thank you!*



THAT MAN IS YOU!
"The Revelation of the Father"

St. Mark's Men's Group is meeting Saturday mornings again – both IN PERSON and on ZOOM – **Sept. 18 to Dec. 11** from 7:15 – 9:00 a.m. (8:15 a.m. on Zoom).

Technology has been a blessing, but how lovely to be able to share each other's company without needing a computer screen!

This Fall, TMIY takes a hard look at the realities of our modern culture. *Revelation of the Father* seeks to transform men in their relationship with their children. It sets forth the vision of a child capable of making moral decisions in light of significant pressure and helps parents develop a "parenting plan of life."

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.



If you are interested in becoming a Catholic or knowing more about the Catholic Faith, you may

leave your name and contact information with the parish office to be enrolled in The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (commonly referred to as R.C.I.A.). This is a formation and preparation process that typically begins in the Fall. To become a full member of the Catholic Faith, a person must receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Eucharist. The program, therefore, is for people who have (1) never been baptized; (2) been baptized in another Christian Faith and are now seeking to be accepted into full communion with the Catholic Church, and (3) been baptized in the Catholic Church but have not received both Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Eucharist.

EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE!

Sept. 10-13: Advanced Polling
Sept. 20: Election Day Polling
ST. MARK'S PARISH HALL



We offer our sympathy and prayers to the family and friends of **Maria Campos**, wife of Manuel and mother of Michael (Barbara) and Marcio.
"Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen."

**The Sanctuary Lamp burns this week for:
The Intentions of St. Mark's Prayer Network**

C.W.L. News

WELCOME BACK! We pray you had a good summer! Mark your calendars!! **Saturday, September 25th is our Regional Virtual Meeting from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.** Watch your email inbox for the meeting and log in information. No email? No problem, you can call into the meeting via your phone. Call Anna at 519-577-8519 for information.



Are you troubled? Do you need spiritual support?

The Sisters of the Carmel of Saint Joseph will pray for you during the **Novena to Little St. Therese**, Sept. 23 – Oct. 1. You can participate in this novena 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, Ontario N0B 2L0*

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THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF WATERLOO REGION PRESENTS:
An Interactive Virtual Discussion on Student Support for Active Parents, Thursday September 23rd from 7:00pm - 8:00pm.

Although learning environments have shifted over the past year, parents everywhere have helped their children navigate these changes by taking a more active role in their education (kudos to you, parents!).

Now, as students go back to in-person learning this fall, you can ensure your child is more prepared – both socially and academically – by attending our upcoming event.

The Catholic Community Foundation of Waterloo Region invites you to join in an interactive presentation and virtual discussion on Thursday, September 23rd from 7pm – 8pm EDT. We are bringing together experts from the region to share their best practices, ideas and identify learning needs to help students succeed moving forward from the pandemic influences/challenges. Take the first step in setting your child up for success this school year! Space is limited. Register today!

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Inzs9w4rQB1im6xA6xlxg

Evenings with His Excellency, Bishop Wayne Lobsinger

Interested in learning more about our Catholic Faith? Join Bishop Lobsinger for "Evenings with His Excellency" on the **second Friday of each month from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.** in Canadian Martyrs Church (1349 Main Street West, Hamilton). Each month we will methodically go through the "Catechism of the Catholic Church". **There is no registration, no fee and no homework.** Come ready to learn and ask all the questions you always wanted to ask about our Catholic Faith.

The first session was Friday, September 10th. **If you are unable to attend in person, you are welcome to go to canadianmartyrshamilton.com to watch live.** (All COVID-19 protocols will be required, including masks while in the church and proper social distancing.)



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