

# 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. 6 – 12, 2021**

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

- Tuesday** (FERIAL)  
7:00 PM + Diana Nguyen – Philip & Joan Fernandez
- Wednesday** (FEAST – NATIVITY OF THE BL. V. MARY)  
12 Noon + Max Morrison – Marilyn Dufresne
- Thursday** (FERIAL)  
12 Noon + Catherine Smith – Anna & Cuthbert Joseph
- Friday** (FERIAL)  
12 Noon + Jake DeVries – Clem & Carolyn Baumtrog

**24<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Sept. 11/12**

Isaiah 50:5-9; James 2:14-18; Mark 8:27-35

- Sat. 5:00 PM** + Ivan Cimermanic – Michelle  
**Sun. 9:30 am** + Roger Farwell – Larry & Sharon Koehler  
**11:30 am** – Intentions of the Parishioners of St. Mark

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED: MONDAY, SEPT. 6 (LABOUR DAY)**

**FEAST of the NATIVITY of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021

The traditional date for Our Mother Mary’s birthday is September 8<sup>th</sup>, nine months after her Immaculate Conception which the Church celebrates on December 8<sup>th</sup>. Saint Augustine described the birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary as an event of cosmic and historic significance, and an appropriate prelude to the birth of Jesus Christ. “She is the flower of the field from whom bloomed the precious lily of the valley.” The fourth-century bishop, whose theology profoundly shaped the Western Church’s understanding of sin and human nature, affirmed that “through her birth, the nature inherited from our first parents is changed.”

**First Friday Devotions to the Sacred Heart of Jesus**

OCTOBER 1 ♦ NOVEMBER 5 ♦ DECEMBER 3

Mass on the First Friday of every month is celebrated at **7:00 p.m.** followed by Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

**First Saturday Devotions to the Immaculate Heart of Mary**

OCTOBER 2 ♦ NOVEMBER 6 ♦ DECEMBER 4

Mass on the First Saturday of every month is celebrated at **9:00 a.m.**

**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.



**Today we continue to hear the Gospel of Mark proclaimed.**

In today’s reading, Jesus heals a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment. This is a story about Jesus’ healing power, and in it we find clues about our understanding of sacrament. We are struck by the physical means used to heal the man, the use of spittle and touch. The Church continues to celebrate the sacraments using physical means. In the Sacrament of Baptism, water and oil are used to show the power of the Holy Spirit. In the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, we are anointed with holy oil on the forehead and the hands. In the Eucharist, bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ. We are a sacramental people who believe that God’s grace is given to us through these physical signs.

Some, however, see in this Gospel an image of the proclamation of the good news of Jesus to the Gentiles. The geographic references tell us that Jesus is journeying through Gentile territory. Jesus had previously visited this region and healed a person possessed by a demon. Jesus was already famous there, which explains why people brought the deaf man to him. The story that precedes this reading in Mark’s Gospel sets the stage. Jesus encounters a Gentile, a Syrophenician woman who asks him to heal her demon-possessed daughter. Jesus engages her in a dialogue about not feeding to dogs the food intended for children. Jesus is struck by the woman’s great faith when she replies that even dogs eat the food that falls from the table, and he heals her daughter immediately. The faith of this Greek woman compels Jesus to respond to her plea.

Mark shows that Jesus’ own mission affirms the early Church’s mission to the Gentiles. This was a significant issue to the early Christian community, which found that the good news of Jesus took root and spread quickly among the Gentiles. Yet there is an irony in the story of healing that Mark tells. Jesus gives the man the gift of speech, but then tells him not to use it. Jesus asks that the news of his healing power, which is evidence of his identity as the Messiah, not be spread. This is a recurring motif in Mark’s Gospel and is sometimes called the “messianic secret.” ■

**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](mailto: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!*





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](mailto: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.

### Diocesan Prayer Calendar

This week, let us pray for...

- Sep. 6 - Rev. Hayden Starczala
- Sep. 7 - Rev. Fulbert Jonas Ahouansou
- Sep. 8 - Sisters of O.L. Immaculate
- Sep. 9 - Rev. Ian Duffy
- Sep. 10 - Rev. Msgr. Dennis Noon
- Sep. 11 - Rev. Vernon P. Boyd, S.J.

### 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.*

### C.W.L. News

WELCOME BACK! We pray you had a good summer! Mark your calendars!! **Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup> 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.



### ADORATION FOR LIFE

**Thursday, September 2, Mass 9am, Holy Hour at 9:30am**  
*St. Agnes R.C. Church, 75 Bluevale St. N., Waterloo*

**Thursday, September 2, following Mass at noon 12:30-1pm**  
*St. Mary's R.C. Church, 56 Duke St. W., Kitchener*

**Friday, September 3, 5-6pm, Mass 7pm**  
*St. Teresa R.C. Church Adoration Chapel, 44 Leonard St., Kit.*

**Rosary for Life - last Saturday of the month before the 5pm Mass**  
*St. Boniface R.C. Church, Maryhill*

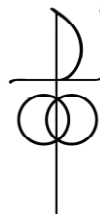
### Are you troubled? Do you need spiritual support?

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

### Congratulations Newlyweds

St. Mark's Parish offers congratulations to newlyweds joined in Holy Matrimony in the summer of 2021:



- James & Katherine - July 2*
- Bradley & Melanie - August 21*
- Chad & Mary-Emily - August 27*
- Michael & Barbara - August 28*

May God shower your lives together with many blessings!

### 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 in the following locations: Leslie Waitson's Office (10th floor Education) 10-125; Kathleen Foldvari's Office (1st floor Health and Wellness) 1-312; Staff entrance A and B (near screener stations). Questions about what you can donate? Have something not on the list? Please contact Kathleen Foldvari or Leslie Waitson.



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