



St. Mark's Roman Catholic Church

345 Glad Park Ave., Whitchurch - Stouffville, ON L4A 1E4

Tel. no.: 905-640-6954

Email: stmarksst@archtoronto.org

Fax no.: 905-640-0642

Parish Website: stmarksst.archtoronto.org

PLEASE REMEMBER ST. MARK'S CHURCH IN YOUR WILL



PASTORAL TEAM

Fr. Tad Walczyk - Pastor
Deacon John Schwarzbauer
Deacon Wayne McCulloch
Deacon Gordon Lee

STAFF

Sara Moreno-Stober - Office Administrator
Lisa Baker - Pastoral Administrator
Marcel Raes - Custodian
Emy Lomibao-de Asis - Friday Asst.
Grant Lalata - Youth Minister

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday - Friday
9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Closed for lunch 12 - 1:00 pm
CLOSED MONDAYS

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday & Thursday - 7:00 pm
Wednesday & Friday - 9:00 am
Saturday - 9:00 am
Statutory Holidays - 9:00 am

FIRST FRIDAY

Mass at 9:00 am and 7:00 pm
Eucharistic Adoration 9:30 am - 7:00 pm
All other Fridays: Adoration 9:30 am - 1 pm

SUNDAY EUCHARIST

Saturday - 5:00 pm
Sunday - 9:00 am & 11:00 am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 9:30 - 10:00 am
4:00 - 4:45 pm (or by appointment)

PRIVATE PRAYER

Mon., Tues., & Thurs. - 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Wed. & Fri. - 9:30 am to 4:00 pm
First Friday - 9:30 am to 7:00 pm

DEVOTIONS

Recitation of the Holy Rosary
(Before Weekday Masses)
Mother of Perpetual Help
Novena
(After Wednesday Mass)
Divine Mercy Chaplet
(Before Friday Masses)

BAPTISM

Please pick up a Baptismal package from the foyer of the Church. Upon submission of the "Request for Baptism" form, please allow up to 3 months for a Baptismal date, which will be given only after the parents attend the Preparation Class. Baptism Ceremonies are held on the 2nd Sunday of each month and on the 4th Sunday if needed.

MARRIAGE

Couples must contact the parish **one year in advance**. If either party has previously gone through any form of civil or religious marriage no date may be set until the Bishop's office has been consulted.

COMMUNION FOR THE SICK AND HOME-BOUND

Please call the Parish Office.

ANointing OF THE SICK

Please call the Parish Office.

MEMORIAL MASS

See website for policy.

NEW PARISHIONERS

Welcome. We encourage you to register using the Registration Form available in the foyer or on the website.

PARISH MINISTRIES

Altar Servers
Altar Society
AV Team
Children's Liturgy
Counter's Ministry
Eucharistic Ministers
Federation of North American Explorers
Finance Committee
Funeral Luncheon Committee
Greeters/Ushers
Knights of Columbus
Lectors
Media Stand & Bookstall
Movie Night
Parish Council
Parish Music Ministry
Prayer Shawl
RCIA & RCIC
Rosary Apostolate
Sacramental Preparation
Social Committee
Squires
St. Vincent de Paul Society
Women's Ministry
Youth Ministry

VOCATIONS TORONTO

Serra House
T: 416-968-0997
W: vocationstoronto.ca

ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO

T: 416-934-0606
W: archtoronto.org

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

St. Mark's School
333 Glad Park Ave.
T: 905-640-2915

St. Brendan's School
751 Hoover Park Dr.
T: 905-642-6728

St. Brigid's School
223 Millard St.
T: 905-642-5100

Blessed Chiara
Badano School
55 Meridan Dr.

St. Katharine Drexel
High School
55 Meridan Dr.

École catholique
Pape-François
276 Sunset Blvd.
T: 905-642-3440

PASTORAL REFERENCE LETTERS FOR SCHOOL

As evidence of living one's faith the person requesting a reference must be registered for at least 12 months and genuinely trying to attend Mass every Sunday, as well as supporting the Church, its charities and mission work. They are also encouraged to get involved in a parish ministry.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Mass Intentions for the Week

Tuesday, December 19th @ 7 pm

- † Members of Rigillo & Di Rienzo Families req. by Di Rienzo Family
- † Tony & Dino Raponi req. by Onesima Raponi & Family
- † Livio Raponi req. by Onesima Raponi & Family
- † Sid Majaralie req. by Helene Zafiropoulos
- Intentions of Deacon John req. by Helene Zafiropoulos

Wednesday, December 20th @ 9 am

- Intentions of Fr. Leslie on his 90th Birthday
- † Mathew Benincasa req. by Mary & Emilio Benincasa

Thursday, December 21st @ 7 pm

- † Charlie & Winnie Dawson req. by Carol Morin

Friday, December 22nd @ 9 am

- † Anthony Metauro req. by Anna Metauro & Family
- Eucharistic Adoration from 9:30 am to 1 pm**

Saturday, December 23rd

@ 9 am

- † Leonor Cuenca Canaan req. by Cellie Canaan & Family
- † Roland Martin req. by Leo & Deborah Desouza
- † Domenico Metauro req. by Anna Metauro & Family
- † Mathew Xu req. by Mary Chan
- † Francisco & Natividad Lomibao req. by Carlos & Emy deAsis
- † Frankie Cyril Albano req. by Byron Piedad
- Intentions of Colin & Naomi Li req. by Naomi Li

@ 5 pm

- † Tony, Dino, Valentino & Pasqualina Raponi req. by Onesima Raponi & Family

Sunday, December 24th

@ 9 am (also livestreamed)

- † Cheryl McCulloch req. by Deacon Wayne McCulloch
- @ 11 am**
- St. Mark's Community req. by Fr. Tad

Sunday, December 24th Christmas Eve

- @ 5 pm Christmas Eve Mass (also livestreamed)
- @ 7 pm Christmas Eve Mass
- @ 12 Midnight Christmas Mass

Monday, December 25th Christmas Day - Solemnity of the Nativity

- @ 10 am Christmas Day Mass (also livestreamed)
- @ 12 pm Christmas Day Mass

Pray For the Sick

Kenneth Pereira, Melanie Aniceto, Fidelis Noronha



Confessions

**Saturday 9:30 to 10 am & 4 to 4:45 pm
or by appointment**



Eucharistic Adoration Every Friday

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place each **Friday from 9:30 am to 1 pm and on the First Friday of the month from 9:30 am to 7 pm ending with Benediction.** We ask for help to ensure at least two people in the church each hour of Adoration by **signing in** with the **paper registration sheet at the back of the church.** Please consider attending for even 5 - 10 minutes.

Christmas Schedule 2023



CHRISTMAS MASSES

Sunday, December 24, 2023

- ◆ 5:00 pm Mass
- ◆ 7:00 pm Mass
- ◆ 12:00 Midnight Mass

Monday, December 25, 2023

- ◆ 10:00 am Mass
- ◆ 12:00 pm Mass



MARY MOTHER OF GOD SOLEMNITY (NEW YEAR)

Sunday, December 31, 2023

- ◆ 5:00 pm Vigil Mass

Monday, January 1, 2024

- ◆ 10:00 am Mass
- ◆ 12:00 pm Mass

Note: On the weekends of Dec. 23, 24, 30 & 31, the usual 5 pm, 9 am and 11 am Masses will be celebrated to fulfill the Sunday obligation.

Rejoicing Amidst the Darkness



"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near." These are the words proclaimed in the entrance antiphon of Mass for Gaudete Sunday this week. It urges us to constantly rejoice in the Lord, and as good stewards of Christ, we should always strive to live lives inundated with the joy that flows from the Lord. In order to do this, we must understand the difference between joy and happiness, for the Lord never promised us happiness. Instead, He says, "I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete" (John 15:11). Happiness is a result of our good circumstances, because we feel good, or we had something positive happen to us, etc. Joy on the other hand goes much deeper. Henri Nouwen describes it as "the experience of knowing that you are unconditionally loved and that nothing -- sickness, failure, emotional distress, oppression, war, or even death -- can take that love away." So joy is the ability to remain happy due to our awareness of being beloved sons and daughters of God even amidst the trials of our life. Henri Nouwen further describes joy as a choice we must make every day. How often in our difficult lives do we take solace and rejoice in our identities of being beloved children of God? This Gaudete Sunday let us strive to be more intentionally joyful, and to pray to Christ for strength, for He says, "Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete" (John 16:24).

DECEMBER 17, 2023

Advent Confession Times



Tuesday, Dec. 19th from 6 pm – 7 pm
Thursday, Dec. 21st from 6 pm – 7 pm
Friday, Dec. 22nd from 10 am – 11 am
Saturday, Dec. 23rd from 9:30 am – 11 am & 3 pm – 4:45 pm

Church Office - Holiday Hours

Friday, December 22	Open from 9 am to 12 noon
Monday, December 25 Tuesday, December 26	Closed
Wed., December 27 Thurs., December 28 Fri., December 29	Open from 9 am to 12 noon
Monday, January 1	Closed

2023 Tax Receipts

The books will be closed for 2023 donations on
Sunday, December 31st, 2023

Any donations you wish to make for 2023 must be received by **December 31st, 2023**. Anything after this date will apply to the 2024 year. Your name and address will appear exactly as it does on your offertory donation box. If there are any changes, please contact the office.

40th Anniversary Church Directory Last Chance to Book a Photo Appointment



A beautiful church photo directory will be given free to parishioners who book an appointment to have their photo taken. To make an appointment, go to our website at www.stmarksst.archtoronto.org.

The last day photos will be taken at St. Mark's is on
Saturday, January 6th from 10 am to 3 pm.

Christopher Leadership Course

**Ready for a transformation
that will truly astound you?**

The Christopher Leadership Course is Canada's best-kept secret ... an incredible journey to develop self-confidence, overcome shyness, and elevate your leadership skills through the medium of public speaking.

Imagine the course taking place right here in our parish! But there's a catch – we need YOUR interest to make it happen. The Christophers will bring in a team of skilled instructors, but we require between 15 to 25 students to bring this unique experience to life.

If you are interested in learning more, leave your name and phone number with Lisa and a Christopher instructor will call you to provide more information and answer questions.

You can also email Lisa Baker, Pastoral Administrator at lbaker@archtoronto.org or visit the Christopher website at www.clctorontoeast.com.

Register today and unlock your inner leader!



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Camino de Santiago

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September / October 2024

Email us for details

colette@clarkewaytravel.com
antonietta@clarkewaytravel.com



We are SO excited to announce our 2nd Women's
Ministry Retreat **Jan 26-28, 2024.**

The first one was such a blessed event! Let's do that again! It will be a weekend filled with love, laughter, and Faith, with inspired videos about the Holy Spirit, reflection and discussion, outdoor & indoor fun, strengthening our friendships, and developing new ones! Just say, YES :)

This weekend will consist of specially curated, inspiring videos about the Holy Spirit and how we can activate the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives, receiving and exercising the Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit, with reflection, discussion and sharing: love, laughter, and Faith, sprinkled with an outdoor adventure and bonfire ...and indoor activities and prayer crafts.

Also, on Saturday evening, there will be Mass and confession.
Location: The retreat will be held at The Lake St. George Field Centre, Richmond Hill

Cost: \$250 per person or \$225 per person if you bring a friend! A \$50 deposit will reserve your spot. The balance will be due Jan. 12th.

For Information and to register, please email:
stmarkswomensministry@gmail.com



The 2024 envelopes are ready for
pickup in the foyer. Please do not begin
using these envelopes until January.

Please remember your God, your Faith, and your Parish in your will.

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