

# St. Mark Roman Catholic Parish

55 Driftwood Drive, Kitchener, Ontario N2N 3A2 • 519-571-9200 • www.stmarkcatholicparish.org

## PARISH STAFF

Rev. Roque Concepcion – *Pastor*

✉ stmark.kitchener@gmail.com

Mrs. Pam Olinski – *Parish Secretary*

✉ stmark@rogers.com

## SUNDAY MASS

Saturday 5:00 PM

Sunday 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM

Monthly Filipino Mass: Third Saturday 7:00 PM

Monthly Igbo Mass: Last Sunday 3:30 PM

## CONFESSION

Wednesday and First Friday 11:00 - 11:45 AM

Saturday 4:00 - 4:45 PM or by appointment

## DAILY MASS

Tuesday to Friday 12:00 NOON

First Saturday 9:00 AM

## EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Our Adoration Chapel is open to the public,

Tuesday to Friday 1:00 - 8:00 PM

**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 your home blessed.

## 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 pre-authorized debit plan. 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** – Infant 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. A date for baptism can be confirmed by the parish office after you have met with Father and started the preparation process.

**RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)** – Adults seeking conversion to the Catholic faith are invited to inquire with the parish priest. This program runs from the Fall until Easter.

**MARRIAGE** – A minimum of 6 months' notice is required. Please introduce yourselves to Father after Mass to start the process.

## ANOINTING OF THE SICK or HOSPITAL VISIT

Whenever possible, Anointing of the Sick should be requested before the need becomes dire. In any case, contact the parish office to request this sacrament.

## PARISH SCHOOLS

**St. Dominic Elementary** 3 Westforest Trail 519-576-5503

**St. Mark Elementary** 240 Autumn Hill Cr. 519-743-4682

**Resurrection Secondary** 455 University Ave. W. 519-741-1990



## REQUESTING A MASS INTENTION

To have a Mass celebrated for a loved one (living or deceased), please fill out this request form, place it in a plain envelope marked "Mass Intention," and drop it in the Sunday collection. Your intention and your name will appear in the bulletin, and will be announced during Mass.

**If you require a Mass Card**, please make your request in-person at the parish office during the week.

The offering (stipend) for a Mass Intention is \$10 per Mass.

Number of Masses requested: \_\_\_\_\_ Offering enclosed: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Name of person(s)

to be remembered: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check if this person is:  LIVING or  DECEASED

**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 note: We can only accept requests for specific dates if they are a birthday, death anniversary or wedding anniversary. Since dates fill up quickly, your request should be submitted several months in advance to avoid disappointment. Sunday Masses may only be requested twice per year. All other requests will be satisfied on a weekday. We will attempt to contact you if we are unable to satisfy your request.*

## LIGHTING A SANCTUARY LAMP

You may request to have one or both lamps burn for a special intention or for the repose of someone's soul. Cost is \$5 per candle, per week.

Simply drop a plain envelope marked "Sanctuary Lamp" into the collection and include the stipend and the name of the person(s) you wish to remember. Names will be published in the bulletin at the beginning of that week.

Please light the

Sanctuary Lamp(s) for: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check if this person is:  LIVING or  DECEASED

Offering enclosed: \$\_\_\_\_\_

REQUESTED BY \_\_\_\_\_

DAYTIME PHONE or EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

# SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## Mass Intentions for the Week

February 16 – 22, 2026

Tuesday ★ NO MASS

✧ SEASON OF LENT BEGINS ✧

**ASH WEDNESDAY** ★ UNIVERSAL DAY OF FASTING & ABSTINENCE

**12 Noon** - Int. of Helen & Jerry Kieffer – *Melissa & family*  
 - Int. of Valerie Grzesiak – *Cainoy family*  
 - Int. of Colette Dokis – *Judy Swartz*

**7:00 PM** † Catherine Nguyen – *Melissa*



Thursday ★ NO MASS

Friday ★ NO MASS

**1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT** – February 21/22

Genesis 2:7-9, 16-18, 25; 3:1-7+; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11

**Sat. 5:00 PM** † Bill Schade – *Anna & Cuthbert Joseph*  
 † Vincent Kim – *Melissa Nguyen*  
 † Buenaventura Mabitad & Armando Miranda

**7:00 PM** - MONTHLY FILIPINO MASS

**Sun. 9:30 am** † Tony Masciotra – *Pat & Margaret Drohan*  
**11:30 am** - Intentions of the Parishioners of St. Mark  
**3:30 PM** - MONTHLY IGBO MASS



LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER!  
*The Sanctuary Lamp burns this week for:*  
 A Private Intention



**Vocations Prayer Calendar** ✧ *This week let us pray for...*

Feb. 16	Feb. 17	Feb. 18	Feb. 19	Feb. 20	Feb. 21
Rev. Jarek Pachocki, O.M.I.	Rev. Robert Love	<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	Rev. Jeffery Oehring	Rev. Francesco Cucchi	Rev. Mark Gatto

**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 married couples, priests, consecrated virgins, sisters, brothers, and lay ministers. Make me an instrument to encourage others to give of themselves and challenge me to do the same. Amen.*

## VOCATION SEEDS

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"No eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him." If you feel you are being invited to spread the Good News of God's love as a priest, deacon, brother or sister, contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988.

[vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com)

[hamiltondiocese.com/vocations](http://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations)

## Weekly Offertory Reports



February 7/8, 2026	General	Mortgage
Envelope offerings: \$	2,445.00	\$ 185.00
Loose offerings: \$	510.30	\$ --
Pre-Authorized: \$	1,579.04	\$ 397.38
<b>Totals: \$</b>	<b>4,534.34</b>	<b>582.38</b>

**Instant Online Donations:** Can be made anytime to St. Mark's Parish through our **CanadaHelps** portal. Simply scan the QR code here or in the church, or use this link: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/st-marks-parish-kitchener-ontario>. Thanks for your support!



## Meetings & Events This Week ...



FEBRUARY	TIME	ROOM	EVENT
<b>Mon 16</b>	7:00 PM	(CH)	11:30 Choir practice
	8:00 PM	(H)	Alcoholics Anonymous
<b>Tue 17</b>	5:00 PM	(H)	PANCAKE SUPPER
<b>Wed 18</b>	6:15 PM	(CH)	9:30 Choir practice
	7:00 PM	Multi	SHE Women's Group
<b>Thu 19</b>	7:00 PM	(CH)	5pm Choir practice
	7:00 PM	(H)	C.W.L. Elections
<b>Sat 21</b>	7:15 am	(H/J)	<i>That Man Is You!</i> Men's Group
<b>Sun 22</b>	9:30 am	(L)	Children's Liturgy of the Word
	1:00 PM	(CH)	Confirmation Prep Session #2

**MEETING ROOMS:** (B) - Basement (CH) - Church (H) - Hall (J) - St. John Room (L) - St. Luke Boardroom (M) - St. Matthew Room

## Probing the Depth of the Commandments



In today's Gospel, on this Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Jesus makes clear that He has not come to abolish the Law but to bring it to fulfillment. This fulfillment goes beyond mere legal observance; it calls for embracing the deeper values each commandment upholds and living them fully, without compromise or shortcuts. Jesus' teachings on anger, adultery, and the taking of oaths illustrate what it means to live according to the spirit of God's commandments.

As we encounter our Brother and Lord, Jesus Christ, in each Eucharistic celebration, may we learn to put His teachings into practice and walk always in the light of life.

Source: Euchalette, Word & Life Publications

**SHROVE TUESDAY with St. Mark's Knights of Columbus**



## Pancake & Sausage Supper

**THIS TUESDAY, Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>**

5:00 - 6:30 PM in the Parish Hall

Adults ~ \$12.00 Youth (7-16 yrs) ~ \$8.00

Kids (3-6 yrs) ~ \$5.00 Under 3 ~ FREE (with free ticket)  
**Family Rate ~ \$35.00 (two adults + 3 children from same family)**

Take-home available. **FILIPINO HOTCAKES** also on the menu!  
**TICKETS ON SALE AFTER ALL WEEKEND MASSES.**

Limited tickets available at the door.



## Pure Maple Syrup \$15 each

500mL bottle

On Sale After All Weekend Masses and at the Pancake Supper!  
 Cash Preferred. E-Transfer Available. All proceeds to local charities.



"No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him."

1 CORINTHIANS 2:9

## Liturgical Ministers

Feb. 21/22	5:00 PM Mass	9:30 AM Mass	11:30 AM Mass
<b>Altar Servers:</b>	V./P./J. Miller S. Silva	I. Fitzgerald R. Jerold, A. Min	C. Chacon K. Garces, F. Zumot
<b>Commentator:</b>	Sophia Morgan	E. Constantino	B. Prila
<b>Readers:</b>	James Morgan	M. Raki	D. Bouwman
<b>Ushers:</b>	E. Miller A. Beckner	C. Sgarbossa V. Chen	P. Abalos M. Schimus
<b>Eucharistic Ministers:</b>	C. Weber P./K. Nezny	A. Joseph T./K. Boettger	D. Weber B./C. Voisin

### Alpha returns to St. Mark's on March 5<sup>th</sup>

**Thursday evenings, March 5 to May 14, 6:30 to 9:15**

Alpha is an 11-week program that brings adults together for conversations about life, faith and Jesus. It's an opportunity to explore the Christian faith in a relaxed setting. We start each session with a delicious home-made meal. After dinner, we watch a video and then break into small groups to ask questions, share thoughts and explore answers. All are welcome! For more information or to sign up, visit the Alpha table in the narthex or contact Ron Denomme at [stmarkalpha@gmail.com](mailto:stmarkalpha@gmail.com) or 226-748-3210.



### Knights of Columbus February Potato Blitz

During the whole month of February we will be collecting potatoes for the House of Friendship. Please bring your spuds and put them in the bin in the narthex. Thank you!!

## Next Sacramental Preparation Meetings

**CONFIRMATION:** NEXT SUNDAY, Feb. 22 at 1:00 p.m.

**FIRST COMMUNION:** Wed. Feb. 25 at 5:45 p.m.

## Passion Plays

**ACTORS NEEDED! Adults and children.**  
**Speaking and non-speaking roles available.**  
**Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil**

If you are interested in participating, please see the the narthex. Practices will begin in March.

For more info please email Sonia at [soniachacon33@yahoo.ca](mailto:soniachacon33@yahoo.ca).



## Lenten Practices

### Fasting and Abstinence

Lent is a time of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving in preparation for our celebrations of Easter, when Christ died and rose from the dead for our salvation. **There are two days of compulsory fasting and abstinence prescribed by the Church: ASH WEDNESDAY and GOOD FRIDAY.**

**Fasting** means eating less than normal. We are asked to eat one regular size meal and two smaller meals. Catholics between the ages of 16-60 are asked to abide by this discipline.

**Abstinence** means abstaining from eating meat on this day. Catholics older than 14 years of age are asked to abide by this discipline. Note: We are also encouraged to continue the traditional practice of abstaining from meat every Friday. As well, one should not engage in excessive entertainment throughout the Lenten Season, and most certainly not on Good Friday.



## C.W.L. News...

### \* General Meeting & Elections

**This Thursday, Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall**  
We kindly request your presence at this crucial meeting, where we will be electing the New Executive for St. Mark CWL. Your participation is very important!

### \* World Day of Prayer

**Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup> with Morning Service at 10:30 a.m. at St. Mathews Lutheran Church**, 54 Benton Street, Kitchener. Focus on Nigeria "I will give you rest."

### \* Lift Jesus Higher Rally 2026

**Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre.**  
There will be a bus leaving from the Walmart Centre on Hwy 24 in Cambridge. Cost for the bus and ticket to the event is \$66 per person. Please reserve your seat no later than February 28<sup>th</sup>! For further information please call or text Anna Joseph at 519-577-8519.

### \* Bill C-218

This is a private member's bill seeking to amend the Criminal Code to explicitly state that a mental disorder is not a grievous and irremediable medical condition for which a person could receive medical assistance in dying (MAID). **ALL PARISHIONERS are invited to visit the table in the narthex to SIGN THE PETITION and gather more information.** This Bill will be read in the House of Commons in March, and all signatures gathered will be submitted to the office of Tamara Jansen, MP.

### "The Gift of Living in the Divine Will" Information Session

Have you heard about the Gift of Living in the Divine Will? Wondered what the difference is between "living in" and "doing" God's Will? Looking for spiritual growth this Lent? You are invited to attend an Information Session based on the Church approved writings of Servant of God Luisa Piccarreta, on **Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup> at St. Anthony Daniel's Parish**, 29 Midland Drive, Kitchener. Registration at 8:45 a.m. Day concludes at 12:30 p.m. To register, please contact Shirley Gatchene, or Patrick & Rita Morgan at email: [divinewillkw@execulink.com](mailto:divinewillkw@execulink.com) or call 519-748-5548.

### Regina Caeli Academy Gala

The independent Catholic school opening in Guelph in September 2026 will host a gala on **Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>**. The event will feature dinner, dancing, a silent auction, and many prizes. Tickets are \$140 each. A portion of the ticket price may be eligible for a tax receipt. For more information, to order tickets, to pay by e-transfer, or to donate a prize, please contact [info@reginacaeliacademy.ca](mailto:info@reginacaeliacademy.ca). Thank you for supporting Regina Caeli Academy.

### The Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass

Are you celebrating your 25<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup>, or 60+ Wedding Anniversary in the year 2026? You are cordially invited to join Bishop Dabrowski and couples from across the Diocese of Hamilton for a Wedding Anniversary Mass on **Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup> at 1:30 p.m.** at the **Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King** in Hamilton. (Space allows room for Anniversary couples only - those married 60 years or more may bring one guest if you require assistance). **You must register in advance** at [www.hamiltondiocese.com](http://www.hamiltondiocese.com) under "Upcoming Events" or call the Family Ministry Office at 905-528-7988 ext. 2249.

### A Lenten Resource for Families

Visit the Diocese of Hamilton's website for tips and resources for how to celebrate the Lenten season. Scan the QR code, or click or enter this link in your browser: <http://tinyurl.com/ysc27jyf>





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