

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 _____

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sept. 28 – Oct. 4, 2026

Join us for recitation of **The Rosary**, 20 minutes before each weekday Mass.

Tuesday	(FEAST – ST. MICHAEL, ST. GABRIEL, ST. RAPHAEL, ARCHANGELS)
12 Noon	- Int. of Sugar Norte – <i>Boyet & family</i>
Wednesday	(MEMORIAL – ST. JEROME)
12 Noon	- Thanksgiving in honour of St. Jude – <i>M. Mendonca</i> † Theresa Tran – <i>Tuynh Nguyen</i> † Joseph Nguyen – <i>Tuynh Nguyen</i>
2:30 PM	- <i>Monthly Mass at Bankside Retirement Residence</i>
Thursday	(MEMORIAL – ST. THERESE OF THE CHILD JESUS)
12 Noon	† Augustino Nguyen – <i>Tuynh Nguyen</i>
First Friday	(MEMORIAL – THE HOLY GUARDIAN ANGELS)
12 Noon	† Deceased Parishioners of St. Mark's – <i>L. Fonseca</i>
First Saturday	(FERIAL)
9:00 am	† Mo Tran – <i>Tim Tran</i>
27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – October 3/4	
<i>Isaiah 5:1-7; Philippians 4:6-9; Matthew 21:33-43</i>	
Sat. 5:00 PM	- Int. of Manuel Luis Alves – <i>Lourdes Alves</i> † Deceased of Castellan Family – <i>L. & D. Shushack</i> † Susana Tasic – <i>Cainoy family</i>
Sun. 9:30 am	† Karolyn Ann Sine
11:30 am	- Intentions of the Parishioners of St. Mark



LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER!
The Sanctuary Lamps burn this week for:
The Intentions of Vicky & Stephen



Vocations Prayer Calendar ✕ This week let us pray for...

MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
Rev. Anton Sebamalai	Rev. Leszek Szczygiel	Consecrated Virgins	Rev. Mark Sullivan	Rev. David Wilhelm	Rev. Paul Patrick

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

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The invitation to serve often comes more than once; are you prepared with your answer? Consider ministry as a priest, deacon or in consecrated life. Are you being invited? Contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988.

vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

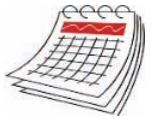
hamiltondiocese.com/vocations

Weekly Offertory Report



Sept. 19/20, 2026	General	Mortgage
Envelope offerings	\$ 2,116.00	\$ 200.00
Loose offerings	\$ 1,112.00	\$ --.00
Pre-Authorized	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 384.12
Totals	\$ 4,878.00	\$ 584.12

Meetings & Events This Week ...

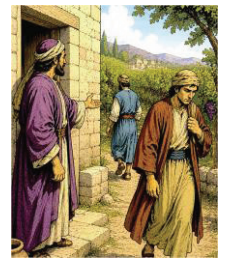


Sep./Oct.	TIME	ROOM	EVENT
MON 28	8:00 PM	(H)	Alcoholics Anonymous
TUE 29	7:00 PM	(L)	Multicultural Festival team meeting
WED 30	6:15 PM	(CH)	9:30 Choir practice
THU 1	6:30 PM	(M)	5pm Choir practice
	7:00 PM	(L)	R.C.I.A. 1 st meeting
FRI 2	7:00 PM	(H)	B.C.B.P.
SAT 3	7:15 am	(H)	That Man Is You!
	1:00 PM	(H)	Couples for Christ
SUN 4	9:30 am	(L)	Children's Liturgy of the Word

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

Jesus, make my heart like yours

Today is the 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time, and we remember our seafarers and migrants. In the Gospel, one son says "no" but obeys; the other says "yes" but does not act. The sinner who turns back is closer to God than the self-righteous who only appears faithful and remain blind. God always invites us to change and begin anew. In this Eucharist, let us receive His grace and allow Jesus to transform our hearts so we may constantly live our "yes" to Him.



Source: Euchalette, Word & Life Publications



Bible Study: Friday, Oct. 9 at 7:00 p.m.

Adults & Youth aged 12 and older. Bring a Bible.

Hygiene & Dental Drive!

We are now collecting **toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, deodorant, etc.** We will accept items until **October 25th**, and all products collected will be given to needy families this Christmas. Bins are set up in the narthex for those wishing to donate.

Thank you! – St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Mark's

Every Little Bit Helps...

On October 17th St. Mark's Men's Group will host a special luncheon for individuals supported by Ray of Hope. Your donation will help make this gathering possible. Drop a 'toonie' in the collection jar after Mass. Every little bit helps. Donations of \$5, \$10, \$20 or more are gratefully appreciated. Your gift will help provide: **nutritious meals, a welcoming atmosphere, dignity and community connection.** To learn more about St. Mark's Men's Group, join us for breakfast and small group discussion every Saturday morning at 7:15 am in the Parish Hall. Thank you!

September 30th is National

Truth & Reconciliation Day in Canada

On this day, we pray for the healing of relationships between the Indigenous nations and all citizens of Canada, that dialogue and collaboration will lead to genuine reconciliation and healing of past injustices.



OCT. 3/4	5:00 PM Mass	9:30 AM Mass	11:30 AM Mass
Altar Servers:	J./P./V. Miller G. Selwyn	I./C. Fitzgerald R. Jerold, A. Min	J./S. Garrucho J. Ortega
Commentator:	J. Deneau	E. Constantino	I. Kangaloo
Readers:	C. Stanley	D. Ocol	B. Norte
Ushers:	E. Miller A. Beckner	V. Chen C. Weber	J/S/J Posada
Eucharistic Ministers:	F./Y. Tully P. Campao	A. Joseph, T. Lee R. Groothuis	K. Dignam L. Maenpaa, E. Weiss

Forward Together in Christ at St. Mark

Synodality is the Church's way of walking together as the People of God—clergy and laity—listening to one another and discerning the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Through the Diocese of Hamilton's Forward Together in Christ initiative, St. Mark Parish is continuing this journey by encouraging greater dialogue, participation and shared responsibility in the life of our parish.

Over the coming weeks, we will share a **new Parish Mission Statement** and invite all parishioners to participate in a **parish-wide survey**. The survey results will help identify the needs and priorities of our parish community and will form the basis for **parish forum meetings** and future planning.

Your voice is important. Whether you are a long-standing parishioner or new to St. Mark, we encourage you to participate, share your ideas and help us discern how we can strengthen our parish community and its mission.

Together, guided by the Holy Spirit, we move **Forward Together in Christ**.

Adoration Chapel Vacancy

We currently have two separate hours that require a regular adorer in our Adoration Chapel:



Wednesdays 5:00-6:00pm or Thursdays 4:00-5:00pm

If you would like to make a weekly commitment to one of these hours, please sign up on the vacancy sheet in the chapel using your full name and phone number, or contact the parish office.

"How sweet and full of comfort are the moments spent before the Blessed Sacrament." — St. John Vianney

Join our Confirmation Prep Team!

We are looking for new volunteers to join the team that assists Fr. Roque in preparing our young people for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Confirmation strengthens the grace we received at Baptism and helps us grow into a deeper and more personal commitment to our faith.

If you have been confirmed and feel called to share your faith and journey with the youth of our parish, we warmly invite you to join us. **Please contact Fr. Roque or the parish office.** The time commitment is relatively small, but the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of our young people is truly rewarding.



Collection for the Needs of the Church in Canada

The Collection for the Needs of the Church in Canada takes place **this weekend (Sept. 26/27)**. When you give, your offering begins in our parish but reaches far beyond it. It helps support the mission of our diocese and joins the gifts of Catholics across the country in supporting the shared work of the Bishops of Canada. Together, this support makes possible work that no single diocese or eparchy could accomplish alone, such as providing catechetical resources, to promoting respect for human life and the dignity of every human person and accompanying migrants and refugees. Your gift helps strengthen the Church here at home and supports its mission across Canada. Thank you for your prayers and generosity.



September 23rd - November 1st

Over the course of this annual 5-week campaign, over a million volunteers across North America will join together to simultaneously participate in 40 consecutive days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. We invite you to participate! **40 Days for Life** saves the lives of children in the womb who do not have the chance to stand up for themselves.

You are encouraged to get involved through **prayer** and **fasting** for an end to abortion, as well as attending a **Peaceful Vigil across the street from Freeport Hospital**. It is vital to spread the message that human life is sacred and that a law needs to come into effect to stop the killing of innocent babies. **There are 2 ways to sign-up:**

1. Consider adopting 1 hour per week (which is only 6 hours over the span of the campaign). This would greatly help in filling all the hours. **1-hour time slots are available between 7am to 7pm, 7 days a week.**

2. Our Parish has also agreed to sponsor one solid day in particular – Sunday, October 25th, committing to fill all 12 hours from 7am to 7pm. We need at least 2 people to sign-up for each hour that day.

In the narthex you will see both sign-up sheets on the 40 Days for Life table – one sheet is for our parish-sponsored day (Oct. 25), and the other sheet is for the weekly Adopt-an-Hour. You can also sign up for more prayer hours at www.40daysforlife.com/kitchener or by contacting Ewelina at 40DaysKW@gmail.com or 519-970-0822.

It is VERY IMPORTANT that you sign-up in advance BEFORE coming to the vigil site as this relieves one of the committee or emergency back-up members from driving out to the site unnecessarily.

OPENING RALLY: Monday, Sept. 21st with Mass at 7:00 p.m.
Sacred Heart Parish, 66 Shanley Street, Kitchener

ADVERTISING ON THE BACK OF THE BULLETIN

Liturgical Publications will be setting up the advertisements for our church bulletin for the coming year starting next week. The advertising will begin in December 2026 and our bulletins are fully subsidized by this income. Please support our parish bulletin by advertising your product or service! Call Liturgical Publications at **1-800-268-2637** for info and pricing.

"Dead Man Walking" 3-day Conference with Jesus Youth Canada

October 16-18, 2026 | Valley of the Mother of God, Orangeville, Ontario
Jesus Youth invites all youth and young adults 16-20 years old to *Dead Man Walking*, an annual 3-day residential retreat for those heading into their final years before university, a gap year, or the workforce.

Held at **Valley of the Mother of God, Orangeville** on October 16-18, this gathering aims to connect them to fellow faithful Catholic students and campus ministries, while tackling real questions on life, sexuality and dating along the way. Featuring **Jason Evert**, internationally renowned Catholic speaker, and **Steadfast Worship**, Toronto's own favourite Catholic worship band. Join us for evening concerts, hikes, sports, and honest conversations with peers. **For Registration and information please visit dmw.jesusyouth.ca or email dmw.ontario@jesusyouth.ca or call 647-270-8592.**

The Many Faces of Evil: Wounded by Sin, Saved by the Sacraments

It is easy to see the growing presence of evil today. War, crime, the growth in "us versus them" mentality, attacks on religious institutions, the family and the sacredness of human life. The bible refers to the devil by many names: the Accuser, the Scatterer and the Father of Lies, who seeks to deceive and divide us. We need not be afraid! Jesus' Resurrection brought victory over evil. With prayer and participation in the Sacraments, we are equipped for the spiritual battles in life. Attend the St. Agnes Education Cafe: **"The Many Faces of Evil: Wounded by Sin, Saved by the Sacraments"** with **Fr. Michael King** on **Sunday, October 18th** from 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. at **St. Agnes Parish**, 75 Bluevale St. North, Waterloo.



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