



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.

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.

NEW PARISHIONERS

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

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.

PARISH MINISTRIES

Altar Servers
Altar Society
Children's Liturgy
Counter's Ministry
Eucharistic Ministers
Finance Committee
Funeral Luncheon Committee
Knights of Columbus
Lectors
Media Stand & Bookstall
Ministry of Hospitality
Parish Council
Parish Music Ministry
Prayer Groups
RCIA
Sacramental Preparation
Squires
St. Vincent de Paul Society
Ushers
Women's Ministry
Youth Ministry

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

VOCATIONS TORONTO

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

ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO

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

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. Must also have recently volunteered as a Parish Catechist!

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Mass Intentions for the Week

Tuesday, December 13th @ 7 pm

Wedding Anniversary Roy & Mary Jane Abad req. by Family

Intentions of Jocelyn Dawang req. by Don & Susan Dizon

† Leticia Dolorico req. by Piedad Family

† Albert Acacio req. by Piedad Family

Intentions of Fr. Tad req. by Jola Sadowski

Wednesday, December 14th @ 9 am

Wedding Anniversary Rene & Christine Crespo req. by Family

† Giovanni Torrone req. by Gina Torrone

Thursday, December 15th @ 7 pm

† Monica Flynn req. by Rose Marie Scott

Friday, December 16th @ 9 am

† Patricia Eileen Evelyn req. by Family

† Fran Allan Rozario req. by Mike Rozario

Intentions of Kathleen Stewart req. by Kathleen Stewart

Friday Eucharistic Adoration 9:30 am to 1 pm

Saturday, December 17th

@ 9 am

Jonfiah Alphonsine req. by Jonfiah Alphonsine

Beatriz Moreno req. by Sara Moreno-Stober

† Fran Allan Rozario req. by Mike Rozario

† John Linthwaite req. by Maureen Lawson

† Charlie & Sarah Tabone req. by Bob & Consuella Tabone

† Maria-Teresa Dias req. by Teresa Dias

† Ganaparam Thelephore req. by Alin Dorin

@ 5 pm

† Silvestro DeLaurentis req. by Stefanie Bruno

Sunday, December 18th

@ 9 am (also livestreamed)

St. Mark's Community req. by Fr. Tad

@ 11 am

† Tony & Dino Raponi req. by Onesima Raponi & Family

Pray For the Sick

Hedley Thomas, Jeanette Woodley, Joanne Taylor

Maureen Morrison, Clemens Casil,

Hyacinth DeSouza

Pray For the Recently Deceased

Cosimo Comito, Dennis Lyon, Molly McConkey,

Michael Choo-Hum, Umberto de Furia



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 First**

Fridays 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 beforehand with the paper registration
sheet at the back of the church.**

Please consider attending for even 5 to 10 minutes.

Christmas Schedule 2022



CHRISTMAS MASSES

Saturday, December 24, 2022

◆ 5:00 pm Mass

◆ 7:00 pm Mass

◆ 12:00 Midnight Mass

Sunday, December 25, 2022

◆ 9:00 am Mass

◆ 11:00 am Mass



MARY MOTHER OF GOD SOLEMNITY (NEW YEAR)

Saturday, December 31, 2022

◆ 5:00 pm Vigil Mass

Sunday, January 1, 2023

◆ 9:00 am Mass

◆ 11:00 am Mass

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 11, 2022

Is God Calling You?

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you." Are you one to be sent? If God is calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother or sister, contact **Fr. Matthew McCarthy**, Vocation Director at 416-968-0997 or email vocations@archtoronto.org www.vocationstoronto.ca

Holy Land Items for Sale

December 10th and 11th

Holy Land Christian Families are visiting St. Mark's Parish on December 10th and 11th to display items made of olive wood. Due to religious wars and conflict, many Christian families in the Holy Land have had to leave their homes because of job loss. The hand carved, olive wood, religious items made by these Christian families are their only source of income. Our mission is to help these families by selling their work to assist them with food, shelter, and education. Please support our brothers and sisters during this difficult time. This will keep the Christians in Bethlehem and will bring them joy and life.



Recollection for Women

Monday, December 12th at 7 pm

The Women's Recollection at St. Mark's Church is a moment of peaceful prayer designed to refresh your spirit and help you come up with creative ways to live your faith in your family, social and professional life.

Date: Monday, December 12th

Confessions and Talk given by

a Priest of Opus Dei: 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Advent Confession Times



Tuesday, Dec. 13th from 7:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Thursday, Dec. 15th from 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Tuesday, Dec. 20th from 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Friday, Dec. 23rd from 10:00 am – 11:00 am

Every Saturday from 9:30 am – 10 am & 4 pm – 4:45 pm

Aid to Women

Christmas 50/50 Raffle

Aid to Women is a registered charity offering pro-life options and practical help to pregnant women in crisis for over 34 years. Please join us in ATW's Christmas 50/50 Cash Prize Raffle!



Draw date is December 15, 2022. You could win up to \$5000 10-days before Christmas!

Draw location: Aid to Women, 140 Argyle Street, at 1 pm. Only 500 tickets printed. Tickets are \$20 each and available at the ATW office, or can be ordered for pick up or delivery by contacting us at, 416-921-6016 or at info@aidtowomen.ca.

Squires' Tree of Life

Accepting Donations until December 18th

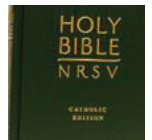


The parishioners of St. Mark's Church are invited to participate in the St. Mark's Squire Circle Advent Project the Tree of Life, "Giving Tree", on behalf of those in need through the Rose of Sharon and St. Vincent de Paul Society. The tree will be located in the north entrance foyer of the Church until **December 18**.

There will be a suggested list of various items to consider with regards to food cards, baby & toddler clothing, essential toiletries for babies, toddlers and mothers. Your support of this endeavour is very much appreciated by the Squires, but above all by the people it will serve during this time when we welcome Our Lord in our neighbour.

Which Bible to Buy?

Canadian English Roman Catholics utilize the NRSV (New Revised Standard Version- Catholic Edition) in our daily readings. It is known to be reliable, accurate and easy to read. Roman Catholic Bibles have 73 books (vs. Protestant Bibles which tend to have 66 books). A Roman Catholic Bible will also have an "Imprimatur" meaning it is free from doctrinal or moral error.



2022 Tax Receipts

The books will be closed for 2022 donations on Monday, December 26th, 2022

Any donations you wish to make for 2022 must be received by **December 26th, 2022**. Anything after this date will apply to the 2023 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.

Church Office - Holiday Hours

Friday, December 23	Open from 9 am to 12 noon
Monday, December 26 Tuesday, December 27	Closed
Wed., December 28 Thurs., December 29 Fri., December 30	Open from 9 am to 12 noon
Monday, January 2	Closed

ShareLife

Your helping hand is the answer

NEW: Your year-end gift will double in value! From now until the end of 2022, all contributions to our parish's ShareLife campaign will be **matched by an anonymous donor up to a total of \$1 million.**

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, or at sharelife.org/donate.

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

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