

St. Mark's Church Announcements

April 12, 2022

Included in this edition of the St. Mark's email blast:

- **New** Holy Week Confession Schedule
- Bring Bells – Holy Thursday and Easter Vigil
- **New** Mass added on Easter Sunday at 1 pm
- Easter Schedule
- Good Friday Fast and Abstinence
- Easter Obligation (duty)
- Divine Mercy Novena
- Every Friday - Eucharistic Adoration
- Five First Saturdays – Beginning Saturday, May 8th
- Bible in a Year – Fr. Mike Schmitz
- Corpus Christi Procession – Volunteers Needed
- Recollection for Women – April 18th
- Women's Ministry Forest Walk – April 24th
- Coins for Life (container collection) – April 23rd/24th
- Easter Food Drive – April 30/May 1
- March for Life (bus) – May 12
- Parish BBQ and Multi-intentional Celebrations – June 18th
- Video Link

Holy Week Confession Schedule

Monday, April 11	9:30 am to 10 am
Tuesday, April 12	7:30 pm to 8:30 pm
Good Friday, April 15	1:30 pm to 2:30 pm
Holy Saturday, April 16	9:30 am to 10:30 am

Bring Bells – Holy Thursday and Easter Vigil

Parishioners are encouraged to bring bells to ring during the singing of the Gloria on Holy Thursday and at the Saturday Easter Vigil.

New Mass added on Easter Sunday at 1 pm

To allow for more people to attend mass on Easter Sunday, a third mass will be added at 1 pm.

Easter Schedule

HOLY THURSDAY (APRIL 14)

NO MORNING MASS

Mass of the Lord's Supper - 8 pm (Bring bells to ring during the Gloria)

Followed by Eucharistic Adoration until 11 pm

GOOD FRIDAY (APRIL 15)

Celebration of the Lord's Passion

1st Celebration – 12:00 noon

2nd Celebration – 3:00 pm

Divine Mercy Novena – 7:15 pm

Stations of the Cross – 7:30 pm

Reminder: Good Friday is a day of Fast and Abstinence

HOLY SATURDAY (APRIL 16)

NO MORNING MASS and NO 5:00 PM MASS

Blessing of the Food – 2:45 pm

Divine Mercy Novena – 3:00 pm

Easter Vigil – 8:30 pm

Bring bells to the Easter Vigil to ring during the Gloria

EASTER SUNDAY (APRIL 17)

Normal Sunday Schedule with a third Mass added:

9:00 am, 11:00 am and 1:00 pm

Divine Mercy Novena – 15 min. before all Masses

EASTER MONDAY (APRIL 18)

Easter Monday Mass – 9:00 am

Good Friday Fast and Abstinence

Fasting: Anyone over the age of 18 and under the age of 59 is obliged to fast. Fasting, in the Latin Church, is the limitation of food and drink – typically to one main meal and two smaller meals, with no solid foods in between. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal.

Abstinence: Everyone over 14 years of age is bound to observe the law of abstinence. Abstaining, in this context, is the refraining from certain kinds of food or drink, typically meat. In lieu of fasting, one may substitute works of charity.

Easter Obligation (duty)

The Easter obligation is the grave duty that every Catholic must receive Holy Communion during the Easter season, which concludes on the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord.

In the sacrament of the most Holy Eucharist is contained truly, really, and substantially the body and blood, together with the soul and divinity, of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, it is the necessary condition of the soul to be free of mortal sin and pleasing to God before reception of Holy Communion, otherwise the reception becomes a sacrilege. If a soul is not in this state, they should refrain from receiving Holy Communion and just receive a blessing instead until they have gone to Confession.

Divine Mercy Novena

Good Friday – recited at 7:15 pm

Holy Saturday – recited at 3 pm

Easter Sunday April 17th – recited 15 minutes before all Sunday masses

Week of Easter Octave – recited after all masses

Divine Mercy Sunday, April 24th – recited 15 minutes before all Sunday masses

A First Communion celebration is scheduled on April 24th so there will be no Divine Mercy Sunday celebration this year.

Every Friday - Eucharistic Adoration

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place each Friday from 9 am to 1 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 either with the paper registration sheet at the back of the church or on our Friday Holy Hour Eventbrite registration at <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/eucharistic-adoration-every-friday-from-9-am-to-12-pm-online-sign-up-form-tickets-155864054583>. Please consider attending for even 5 minutes to offer up prayers or a decade of the rosary for peace in our world, especially in the Ukraine.

Five First Saturdays – Saturday, May 7th

During this unprecedented time in world history, it is imperative that we do as Our Lord wills and as Our Lady requested at Fatima to not only have the Pope and the Bishops consecrate Russia, but also for the laity to do their part and offer the First Five Saturdays to console the Immaculate Heart of Mary, offering reparation for the blasphemies of sinners, the ingratitude of our unrepentant hearts, and for peace in the world.

Saturday, May 7th is the next First Saturday and a perfect time to begin this devotion which consists of doing the following on the first Saturday of five consecutive months:

- **Go to Confession** (it's also acceptable to go to confession within a period of 8 days before or 8 days after the first Saturday)
- **Attend Mass and Receive Holy Communion** (the 5 pm Saturday Vigil Mass is an anticipated Sunday Mass so to complete this devotion, it's best to attend Mass and receive Holy Communion on Saturday morning. In addition, one must also attend either the 5 pm Saturday evening Mass or any time on Sunday to fulfill your Sunday Obligation).
- **Recite five decades of the Rosary**
- **Meditate for 15 minutes on the mysteries of the Rosary**

Bible in a Year – Fr. Mike Schmitz

Parishioners are encouraged to start listening to the Bible in a Year with Fr Mike Schmitz and to begin on the May 1st or the first of any particular month. The link can be found on our website or at <https://ascensionpress.com/pages/biy-registration>.

Corpus Christi Procession – Volunteers Needed

This year the Solemnity of Corpus Christi falls on Sunday, June 19th. Volunteers are needed to organize a procession on that day after the 11 am Mass. If you would like to help, please email Lisa at lbaker@archtoronto.org.

Recollection for Women – April 18th

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, April 18th from 7 – 8:30pm, Confession and talks given by a Priest of Opus Dei

Women's Ministry Forest Walk – April 24th

Forest Walk on Sunday April 24th 1-3pm Divine Mercy Sunday.

Email mmcconkey@rogers.com for more info...or subscribe for updates from the Women's Ministry here:
<https://equippingcatholicfamilies.com/smwm/>

Coins for Life (collection of containers) – April 23rd/ 24th

The Squires will be at the back of the church after all the masses on the weekend of April 23rd and 24th to collect the coin boxes. Campaign Life Coalition and the Colombian Squires of St. Mark thank you for your generosity! Every coin makes a difference. Your contribution will help save countless innocent lives and help CLC pro-life workers to continue to run the March for Life.

Easter Food Drive – April 30th/ May 1st

The St. Mark Knights of Columbus are hosting a special Easter Food Drive for families in need in the Stouffville community. On the weekend of Apr 30/May 1, non-expired, non-perishable food items will be collected in support of the Stouffville Food Bank, while grocery gift cards will be donated to the St. Vincent de Paul Society. The food bank is currently in need of the following items:

- canned fruit
- canned chicken/ ham
- canned stew/ chili
- small bags of rice
- honey
- canned tomatoes
- cheese whiz
- Jam

Please give generously to support our neighbours in need.

March for Life (bus) – May 12th

For many years, the parishioners of St. Mark's Parish have participated in the Canadian March for Life in Ottawa. This is the largest and most important annual show of support for the rights of unborn children in Canada. The theme for this year's march is "I AM". Our local Knights of Columbus Councils in the Markham-Stouffville area will be sponsoring a bus to take people to the March for Life in Ottawa on Thursday May 12th. **The bus will leave from the St. Patrick's Church parking lot at 6:45 AM. After the parade in Ottawa, we will leave Ottawa at 4:30 PM to return to Markham.** The cost for the trip will be **\$30. per person.** If you would like to participate, please contact Dan di Rocco by email at dirocco401@yahoo.ca or by telephone at 905-294-4219.

Parish BBQ and Multi-intentional Celebrations – June 18th

Save the Date!!! Saturday, June 18th 6:15 pm to 9 pm

(Rain date Sunday, June 19th 1 pm to 4:30 pm)

St. Mark's Community Parish barbeque will be hosted in partnership with St. Mark's Knights of Columbus, church councils, St. Vincent de Paul and various other ministries. This will be a multi-intentional celebration for Fr. Michael's farewell, Gordon Lee's Ordination to the Diaconate on that day and Deacon John Schwarzbauer's 20th Anniversary. We will also include two occasions that were not properly celebrated due to Covid - Deacon's Wayne 25th Anniversary which took place last year and Fr. Leslie's 60th Anniversary which took place in 2020.

Video Links and Quotes

1) Greg Dunne- His Divine Will

<https://www.queenofthedivinewill.org/archives-from-the-school-of-mary-at-marys-hill-a-divine-encounter-with-greg-dunne-accompanied-by-miss-frances-hogan/>
