

St. Mark's Church Announcements and Updates

April 21, 2021

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

- NEW St. Mark's Website Launched
- YouTube Livestream Mass Schedule
- Sunday Communion Services
- Eucharistic Adoration
- Sacrament of Reconciliation
- Church open for Personal Prayer only -Tuesday to Sunday (no in-person Masses at this time)
- Church Office
- Welcome Aileen Brito to the Parish Staff Team
- NEW FORMED subscription for our Parishioners
- Women's Ministry Meeting
- St. Mark Squire Circle
- Thank you to our Easter Volunteers
- March for Life
- Prayer for Vocations
- The Celebration of the Eucharist (excerpts from the writings of Saint Justin, Martyr)
- Pre-Authorized Giving and Offertory Envelopes
- Links to stay connected to St. Mark's Parish

NEW St. Mark's Website has Launched

We are happy to announce that we have a newly designed Parish website. This new site contains information about St. Mark's Parish, as well as information about what is happening in the Archdiocese of Toronto. We invite you to visit our new site at <https://stmarksst.archtoronto.org/>. Please also note that the registration for Saturday and Sunday Communion Services and Friday Eucharistic Adoration will now be done through the link on the new website home page. After April 30, 2021, the old website will no longer be updated.

Livestream Mass Schedule on YouTube

At this time, we are unable to offer Mass to the public on weekdays and weekends as a result of the 10-person limit in the building. Until further notice, all St. Mark's Masses will be livestreamed only on our YouTube channel: <https://bit.ly/StMarkYouTube>.

Livestream Mass Schedule

Tuesday 7 pm
Wednesday 9 am
Thursday 9 am
Friday 9 am
Saturday 9 am
Sunday 9 am

Sunday Communion Services

*** Registration for a seat is required for all Weekend Communion Services. ***

Registration will open up every Wednesday at 7 pm.
The link can be found on our website home page at <https://stmarksst.archtoronto.org/>.

Communion Services will be short, so we ask those attending to remain standing throughout and avoid touching the pews or sitting. If you need to be seated, please take a sticky note to place on the handrail in front of the spot where you sit. We hope this will allow some of our parishioners to be able to come to the Church on weekends to hear the readings and receive the Eucharist. As a preparation for the service, we ask you to watch the Mass online. If you would like to reserve a spot but you do not have a computer, please call the church office at 905-640-6954 ext. 101. Please note that the office is closed on weekends and changes cannot be accommodated after 4 pm on Friday.

Schedule

Saturdays: 4:30 pm, 4:45 pm, 5 pm, 5:15 pm, 5:30 pm, 5:50 pm, 6:10 pm

Sundays: 10:30 am, 10:45 am, 11 am, 11:15 am, 11:30 am, 11:45 am, 12 pm, 12:15 pm

Online Registration (required) Please register at <https://stmarksst.archtoronto.org/>

- Each attendee must have a ticket (max 8 people at one time).
- We are unable to accommodate walk-ins.
- If you are registering for a ticket for someone else, please put their name on the ticket not yours.
- Children also need tickets, even if they are very small and not receiving Communion.
- Please be on time as this service is only 10 minutes.

Eucharistic Adoration – Fridays (online registration required)

We invite parishioners to come and spend some quiet time in Eucharistic Adoration. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place each **Friday from 9:30 am to 12 noon** ending with Benediction.

Online Registration is now required to attend Adoration. Please go to our new website: <http://stmarksst.archtoronto.org/> to sign-up for a half hour time slot. If you would like to stay for a full hour, please register for two back-to-back time slots. There will be a maximum of 9 spots available for each half hour slot. Registration will open every Wednesday at 7 pm.

Sacrament of Reconciliation – New Scheduled Time

Fr. Michael will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation **every Saturday from 9:30 am to 10:30 am**. When you arrive, please sign in and ensure there are no more than 10 people in the church at one time. You can also make an appointment to go to confession during the week by calling the church office at 905-640-6954 ext. 101.

Church Open for Personal Prayer

There will be no in-person Masses during the lockdown, but the church will be open for personal prayer at the following times:

Tuesday to Thursday from 9:30 AM to 4 PM

Friday from 12 PM to 4 PM (to begin after Eucharistic Adoration where registration is required)

Saturday from 10:30 AM to 12 PM

The door will be left open but please sign in and mark the spot where you are seated with a yellow post-it note sticker. When you leave, please sanitize the spot where you were seated. There is a limit of 10 people in the building at any time.

Church Office

The Church Office is currently closed to the public. However, if you need assistance, please call 905-640-6954 ext. 101 and leave a message or email stmarksoffice@bellnet.ca to set up an appointment between Tuesday and Thursday.

Welcome Aileen Brito

We would like to welcome Aileen Brito to the Parish Staff Team. Aileen will be replacing Mary Ann as the Parish Administrator. She will be working part-time in the month of May during the transition period.

FORMED – Catholic Media

We are excited to inform all of our parishioners that St. Mark's Church has a one year Parish subscription to Formed. This means there is no cost to you to take advantage of this extensive collection of Catholic resources including thousands of Catholic books, movies and documentaries. We encourage everyone to click on the link below and register!

Join Formed for free by registering at: <https://stmarksst.archtoronto.org/en/parish-life/formed/>

Women's Online Ministry Meeting

SAVE THE DATE! UPCOMING Women's Ministry Meeting on MIRACLES: **April 26th, 7:30 pm on ZOOM**

No need to register, just join us on Zoom at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83929992957?pwd=Y2pqdnd5NHo0UWJsV05nSmJaRW5DQT09>

Meeting ID: 839 2999 2957 Passcode: 331614

St. Mark Squire Circle 5486

The members of St. Mark's Squire Circle are boys who are 10 to 18 years of age. Currently, they meet virtually on the first Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm via Zoom. They are involved in 4 pillars of activity. **Spiritual** which involves them in their Faith, **Service** which is to help our neighbors in need like those helped by the St. Vincent de Paul Society and the Rose of Sharon, the Tree of Life, and the Giving Tree at St. Brigid School during Advent, **Circle** fun activities which will resume once the pandemic is over, and **Membership** when others are invited to join in these activities. For more information or to join, please contact Bob Tabone, St. Mark's Knights of Columbus or email GK10874@ontariokofc.ca.

Thank You to our Easter Volunteers

We would like to thank everyone who helped to make our Easter celebrations so beautiful. A special thanks to Cellie Canaan, our Deacons, Ushers, Sanitization Team, Musicians, AV Team, Lectors, Altar Servers, Altar Society and Staff. God bless you all!

March For Life

On May 13, Canadians will march peacefully on Parliament Hill and online to implore our leaders to enact laws that protect life from conception until natural death. Together, let us reach out and tell those most in need. You are not alone. <https://marchforlife.ca/>

Prayer for Vocations

Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director, Office of Vocations, has asked that we all take some time, as a community, to pray for vocations to the priesthood, religious and consecrated life. At this time, we also ask that you pray for our 6 soon-to-be priests along with all those who are discerning and who are currently in formation. For more information, please contact your parish office, or email the Office of Vocations at vocations@archtoronto.org

Prayer for Vocations: *O God, Who wills not the death of a sinner but rather that he be converted and live, grant we beseech you, through the intercession of the Blessed Mary ever Virgin, Saint Joseph, her spouse, St. Junipero Serra, and all the saints, an increase of laborers for your Church, fellow laborers with Christ to spend and consume themselves for souls through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.*

The Celebration of the Eucharist

From the first apology in defense of the Christians by Saint Justin, Martyr

No one may share the Eucharist with us unless he believes that what we teach is true, unless he is washed in the regenerating waters of baptism for the remission of his sins, and unless he lives in accordance with the principles given us by Christ. We do not consume the Eucharistic bread and wine as if it were ordinary food and drink, for we have been taught that as Jesus Christ our Savior became a man of flesh and blood by the power of the Word of God, so also the food that our flesh and blood assimilates for its nourishment becomes the flesh and blood of the incarnate Jesus by the power of his own words contained in the prayer of thanksgiving.

The apostles, in their recollections, which are called Gospels, handed down to us what Jesus commanded them to do. They tell us that he took bread, gave thanks and said: Do this in memory of me. This is my body. In the same way he took the cup, he gave thanks and said: This is my blood. The Lord gave this command to them alone. Ever since then we have constantly reminded one another of these things.

Pre-Authorized Giving Program and Offertory Envelopes

Now more than ever, we need your support. We ask that you please continue to bring your offertory envelopes to the church and place them in the secure drop box located on the wall to the right of the front door entrance (this box is emptied each day).

Preferably, we ask that you consider signing up to give your donations through our pre-authorized giving program (PAG) to help cover the parishes many expenses and salaries. You can donate to our church from the comfort of your own home by signing up for Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG). For more information, please visit our parish website here: <https://stmarksst.archtoronto.org/en/contact-us/donations2/>. Complete the form and attach a void cheque which can be dropped off at the church office or put in the drop box. If you already give to the Parish via PAG, please consider increasing your donation if possible. Thank you for your generosity.

Stay Connected to St. Mark's Parish

St. Mark's Website link: <https://stmarksst.archtoronto.org/>

St. Mark YouTube Channel - Livestream of Masses link <https://bit.ly/StMarkYouTube>.

St. Mark's Public Facebook Page link <https://www.facebook.com/stmarkstouffville>. Please remember to Like and Share this page with fellow parishioners so more people become aware of its existence.

St. Mark's Community Facebook Page link <https://www.facebook.com/groups/stmarkschurchcommunity>. This page is used to share information between parishioners and ask for prayers when needed.

St. Mark's Bulletin link <https://stmarksst.archtoronto.org/en/bulletin/>