

St. Mark's Church Announcements

April 27, 2022

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

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- Coins for Life Collection – April 30th/May 1st
- Easter Food Drive – April 30th/May 1st
- Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle – May 3rd
- Pro-Life Lawn Sign Distribution – May 7th/8th
- March for Life in Ottawa – May 12th
- St. Vincent de Paul Bundle Sunday – May 28th/29th
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- Corpus Christi Procession – June 19th
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ShareLife Collection – April 30th/ May 1st

This weekend is ShareLife Sunday

“ShareLife is the way the rubber hits the road. This is how we validate the legitimacy and integrity of our Christian life: not by the words we speak, but by the love we share, in practical ways. That’s what we do with ShareLife.” – Cardinal Thomas Collins

Please give generously during the ShareLife Sunday collection or at sharelife.org.

Coins for Life (collection of containers) – April 30th/ May 1st

The Squires will be at the back of the church before and after all the masses on the weekend of April 30th/ May 1st to collect the coin containers. 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.

Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle – May 3rd

In her messages to Fr. Gobbi, Our Lady insistently calls - priests, religious and faithful – to gather together with her in fervent prayer and fraternal love, in authentic cenacles as when the first apostles gathered with her in the Upper Room in Jerusalem awaiting the First Pentecost.

Next Cenacle: Tuesday, May 3rd from 7:40 to 8:45 pm (after the 7 pm Mass) Everyone is welcome to attend.

Pro-Life Lawn Sign Distribution – May 7th & 8th

The St. Mark Knights of Columbus are distributing beautiful pro-life lawn signs after all masses the weekend of **May 7/8**. The message, “God Loves You and the Baby, Choose Life”, is a beautiful sign to our community that we stand for unborn children in the womb. To help cover the cost of each sign, **a donation of \$10 is appreciated**. All proceeds will help subsidize the bus from Markham heading to the March for Life in Ottawa. Every lawn sign also comes with a ticket to win a beautiful Mother’s Day pro-life gift basket, sponsored by our KofC wives.

March for Life (bus) – May 12th

The March for Life is the largest annual demonstration on Parliament Hill, and a sign that ending abortion is the civil rights movement of our day.

Rally & March Thursday, May 12th

12:30 pm – Rally on Parliament Hill

1:30 pm – March downtown Ottawa

2:30 pm – Silent No More Testimonies

Attend in person or watch live broadcast on EWTN, Visit MARCHFORLIFE.CA or CALL 1-800-730-5358

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 march in Ottawa, we will leave 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.”

St. Vincent de Paul Bundle Sunday – May 28th & 29th

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul will have a **Container Unit in our church parking lot on the weekend of May 28th and 29th** accepting donations of clothing, footwear, small household goods, bedding, and toys. Please note they do not accept dishes, furniture, books, video/audio cassettes or mattresses. Please bring your donations and help others in your community.

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.

Corpus Christi Procession – June 19th

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.

40 Hour Adoration – June 24th/25th

The proposed date for our next parish 40 Hours of Adoration will be on the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus on Friday, June 24th beginning at 6 am until Saturday, June 25th at 10 pm. This time of Adoration will be offered up in thanksgiving to our Lord for His many blessings, in reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and intercession for Ukraine.

St. Mark's School Memorabilia

The York Catholic DSB has established an Archive Committee whose mandate is to preserve artifacts of historical significance. St. Mark Catholic school opened in September of 1965 with an official opening on June 15th, 1966. The Board does not have any records from the early years of the school. In fact, the original plaques commemorating the opening as well as the subsequent 1971 addition went missing years ago. As your local trustee, I am committed to recreating these missing plaques as well as collecting any old memorabilia to be preserved for future generations. If you have any information, copies of programs from the openings, yearbooks, or any other memorabilia that you would be willing to lend (to be copied) or donate please contact me at elizabeth.crowe@ycdsb.ca.

Wallet Found

A girl's wallet has been found in the church. If you believe it belongs to your child, please call the church office at 905-640-6954 ext. 103 and provide a description.

Worthy Reception of Holy Communion

Excerpt from the Catechism of the Catholic Church:

1384 The Lord addresses an invitation to us, urging us to receive him in the sacrament of the Eucharist: "Truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink his blood, you have no life in you."

1385 To respond to this invitation we must prepare ourselves for so great and so holy a moment. St Paul urges us to examine our conscience: "Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a man examine himself, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment upon himself." Anyone conscious of a grave sin must receive the sacrament of Reconciliation before coming to communion.

1386 Before so great a sacrament, the faithful can only echo humbly and with ardent faith the words of the Centurion: "Domine, non sum dignus ut intres sub tectum meum, sed tantum dic verbo, et sanabitur anima mea" ("Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul will be healed.") And in the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom the faithful pray in the same spirit:

O Son of God, bring me into communion today with your mystical supper. I shall not tell your enemies the secret, nor kiss you with Judas' kiss. But like the good thief I cry, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

1387 To prepare for worthy reception of this sacrament, the faithful should observe the fast required in their Church. Bodily demeanour (gestures, clothing) ought to convey the respect, solemnity and joy of this moment when Christ becomes our guest.

1365 Because it is the memorial of Christ's Passover, the Eucharist is also a sacrifice. The sacrificial character of the Eucharist is manifested in the very words of institution: "This is my body which is given for you" and "This cup which is poured out for you is the New Covenant in my blood." In the Eucharist Christ

gives us the very body which he gave up for us on the cross, the very blood which he “Poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.”

Video Links

- 1) Church Leaders Around the World Issue Warning to Bishops in Germany
<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=PkduUZ-iBQ8>
- 2) Ex-U.S. Ambassador to USSR: Ukraine Crisis Stems Directly from Post-Cold War Push to Expand NATO
<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=e5F0JSy-HHY>
- 3) A Catholic Guide to Sex and Intimacy
<https://media.ascensionpress.com/video/a-catholic-guide-to-sex-and-intimacy-feat-dr-edward-and-beth-sri/>
- 4) What to do with 'useless people' according to this World Economic Forum speaker
https://www.lifesitenews.com/episodes/what-to-do-with-useless-people-according-to-this-world-economic-forum-speaker/?utm_source=JHW_newsletter

Humor

- 1) When I die and God shows me the secrets of the Universe
<https://www.instagram.com/reel/Ccf2noOP7iy/?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>

Thought Provoking Prayer

"When Communism took over in China in 1949, the Chinese Catholics prayed the prayer below every day. Those who survived the mock trials of the Communists attributed their release to the power of this prayer said daily:

Oh my God, I fear only my fear; it could make me abandon Thee.
Oh my God, I fear only my fear; it could make me lose my courage before the end.
Oh my God, do not forget me in Thy Glory, but give me
Thy love and the strength to give my life for Thee.
Amen
O Mary conceived without sin, of Thee I ask a perfect love for Jesus Christ."

"You cannot control society if it is joyful and fearless."