

St. Mark's Church Announcements

March 3, 2022

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

- Updates to Sunday Mass for March
- Lenten Parish Retreat – March 24th
- All Day Confession – March 26th
- Ukrainian Humanitarian Relief

Updates to Sunday Mass for March

St. Mark's Church will be gradually implementing the new Worship Safe Protocols over the next month or so. Thank God for the improvement we are experiencing and thus we are happy to announce the following changes are now in effect.

- We are increasing the **number of attendees** permitted to register at each weekend Mass to 150 people this Sunday and steadily increasing each week thereafter, please God.
- **Eventbrite online registration** will continue beginning on Wed. at 12 noon throughout March.
- We are fully opening all pews in the front sections of the church. Our new addition, with a much higher ceiling, allows for better ventilation. If you are sitting in these front sections, please allow for a 3 foot spacing between social bubbles. The old rear section will continue with every alternate pew remaining open, reserved for those parishioners that would prefer greater social distancing.
- We ask for **your cooperation** to allow for parishioners to not only sit at either end of the pews, but we would also like to have **parishioners seated in the middle of each of the large pews** with some physical distancing still in place.
- **Masks** are still required to be worn in the church.
- **Altar servers and Eucharistic Ministers** will once again be scheduled to assist at Mass.
- **Holy Water** container has been placed back in the lobby.

Lenten Parish Retreat – March 24th

Everyone is invited to attend our Lenten Parish Retreat which has been scheduled for **Thursday, March 24th from 7 pm to 9 pm**. We have a dynamic speaker coming to our parish to help us enrich our journey through Lent. We hope you can join us!

Speaker: Robert LeBlanc

Topic: *Lenten Sacrifice – Easter Habit* This talk will reflect upon the 3 pillars of Lent of Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving; and how our Lenten promises in these areas can help us form life-changing habits.

All Day Confession – March 26th

Before Easter, it's important we prepare our hearts and souls for the great celebration of the Resurrection of Our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ by going to confession. Fr. Michael offers the Sacrament of Confession every Saturday from 4 pm to 4:45 pm. **There will also be a Day of Lenten Confessions on Saturday, March 26th from 9:30 am to 4:45 pm with visiting priests assisting Fr. Michael on that day.**

Ukrainian Humanitarian Relief

In response to the request of parishioners, the Archdiocese of Toronto has launched a humanitarian relief effort to help the Ukrainian people at this time.

Those wishing to help may do so in the following ways:

- Online through the Archdiocese of Toronto website: www.archtoronto.org
- By phone through the Development Office – 416-934-3411
- Through the parish, making cheques payable to: St. Mark's Parish – Ukrainian Relief – Humanitarian Relief