

St. Mark's Church Announcements

March 31, 2022

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

- Revised Safe Worship Protocols for Holy Week
- **New** Mass added on Easter Sunday at 1 pm
- Easter Schedule
- Five First Saturdays Devotion – Part of the Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary
- Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle – April 5th
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- Corpus Christi Procession – Volunteers Needed
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Revised Safe Worship Protocols for Holy Week

Originally, it was hoped and announced that all worship safe protocols would cease as of April 4th. However, as the number of Covid cases appears to be steadily increasing, the decision has been made to keep some of these protocols in place over Holy Week (Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday).

- We will be limiting church capacity to approximately 50%.
- At the rear section of the church, every second pew will remain closed.
- All pews at the front of the church will remain open but with social distancing between social bubbles.
- Social distance of 1 generous metre or 4 feet/equal to space for 2 people seated between distinct social bubbles/persons will be required.
- Eventbrite registration will no longer be required to attend weekend Mass after April 3rd. However, once the open pews are full, parishioners will not be able to enter the building.
- Livestreaming of the Sunday 9 am Mass will continue until Easter Sunday, April 17th. This will be a fixed livestream meaning the camera will be positioned in one spot for the entire Mass. After April 17th, a decision will be made whether to continue with the livestream. Your feedback on continuing this fixed livestream would be appreciated.
- Masks are encouraged but still remain optional when attending mass.
- Reception of Holy Communion on the tongue is permitted. Please come to Fr. Michael at the front centre aisle after all other parishioners have received the Eucharist.
- The kiss of peace is still discouraged at this time. A bow or wave should continue to be used as an alternative.

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

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 pm

Divine Mercy Novena – 15 min. before all Masses

EASTER MONDAY (APRIL 18)

Easter Monday Mass – 9:00 am

Five First Saturdays Devotion – Part of the Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

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, April 2nd 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**
- **Recite five decades of the Rosary**
- **Meditate for 15 minutes on the mysteries of the Rosary**

On December 10, 1925, at Pontevedra, Spain, Our Lady said to Sr. Lucia:

Our Lord is much offended by sin. She declared that "people must amend their lives and ask pardon for their sins." She also told them that She would return later to ask for a new devotion of reparation in order to save souls. True to Her word, on the evening of December 10, 1925, She and the Child Jesus

appeared to Sister Lucy in her convent cell in Pontevedra, Spain. Showing the young nun a Heart encircled by thorns, Our Lady told her to announce to the world in Her Name that she would assist, at the moment of death, all those who, on the First Saturday of five consecutive months confessed, received Holy Communion, recited five decades of the Rosary and spent fifteen minutes meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary with the intention of making reparation to Her. Arising from hope, this great devotion of the Five First Saturdays now unites millions of hearts in an unbroken chain of reparation for sin and atonement for offenses against the Hearts of Jesus and Mary.

On June 13th, 1929, at Tuy, Spain, Our Lady said to Sr. Lucia:

“The moment has come in which God asks the Holy Father, in union with all the bishops of the world, to make the Consecration of Russia to My Immaculate Heart, promising to save it by this means. There are so many souls whom the Justice of God condemns for sins committed against Me, that I have come to ask for reparation. Sacrifice yourself for this intention and pray.”

She said if Her request was granted, Russia would convert, and a period of peace would be granted to the world. If not, Russia “will spread her errors throughout the world, causing wars and persecution of the Church. The good will be martyred, the Holy Father will have much to suffer, various nations will be annihilated. In the end, My Immaculate Heart will triumph. The Holy Father will consecrate Russia to Me”.

Are we doing what Our Lady of Fatima asked us to do while there is still time?

1. Have we confessed your sins and amended your life – leading a truly Catholic life?
2. Are we praying the Rosary every day?
3. Are we offering sacrifices for sinners, including offering up our daily tasks and duties as a sacrifice in reparation for sin?
4. Are we wearing the Brown Scapular as a sign of personal consecration – and making acts of consecration to the Immaculate Heart?
5. Have we fulfilled Our Lady’s request for the Five First Saturdays Communion of Reparation to Her Immaculate Heart? Flyers are available in the church foyer with further details about this devotion.

Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle – April 5th

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, April 5th from 7:40 to 8:45 pm (after the 7 pm Mass)

Everyone is welcome to attend.

Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal

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

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.

New Church Office Hours

The Church Office will now be open each week Tuesday to Friday from 9 am to 4 pm (closed for lunch between 12 noon and 1 pm).

Video Links and Quotes

1) Introduction to the Divine Will through Luisa Piccarreta by Fr. Jim Blount

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7vibJv58LMs&t=4s>

2) Are we in the midst of the Worst time for the church? By: Ralph Martin

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qSaRCXNTzuA>

3) They want War (and they're not Russian) by Russell Brand

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QglxaBzjUj4>

4) MAiD law undermines mental health care

<https://alexschadenberg.blogspot.com/2022/03/maid-law-undermines-mental-health-care.html>