



# St. Mark's Roman Catholic Church

345 Glad Park Ave., Whitchurch Stouffville, ON L4A 1E4

Tel. no.: 905-640-6954

Email: [stmarksoffice@bellnet.ca](mailto:stmarksoffice@bellnet.ca)

Fax no.: 905-640-0642

Parish Website: <http://stmarkstouffville.ca>

**PLEASE REMEMBER ST. MARK'S CHURCH IN YOUR WILL**



## PASTORAL TEAM

Fr. Michael Hughes - Pastor  
Deacon John Schwarzbauer  
Deacon Wayne McCulloch

## STAFF

Mary Ann Mehes-Administrator  
Lisa Baker-Admin. Asst.  
Krystiana Garde-Lyn-Youth Minister  
Lad Mehes - Custodian  
Emy Lomibao-de Asis-Friday Asst.

## OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday - Friday  
9 am - 3:30 pm  
Closed for lunch 12-1pm  
CLOSED MONDAYS

## WINTER SCHEDULE

### WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday & Friday - 7:00 pm  
*(except First Fridays-see below)*  
Wednesday & Thursday - 8:30 am  
Saturday - 9:00 am  
Statutory Holidays - 9:00 am  
Weekly Solemnities - 7:30 pm only

### SUNDAY EUCHARIST

Saturday - 5:00 pm  
Sunday - 9:00 am  
*(with Children's Liturgy)*  
- 11:00 am  
- 12:30 pm

### FIRST FRIDAY

Holy Hour, Adoration & Benediction  
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
Mass - 8:00 pm  
*(except Statutory Holidays  
9:00 am Mass Only)*

## DEVOTIONS

***Recitation of the Rosary***  
*(Tues., Wed. & Thurs. before Mass)*

***Mother of Perpetual Help***

***Novena***  
*(Tuesday Evening Mass)*

***Divine Mercy***  
*(Before Friday Mass)*

***St. Therese of Lisieux Novena***  
*(Saturday Morning Mass)*

## BAPTISM

Please pick up a Baptismal Package from the foyer of the Church. Upon submission of the "Request for Baptism" form, please allow for up to 3 months for an anticipated Baptismal date given only after the parents attend the Preparation Class. This time delay is because of the very large number of baptisms and because we limit the number attending the bi-monthly classes and celebrations to six families, to preserve the dignity of the celebration.

## MARRIAGE

Couples must contact the parish **one year in advance**. If either party has previously gone through any form of civil or religious marriage no date may be set until the Bishop's office has been consulted.

## NEW PARISHIONERS

Welcome. We encourage you to register using the Registration Forms available from the foyer.

## COMMUNION FOR THE SICK AND HOME-BOUND

Please call Parish Office.

## ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the Parish Office.

## MEMORIAL MASS POLICY

Please see website for policy explanation.

## PARISH MINISTRIES

Altar Servers  
Altar Society  
Children's Liturgy  
Counter's Ministry  
Edge  
Eucharistic Ministers  
Finance Committee  
Funeral Luncheon Committee  
Knights of Columbus  
Lectors  
Media Stand & Bookstall  
Ministry of Hospitality  
Parish Council  
Parish Music Ministry  
Prayer Groups  
RCIA  
Sacramental Preparation  
Squires  
St. Vincent de Paul Society  
Ushers  
Women's Ministry  
Youth Ministry

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[www.StMarkStouffville.ca](http://www.StMarkStouffville.ca)

## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

St. Mark's School  
333 Glad Park Ave.  
T: 905-640-2915

St. Brendan's School  
751 Hoover Park Dr.  
T: 905-642-6728

St. Brigid's School  
223 Millard St.  
T: 905-642-5100

## VOCATIONS TORONTO

Serra House  
T: 416-968-0997  
W: [vocationstoronto.ca](http://vocationstoronto.ca)

## ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO

T: 416-934-0606  
W: [archtoronto.org](http://archtoronto.org)

## PASTORAL REFERENCE LETTERS FOR SCHOOL

As evidence of living one's faith the person requesting a reference must be registered for at least 12 months and genuinely trying to attend Mass every Sunday, as well as supporting the Church, its charities and mission work. Must also have recently volunteered as a Parish Catechist!

# THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



## Mass Intentions For The Week

**Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm**

Justin req. by Jeannine Amyotte

† Matthew Benincasa req. by Mary and Emilio Benincasa

† Jack and Joyce Baker req. by Baker Family

**Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup> @ 8:30 am**

Bishop John Boissonneau req. by Fr. Michael

**Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup> @ 8:30 am**

† Domenico Metauro req. by Anna Metauro and Family

**Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm**

† Judy Normandeau req. by Elizabeth Mitchell

**Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00 am**

Pope, Bishops, Priests, Hughes & McConville Families req. by Fr. Michael

Fr. Leslie Tamas req. by Fr. Michael

† Orlando and Elisa Correa req. by Erkinger Family

† Mario Raponi req. by Onesima and Tony Raponi

† Luigi Pirocchi req. by Stefanie Bruno

**@ 5:00 pm**

† Francisco and Natividad Lomibao req. by Carlos and Emy De Asis

**Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00 am**

† Stanley Janiszewski req. by Cybruch Family

**@ 11:00 am**

St. Mark Community req. by Fr. Michael

**@ 12:30 pm**

† Dino Raponi req. by Tony and Onesima Raponi and Family

## Pray For The Sick

Debbie Beauchamp, Modesta Manias, Clayton Parry

## Pray For The Recently Deceased

Connie Desousa, Mario Raponi, Patricia Petura, Paola Malandrino

## Change to Devotions at St. Mark

Tuesday evenings – St. Therese of Lisieux Novena

Saturday morning – Blessed Virgin Mary Devotion

## Vocations

“See I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.” Are you one to be sent? If God is calling you, **contact Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director at 416-968-0997 or vocations@archtoronto.org**

## Building Expansion Corporate Donors

We would like to sincerely thank the following businesses for their generous contributions to our Parish Building Expansion Fund.

With their donations they are contributing to the future of our parish growth.

**THANK YOU to**

**Evangelo's** located at 5892 Main St. and

**Lindy's Florist** situated at 6287 Main St.

## Thank You For Your Generosity

Weekly Offering \$ 6,730

## Spiritual Corner



Excerpt from:

**St. Therese of Lisieux by those who knew her Testimonies from the process of beatification**

Edited and translated by Christopher O'Mahony.

Published by Veritas Publications.

“Accordingly, she wrote again to the bishop of Bayeux just before Christmas 1887. This time he granted the longed for authorization. She finally entered Carmel on 9 April 1888, and was accompanied to the convent by father and all the family. When she entered the convent most of the sisters expected just an ordinary girl, but her presence soon compelled a certain respect. There was something so dignified, determined and modest about her whole person that I was surprised at her myself.” – Testimony of Mother Agnes of Jesus (Therese's sister and prioress of the Lisieux Carmel.)

## Weekly Holy Hour at St. Marks

Every Thursday from 9 am – 10 am



## Friars' Student Writing Award

It's time once again for the Friars' Student Writing Award. Students aged 14 – 18 are invited to write a five hundred-word essay on the theme for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, celebrated January 18-25, 2017. The Theme for this coming year is “Reconciliation – The love of Christ compels us” (cf. 2 Corinthians 5:14-20). Students should read the above Scripture passage and respond to the following statement in the essay:

**As the Christian world reflects on the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation (1517-2017) and after reading 2 Corinthians 5:14-20, discuss the main obstacles to Christian reconciliation and ways to overcome them based on your own experiences.**

First and Second Prizes: iPad Air 2, Kobo Auro H20

**Deadline for entries is January 13, 2017**

Email your essay to editor@catholicregister.org or fax it to 416-934-3409 (include your full name, email address, phone number and name of your school on the front page of your essay).

## Euthanasia/Assisted Suicide

### Did You Know?

Now that Canada has legalized assisted suicide/euthanasia, did you know that doctors in Ontario are forced to provide direct referrals for patients seeking to end their lives? Doctors who object to helping to kill their patients see a direct referral as being an accomplice to assisted suicide. No foreign jurisdiction in the world that has legalized euthanasia/assisted suicide has forced health care workers or facilities to act against their conscience. 8 other provinces in Canada have adopted protocols to protect doctors and institutions.

**Please visit [www.CanadiansforConscience.ca](http://www.CanadiansforConscience.ca) to learn more and write to the Ontario government.**



# DECEMBER 11, 2016

## Christmas Schedule 2016



### CHRISTMAS MASSES

*Saturday, December 24, 2016*

- ◆ 5:00 pm Family Mass
- ◆ 7:30 pm Family Mass
- ◆ 9:30 pm Caroling (St. Mark's Choir)
- ◆ 10:00 pm Mass

*Sunday, December 25, 2016*

- ◆ 9:00 am, 11:00 am and 12:30 pm



### MARY MOTHER OF GOD SOLEMNITY (NEW YEAR)

*Saturday, December 31, 2016*

- ◆ 5:00 pm Vigil Mass

*Sunday, January 1, 2017*

- ◆ 9:00 am, 11:00 am and 12:30 pm

## CHRISTMAS PAGEANT & CONCERT

Thank You

### Congratulations



To all the performers in our 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Pageant and Concert!

It was a beautiful event that helped us to focus on the true meaning of Christmas.

A special thanks to Eugenie Villanueva-Landry for organizing and directing the pageant as well as the many wonderful volunteers who helped out.

# EDGE

We welcome youth in grades 6, 7, and 8 to join us on Friday December 16 from 7 – 9 PM in the Parish Hall.

# FORMED

## A Christmas Present for Our Parishioners

Access code to be distributed Christmas weekend

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## Alpha

Alpha is coming January 31, 2017! Watch for upcoming Bulletin and Mass announcements.

## Light up the Tree of Life Donations for the Rose of Sharon

Christmas is fast approaching, and as is tradition, the St. Mark Squires will be conducting their Light Up the Tree of Life Advent Fundraiser. In the foyer, the Squires have set up a tree. We invite all parishioners to select one or more of the candle tags that have suggested items for babies and their young mothers (ex. diapers, baby clothes etc.) **By the December 17/18 weekend, we ask that you bring what is written on the tag and drop it off underneath the tree.** You can then hang the candle tag on the tree to help light up the "Tree of Life." All donations support the Rose of Sharon.



Thank You - St. Mark Squire Circle 5486

## 2016 Tax Receipts

The books will be closed for 2016 donations on Monday, December 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Any donations you wish to make for 2016 must be received by this date. Anything after this date will apply to the 2017 year. Your name and address will appear exactly as it does on your offertory donation box. If there are any changes, please contact the office before December 19<sup>th</sup>.

## New Foundations CD

### LOOKING FOR CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS?

Give the gift of Sacred Music!

PLEASE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT ST. MARK'S MUSIC MINISTRY "NEW FOUNDATIONS CD" FOR THE CHURCH EXPANSION PROJECT.



**GREAT NEWS! We have sold over 200 CD'S in 2 weekends.**

Congratulations to the Music Ministry, to those who attended the CD Launch on November 26th and to Voices of Glory and The All Ministries/Congregation Choir who performed at the celebration.

CD's are available for purchase at the Book Stall after all masses or at the Parish Office. Price \$20/each. Consider buying the CD's as a Christmas gift for family and friends. Net proceeds will go to our church expansion project. For more information

ContactUs@NewFoundationsCDStMarksStouffville.com  
OR EugenieVLandry@rogers.com.

## Church Office Holiday Hours


December 26, 27 and 30	Closed
December 28 and 29	Open from 9 am to 12 pm
January 2nd	Closed

**Moving??? Please inform the Parish Office.**

**This will help us keep parish databases up to date and reduce future costs and administrative effort.**

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