

# 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>

## 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.

# Christmas



the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people.

Luke 2:10

# THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD



## Mass Intentions For The Week

**Monday, December 26<sup>th</sup> @ 8:30 am**

Deacon John and Deacon Wayne req. by Fr. Michael

**Tuesday, December 27<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm**

† Austin Kenny req. by Fr. Michael

† Pat Hughes req. by Fr. Michael

† Joan Bogdan req. by Anna Metauro and Family

**Wednesday, December 28<sup>th</sup> @ 8:30 am Feast of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs**

† Unborn req. by Fr. Michael

**Thursday, December 29<sup>th</sup> @ 8:30 am**

† Frank Viapiana and a prayer for Gina Viapiana req. by Anthony Soda

**Friday, December 30<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm Feast of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

Families of St. Mark Church req. by Fr. Michael

**Saturday, December 31<sup>st</sup> @ 9:00 am**

Pope, Bishops, Priests, Hughes & McConville Families req. by Fr. Michael  
Our Political Leaders req. by Fr. Michael  
Recto Bantoc req. by Bantoc Family

† Aldo Nardi req. by Nella Nardi and Family  
**@ 5:00 pm**

St. Mark Community req. by Fr. Michael

**Sunday, January 1<sup>st</sup> @ 9:00 am**

Pope, Cardinals and Bishops req. by Anonymous  
**@ 11:00 am**

† Michael Shewchuk req. by Bev and Family  
**@ 12:30 pm**

† Daniela Tiano req. by Anonymous

## Pray For The Sick

Debbie Beauchamp, Modesta Manias, Clayton Parry

## Pray For The Recently Deceased

Connie Desousa, Mario Raponi,  
Patricia Petura, Paola Malandrino



## Is God Calling You?

We celebrate the birth of our Lord into our world; however, many have not received the birth of our Lord into their hearts. If Christ lives in your heart and you would like to help others discover the Lord, you may be called to be a priest, deacon, brother or sister. **Contact Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997 or vocations@archtoronto.org**

## St. Augustine's Seminary Courses

Courses are being offered for the Laity at

St. Augustine's Seminary, 2661 Kingston Rd, Scarborough

- Diploma in Lay Ministry and Theological Studies
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For further information: go to [www.staugustines.on.ca](http://www.staugustines.on.ca), call 416-261-7207 or email [loft@sastoronto.org](mailto:loft@sastoronto.org)

## 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.

“Therese made her profession on 8 September, 1890. The outstanding features of the period from her entry till she was put in charge of the novices were her humility and her fidelity to the very least of her obligations, despite continual aridity in her soul. The judge asked if she preferred to seek the company of her own sisters. Quite the contrary, actually. At recreation or on other occasions she avoided us, and preferred to seek the company of those who were less friendly towards her.” – Testimony of Mother Agnes of Jesus (Therese's blood sister and prioress of the Lisieux Carmel.)

## Weekly Holy Hour at St. Marks

Every Thursday from 9 am - 10 am



## Euthanasia/Assisted Suicide

### Did You Know?

Now that euthanasia/assisted suicide is legal in Canada, doctors in Ontario are being forced to help arrange for the killing of their patients. If your family doctor, or surgeon objects to providing a referral for assisted/suicide, they could be fined, disciplined or even removed from their practice. Many may be forced to retire or move outside of the province if the provincial government does not recognize their freedom of conscience.

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

## DAILY TV MASS

WARMING FAITHFUL HEARTS

The Daily TV Mass is now available online Monday to Saturday any time from any place. Take a moment to visit the new website at [www.dailytvmass.com](http://www.dailytvmass.com) to watch Mass and to find out more about how to stay connected with our faith. For more information, contact the National Catholic Broadcasting Corporation at 1-888-383-6277.

## 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.

## Alpha

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



# DECEMBER 25, 2016

## Christmas Schedule 2016

### 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

## FORMED

### A Christmas Present for Our Parishioners!

FORMED™ is a faith formation tool for parishes that connects Catholics to the best teaching, videos, audio, and eBooks to deepen their relationship with Christ and His Church. Anytime. Anywhere. On Any Device.



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This weekend cards will be distributed with instructions and the parish access code for parishioners to use to register. St. Mark's has subscribed to Formed for our parishioners to enjoy from Christmas until Easter weekend.



## Merry Christmas



## Thank you!

Our sincere thanks to the following people:

- **Anna Bonkowski** for cleaning the Eucharistic Minister gowns.
- **Rose Cabrelli, Cellie Canaon, Navis Cruzada, Mike Semon and Loreen Henderson** for the beautiful decorating of the foyer and church.
- **O'Neill Funeral Home** for donating the lovely Poinsettia arrangements.
- **Teresa Tomory** for displaying the Nativity scene in the Parish Hall.

## Pastor's Christmas Message

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We wonder in amazement at the beauty of the universe, our planet and the marvel of the human person. At the same time, we think of the suffering peoples in Aleppo, Syria and many others around the world. We struggle to reconcile this dichotomy....only you dear Jesus, with the manifestation of your birth as the Emmanuel, God with us, can provide the answer and the hope we need.

*Come Lord Jesus and save us!*

**Wishing you all a Blessed Christmas and Happy New Year!**

Fr. Michael



## New Credence Table

Have you noticed the beautiful new credence table in the Sanctuary which matches the altar, pulpit and tabernacle stand? Our sincere thanks to **Frank and Antonietta Ignagni** for not only donating this wonderful table but also having a personal hand in its construction. God bless you both for your generous deed and love of God's Church. Fr. Michael

## 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.



CD's are available for purchase at the Book Stall after all masses or at the Parish Office. Price \$20/each. 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

## 2017 Offertory Donation Boxes

The 2017 boxes have been removed from the lobby until the New Year. If you wish to pick up your box, you may do so from the office during regular office hours until such time as the Christmas decorations have been removed and the lobby has more space.


**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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