

St. Mark's Catholic Church

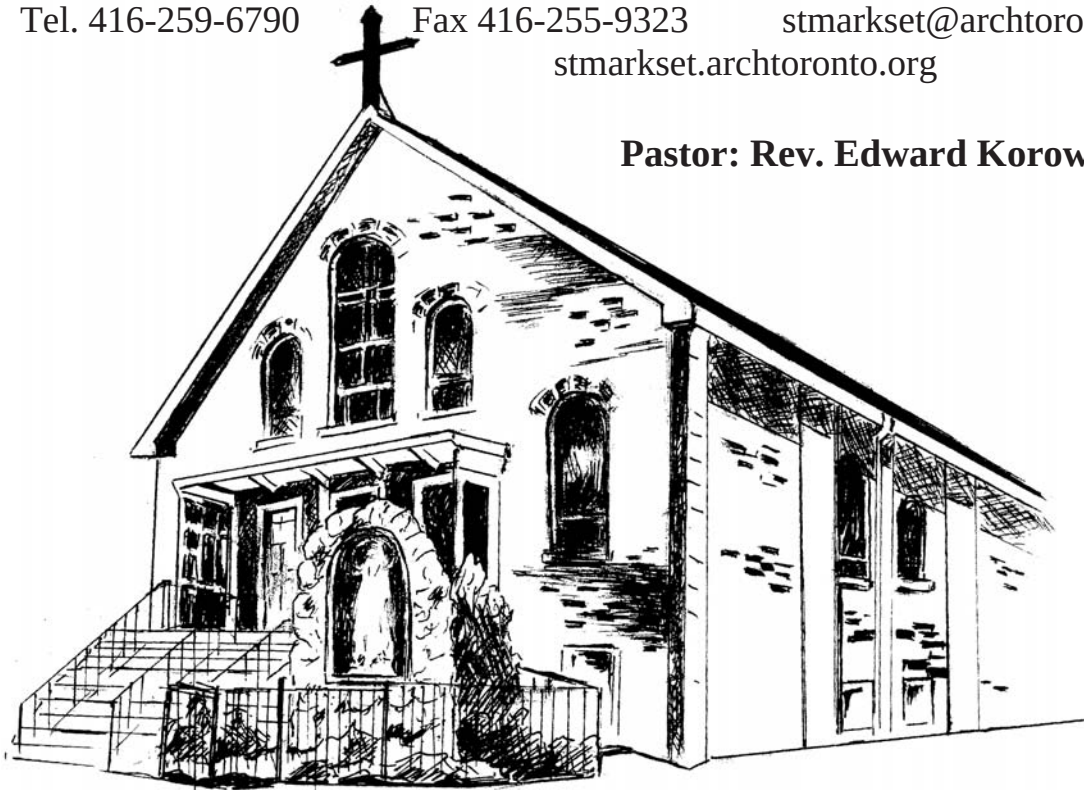
277 Park Lawn Road, Toronto, ON M8Y 3J7

Tel. 416-259-6790

Fax 416-255-9323

stmarkset@archtoronto.org

stmarkset.archtoronto.org



Pastor: Rev. Edward Koroway

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5:00 p.m. (English)
Sunday 8:30 a.m. (English)
10:00 a.m. (Polish)
11:30 a.m. (English)

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday 9:00 a.m. (English)
Tuesday 9:00 a.m. (English)
Wednesday 9:00 a.m. (English)
Thursday 9:00 a.m. (English)
Friday 9:00 a.m. (English)

CONFESSIONS

First Friday 6:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.
Saturday 4:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., or by appointment.

BAPTISMS: by appointment

MARRIAGE: please contact the priest one year in advance.
A marriage preparation course is required.

DEVOTIONS:

First Friday Exposition: 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., followed by
Benediction and Mass in Polish at 7:00 p.m.
Holy Rosary weekdays at 8:30 a.m.

REGISTRATION:

Every family in the Parish should be properly registered.
New parishioners are welcome, and invited to register and
collect a box of Church support envelopes

SCHOOLS

St. Mark
45 Cloverhill Road
Toronto, ON M8Y 1T4
416-393-5332

Bishop Allen Academy
721 Royal York Road
Toronto, ON M8Y 2T3
416-393-5549

Sainte-Marguerite-d'Youville
755 Royal York Road
Toronto, ON M8Y 2T3
416-393-5418

USEFUL INTERNET WEBSITES

archtoronto.org (Toronto archdiocese)
vatican.va (the Holy See)
cccb.ca (Canadian Catholic Bishops)
acbo.on.ca (Ontario Catholic Bishops)
usccb.org (U.S. Catholic Bishops)
lifesitenews.com (pro-life news)
ccrl.ca (Catholic Civil Rights League)

tcdsb.org (Toronto Catholic School Board)
vocationstoronto.ca (Vocations Office)
catholic-cemeteries.com (Catholic Cemeteries)
katolik.pl (Polish Catholic website)
catholicnewsagency.com (Catholic news)
catholicerald.co.uk (Catholic news)
catholicregister.org (The Catholic Register)

Please consider remembering St. Mark's Parish in your will. Thank you!

Mass Intentions**for the Week**

- Dec.13: 5:00 p.m. For the Parishioners of St. Mark's
 Dec.14: 8:30 a.m. Jan and Anna Kalata
 10:00 a.m. Za Gerarda i Zofię Golian
 11:30 a.m. Stephen Horvat
 Dec.15: 9:00 a.m. Barbara Jednoróg
 Dec.16: 9:00 a.m. Special Intention (P.K.)
 Dec.17: **No Mass (due to Bishop Allen Masses)**
 Dec.18: 9:00 a.m. Carlos Ochoa
 Dec.19: 9:00 a.m. Aileen Connell
 Dec.20: 5:00 p.m. Krystyna Zasowski (60th birthday)
 Dec.21: 8:30 a.m. Sister Agnes Theresa
 (Tony Sheehan)
 10:00 a.m. Za Józefa i Genowefę Skoś
 11:30 a.m. For the Parishioners of St. Mark's

CONFIRMATION ENROLMENT CEREMONY for those who have registered to be confirmed in our parish will take place this weekend on **Sunday, December 14**, at the **11:30 a.m.** Mass.

BUILDING FUND COLLECTION: Our monthly Building Fund collection will take place *next* weekend. Special envelopes are available at the back of the Church for this purpose. The funds raised will go towards the many renovation projects that need to be addressed in our parish. **Thank you for your generosity.**

CARDINAL LEO has written a letter concerning an amendment to Bill C-9 (Combatting Hate Act) that would remove the long-standing good faith religious-text defence in the Criminal Code. This currently protects people from hate-speech charges if they express "in good faith" opinions rooted in Scripture or religious beliefs. The letter may be found on the diocesan as well as our own parish website. There is also a good explanatory article in *The Catholic Register* online and print edition.

NEW LIVING WITH CHRIST SUNDAY MISSALS are for sale in the vestibule of the Church for **\$7.00** each. Simply place the money in the offering box on which the Missals are displayed. In addition to the Mass prayers and readings for every Sunday, the Missals have many other prayers and hymns.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S MASS **SCHEDULE**

Wednesday, December 24 (Christmas Eve)

- 5:00 p.m.** Christmas Eve Mass (English)
10:00 p.m. Mass during the Night (Polish)

Thursday, December 25 (Christmas Day)

- 8:30 a.m.** Christmas Dawn Mass (English)
10:00 a.m. Christmas Day Mass (Polish)
11:30 a.m. Christmas Day Mass (English)

Friday, December 26 (Feast of St. Stephen)

- 9:00 a.m.** English Mass
10:00 a.m. Polish Mass

Saturday - Sunday, December 27 -28 (Feast of the Holy Family)

- 5:00 p.m.** (English)
8:30 a.m. (English)
10:00 a.m. (Polish)
11:30 a.m. (English)

Wednesday, December 31 (New Year's Eve)

- 5:00 p.m.** Mass (English) with solemn singing of the *Te Deum* to end the Year 2025

Thursday, January 1, 2026 (New Year's Day—Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God)
(Holy Day of obligation)

- 8:30 a.m.** Mass (English)
10:00 a.m. Mass (Polish)
11:30 a.m. Mass (English)

CONFESSIONS

- Saturday, Dec. 13: 4:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
 Thursday, Dec. 18: 6:00 pm. to 7:00 p.m.
 Saturday, Dec. 20: 4:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
 Tuesday, Dec. 23: 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

REJOICING AMIDST THE DARKNESS. "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near." These are the words proclaimed in the entrance antiphon of Mass for *Gaudete* Sunday this week. It urges us to constantly rejoice in the Lord, and as good stewards of Christ, we should always strive to live lives inundated with the joy that flows from the Lord.

In order to do this, we must understand the difference between joy and happiness, for the Lord never promised us happiness. Instead He says, "I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete" (John 15:11). Happiness is a result of our good circumstances, because we feel good, or we had something positive happen to us, etc. Joy on the other hand goes much deeper. Henri Nouwen describes it as "the experience of knowing that you are unconditionally loved and that nothing -- sickness, failure, emotional distress, oppression, war, or even death -- can take that love away."

So joy is the ability to remain happy due to our awareness of being beloved sons and daughters of God even amidst the trials of our life. Henri Nouwen further describes joy as a choice we must make every day. How often in our difficult lives do we take solace and rejoice in our identities of being beloved children of God? This Gaudete Sunday let us strive to be more intentionally joyful, and to pray to Christ for strength, for He says, "Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete" (John 16:24). (archtoronto.org/stewardship)

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES FOR 2026: These have been placed on tables at the back of the Church, in numerical order. Everyone is encouraged to take advantage of this convenient means of supporting our parish. Envelope users receive a receipt for their charitable donations, which reduces their income tax payable. For total annual donations over \$200, there is a *combined federal and provincial* tax credit of approximately 40 per cent.

TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS WAFERS (from Poland) (OPLATKI) are available on the table in front of Our Lady's Chapel for \$3 per envelope.

CATHOLIC ART CALENDARS for 2026 are available at the back of the Church. Our thanks to the **RIDLEY FUNERAL HOME** (3080 Lake Shore Blvd.) for so generously providing these beautiful calendars.

III Niedziela Adwentu – rok A

OCZEKIWANIE NA MIŁOŚĆ. Trzecia Niedziela Adwentu jest wyjątkowa. Pojawia się różowy kolor szat liturgicznych, wiele razy powtarzamy słowo RADOŚĆ! Pierwszym motywem tej radości jest fakt zbliżania się chwili spotkania przychodzącego Pana. On jest dla nas źródłem prawdziwej radości. Prorok Izajasz mówi dzisiaj: Pokrzep ręce osłabłe, wzmocnij kolana omdlałe!

Odwagi! Nie bój się! (por. Iz 35,3-4). Kiedy cierpisz, kiedy brak Ci pieniędzy, kiedy nie radzisz sobie z innymi lub samym sobą, kiedy tracisz radość i pokój ducha, wiedz, że Pan przychodzi, by pustynię zmienić w kwitnący ogród. Nawet, jeśli twoje serce jest jak spieczony step, może w nim rozkwitnąć biała lilia.

Pan przez swoje służby w sakramencie pokuty i pojednania chce dzisiaj rozlewać radość w naszych sercach. Zechciejmy skorzystać z tego! Boża radość często rodzi się w trudzie, w zmaganiach o czyste sumienie, o dobro wyświadczone bliźniemu, wymaga od nas wiele cierpliwości, ale jest prawdziwa! Dajmy Słowu Pana otworzyć nasze uszy, oczy i serce. Zechciejmy zobaczyć Go w Kościele, sakramentach, drugim człowieku... Mamy tyle powodów do radości mimo wszystko! Zły chce zasiać w naszych sercach zwątpienie, chce zaniepokoić, chce skupić naszą uwagę na prezentach, sprzątaniu, zewnętrznych przygotowaniach do Świąt. By mieć prawdziwą radość trzeba nam usłyszeć słowa Ewangelii, która jest Radosną Nowiną. I nie wątpić, że oczekujemy na narodziny MIŁOŚCI, a Ona zawsze daje prawdziwą RADOŚĆ! (ks. Bogusław Laskowski – paulista)

W przyszłą niedzielę, zbierana będzie druga kolektka na fundusz renowacyjny Kościoła. Specjalne koperty na ten cel są wyłożone na stolikach przy wejściu do Kościoła. Z góry bardzo wam dziękuję za ofiary przeznaczone na ten cel.

KALENDARZE: Mamy już polskie kalendarze na rok 2026. Serdecznie dziękujemy **G.H. HOGLE FUNERAL HOME (63 Mimico Ave.)** za piękne kalendarze. Mamy też kalendarze w języku angielskim. Serdecznie dziękujemy **RIDLEY FUNERAL HOME (3080 Lake Shore Blvd.)** za piękne kalendarze.

OPLATKI: Oplatki wigilijne (z Polski) są do nabycia przy ołtarzu Matki Boskiej. Prosimy o ofiarę \$3 za jedną kopertkę.

KOPERTKI PARAFIALNE. Kopertki są wyłożone na stolikach przy wejściu do Kościoła według numerów. Zachęcamy wszystkich do korzystania z kopert na ofiarę, ponieważ zapewniają one zapis darowizny. Składając ofiarę w kopercie, możemy otrzymać pokwitowanie do podatku dochodowego od darowizny na cele charytatywne. Zaświadczenia podatkowe są wysyłane w styczniu.



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