

Easter People

"Do not abandon yourselves to despair we are the Easter People and Hallelujah is our song.." (St. John Paul II)



Today we come to the Gospel of John and the story of the Apostle Thomas. We are all probably most like the followers of Jesus who have met Him in one way or another and sort of believe. Yet there are always some like Thomas, who refuse to believe until something extraordinary happens. This reality is reflected in our daily lives as well: openness to seeking the Lord or a reservation in seeking Him; openness to seeing Christ in others or a reservation about His presence in others; openness to encountering Jesus in those who do not believe or an openness to His presence there in the center of unbelief.

The Gospel does not condemn Thomas! Jesus, on the contrary, simply speaks of the belief of Thomas and praises those who can believe without seeing. Whichever model is closer to our own lives, the important reality is simple: believe and follow the Lord! May this Sunday of Divine Mercy help us know that mercy in our lives and share it with others. He is truly risen. Alleluia.

Christians are often referred to as "Easter People". But what does it mean to be Easter people? It does mean that we believe in the Resurrection and the promise of Jesus that all who believe in him will have everlasting life. As Easter People we are called to respond with love and forgiveness and service. We are called to change our hearts, our attitudes and our way of life and follow Jesus' example in loving and forgiving. It is a gentle call for transformation of how we encounter God in our daily lives.

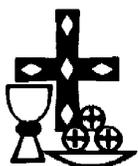
Over the past seven months we the Parish of St. Luke's have been richly blessed by the presence and the experience of the Catechumenate. In September, seventeen adults were welcomed into the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) process. These candidates felt called by God to explore and enhance their knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the Catholic Faith. The RCIA is not a program that begins and finishes. It is a process of one's faith journey. It is the unfolding of God's sacred plan for us; from here to eternity. It is a call to become "Easter People". At the Easter Vigil we welcomed fifteen of these adults, into our parish community. The Catechumenate process recognizes that conversion to Jesus and membership in the Church is still a radical step. It demands courage to "die" to old ways. Old ideas and priorities are reevaluated. Things that did not seem important at first take on new meaning. Its purpose, however, is conversion - a Journey of Mind, Heart and Spirit.

The entry of a new member into the Church is cause for rejoicing, for the whole community and so we congratulate our new members. In seeing the amazing faith that these Catechumens have expressed, our own faith has been renewed and strengthened. We are deeply grateful for their commitment and passionate dedication over the past seven months. We offer them our thanks and our admiration, and we pray for them as they begin this new phase of their spiritual journey.

The Church teaches that the resurrection is to be integrated into the whole fabric of life. If we go into our hearts, to that place of repentance and love, Christ will meet us with the words, "I love you. Do not be afraid! I am with you always!"

We are Easter people who believe that Jesus' dying on the cross transformed all suffering and pain, and the Resurrection gives us the promise of eternal life. It is this paschal mystery, this Easter faith, that we are called to live each day.

Antoinette Agostinelli



Mass Intentions

Monday	Soul of Lilia Diezmos
Tuesday	Souls of Salvador Rino, Cristina Quiquero, Mimi Karalmatos, Julie McQueen & Jerry Dorrian
Wednesday	Soul of Bernard Hannan
Thursday	Soul of Andrea Binetti
Friday	For the Intention of Martino Lee

PRAYER REQUEST LINE
905 881-2786 ext. 250

April 8, 2018



DIVINE MERCY CELEBRATION

This Sunday Catholic Churches throughout the world, will celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday.

Come and join us – everyone is welcome!

Place: St. Luke's

Date: April 08, 2018

Time: Start at 2:45 pm



Celebration will consist of prayers, the recitation of the Divine Mercy chaplet and Benediction.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR

6 Monday Evening Sessions 7:30 to 9:30 PM

April 9	April 30
April 16	May 7
April 23	May 14

Registration forms are available at the Parish Lobby or visit our website: <https://stlukesth.archtoronto.org> to print the registration form.

Please submit your completed registration in the Parish Office, or drop it in the dropbox at the Parish lobby, or email a copy to joags@rogers.com by April 1, 2018. Open to all adults 19 yrs. and above.

THORNHILL STARGAZING EVENING

Thursday, April 19, 8:30 p.m.

Pomona Mills Meadow, east of St. Volodymyr's Church, 15 Church Lane

Telescopes will be available to view the Moon, the planet Jupiter with its moons, the planet Venus, and various "deep-sky wonders". A local astronomer with a "sky pointer" will be on hand to trace out constellations. Dress warmly! Please stay close to the walkway to protect the wildflower plantings. For more information, visit www.thornhillwardone.com or contact Jim Laframboise at 905-889-1073.

WHITE ELEPHANT SALE April 21/22 – St. Luke's Parish Hall

Please bring any items you wish to donate to the parish hall by April 19th. If you have any questions, please call Natalie at 905 881-2786 ext. 235.

OLEG SAMOKHIN PIANO RECITAL Saturday April 28, 7:30 – 9:30 pm

Our organist/pianist for the 10:30 and 12:15 masses is holding a recital here in the sanctuary on the above date. You and your friends and relatives will not want to miss his dazzling performance of wonderful music. **Reserved tickets** are \$17, \$22, and \$27 (not including tax) and may be purchased by²

1. Logging on to brownpapertickets.com/event3342808 and using Visa or debit to reserve your seat from the seating chart. Your ticket will be emailed or mailed to you.
2. Calling Brown Paper Tickets at 1-800-838-3006 ext.1 and telling the attendant you would like to purchase tickets for the Piano Recital by Oleg Samokhin. You can simply have your name and seat number put on a list to be confirmed when you arrive or have your ticket emailed or mailed to you.
3. Inquiries can be directed to Greg Benoit after the Sunday masses or by calling him at 647-296-6851 or emailing him at greg.benoit@rogers.com
4. A considerable portion of the proceeds will be donated back by Oleg to our Parish for use where most needed.

Share...Life!

Living the Gospel through mental health services
Mental health problems can escalate if not addressed quickly. That's why the five Catholic Family Services agencies in the Archdiocese of Toronto now offer walk-in counselling. This initiative can often meet clients' need without requiring longer term counselling. Clients report a clinically significant increase in confidence that they can tackle their problems. By supporting ShareLife, you're helping restore hope to those in crisis.

**April 22 is the next ShareLife Sunday.
Please give generously.**