

**Teach me
Your ways,
O Lord . . .**

This parable is a gentle reminder of the abundance of our capabilities, and challenges us to use them in the service of God who is interested in what we make of our lives. Jesus calls us to be people of faith who are up and doing rather than people of fear. Sooner or later we have to decide – either to listen to the voice of Jesus, which tells us to take risks and move forward. No giftedness can survive the damage of neglect. Even a musical note will lose its sweet romance and become a wasted treasure unless it is exercised frequently. How can we say we are making the most of our potential as children of God if we are not using wisely the gifts we have been given.



Mass Intentions

Monday	Soul of Dino Morello
Tuesday	Souls of Mary Leung, Olga Del Poz, Margaret Nelson, Barb Sanders and David Secours
Wednesday	Souls of Mrs. McDougall
Thursday	For the Intention of Ellen Gould
Friday	Soul of John Frederick Jack Wilson



The Shepherds' Trust
Caring for those who always cared for us.

The Shepherds' Trust collection will take place in all parishes in the Archdiocese this weekend of November 18/19th

Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Good Shepherd Casseroles

Tuna Casseroles for the Good Shepherd Ministries are due Sunday, November 26th (last Sunday of the month). Thank you for your continuous support.”

WHEN BEING NICE IS NOT ENOUGH

The first American TV show I've ever watched as a child is Barney the Dinosaur. Barney is best known for the lyrics “I love you, you love me...” I remember feeling repulsed. Besides the obvious dinosaur costume it all seemed so superficial. No one in the show had any conviction.

“Greg,” you might be thinking, “It’s only a kids’ show.” You’re correct. Yet many Christian adults have adopted such a childish view of salvation. All we have to do is be nice and love each other and we’ll receive a first class ticket on an express to Heaven.

Love does not equal niceness. Jesus did not willingly leave Heaven and take on incomprehensible suffering just to show us how to be nice. Love demands so much more.

From Being Nice to Loving

To love as Christians is so much more than doing kind acts and making people feel nice. To love is to desire to do what is good in God’s eyes.

In today’s Gospel Jesus present a parable in which three servants are entrusted with talents (money) to do business while their master went away. The first and the second servant invested the talents and gained significant interest which they later returned to their master. The third, servant hid his talent out of fear and was only able to return the master what he initially was given. Upon return the master rewards to the first two servants for investing their talents, but severely punished the one who hid his talent.

At first God’s sense of justice seems overkill and unfair. But is it? The images of the three servants represent the difference between intentional Christians and individuals who just happen to be labelled Christians.

Using Our Gift’s for God’s Glory

God created you and me with gifts. Are we investing our gifts to build up God’s kingdom or are we using our gifts to do what we think are the “bare minimum” requirements for salvation? The former is selfless while the latter is self-centred. Simply doing pious acts is no guarantee of salvation. Disciples don’t go to church, serve the poor, or say prayers to complete a “to do list” to get into heaven.

Discipleship is less about doing things as opposed to doing things with conviction and a positive disposition of the heart. For example, anyone can show up to church and be a spectator. But disciples actively participate seeking God in the mass.

As adults there is a reason we don’t watch Barney. The love that Barney sings about is childish and incomplete. So why do we treat our relationship with Jesus as if were children? Let’s get serious about discipleship.

Greg Garda, *Youth Minister.*

November 19, 2017

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** for the parish will be celebrated on:

Thursday – December 7th 6:30-7:30 p.m.

ST. LUKE'S PARISH ADVENT RETREAT

Saturday, December 2nd

9:30 am – 12:30 pm – Parish Hall



The annual Parish Advent Retreat will take place at here at St. Luke's on **Saturday, December 2nd** from **9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

This year the Retreat will be led by Jim Dunn, Christian, inspirational, motivational speaker and author. This will be a morning of scripture, prayer, reflection, storytelling, music and visual presentation.

Come join us for a morning with your parish community and take some time for quiet reflection. There will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex for anyone wishing to attend.



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY MASS

Children from grades 2-12 are invited and encouraged to sing in the children's choir and perform in the pageant for the family mass on Christmas Eve. This is a very special event that enables the children to help us all celebrate the joy found in this holy season. All abilities are most welcome. The choir and pageant will hold rehearsals on Saturday mornings. For those who are interested, please fill out the form found at goo.gl/MsSF96 by November 30th. Thank you!



SUPPORT RIGHT TO LIFE

Right to Life workers are active in the grade schools and high schools educating our children about Right to Life issues - but they need our financial support.

You can buy beautiful religious Christmas cards that will please everyone on your Christmas card list. Cards are sold in boxes of 10 for only \$8. Even if you have enough Cards, please make a free donation to Right to Life and continue the education of our children.

Please support this important work by visiting the Right to Life table in the foyer after all masses on November 18/19 and November 25/26.



St. Vincent de Paul

Christmas Food Drive

November 25/26 & December 2/3

Give Christmas cheer to the needy by bringing donations of non-perishable food (canned foods, cereals, pasta, baby food, etc.) or **new** toys to the church the weekends of **November 25/26 or Dec. 2/3**. Your contributions support the Georgina Food Bank.



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will be selling their knitted items on the weekend of **Saturday, November 25 and Sunday, November 26**. Proceeds to go to charity. For more information please call Helen at 905 770-7823.



CHOIR CONCERT

Saturday, Dec. 09 - 7:30 P.M.

All 3 of our St. Luke's choirs will be presenting their most beautiful Christmas selections. Bring the whole family and celebrate in song this sacred event. There is no fee but a basket will be available for a free will offering which will go to the various outreaches of our parish.

HOLY LAND WOOD ART

The main income for the Christian community of Bethlehem-The Birth Place of Jesus-is selling their hand crafted olive wood religious items to the pilgrims who visit the area. The past few years have been extremely hard for the community as a result of declining tourism. This weekend, we will be having some of their beautiful art held for sale in an effort to strengthen the Christian presence in the Holy Land.

FOCUS ON FATHERS/GRANDFATHERS

Ed Bader, a member of our parish has invited **both fathers and grandfathers of infants and toddlers (birth to 3 years)** to attend a four week **Focus on Fathers** Group at Catholic Community Services or York Region, 21 Dunlop St. in Richmond Hill on **Saturday mornings – November 25th to December 16th, 2017 at 10:00 am to 12:00 noon**. Registration is necessary. Cost \$40.00. Please contact Jamal Gharavi to register at 905 707-7040 or email: groups@ccsy.org