# St. Luke's Parish

39 Green Lane, Thornhill, Ontario L3T 6K5 Tel: 905-881-2786 Website: https://stlukesth.archtoronto.org Email: st.lukesparish@rogers.com



Pastor: Fr. Mark Van Patten - Ext. 222 Associate Pastor: Fr. Wenceslao Abalos - Ext. 227 Secretary: Lois Henderson - Ext. 221 Pastoral Associate: John Humphries - Ext 226 Parish Social Ministry Coordinator: Natalie Doucet - Ext 235 Lay Pastoral Associate:Antoinette Agostinelli - Ext 233 Youth Minister: Greg Garda - Ext. 232

Masses: Saturday - 5:00 P.M. Sunday - 8:45, 10:30 and 12:15 P.M. Mon., Wed., Thu., Fri. - 8:00 A.M., Tue. - 7:00 P.M. Devotions to Our Lady of Perpetual Help: Tuesday - 7:00 P.M. Confessions: Saturday 4:00-4:45 P.M. and Tuesday after Devotions Office hours: Monday to Friday 8:30-4:00 905-881-2786 PARISH St. Anthony's St. Rene Goupil/St. Luke St. Robert C.H.S. Saint John Paul II SCHOOLS: 141 Kirk Dr. 135 Green Lane 8101 Leslie St. 155 Red Maple Rd. Thornhill Thornhill Thornhill Richmond Hill L4B 4P9 905-889-7420 905-881-2300 905-889-4982 905-709-3134/709-3136 For more information on Catholic education in our community or to reach your local school board trustee, contact the York Catholic District School Board at 905-713-2711 or www.ycdsb.ca PLEASE KEEP US UP TO DATE; COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING & PUT IN COLLECTION BASKET

Name		Phone		
Address		Postal Code		
Children & Dates of Births:				
New Parishioner	For Envelopes, please contact usher $\Box$	Change of Address	Moving out of Parish $\Box$	



Another Lent has dawned and fresh beginnings are at hand. With it, a new season of prayer, penance and fasting will begin in the church and in our homes. When asked what we are giving up for Lent, let it be any self-serving activities that prevent us from getting back to the things we have been neglecting.

During lent we are encouraged to re-commit ourselves to the practice of *prayer*, *fasting and almsgiving*. **Prayer** can take many forms, like going to mass more frequently, reading the scriptures daily, reciting the rosary or becoming part of a prayer group. **Fasting**, one of the core disciplines of Christianity is a traditional way of acknowledging one's dependence on God. If it does nothing else, it reminds us that while one third of the world is suffering from over consumption, the other two thirds are dying from hunger and malnutrition. **Almsgiving** to charitable causes can bring freedom and a fresh start to the poorest of people.

Lent is a time for drawing closer to God.

Through repentance, conversion and a change of heart let us prepare ourselves spiritually for the feast of Easter.



Monday	Soul of Dennis So Chan
Tuesday	Soul of <b>Steven Murphy</b> Intentions of <b>Elizabeth</b>
Wednesday	Intentions of Rene Carandang
Thursday	Soul of Arturo Suero
Friday	Soul of John Frederick Jack Wilson

#### **PRAYER REQUEST LINE** 905 881-2786 ext. 250

#### How to Push Yourself Beyond Your Limits <u>This Lent</u>

One of the most challenging experiences anyone can have is Navy SEAL Training. Navy SEALs are the elite Special Forces unit of the United States Navy. To become a SEAL candidates must endure several weeks of outdoor training in the cold and sandy waters of the Pacific Ocean, survive a 30 minute underwater test with minimal air and skydiving from high altitudes. Why do some men willingly choose to subject themselves to this? They want to *experience the rewards* of pushing beyond their limits.

For Catholics, Lent is a period to push beyond our physical and spiritual limits. In today's Gospel Jesus shows us three rewards that we can grasp when we push beyond our limits.

#### **Reward of Physical Discipline**

As Jesus enters into the wilderness to fast, he experiences three temptations. Seeing that Jesus is physically weakened, the devil tells Jesus to turn stone into bread (Lk 4:3). To which Jesus responds, "Man does not live by bread alone" (v.4). Even in his physical weakness, Jesus has tremendous discipline. Up until 1960s, Lent was an intense period of self-discipline for Catholics. Healthy adults fasted every day between midnight and 3pm. The Orthodox Church still requires this. If you are a healthy adult man, I challenge you to this challenge this Lent. I'll be doing it. If you are up for the challenge send me an email at Soint where Magamail com

SaintLukesYM@gmail.com.

#### **Reward of Humility**

Power and riches is a classic form of temptation and a successful one at that. In the second temptation, the devil tempts Jesus with power (Lk 4:5-8). In SEAL training candidates quickly learn that they are not top dogs and they have to rely on others to succeed. If you want to become a saint (i.e. get into Heaven) you will NOT make it on your own. Lent is a time to come face to face with our sins and conquer them. We cannot face our weaknesses on our own. Personally, I have a friend who holds me accountable. Do you have someone to keep you on track this Lent? If not, find someone.

#### **Reward of Resolve**

The final temptation Jesus experiences is a test to show that he is God (Lk 4:9-12). Our society increasingly pushes us to fit into a particular mold. It is very tempting because we do not want to seem like the odd person out at work, school or family gatherings. Therefore, we increasingly want what others have and say what others expect us to say. Lent is an opportunity to become more like Christ, whether it's in fashion or not. Guess what going to happen? You're going to take some heat. Are you ready to take it? Greg Garda, *Youth Minister* 



# LAST CHANCE!

# March Break Day Camp 2019

When: March 11-13. 9am-3pm (Drop-off 8:30am) Where: St. Luke's Parish Who: Grades 1-5 Cost: \$20/Day OR \$50 all 3 Days. To register your child please visit the parish website: <u>https://stlukesth.archtoronto.org/Ministries/youth-ministry</u> For any inquiries please contact Greg Garda at <u>SaintLukesYM@gmail.com</u> OR 905-881-2786 ex.232.



# St. Luke's CWL News

#### Spring Trip to Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre

Thursday May 16th, 2019. Tickets still available. All men and women welcome! See our bulletin board or contact CWL at stlukescwl2018@gmail.com

### THORNHILL MINISTERIAL LENTEN SERIES 2019

Answering God's Call: to Forgive

# Sunday March 10 at 4:00 p.m.

Thornhill Presbyterian Church 271 Centre Street Speaker: The Rev. Paul Gibbon (Offering to: Mosaic Interfaith Out of the Cold)

### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

You are invited to join in praying the Stations of the Cross each Friday evening during Lent at **7:30 p.m.** in the church. All are welcome to come and spend one hour in prayer.



#### MARTYRS' SHRINE LENTEN <u>RETREAT</u> Journey with the Canadian Martyrs'

# St. Luke's Parish

April 9, 10 and 11<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm – 9:00pm (Followed by light refreshments in the parish hall)

Let the lives of the Martyrs' deepen your relationship with Christ as we journey with them during this Lenten season. See the bulletin board for more information.

#### <u>"COME AND SEE WEEKEND"</u> March 15-17, 2019 St. Augustine's Seminary

Inviting single Catholic men 17 years and older to cultivate a deeper prayer life and relationship with Jesus Christ; leading to better discernment of God's call for their lives. Time for prayer, reflection and information on the process of becoming one of Christ's disciples as a Catholic priest.

See the bulletin board for more information.

# Share...Life!

# Living the Gospel by supporting ShareLife agencies

As we begin our ShareLife Campaign 2019, we are encouraged to live the Gospel in all we do. How do we demonstrate that in our community? Living the Gospel may mean helping single mothers to care for their newborn children, or being available to families facing difficulties, or welcoming refugee families to our community. For 43 years, countless individuals have experienced the compassionate care offered by our agencies. Please support our annual archdiocesan appeal during this Lenten season! Cardinal Thomas Collins

> March 31<sup>st</sup> is ShareLife Sunday Please give generously



35 - 3