

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 - Alan Lee Hoy - 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. Thornhill 905-889-7420	135 Green Lane Thornhill 905-881-2300	8101 Leslie St. Thornhill 905-889-4982	155 Red Maple Rd. Richmond Hill L4B 4P9 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 <input type="checkbox"/>	Envelopes <input type="checkbox"/>
Change of Address <input type="checkbox"/>	Moving out of Parish <input type="checkbox"/>



In Anticipation of the Promise

Advent is a time of waiting, a time of expectation and anticipation and preparing our hearts to receive and unwrap something extraordinarily beautiful on Christmas morning.

However, at Advent time, too often I find myself caught in the frenzy of life and the demands of each day. Life seems complex and often driven by deadlines and things that must get done. And yet a part of me is longing for a slower pace and a time for peaceful reflection on the season we are entering.

Recently, I was having a conversation with a close friend of mine who is patiently waiting for the imminent birth of another grandchild. She shared how difficult it was to wait patiently when we are conditioned to expect results now! With some of the technologies we constantly use, we have been shaped by them to expect instant gratification. It is difficult not to give in to the tension and demands clamoring for our attention. I asked myself, "How can I best enter into this Advent season and allow God to provide for the longing of peace in my heart?"

I am reminded of Mary, as young girl who said yes to the "impossible" and gave birth to a son who profoundly changed the world. Mary, Jesus' mother, shows us how to have complete hope and trust in God. Not only did she believe the promise, but she surrendered completely to God's will. "Let it be, according to your word." (Luke 1:38)

Advent is a time of hope and trust that God continues to do remarkable things, here and now, in this time, in this place, at this present moment. Once again, we are given the opportunity to start anew. Once again, we are given the chance to re-create ourselves. Advent is a time to get in touch with our longings and deepest desires. It is a time to give new birth to the soul as we wait in hope and prepare to celebrate the reality of Christ's presence among us.

How can we embrace the Advent season and make it more meaningful? One way is simply to make time. Another is to practice the many Advent traditions that have been lived by many. If traditions are lived and understood, they can bring us closer to Jesus and transform the hearts of those who participate in them. With the celebration of Advent each year, everything old can be new again. Each year gives us an opportunity to remember and anticipate the celebration of the birth of Jesus on Christmas morning. Each year gives us an opportunity to prepare our hearts to unwrap that extraordinarily beautiful gift of "Love" on Christmas morning, "Immanuel, God with us."

Anything is possible...

Antoinette

The first Sunday of Advent is upon us again and another year begins with the story of the coming of the Lord. It offers us an opportunity to reflect on the longing and hope within the hearts of the Jewish people for the arrival of the Messiah and Saviour. The birth of Jesus, which on the surface seemed an ordinary occurrence, was an event so far beyond expectation and belief that the Israelites needed a long period of preparation for it. During that time, God sent many messengers and prophets to instruct, guide, encourage and chastise his chosen people, and at last, when the time was ready, the Almighty sent his Son into the world. Nothing like it ever happened before and nothing like it will ever happen again until Christ returns in glory.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	Soul of Alice Van Patten
Tuesday	Soul of May McPhee Soul of Alice Van Patten Soul of Cely Crespo Soul of San Hu Soul of Ita Sutikno
Wednesday	Mass of Thanksgiving John & Teresa Lee
Thursday	Soul of Leticia Villacorta
Friday	Soul of Lucy Kok Moey Chin

We pray for the sick, the suffering and the homebound in our community, may they feel the warmth of Christ's healing love, especially: Ave Warren, Brian Dorrian, Tony da Camara Jr., Tracey Hutchinson, Kevin Arcand, Jairus Papio, Grant Kennedy, Ashling Reilly, Timothy Hourigan, and Elona

PRAYER REQUEST LINE

905 881-2786 ext. 250



CIRCLE OF FRIENDS - LITTLE BLUE BOOK

The *Little Blue Book* of daily Advent devotions, which so many of us love, will be available for \$3.50 in the narthex. This weekend our Advent journey begins ... get your copy while they last!

CWL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

The CWL Christmas Bazaar is finally here! Stop by the parish hall after all masses this weekend. You don't want to miss it!

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 Sunday afternoons, starting on Dec 1st. For those who are interested, please fill out the form found at <https://tinurl.com/vg2eh6x> by November 30th. Thank you!

CHOIR CONCERT

SATURDAY DECEMBER 7, 7:30 P.M.

Once again, in our sanctuary, the choirs of St. Luke's will be ringing in the Christmas season like only music can. Come join us as the 4 choirs (yes the kids are included) of our parish sing both individually and together the delightful songs of the season to help prepare your hearts for the celebration of the birth of our Lord Jesus. The program will be devotional and joyful and will include opportunities for you to sing along with the favourite carols we associate with this beautiful time of year. Some of our excellent musicians will be featured as they grace us with their individual solo pieces. There is no charge to come and there will be a free will offering basket, if you wish to contribute, with all proceeds going to the needs of the parish. A lovely social time with light refreshments will follow in the parish hall. Wishing you Our Lord's very best in this season of great celebration!

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE

Please bring your donations of non-perishable foods, such as canned food, cereals, pastas, rice, flour etc. and small toys to the Church on the weekends of Nov.30/Dec.1 and Dec.7/8. Donations will be sent to the Georgina (Keswick – Sutton) Food Bank to help feed those in need. Thank you for your generosity.

ADVENT CONFESSIONS

The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** for Advent will be celebrated at the parish on Wednesday December 11th from 6:30 – 7:30pm.

FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS

Friday **December 6th** is the first Friday of the month. Join us for Adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament beginning at 7:30pm. Come spend one hour with Jesus.

RELIGIOUS CHRISTMAS CARDS

We are offering beautiful cards in boxes of 10 and a free raffle ticket for an 18" Madonna & Child figurine with each box for only \$10.00. If you already have cards, please consider a donation to support life-saving Pro-Life education in our schools. Visit our table in the narthex the weekends of Nov 23/24 and Nov 30/Dec 1st.

CHILDREN – TREE DECORATING!

Beginning the weekend of Nov 30/Dec 1st there will be 2 Christmas trees in the narthex and as we journey through the Advent season, we encourage all children to help us decorate them! Handmade decorations are most welcomed! Our theme? **"What Christmas Means to Me"**

NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER DANCE

Now is the time to start planning for your New Year's Eve celebration! We are continuing our tradition of having a dinner/dance at a very affordable price. The evening begins at 7:00 pm with hors d'oeuvres while you are settling in and socializing with your family and parish friends. At 8:00, you will be served your choice of Prime Rib of Beef or Chicken with all the trimmings. Dancing follows to the music of the DJ Greg Benoit so bring your requests! Champagne and party favours are included in your ticket. There will be door prizes and a bar to purchase your drinks of choice. Tickets will be on sale this weekend. The whole family is invited! Prices are: Adults \$45 Seniors \$30 Children 11 and under \$20. For further information contact Greg at greg.benoit@rogers.com or at 647-296-6851.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL – CHRISTMAS BASKETS

Special collection envelopes will be in the pew pockets for donations to the St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Basket program until December 8th. Each year your donations enable needy families in our community to participate in this joyous season. Thank you for your continued support.
* Tax receipts issued by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION 2019/2020
PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS

Families, who are seeking to have their children Confirmed this school year, are invited to join Alan Lee Hoy, in the parish hall for Parent Information Sessions.

Please choose 1 of the following 2 dates to attend.

Tuesday, December 3rd at 8:00 pm or

Wednesday Dec 4th at 8:00 pm

Please see our website for further details. You can also register at: <http://bit.ly/StLukesConfirmation2020>
If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Email: stlukesthym@gmail.com

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