

# 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](mailto: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](http://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"/>

## Being "Salt and Light"



As we reflected on the scripture passages in our RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) for this coming Sunday, I encouraged the group with the usual words, "What word or phrase catches your attention? Or perhaps a few paragraphs together, or even the whole scene? How is it speaking to you? What if Jesus has just told that to you directly? What does it tell you about yourself and God?" Here are a few reflections shared.

In Matthew's Gospel, we hear Jesus saying that *we are* "the salt of the earth" and "the light of the world". And being salt and light is not optional. Jesus did not say you can be...or you have the potential to be...He said you are.

There you have it! It is pretty straight forward. It is about our identity. It is about who we are. This Sunday's gospel is a continuation of The Beatitudes from the Sermon on the Mount. In this gospel, Jesus gives us two of the most useful metaphors we have to guide our lives as Christians.

What is so special about salt that caused Jesus to use it in this context? In Jesus' time salt was very important and of great value. Roman soldiers received their wages in salt. Greeks considered salt to be divine. Salt was important for survival. People were dependent on salt to preserve their food. It was the only way they had to preserve meat and stop the process of decay. It also enhanced texture and most important the flavour of the food. By being salt, what is Jesus asking us to do? Perhaps we are being called to preserve and keep alive the faith and love of God. Perhaps as salt creates thirst, we are called to create a thirst for Christ and a thirst for a way of living as shown to us by Jesus. Salt was indispensable as we are in God's eyes.

We are also told, "You are the light of the world". As "light", we are called to shine and brighten the world around us with acts of goodness and love. We are called to illuminate or make visible God's presence in our lives and the world around us. As "light", we enable those around us to see God at work in the world. I was reading Aered Rosser's reflection about the difference between a mirror and a lamp. A mirror held up to reality adds nothing to it but reflects only what is before it. A lamp held up to reality adds detail, adding variation in its color and brightening it with warmth. We are clearly meant to be lamps and not mirrors! (Aelred Rosser Workbook for lectors & gospel readers)

Anthony De Mello has a story about discovering who we are. "A salt doll journeyed for thousands of miles over land, until it finally came to the sea. It was fascinated by this strange moving mass, quite unlike anything it had ever seen before. "Who are you?" said the salt doll to the sea. The sea smilingly replied, "Come in and see." So the doll waded in. The farther it walked into the sea the more it dissolved, until there was only very little of it left. Before that last bit dissolved, the doll exclaimed in wonder, "Now I know what I am!""

(Anthony De Mello, Song of the Bird: (Image Books, 1984), page 98)

We are the salt of the earth and the light of the world. This is our Christian identity. It is who we are.

Antoinette

When someone tells you are the **Salt** of the earth, they are paying you a great compliment. When Jesus Christ called his followers the salt of the earth, he was indicating how highly he prized them and the greatness they were capable of achieving. In the story of the creation of the world, God's first act was to dispel darkness and bring order out of chaos by producing **Light**. The gospel reminds us of our calling to bring Jesus as the light into the world. The brightness of our lives as we follow in the footsteps of Christ enlightens the path to God for those around us.

There is a warmth and attractiveness about those whose good deeds and actions reflect the image of Jesus, the light of the world. The presence of a genuine Christ-like character enriches the community and enables the best in others to come forth.

### MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	Intentions of <b>Lucia Jung</b>
Tuesday	Soul of <b>Julian Peñoso</b> Soul of <b>Elisa Peñoso Mirabueno</b> Soul of <b>Elvira Iafano</b> Soul of <b>Hermine Wekerle</b> Soul of <b>Mary Burella</b>
Wednesday	Soul of <b>Charles Brochu</b>
Thursday	Mass of Thanksgiving – <b>Leo Jung Family</b>
Friday	Soul of <b>John Frederick Jack Wilson</b>

**May the sick experience the healing presence of God in their pain and distress**, especially: Tony da Camara Jr., Kevin Arcand, Jairus Papio, Ashling Reilly, Nicholas Lepone, Sam Accardi, Marita Salvosa, Mary Holt, Marek Celinski, Angie Cappriccio, Marciana Saldaña, Chuck Kirkham and baby Rebecca Grace Silva

### PRAYER REQUEST LINE

905 881-2786 ext. 250

Join us for **Praise & Worship**  
Monday, February 10 at 7:30 in the parish hall.

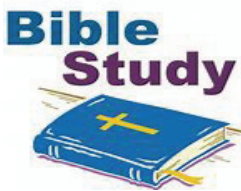


**HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC FUNERAL HOME**

invites you to an information session on **Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am in the St. Luke's Parish Hall.** There will be a presentation on how to pre-arrange funerals and how to transfer funeral arrangements from one location to another. Very timely in view of the recent changes in the ownership of some long-standing family owned funeral homes. Come and have your questions answered. It's never too soon to prepare.

**A Celebration of Marriage  
In the Archdiocese of Toronto**

Sunday February 9, 2020  
St Isaac Jogues Parish, Pickering  
**ALL ARE WELCOME**  
Special recognition for couples celebrating 25<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 60+ anniversaries in 2020.  
Everyone is required to register, as seating is limited. Designated seating is available for milestone anniversary couples only. Register at [www.archtoronto.org/marriage](http://www.archtoronto.org/marriage) or call 416-934-3400 x523



We are looking for parishioners who would be interested in being a facilitator for the Bible Study. Training will be provided. We welcome your participation and your commitment for the duration of seven weeks in the fall. If interested please contact:  
Lydia Bustamante at [lydia.bustamante.1@gmail.com](mailto:lydia.bustamante.1@gmail.com) or  
Jean Royer at [jjmroyer@gmail.com](mailto:jjmroyer@gmail.com) or  
Hilda Vlasic at [hildavlasic@rogers.com](mailto:hildavlasic@rogers.com)

**OUT OF THE COLD**

The Out of the Cold program **has ended** for another season at St. Luke's Parish.  
**Due to limited storage space at the parish, please drop off your gently used items at the Salvation Army depot located at the Thornhill Recycling Centre across the street.**

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Bulletin

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**THE COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR  
FUNDRAISER FOR**

**Mosaic Interfaith OUT OF THE COLD**

*Saturday, Feb. 22, Registration 4:p.m.*

**St. George's Antichian Church and Community Centre, 9116 Bayview Ave., Richmond Hill**

This is a fun, family-friendly walkathon that raises money for the homeless in our local community. Funds raised from the Walkathon will go towards critical emergency services for the homeless. For more information, please see the Bulletin Board or call Natalie at ext 235.

**CWL GENEREAL MEETING – PARISH HALL**

**WED. FEBRUARY 12<sup>TH</sup> AT 7:30 PM**

**FRIARS' STUDENT WRITING CONTEST 2020**

**THEME FOR 2020 – "THEY SHOWED US  
UNUSUAL KINDNESS"**

Welcoming strangers, whether they are from other cultures or beliefs, immigrants or refugees, is both to love Christ and to love as God loves. Hospitality should be a hallmark of every Christian. Students aged 14-18 are invited to read Acts 28:1-2 and submit a 500-word essay that answers this question: **How can Catholics and Christians of all denominations collaborate to be examples of Christ's love and extend the same kindness to people in need that St. Paul encountered in Malta?**

Essays will be edited and published in the Catholic Register. **Deadline for entries is Monday, February 17, 2020.**

For contest details visit:

[www.catholicregister.org/writingaward](http://www.catholicregister.org/writingaward) or see our bulletin board.

**INTERNATIONAL NIGHT 2020**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29<sup>TH</sup>**

**TICKETS ON SALE IN THE NARTHEX THIS WEEKEND.**

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