

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"/>



Today we enter Holy Week, the most sacred time in the church year with **Palm Sunday** and Christ's triumphant entry on a humble donkey into Jerusalem. He is openly proclaimed as the Messiah by an enthusiastic throng of followers in festive moods, waving palms and carpeting his pathway with their clothing. This week swings from one extreme to the other and Christ has no illusions about this fickle crowd because as the week unfolds, the palm branches will shape themselves into crosses and the Hosannas will become jeers of a treacherous mob calling for his death. The voices that shout Hosannas become cries of hatred and despair as Jesus exchanges his donkey ride for a nightmare trip on a wooden cross.

The story of the passion speaks for itself and its presentation is simple and direct. In it, we glimpse the presence of the contradictory in our lives. As we travel along the road with Jesus and encounter all the people he meets, we live the events and have an opportunity to enter into the sufferings of Christ during his last days on earth. The people involved in his death are so like us that we can identify with this. There is no role in the drama that we are not capable of playing. We must never forget that each of us has a hand in Jesus' death when we hurt others through gossip, slander, degrading or treating someone unjustly. The cross is lifted up as a sign of Christ taking the sins of humanity upon himself in order to soften our hearts, by revealing the depth of his perfect love.

Dear Parishioners of St. Luke's

This week-end we will be celebrating Palm Sunday when Jesus was praised coming into Jerusalem by followers waving palms. Don't worry, we will save the palms and give them out when we can all gather again. Fr. Wen and myself are doing well and continue to say Mass each day for all of you and truly look forward to seeing you again soon.

God Bless, Fr. Mark

Please pray for the sick in our community, especially:

Tony da Camara Jr., Jairus Papio, Ashling Reilly, Nicholas Lepone, Sam Accardi, Marita Salvosa, Mary Holt, Angie Cappriccio, Marciana Saldaña, Ron Scarcello, Austin Delaney, and baby Rebecca Grace Silva

Co-Creators with God

As I write this column on Tuesday March 31st, I am filled with many emotions and much anticipation, largely due to the present pandemic but also due to the fact that my wife is expecting and our baby will be born this Friday at 8am.

One thing most people feel when they experience the birth of a child is just how secondary their role is as co-creators with God for what we encounter is far beyond our expectations and we are filled with a sense of awe at what God has created through us. It is the same when we participate in the celebration of the Mass when Christ is born once again on the altar and we marvel at the Divine Presence and our blessed role as co-creators with God.

This year as we begin **Holy Week**, we are called upon in an even greater way than usual to live out our vocation as co-creators with God since we will not be celebrating as a community at the church. Therefore, each individual family and person will be called upon to seek ways to give birth to the new life God wishes to share with us this Easter.

This can be achieved by watching the services on television or the internet but that is just the start. For **Palm Sunday** we can go for a walk with the family and find a special branch (palm) that we can wave and lay before Jesus at the entry of our homes as we welcome him into our houses and hearts. For **Holy Thursday**, we can pause the Holy Thursday celebration on TV or the internet and take time to wash each other's feet as Jesus did. We can then set aside an hour for adoration following the Mass as there are many channels on YouTube where Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is livestreamed.

On **Good Friday**, we could set up Stations of the Cross around our house and could walk through them finding the Station readings for children and adults on the internet. We could then watch the Good Friday celebrations and spend time reading the Passion narratives with the family.

Finally, on **Easter Sunday** we can set up a tomb in our homes and place the linen wrappings and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head there, experience the confusion and hope that Mary Magdalene and the disciples must have felt not finding Jesus' body there. Then we can recreate and enter into Mary's encounters with the angels and Jesus and the great joy she must have felt as Jesus reveals himself to her by calling her by name, "Mary". We can then celebrate the Easter Mass on TV or the internet.

The ways in which we enter into the mystery of Holy Week are endless and it is up to each of us to discern how we chose to recreate this holiest of weeks. How exciting it is to anticipate what God has in store for us this year.

John Humphries.



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Marie dreads the day when she can no longer care for her husband who is experiencing memory loss. She worries they will have to move into a nursing home, where they might not be able to live together. Marie learned Les Centres d'Accueil Héritage (CAH), a ShareLife funded agency, offers services for francophone seniors in their situation. Marie feels so relieved that, with CAH's support, they can continue living together in their own home.

Thank you for your generosity.

Good Shepherd Casserole Program

Because the Good Shepherd Ministry is unable to serve hot meals to their guests during this time, the program has been suspended until further notice. They will however be providing bagged meals and there is a need for the following items: **Mayonnaise, Mustard, Canned Tuna, Peanut Butter, Bottled Water, Small Juice Boxes, Sliced Bread and Individually wrapped Cookies.** If you can provide any of these items in lieu of the casserole, it will be appreciated. Thank you from Good Shepherd Ministries!

MASS INTENTIONS – HOLY WEEK

Monday	Soul of Joan Braendal
Tuesday	Soul of Julia Jacobs Soul of Americo Gorizzan Souls of Antonio & Inez Gorizzan Soul of Rino Salvador Soul of Steven Huta Intentions of Tony de Camara Jr.
Wednesday	Mass of Thanksgiving – Lino & Medy Reyes
Thursday	HOLY THURSDAY
Friday	GOOD FRIDAY

PRAYER REQUEST LINE

905 881-2786 ext. 250

NOTICE – PARISH CLOSED

In order to limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus and to comply with the Government of Ontario's new regulations requiring that all non-essential workplaces be closed, the church and the parish office must remain closed to the public until further notice.

For information on how to drop off weekly or ShareLife donations or leave food for Good Shepherd Ministry please leave a voice mail at 905-881-2786 x221 or email us at st.lukesparish@rogers.com and we will get back to you as soon as possible. We also encourage you to check our website: stlukesth@archtoronto.org or myparishapp.com for COVID-19 updates and our weekly bulletin.



Thank you to everyone who has been able to continue supporting our parish during these difficult times. A variety of donation options are available for your convenience.

- **Drop off or mail** your regular weekly offertory contribution to the parish. Lois is in the office Monday-Friday 8:30-4:30 to assist you with a "no contact drop off". Call her at 905-881-2786 extension 221 for more information.
- **Credit Card.** Sign on to the Archdiocese of Toronto website and in the upper right hand corner click on Donate Now.
- **Pre-Authorized Giving.** Contact the parish office to obtain a PAG form. Return the completed form along with a void cheque to the parish, or you can email the form and a scanned copy or photo of a void cheque to the parish for processing. Contributions are withdrawn from your bank account on the 20th of each month.
- **Online Banking.** This will require a unique account number from the Archdiocese. Please send an email to campaign@archtoronto.org, providing your name, address, Parish name and municipality. Be assured your gift will be directed to our parish.

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