

# 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"/>

The Advent Wreath



Last Sunday, at Church we lit the first of four candles on the Advent wreath celebrating the start of the Advent season. The Advent wreath is part of a long-standing Catholic tradition. However, the actual origins are uncertain. There is evidence of pre-Christian Germanic people using wreaths with lit candles during the cold and dark December days as a sign of hope in the future warm and extended-sunlight days of Spring.

By the Middle Ages, Christians adapted this tradition and used the Advent wreath as part of their spiritual preparation for Christmas. The wreath is made of various evergreens, signifying continuous life. The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the eternity of God, the immortality of the soul, and the everlasting life found in Christ.

The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent. Three candles are purple and one is pink. The purple candles in particular symbolize the prayer, penance, and goods works undertaken at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete Sunday is a Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when preparation is now half over, and they are close to Christmas. The light signifies Christ, the Light of the world.

In family practice, the Advent wreath is most appropriately lit at dinner time after the blessing of the food with a traditional prayer service using the Advent wreath. There are various meanings and interpretations assigned to the candles. One interpretation has each candle representing 4000 years, the Biblical time between Adam and Eve and the coming of Christ. In another interpretation, the first candle represents the patriarchs, the second the prophets, the third reminds us of John the Baptist, and the fourth of Mary, the mother of Jesus.

The Advent Wreath serves as a powerful reminder of the holiness of the season. The light of the candles invite us to reflection, during this busy time, on the true meaning of Christmas. Whether at home or at Church, it provides an invitation to wait and pray in hopeful anticipation for the coming of Christ. We are called to welcome the light of Christ into our lives. (Resources: Catholic Education Center)

Let us pray,  
“Loving God, I don't have the right words. I'm not sure where to begin, but I know you are my hope and promise of peace. Be with me during this day. Help me open my heart completely to you. *“Come, Lord Jesus! Come!”*”

Antoinette

We are so impatient with God’s timing, often convinced we know better than God does. More than impatient, we are deeply attached to and invested in the seconds, moments and days that bring us happiness and frustration, with preferences for one and not the other.

Detachment is the spiritual work of remembering what Peter tells us, “that with the Lord, one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years is like one day.” God has promised us love and constant presence. He is with us in all things. When we feel the frustrations, the disappointments, the joys, the graces, and the losses of life, we can attach ourselves deeply to Jesus, and lovingly detach or release our death grip on everything else. When we practice letting go of all the ups and downs, the valleys get filled in and the hills made smooth. This way, while we wait, we can “be found by Him at peace.”

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Monday	Soul of <b>Leticia Villacorta</b>
Tuesday	Soul of <b>Daisy Suero</b> Soul of <b>Lawrence Van Duesen</b> <b>All Souls in Purgatory</b>
Wednesday	Soul of <b>Antonio Carvalho</b>
Thursday	Soul of <b>Trafford D’Sylva</b>
Friday	Soul of <b>Anna Kok Mee Chin</b>

**Please pray for the sick in our community, especially:**

Tony da Camara Jr., Jairus Papio, Nicholas Lepone, Marita Salvosa, Mary Holt, Angie Cappriccio, Austin Delaney, Edana Pelliccione, Angela Missaghian, Rosalina Bustamante, Claude & Rebecca Hau, Stuart Wright and baby Rebecca Grace Silva

**PRAYER REQUEST LINE**

905 881-2786 ext. 250

**Points to Consider Before Coming to Weekend Mass**

1. **Our washrooms are closed.**
2. Masks or face coverings are now mandatory.
3. Sanitizer is required when **entering** the Parish. You are welcome to use your own sanitizer but please apply it in front of our greeters.
4. An usher will escort you to the next available seat.
5. Please stay in your seat once seated except for communion.
6. **Please no singing during mass.**
7. Communion is still being distributed in the hand only.
8. There will be no collection during mass. Offerings may be left in the baskets in the narthex or you can donate on-line or drop off in the mailbox at the north doors.
9. No handshakes during the sign of peace.
10. No touching of statues.
11. Holy water fonts will be empty.
12. Bulletins are now available but are not permitted in the sanctuary. Please pick up a copy on your way out.
13. You are welcome to contact the Parish office on weekdays to purchase Missals, Mass Cards or if you require Holy Water refills.
14. Most areas of the parish building remain closed including the hall, our washrooms, the kitchen and the north entrance. Please do not enter any of these areas without permission.
15. When mass is over we ask that you leave the building immediately to permit sanitizing for the next mass.
16. Please follow the directions of our ushers and volunteers at all times. Thank you for your patience.
17. Due to limited spacing, please only attend mass once each weekend.
18. If you are not feeling well, please do not come to the parish.

**MASKS**

Masks or face coverings are mandatory **inside** all public places in York Region. Upon entering the parish building, please wear a mask or face covering and wear it correctly – **covering your mouth, nose and chin** for the duration of time you are in the parish.

**If for any reason you are unable to wear a mask or face covering, please do not enter the parish.**

**Advent Candles, Sunday Missals** and the **Little Blue Book** of Advent devotions are available for purchase. See Lois in the narthex.

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY**

The Prayer Shawl Ministry has beautiful knitted items for sale again this year. Please contact Helen at: 905-770-7823. All proceeds will go to the Georgina Community Food Pantry. Thank you for your support!

**Blessing of the Sick**

There will be a Blessing of the Sick at the Tuesday evening mass on **December 8<sup>th</sup>**.

**Advent Reconciliations**

Advent Reconciliations will take place following the Tuesday evening mass on **December 15<sup>th</sup>**.



**St. Vincent De Paul Christmas Baskets**

As we prepare to enter the Christmas 2020 season and the end of a very challenging year for so many, we are constantly reminded of the less fortunate and how we can make a difference in their lives. Specially marked envelopes are available in the narthex for donations to the St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Basket program. Your generous donations assist in providing gift cards to needy families in our community, enabling them to participate in this joyous season. **Donations will be accepted until Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you for your continued support.

\* Tax receipts will be issued by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
**St. Luke's Parish Council 4393**

The Knights of Columbus wish to announce that parishioners can now sign up to join the Knights of Columbus or renew their memberships on line at <https://www.kofc.org/en/who-we-are/about-membership/index.html>

You can also contact any Knights of Columbus member.

**2021 DONATION ENVELOPES**

The 2021 donation envelopes are available for pickup. Please let Lois know your envelope number on your way into mass & they will be available in the narthex on your way out. You can also contact the office to pickup during the week.


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