

St. Luke's Parish

39 Green Lane, Thornhill, Ontario L3T 6K5 Telephone: 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



*May the Blessings of this
Holy Season be with you Always.*

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord



SEEKING and FINDING GOD

At times we can feel stuck with others and God, regarding our relationships as static or regressing rather than growing and we are not sure why. During such moments we often plea for some sort of guidance and we feel a wave of relief when whatever it is, is resolved. The clarity that we receive is something being revealed to us – a type of epiphany.

It is common to hear the word “epiphany” thrown around – it can be used to describe anything from someone declaring that they have some great insight about their future to something as simple as discovering a quicker route home. As with anything, the word can lose its meaning when constantly used in such a variety of circumstances. In any instance, we use the word to acknowledge that we have received some sort of newfound clarity.

The journey of the Magi reflects the spiritual pilgrimage of many people. Under the guidance of a star, they set out from the far corners of the earth, travelled over mountains, desert and sea and discovered Jesus in the most unlikely of places. They blazed a trail for pilgrims to follow on their journey to God in Christ. For most of us, our pilgrimage towards God is as uncertain and as faltering as the journey of the wise men to Bethlehem. The light of Christ is in the world, but moving towards it is the work of a lifetime. We follow the light, which is sometimes bright but which can flicker and fade when our minds become clouded with doubt and darkness. The **Feast of the Epiphany** is about the breakthrough of eternity into our passing world and the light that draws us all to God.

In the case of The Epiphany, which the Church celebrates this weekend, the three Magi received a sign that they were to go and worship the newborn Jesus. In that moment, God revealed Himself to the Magi in a very real way and they were never the same. This event that transpired some 2000 years ago means one very important thing for us: God is continually revealing Himself to us.

The reality of Epiphany gives us the privilege of seeking God, just as the Magi sought (and found!) Him so many years ago. Although most of us will never receive a bright star in the sky, we all have a Saviour who not only came to us as a baby, but from the beginning of His life chose to reveal Himself to all who choose to seek Him.

Part of the beauty in the story of the Magi is that they were forever changed because they chose to not only follow the path that had been set out for them, but they were willing to let the presence of God change them, and these promptings we receive from God are always made clearer when brought to God in prayer.

Everyday epiphanies are meant to remind us that God is working in a real way not only in our lives, but also in our world. And just as the Magi travelled in a pack of three, we will find these everyday epiphanies with the companionship of others. God uses whatever He can to show us His will for our life, and this great feast of the Church is proof that the Christian life is often clearer when walked with other people.

The challenge for us is to go forward as the Magi did – not following a star, but choosing to seek and find God in every part of our lives. By actively searching out these everyday epiphanies, we will receive that clarity we so desire and let God’s Light illumine our paths.

John Humphries.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	Soul of Carmena, Savior & Michael Fenech Intentions of Sandra Lee
Tuesday	Soul of Duilio Mascherin
Wednesday	Soul of Maria Cortellucci
Thursday	Departed Soul
Friday	Departed Soul

Please pray for the sick in our community, especially:
Claude & Rebecca Hau, Stuart Wright, Benedict Pius,
and Lily Pinto

PRAYER REQUEST LINE
905 881-2786 ext. 250

MASS

Public masses have been temporarily cancelled due to the current lock-down, which is expected to last until at least Jan 23rd. You are encouraged to view the many online/livestream/televised masses. A full list is available at www.archtoronto.org and Cardinal Collins will continue to celebrate the livestreamed mass each day from St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica at 7:30am.

The parish will be open for private prayer Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 10:00 am until 12:00 noon beginning January 4th to a maximum of 8 people at any one time.

REVISED OFFICE HOURS DURING LOCK-DOWN PERIOD

The parish office will be open Monday, Wednesday & Friday beginning January 4, 2021. The office hours are 8:30am to 4:00 pm for the duration of the locked-down period. Closed from 12:00-1:00 for lunch. The office is located at the NW entrance next to the garage.

If an urgent situation arises, please leave a voice mail at 905-881-2786 x 221 or email st.lukesparish@rogers.com

The parish building will be locked at all times so please call before arriving to arrange masses, pickup envelopes, missals or holy water. Upon entering the parish lobby, 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.

Reconciliations

During the lock-down, please contact Fr. Mark at ext 222 or Fr. Wen at ext 227 to arrange an appointment for reconciliation.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Beautiful knitted items are still available through the Prayer Shawl Ministry. Please contact Helen at: 905-770-7823. Proceeds will go to the Georgina Community Food Pantry. Thank you for your support!

2021 DONATION ENVELOPES

The 2021 donation envelopes are available. Please contact Lois at ext. 221 to arrange for pickup.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

St. Luke's Parish Council 4393

Join the Knights of Columbus or renew memberships on line at <https://www.kofc.org/en/who-we-are/about-membership/index.html>



CONTACT INFORMATION

In view of the current lock down situation, it is anticipated we will be mailing out tax receipts for 2020. Please be sure we have your most

current mailing information on our files. If you have moved or even changed your email or telephone number in the past few years, please let us know at st.lukesparish@rogers.com Thank you.

York Catholic District School Board Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration begins **January 4, 2021** in all York Catholic schools. We look forward to welcoming your child into our schools, where we emphasize academic success using a curriculum that is infused with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. For more information visit our website at www.ycdsb.ca/admissions



To all of you, I would like to wish you a Happy New Year and many blessings in the year ahead. Let us look forward, trust in God and pray for God's blessings in 2021. On this Feast of the Epiphany, may Jesus fill us with grace and blessings. Happy New Year. God bless you all.
Fr. Mark


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