

St. Luke's Parish

39 Green Lane, Thornhill, Ontario L3T 6K5 Tel: 905-881-2786
 Website: <https://stlukesth.archtoronto.org> Email: stlukesth@archtoronto.org



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:
Lay Pastoral Associate: Antoinette Agostinelli - Ext 233
Youth Minister - Alan Lee Hoy - 226

Masses: Saturday - 5:00 P.M.
 Sunday - 8:45, 10:30 and 12:15 P.M.
 Mon., Wed., Thu., Fri. - 9:00 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"/>



It is true that we have all experienced our fair share of hurts in life and have wasted endless energy trying to settle old scores. One of the most difficult lessons to learn is forgiveness of those who have wronged us. The reluctance to forgive and the rush to judgement is the kind of thing that Jesus is trying to eliminate from our lives, and he sets the example for us through his own life as he extended the hand of love, kindness, and forgiveness until his death on the cross when he prayed, *“Father, forgive them”*.

He never sought revenge or retaliation against those who wanted to hurt him and in the end, it cost him his life. Forgiveness is a life-giving force that checks the downward spiral of hatred and revenge. The whole story of salvation is one of loving forgiveness.

Every time we recite The Lord’s Prayer, our request for forgiveness is conditional on ourselves showing forgiveness to those who have offended us. Not to forgive is to harbor resentment and to allow enemies to have control over us.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	Soul of Richard Farrell
Tuesday	Soul of Ivor Fernandes Soul of Baby Thervaratnam
Wednesday	Soul of Rev. Fr. Prince Bastiampillai Departed Soul
Thursday	Departed Soul
Friday	Soul of Fred Villacorta

Please pray for the sick in our community. May the healing power of God touch their hearts and ease their burdens especially: **Leo Ceolin, Maria DiRienzo, Donna Shen, Marie McCarron, Magdalene Ki, Rosaria Lee and Denis Soares**

PRAYER REQUEST LINE

905 881-2786 ext. 250

“Love Your Enemies!”
What Does It Mean? Can It Be Done?

While breaking open the Word and reflecting on the Gospel reading during our RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) session this week, the reaction of our group was one of disbelief. “Really, we must do this?” was the question on the group’s mind.

In Luke’s Gospel Jesus said, “Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.” (Luke 6:27-28) There it is, very clearly stated. To love your enemies is a powerful statement and not one that goes down easily. For me, it is one of the most challenging verses in the Bible. I ask myself, “What does loving my enemy mean? A better question may be, “What does my enemy look like? There are many types of enemies. Here I am referring to someone who may have hurt us in very serious, deep ways. Where our relationships have been tarnished by a negative experience. Have you ever gotten in a fight or misunderstanding with a friend? Have you been hurt by something a family member has done or said to you? Often there is a justifiable reason for hating and not liking someone. However, on the other side of those feelings and situations, there is another *person* who has become our enemy. This person offends us, does us harm, and makes life miserable for us. Still, they are the person God commands us to love, bless, do good to, and pray for.

Jesus is saying that if we choose not to hate and to love and pray for those who wrong us, then there is the potential for change. Change for the person who chooses to forgive and love and change for the offender who may change by being shown mercy and forgiveness. A healing process can start. Jesus is not saying that we should put up with mistreatment or allow ourselves to be abused but rather by not behaving the same way as our offender and by responding with love. Love does not take revenge. Love does not hurt the other who has caused us harm. Love always treats others, even enemies, with a humble heart. Love calls us to go above and beyond, even more than expected.

God shows his goodness and love to everyone even those who do not deserve it. Jesus knew what it meant to be hated but through loving those who wronged him, he used it to change lives. Jesus wants us to understand that true love comes from a deep trust in God. Jesus’ dying on the cross is the perfect example of this love. Jesus did not take revenge or get even, but gave His life as a payment for our sins.

“As I walked out the door toward the gate that would lead to my freedom, I knew if I didn’t leave my bitterness and hatred behind, I’d still be in prison.” – Nelson Mandela

Antoinette

HALLOW

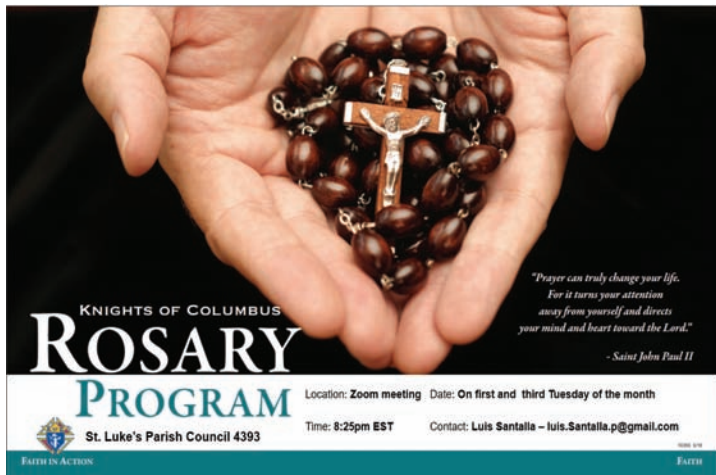
St. Luke's Parish has partnered with **Hallow** to provide every parishioner **FREE** access to all of **Hallow's** prayer content. **Hallow** is the #1 Catholic app and includes over 3,000 audio-guided sessions designed to help you grow closer to God. Their content includes things like Daily Gospel Readings, Daily Rosary, Daily Saint; Meditations on themes like Humility, Calm, and Gratitude; curated music ranging from Gregorian Chants to Instrumental to Contemporary; Mental Health content from Catholic experts; and much more!

All parishioners at St. Luke's Parish can download the app to get free access to **Hallow Plus** until Easter.

You can learn more and download the app from our website or if you are currently enjoying the MyParish app, Alan has **provided the link there or you can use Hallow.com/holydaypackage**

Hallow is truly designed to have something for everyone, but don't just take our word for it, try it for free!

PRAY THE ROSARY WITH THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS – St. Luke's Council 4393



The Knights of Columbus invite you to join with them in praying the Rosary on the first and third Wednesday of each month via Zoom at 8:25pm. Contact Luis Santalla at: luis.Santalla.p@gmail.com for more information.



Knights of Columbus - St. Luke's Council 4393

2022 Children's Easter Drawing Contest

It is time for the 2022 Children's Easter Drawing contest! Submission deadline is noon April 23, 2022. Pickup an entry form at the parish entrances.



As a parish community, we headed into the year 2021 full of optimism but again found ourselves facing un-foreseen challenges brought on by the COVID virus & its variants. In spite of provincial restrictions & closed doors, we had an amazingly successful ShareLife Campaign.

The St. Luke's Community raised:

\$147,983.00

Congratulations and thank you to everyone who supported our 2021 ShareLife Campaign!

COVID-19 Update

Lifting of Some Provincial Restrictions

Premier Doug Ford has announced that most of the provincial Covid-19 restrictions will be eliminated in two phases over the coming weeks. The first phase of easing restrictions will begin Thursday, February 17th and the second phase will begin Tuesday, March 1st.

Please note not all of the restrictions being lifted will immediately affect our parish.

Congregational singing is now permitted! Our screens & monitors will once again display the words to Hymns and Hymn books will be placed in the pews for your convenience.

WHAT HAS NOT CHANGED (YET)

Hand sanitizing **is still required** upon entering the building. You will be required to accept our hand sanitizer or apply your own to both hands or we will offer gloves. No exceptions.

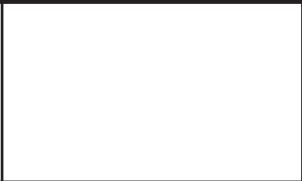
Masks are still required while you are inside the parish building and **they must fit snugly, fully covering the nose, mouth & chin.**


Social Distance – Please maintain social distancing (6 ft.) with anyone not in your household while in the parish.

If you are not feeling well for any reason, please do not enter the parish. We continue to livestream our 10:30 am Sunday mass & encourage you to watch from home until you are feeling better.

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