

# St. Luke's Parish

39 Green Lane, Thornhill, Ontario L3T 6K5 Tel: 905-881-2786  
 Website: <https://stlukesth.archtoronto.org> Email: [stlukesth@archtoronto.org](mailto: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.<br>Thornhill<br>905-889-7420 | 135 Green Lane<br>Thornhill<br>905-881-2300 | 8101 Leslie St.<br>Thornhill<br>905-889-4982 | 155 Red Maple Rd.<br>Richmond Hill L4B 4P9<br>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 woman in the **Lost Coin** parable, represents each of us searching for our lost humanity. The lost coin represents our heart and soul, which can only be discovered within our very own person by shining the light of Christ into our deepest depths. What is emphasized in the **Lost Sheep** is the intensity of joy in the heart of God at the return of a single soul that has been separated from him. Time spent searching is not wasted but very much worthwhile. Each of us is important and each of us counts. The Lord's wish is that every sinner should be saved, for in his home there is room for all. The final story about the **Prodigal Son** contains a compelling message of forgiveness that goes to the hearts of parents who know very well this heart-wrenching experience in their own lives. The problem of wayward children and heartbroken parents has not changed much down the centuries. The good life is enjoyable until things start to fall apart; then emptiness, disillusionment and frustration set in. God lets us make our mistakes and learn our lessons but his mercy, compassion and forgiveness is always on the horizon watching and awaiting our return.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | Soul of <b>Duane Soares</b>  |
| Tuesday   | Soul of <b>Tom Schmoll</b><br>Soul of <b>Sandra Cordeiro</b><br>Soul of <b>Romulo Tibor</b><br>Soul of <b>Louisa Pang</b><br>Soul of <b>Patsy Lobo</b> |
| Wednesday | Soul of <b>Gerald Speight</b>  |
| Thursday  | Souls of <b>Brian &amp; Mamie Yu</b>   |
| Friday    | Souls of <b>Anil Chopra &amp; Cleo Barter</b>  |

**PRAYER REQUEST LINE**

905 881-2786 ext. 250

Please pray for the sick in our community. May the healing power of God touch their hearts and ease their burdens especially: **María DiRienzo, Donna Shen, Marie McCarron, Mike McCloskey, Rosaria Lee, Magdalene Ki, Tita Mateo, Teresa Kim and Marie Ceolin**

**Mercy Rule**

*"The angles rejoice over every sinner who repents."*

It is tempting this week to really focus on the Gospel. After all, many of us are familiar with the story of the "Prodigal Son." For me, it was one of the first story's I was told when I came back to the Catholic faith. The second reading today, Saint Paul's letter to Timothy offers an insight that is worth a lot of reflection: "Christ came into the world to save sinners." Let that sink in. Jesus didn't come to give us some moral code or to tell some great stories. He wasn't just a philosopher or teacher or simply one of many good people in the world. He came to save us. That was the whole mission. If Jesus did nothing else, simply died for us, the mission was a success.

God loves us so much that Jesus chose to explain and offer images to help us understand His sacrifice more clearly. The story of the Prodigal Son (more accurately called the "Parable of Two Brothers") is one of those stories. We went astray, but God waits for us. God runs after us. God welcomes us back. This is the mission of Jesus Christ, to welcome us back.

It is beautiful when we apply it to our own story, but what about the story of others? What happens when someone we don't like is in church, or we hear about mercy being extended to our enemy? I can apply this story to people I like, acquaintances, or even strangers, but my enemy? I'm sure you're far more forgiving and merciful than I am. For me, the older brother of the parable is sometimes a more accurate reflection of how I respond to the mercy others receive. Jealousy can keep us from rejoicing with those welcomed home, and in seeing the gift we have in being in the presence of God.

The readings this weekend remind me of my sinfulness, that I need a saviour, not just "those other people" who don't believe in Christ, or those so called "catholics" who don't really practice their faith. What a beautiful grace from God to allow me to recognize my own sins, not so that I dwell in them, so that I may grow in virtue and fully receive His love and mercy.

**Challenge:** When was the last time you recognized sins in yourself as clearly as St. Paul recognized in the second reading? Better yet, when was the last time you went to Confession? Whether or not it was a year ago or a month ago, or in my case when I came back to the Catholic faith, more than 20 years ago, make a good Examination of Conscience and schedule a time to go to Confession this week. You won't regret it. God's mercy knows no bounds.

-Alan Lee Hoy



The CWL will be holding a **WHITE ELEPHANT SALE** on the weekend of Sept 24 & 25<sup>th</sup> in the parish hall. For more details, please see the information table or bulletin board.

### **CONFIRMATION & R.C.I.A.**

Registration is now open for Confirmation or R.C.I.A. candidates at: <https://stlukesth.archtoronto.org>

### **HOLYLAND RELIGIOUS ITEMS**



It has been 3 years since we have been permitted to invite vendors from the Holyland to offer a variety of religious items for sale. Join us in the parish hall this weekend to view a selection of rosaries, bracelets, carved figurines & many gift ideas.



**St. Like's Parish Hall  
Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> from 3:00pm – 10:00pm**

Priests and parishioners engaged in parish renewal want to connect with others who share their passion for evangelization. The problem is that finding a community of encouragement and support can be difficult, leaving many feeling as if they are alone on the journey of parish renewal.

We understand that connecting with others who are passionate about mission can easily fall to the backburner with the demands of parish work.

Divine Renovation has been bringing together mission-minded leaders all across the world for over 6 years, inspiring, connecting and equipping priests and active parishioners to engage in the work of parish renewal.

### **Here's what you need to do:**

1. Register for the CAN/Alpha connect Event at: <https://www.divinerenovation.org/events>
2. Invite your fellow priests or parishioners to attend.
3. Be connected with others who are passionate about the work of parish renewal!



### **ST. VINCENT DE PAUL THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE SEPT 24/25 & OCT 1/2 WEEKENDS**

Thanksgiving is approaching! As we reflect upon the many blessings God has given us, let us remember the less fortunate. This year we are collecting **actual food items**. Please bring your donations of non-perishable food (canned foods, cereals, pasta, rice, flour, baby food, coffee etc.) to the church. Your donations enable the Georgina Food Bank to assist the hungry in their community. Please make any financial donations in the form of a cheque made payable to: Georgina Community Food Pantry.  
**Thank you for your support of this important program.**

### **OUR LADY OF SORROWS**



The month of September is dedicated to our Lady of Sorrows, whose memorial the Church celebrates on September 15<sup>th</sup>. We will be praying the Chaplet of the Sorrows of Mary and the Litany of Our Lady of Sorrows before mass on Tuesday evening Sept 13<sup>th</sup> beginning at **6:20pm** and also after Thursday, Sept 15<sup>th</sup> morning mass. All are welcome.

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