

# 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**  
**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](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"/>

**Presentation of the Lord**

**This week** there is much to celebrate; it is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, Candlemas, the 40<sup>th</sup> day after the Lord's birth, the 4<sup>th</sup> Joyful Mystery of the rosary, and not to mention it's also Groundhog Day.

**The Message:** God has a plan for us, for me, and for you; He is always present, loving us in every moment in our lives, in my life and in your life. Even in moments of suffering and unexplainable times of despair, and yes, even in those moments in our lives when, from our perspective, we only see injustice, there exists love; for God is love and love is God.

**In Depth:** In the first reading from the prophet Malachi 3:1 he writes, "I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me"; which was written over 400 years before Jesus. Later, in Luke 2: 26-35, "It had been revealed" to Simeon, a pious elder, "by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah". Simeon took Jesus, "praised God" and "said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the raising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed...and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'" These prophases and scripture passages demonstrate God's perspective and that God has a plan; and still has a plan for us.

The second thing to note is the contradiction of this 4<sup>th</sup> Joyful Mystery of the Rosary, what St. John Paul II writes in *Redemptoris Mater*, is Mary's second Annunciation, that "a sword will pierce your own soul too". How is this message Joyful? This tells Mary "of the actual historical situation in which the Son is to accomplish his mission, namely in misunderstanding and sorrow. While this announcement on the one hand confirms her faith in the accomplishment of the divine promises of salvation, on the other hand it also reveals to her that she will have to live her obedience of faith in suffering, at the side of the suffering Saviour, and that her motherhood will be mysterious and sorrowful." Like so much of our Catholic faith, we are called by God to love our enemies; to love as He did, in what appears to be a contradiction; "that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested." (Heb 2:14-18)

So, whether we are in a time of joy or sorrow, remember that God has a plan for us and that he proved "his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us." (Rom 5: 8)

Alan Lee Hoy, *Youth Minister*



**The Beatitudes** are the great jewels of the gospel. Each of the Beatitudes deals with a different aspect of human life. Qualities like meekness, gentleness, and being merciful may at first sight seem to indicate weakness, but reflection will bear out that they demand strength of character and sturdy determination.

To make peace and offer reconciliation requires courage. Grieving for a loved one is a painful process, yet gradually as we live through our loss, our wound begins to heal. We realize that difficult experiences were grace-filled moments of brokenness when God touched us - increasing our compassion and understanding, making us able to appreciate the plight of other people.

The Beatitudes are a call to live the universal love, total forgiveness and abundant generosity of God.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Monday	Soul of <b>Mary Dunbar</b>
Tuesday	Soul of <b>Mei Lan Tan</b> <b>Soul of Jan Kian Tan</b> Soul of <b>Marika Schmoll</b> Soul of <b>Corazon Matias</b> Souls of the unborn, especially: <b>Hope &amp; Anthony Lee</b>
Wednesday	Soul of <b>Philip Ho Kim</b>
Thursday	<b>A Lost Soul</b>
Friday	Soul of <b>Romulo Tibor</b>

**PRAYER REQUEST LINE**

905 881-2786 ext. 250

***Please pray for the sick in our community.***

May all who are ill place their trust in Jesus, the Divine Healer, who brings comfort and peace to all who believe especially: **Maria DiRienzo, Donna Shen, Marie McCarron, Rosaria Lee, Magdalene Ki, Tita Mateo, Marie Ceolin, Justin & Teddy Givens, Nelia Publico Dela Vega, Don Bownes and Noli Reyes**

## COME & SEE WEEKEND

Join us this weekend before the masses in the parish hall. Our Parish Ministries are ready to invite and share with you all that we, as a community have to offer. This is simply an invitation to “Come & See” what God might be asking you. Start 2023 with a journey towards God and allow His graces to transform you into the Saint He created you to be.

### Some of the Programs attending:

ALPHA, Bible in a Year Series, Catechism in a Year Series, Edge, Life Teen, Prayer Intentions & Cards, New Youth Ministry Apparel & more.

Refreshments will be served.

## CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE

Sunday, February 12, 2023  
St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica  
65 Bond Street, Toronto  
**ALL ARE WELCOME**

As part of **Marriage Sunday 2023** celebrations, Bishop Vincent Nguyen will preside at a special Mass to honour married couples, especially those celebrating milestone-wedding anniversaries (25<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 60+) in 2023. All married couples will have an opportunity to renew their vows and milestone anniversary celebrants will be honoured with a special blessing. **Registration is now closed** for this Mass of Celebration but you are invited to join the celebration via livestream Mass here: <https://www.stmichaelscathedral.com/live/> The broadcast will begin at 2:15 pm. Register at: [www.archtoronto.org/marriage](http://www.archtoronto.org/marriage)



Join us Friday morning February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9:30 am for Adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Come spend an hour with Jesus.

Join us for 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Devotions February 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am as we celebrate Our Mother Mary.

## 2022 TAX RECEIPTS

Tax receipts for qualifying 2022 donations made directly to the parish are now in process and you should receive them in your mailbox on or before February 6<sup>th</sup>.

Only donations made **directly** at the parish are included in this tax receipt.

Separate tax receipts are issued for all On-line donations and donations made to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and the Georgina Community Food Bank.



Alpha is a series of interactive sessions spread across Eleven Thursday's plus One Saturday that examine life's big questions. Each gathering includes the basics of the Christian faith and small group conversation. There is no obligation, no pressure, and no cost. All are welcome.

Alpha is an opportunity to explore life and the Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment. Essentially, it is a safe place to explore life's biggest questions.

### How an Alpha Series looks like?

Short video presentation – A talk exploring various aspects of the Christian faith.

Small group conversation – The presentation is followed by conversation in small groups.

Time & Location – Weekly each Thursdays from Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> to May 11<sup>th</sup> @ 07:30 pm to 09:00 pm on **ZOOM**.

Everyone is welcome to share their thoughts and ask questions in a relaxed and non-judgmental atmosphere.

### How to Register?


Just follow the link to register -

<https://linktr.ee/stlukesalpha> or join us in the Parish hall this weekend.

If you have questions about Alpha and would like find out more, contact us at [stlukesalphaseries@gmail.com](mailto:stlukesalphaseries@gmail.com)

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