

# 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**  
**Lay Pastoral Associate - Alan Lee Hoy - Ext 226**  
**Youth Minister - Krishna Santhakumar Ext 226**

**PRAYER REQUEST LINE - 905-881-2786 Ext 250**

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 - after mass

First Friday Devotions - after morning mass First Saturday Mass & Devotions – 8:30 A.M.

Confessions: Saturday 4:00-4:45 P.M. and Tuesday after Devotions

Office hours: Monday to Friday 8:30 A.M. – 4:00 P.M. 905-881-2786 Ext 221

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 Two Commandments



The Gospel reading for today is a short one, however it's importance simply cannot be overstated. Like most, if not all, other passages from Scripture, the insights and truths to unpack here can take a lifetime. Let us, however, aim at the much simpler task of gaining an insight, or two. The general point is that there are only two great commandments: (1) to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul and mind, and (2) to love our neighbour as ourself (Mt 22: 34-40). However, our Lord then goes on to say "On these two commandments depend all the law and prophets." Why does our Lord tell us that all the *law* and *prophets* are *dependent* on (1) and (2)? Notice, by using the term 'law', our Lord does not only denote the Ten Commandments of the Old Testament, but also the laws as written in the Torah (i.e. Rabbinic Judaism's written and oral law). The scope of such laws and prophets is extensive and overwhelmingly abundant. Laws, traditions and rituals were developed and preserved for millennia in ancient Jewish tradition, and the prophets (as well as their prophecies) were seen as the prerequisites for the coming of the Messiah. For Jesus to take thousands of years of dogmatic and doctrinal development and reduce them to two simple sentences was probably seen as an insult against ancient Jewish practice. So, what is happening here? Jesus, in His divinity, understood something that the Pharisees, to whom this response is given in the Gospel, did not: the law and prophets are *means* to an *end*. They are practices through which we honour, serve, and love both God and our neighbour, in that order. One must be careful not to think, however, that this entails that the law and prophets have no importance or relevance to the faith. On the contrary! Jesus, in the same Gospel, also makes the following claim: "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill...whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven...unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." (Mt 5: 17-20 NRSVCE) This last sermon is given to the disciples. Note, however, that our Lord seemingly deemphasizes the importance of following the law and prophets when speaking to the Pharisees, and supposedly overemphasizes it when speaking to his disciples. It is both true that all the law and prophets can be summarized into (1) and (2) stated above, however, that only clarifies the *purpose* of the law and prophets. It does not warrant the dismissal of them. Thus, even today, the laws and traditions given to us by our Church are not mere preferences through which we can choose to exercise our faith, but are *essential* to our growth in holiness. My last and more practical thought: I find that not many of us think about whether we are being as liturgically reverent as possible when celebrating, or partaking in, the Sacraments. Perhaps it is time that we emphasize the liturgy, since the liturgy today is the means by which we worship God as administered by the Church. In other words, it is the post-Judean "law" on worship, and we must preserve the liturgy's integrity without compromise.

Our Lord did not include the love of neighbour as an afterthought. God cares how we treat others and is anxious that we should short-change no one especially the weak, the powerless and the helpless, and often he looks for our love in the guise of the lowliest, from the nicest to the nastiest. How can we call ourselves Christians if we are continually out of sorts with our neighbours and refuse to have anything to do with them? Because our love for one another must mirror Jesus' love for us, we cannot claim to love God while ignoring the needs of those around us. If we make the love of God the guiding principle of our lives, our hearts will not harbour bitterness or prejudice against those who differ from us by race, religion, nationality or colour. When the whistle is blown and our last breath is drawn, we will be judged on how well we have loved. In particular, on how much we loved our children, the old, the poor, the marginalized and those looked upon as of no consequence. It is only when Christ's teaching of love is lived naturally that it takes hold and catches fire in society. If as Christians we were to take God seriously and give him everything, our impact on society would be immeasurable.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	Soul of <b>Joy Kandathal Thomas</b>
Tuesday	Intentions of <b>Jessie Schmoll</b> Soul of <b>Stephen Schmoll</b> Soul of <b>Vincenza Modica Amore</b> Soul of <b>Fr. Mark Beard</b> Soul of <b>Gregory D'Souza</b>
Wednesday	Soul of <b>Alice Van Patten</b>
Thursday	Mass of Thanksgiving – <b>Rose Barter</b>
Friday	Soul of <b>Romulo Tibor</b>

*Please pray for the sick in our community.*  
May the healing power of God touch their hearts and ease their burdens, especially **Tom Sheehan** and **Raffael Hang Cheong Lee**

Krishna Shanthakumar



### Come & See Weekend

After Mass in the Parish Hall on Oct 28 and 29.

Explore all that our parish has to offer!

To learn more about the various Ministries & Programs go to our website at [stlukesth.archtoronto.org](http://stlukesth.archtoronto.org).

Questions? [ahoy@archtoronto.org](mailto:ahoy@archtoronto.org).



### **WHEELCHAIR SUNDAY** **Nov 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>**

The Knights of Columbus has sponsored, via the Canadian Wheelchair Foundation, the delivery of thousands of wheelchairs around the globe. The program delivers mobility to those who have no means to

acquire a wheelchair. Through this mobility comes freedom, dignity and hope. Please see a member of the Knights of Columbus – St Luke’s Council 4393 in the narthex to arrange a tax-deductible donation. Thank you.



This year we will be celebrating the Feast of All Souls on **Thursday evening November 2nd at 7:00 p.m.** It is a time to remember and make present our deceased family members and once more entrust them into the loving care of God.

The names of those **who have died since last November** will be mentioned in a special way during the service and all names placed in the memorial basket at the altar will be prayed for at each mass during the month of November.

If a family member or friend has passed **within the past year**, and you would like them remembered, please call the parish office at ext. 221 or e-mail their name to [stlukesth@archtoronto.org](mailto:stlukesth@archtoronto.org) by Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>.

\*\*\* There is no change to our Thursday morning mass which will proceed as scheduled at 9:00 am.



### ADVENT TAPERS

This year we will have advent tapers for sale in the narthex, beginning the weekend of November 5<sup>th</sup> before & after all masses. The set of 4 tapers will cost **\$10.00**.



### Good Shepherd Casserole Program

We are excited to announce the Good Shepherd Casserole Program will be starting up again in January 2024.

Watch for more information during the month of November.

## **SL ShareLife**

*Helping the whole community through Catholic agencies*

**Our 2023 parish goal - \$149,000.00**

**Raised to date - \$115,573.80**

**Live the Gospel by supporting ShareLife**

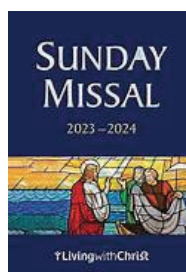


The Catholic Women’s League & Knights of Columbus invite you to their **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR** on **Saturday, November 11th from 4pm until 6:30pm** and **Sunday, November 12 from 8am until 2pm** in the parish hall. Just in time for Christmas, **visiting vendors** will be selling a wide variety of items. Enjoy complimentary coffee/tea while you shop & then visit the hotdog & soup counter for a quick bite to eat. Don’t forget to purchase raffle tickets for a selection of beautiful baskets!



Join us Friday morning November 3rd 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 mass & devotions November 4th at 8:30 am as we celebrate Our Mother Mary.



### SUNDAY MISSAL

The 2023-2024 Sunday Missal will be available in the narthex beginning the weekend of November 5<sup>th</sup> before & after each mass for **\$8.00**. You can also contact the office during the week to purchase a copy.



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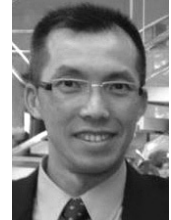
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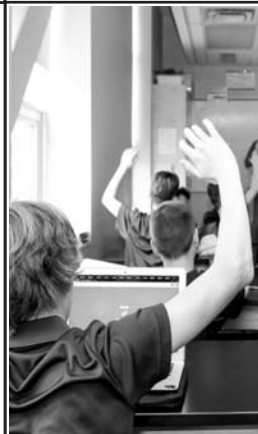
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