

# 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**  
**In Residence: Fr. Sherwin Holandez**  
**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 ☐

Envelopes ☐

Change of Address ☐

Moving out of Parish ☐



## A Voice Crying Out in the Wilderness

I recently came across a quote that really struck me. It read: "Confidence isn't thinking you are better than everyone else, it's realizing that you have no reason to compare yourself to anyone else."

Based on this quote a character from the bible who could be said to have a lot of confidence is John the Baptist. Being the only male son of a Levite priest in the line of Aaron John could have easily followed the path that was laid out for him, living a life of prestige and honour within the Jewish community but instead John left it all behind for a life of asceticism and prayer living in anonymity.

From a worldly perspective John would have been considered a failure leaving the family tradition behind but from God's perspective John is described as the greatest born of woman--not because of his personal accomplishments or talents but because he fully accepted his part in God's plan as the prophet who would herald the arrival of the Messiah.

The same is true of Jesus. Jesus is not considered great because of all his accomplishments and worldly success but because he accepted his role in God's plan, laying his life down in obedience to God.

Many of us are tempted and feel the pressure to have success and leave our mark on the world independent of our faith but this was never God's hope. It is only when we discover our role in God's great Masterpiece that we are truly happy and are filled with joy as Mary was after the Annunciation going with great haste to share the good news with her cousin Elizabeth.

This Advent let us repent and ask God for the grace to reorient ourselves within His plan with prayer and the celebration of the sacraments as our foundation. We have no reason to compare ourselves to anyone else as we are each a page in the Book of Life, a page written with great love and care by our Divine Author.

John Humphries.



**The Knitting Club** would like to thank you for your support this year, especially those who donated wool & knitted items. Good Shepherd, Covenant House, YellowBrick House & the Georgina Food Pantry will share \$1116.00

**We wish you a very Merry Christmas!**

John the Baptist stands out as a beacon pointing others to God's Son. There was only one light and he was witness to that light. By virtue of our baptism, we, in our day, are also witnesses to Christ. On this Advent morning, John challenges us to change our ways and make room for the light of Christ in our lives. In small but important ways, we can bring the light of Christ into the lives of those around us by simple acts of kindness. People can come more easily to believe in God if they experience goodness from those who profess to have faith. Christmas has always been a season for generosity, for sharing and showing good will to those less fortunate than ourselves. It is a time of year when we try to make the festive season happen for those experiencing hardships by supporting charitable causes, welcoming people into our homes and visiting the lonely and housebound.

### MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	Soul of <b>Brian Lynch</b>
Tuesday	Soul of <b>Virginia Gorizzan</b> Soul of <b>Joseph Kmet</b> Soul of <b>Stephen Schmoll</b> Soul of <b>Meyrick D'Sylva</b> Soul of <b>David Vincent Curtis</b>
Wednesday	Soul of <b>George Pinto</b>
Thursday	Soul of <b>Rosalba Ramierz</b>
Friday	Soul of <b>Rosalind &amp; David Plummer</b>

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

May the healing power of God touch their hearts and ease their burdens, especially **Raffael Hang Cheong Lee, Khader Khawager, Derek Hamilton, Maria DiRienza, and Nolito Reyes**

# **SL ShareLife**

*Helping the whole community  
through Catholic agencies*

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

***Raised to date - \$125,397.80***

***Live the Gospel by supporting ShareLife***



**Christmas Eve – Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>**

8:45 am & 10:30 am

**\*\* Note – No 12:15 pm Mass**

4:00 pm

*(including children's choir & pageant)*

8:00 pm & 12:00 midnight

The 8:00 pm mass will be livestreamed.

**\*\* Our choirs will welcome parishioners  
1/2 hour before each mass on Christmas Eve**

**Christmas Day – Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup>**

10:30 am & 12:15 pm

The 10:30 am mass will be livestreamed.

**Boxing Day – Tuesday, December 26<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 am

**New Year's Eve – Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup>**

8:45am, 10:30 am, 12:15 pm & 5:00 pm

**New Year's Day – Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup>**

10:30 am & 12:15 pm

The 10:30 am mass will be livestreamed.



**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL  
CHRISTMAS BASKETS**

Thank you to everyone who donated towards the 2023 St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Baskets. Your generosity is once again, very much appreciated. Merry Christmas to all!



**NEW YEAR'S EVE POT LUCK PARTY**

Help us ring in New Year 2023 with a variety of delicious food, music, dancing & good company!

**Where:** Our parish hall

**Bring:** Family & friends  
Your favourite dish to feed a few people  
Your favourite dance song requests

**Dress:** As you wish

**Time:** 7:00 pm

**Cost:** \$10.00 per person for decorations  
There will also be a cash bar

**Sign Up:** Sign up at the table in the narthex

**Contact:** Greg Benoit  
Email: greg.benoit@rogers.com  
Phone or text Greg at: 647-296-6851

Or simply scan this bar code and fill in your information on the Google spreadsheet



**DONATE AND SAVE!**

A quick reminder that the tax-deductible deadline for 2023 is almost here. Donations **must be received** at the parish by December 31<sup>st</sup> for donations to be included in your 2023 tax receipt.





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