

# *St. Luke's Parish*

*39 Green Lane, Thornhill, Ontario L3T 6K5 Telephone: 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. 232**

**In Residence: Fr. Sherwin Holandez - Ext. 231**

**Secretary: Lois Henderson - Ext. 221**

**Pastoral Associate: John Humphries - Ext 226**

**Lay Pastoral Associate - Alan Lee Hoy - Ext 233**

**Youth Minister - Krishna Shanthakumar - Ext. 233**

**Knights of Columbus - St. Luke's Council 4393 - Ext. 235**



## *Feast of the Holy Family*

## FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY



For many of us the image of the Holy Family is a trouble free one where nothing ever went wrong, where peace and harmony prevailed. The truth is otherwise, because like every family before or since, Joseph & Mary had their own share of difficulties.

Families are not perfect, but it is in that setting we experience the greatest delights and bitterest disappointments with people whom we know and trust. Nowhere else is our character more deeply fashioned, our basic belief systems more strongly developed and our fundamental feelings about religion, life and the world more deeply imprinted. The family is the first school of social living. In the family, we are taught how to give and take, to argue and make up, how to work out frustrations, resolve tensions and what it means to loose graciously. In a family setting we grow, develop and find the encouragement and support to achieve our dreams. It is love that makes the family a real community of persons, each giving and taking according to ability and each regarded by the other as a gift from God to be accepted and cherished.

### MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	<b>New Year's Day</b>
Tuesday	Intentions of <b>Sandra Lee</b> Soul of <b>Anna Thomas Kadankavil</b> Soul of <b>Loretta McCann</b> Soul of <b>Mark Rodrigues</b> Soul of <b>Monsignor John Weber</b> Soul of <b>Elizabeth Cheung</b>
Wednesday	Soul of <b>Kevin De Grace</b>
Thursday	Mass of Thanksgiving – <b>Lino &amp; Medy Reyes</b>
Friday	Mass of Thanksgiving – <b>Lino &amp; Medy Reyes</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**

### THE HOLY FAMILY

On this, the Sunday within the Octave of Christmas, we honor the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. In honoring them, we also honor all families, big or small. In addition, we honor the family of God, the Church as we focus in on the hidden, day-to-day life of the Holy Family of Nazareth.

What was it like to live day in and day out in the household of St. Joseph? What was it like to have Jesus for a son, Mary as a wife and mother, and Joseph as a father and husband? The family home of Jesus, Mary and Joseph would have been, in numerous ways, just like any other home. They would have related together, talked, had fun, disagreed, worked, eaten, dealt with problems, and encountered everything else that makes up daily family life.

Of course, the virtues of Jesus and Mary were perfect, and St. Joseph was a truly “just man.” Therefore, the overriding characteristic of their home would have been love. However, with that said their family would not have been exempt from daily toil, hurt and challenges that face most families. For example, they would have encountered the death of loved ones, St. Joseph most likely passed away prior to Jesus’ public ministry. They would have encountered misunderstanding and gossip from others. Our Blessed Mother, for example, was fond with child out of wedlock. This would have been a topic of discussion among many acquaintances for sure. They would have had to fulfill all daily chores, earn a living, put food on the table, and attend gatherings of family and friends. They would have lived normal family life in every way, as we do today.

This is significant because it reveals God’s love for family life. The Father allowed His Divine Son to live this life and, as a result, elevated family life to a place within the Trinity. The holiness of the Holy Family reveals to us that every family is invited to share in God’s divine life and to encounter ordinary daily life with grace and virtue.

Reflect, today, upon your own family life. Some families are strong in virtue, some struggle with basic communication. Some are faithful day in and day out; some are broken and deeply wounded. No matter the case, know that God wants to enter more deeply into your family life just as it is right now. He desires to give you strength and virtue to live as the Holy Family. Surrender yourself and your family, this day, and invite the Triune God to make your family a holy family.

*Lord, I do offer myself to you this day and in doing so I offer you my family. I offer every relationship, be it good or difficult, and I offer every challenge we face. Please come and sanctify my family, making it Holy in imitation of your family in Nazareth. Jesus, I trust in you.*



**Mass Times**

**Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup>**  
8:45am, 10:30 am & 12:15 pm

**New Year's Eve**  
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.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR 2024 EVERYONE!**

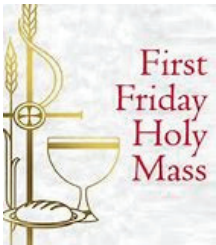
**SL ShareLife**

*Helping the whole community  
through Catholic agencies*

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

***Raised to date - \$126,007.80***

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



**FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS**

Next Friday, **January 5<sup>th</sup>** is the first Friday of the month so there will be a one hour Adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament beginning at 9:30am. All are invited to come and spend one hour with Jesus.

**FIRST SATURDAY – January 6, 2024**

Please join us Saturday, January 6<sup>th</sup> for First Saturday mass & devotions beginning at 8:30 am.

**DONATE AND SAVE!**

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



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

Help us ring in New Year 2024 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



With thanks & appreciation for the thoughtful gifts and warm Christmas & New Year wishes we have received at the parish. God Bless you all as we begin 2024!  
Fr.'s Mark, Wen, Sherwin & John & the parish staff.



**Baygreen Pharmacy**  
*The Family Pharmacy*  
 Voted Best Pharmacy 2004  
 Thornhill & Richmond Hill  
 FREE PRESCRIPTION DELIVERY  
 8 Green Lane 905-889-9461



**Shopping  
Locally  
Saves Gas**

**Jo Carroll**  
 Sales Representative  
 Parishioner



*People come first & it shows!*

Cell 416-805-4479  
 carroll\_jo@hotmail.com

Your Community  
 Realty, Brokerage

**ROYAL LEPAGE**



Experience Inspired  
 Senior Living

Book Your Tour Today!  
 (905) 738-0905



1500 Steeles Ave. W.,  
 Thornhill, ON L4J 4H6  
 FourElmsRetirement.com

INSPIRED SENIOR LIVING WITH



**Dr. Ricky Leung**  
**Dentistry**

*Trust us with your smile*

2900 Steeles Ave. E. Suite 201  
 (2nd Floor Shops on  
 Steeles/Hwy 404)  
 905-881-3434

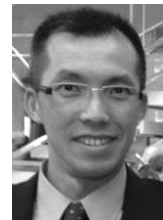
**DYNAMIC  
RECOVERY**



REHABILITATION CENTRE

**905-764-3818**

*Physiotherapy • Acupuncture  
 Orthotics • Massage*



**Luke Tsang**

#204 - 8220 Bayview Ave  
 www.dynamicrecovery.ca



**CATHOLIC CEMETERIES**  
 FUNERAL SERVICES

In keeping with your Catholic faith  
 www.catholic-cemeteries.com

Holy Cross Cemetery & Funeral Home  
 905-889-7467

**Remember...**

Let our advertisers  
 know you saw  
 their ad here.



**M R Auto Service**

**Ringo Wong**

Owner/Parishioner



English, Cantonese & Mandarin spoken

60 Green Lane

Cell 416-616-6888



**FOOD MARKET**

*Tuesday is Senior's Day!*

**Enjoy 10% off any regular priced item!**

Located in the Bayview Glen Plaza  
 just North of the 407

#17 8750 Bayview Ave. Richmond Hill

**905-597-1099**

www.mmfoodmarket.com

*Please check out our full weekly flyer on  
 our website and on Flip.*



Highland Funeral Home  
 Markham Chapel  
 by Arbor Memorial

Arbor Memorial Inc.

**Because family matters!**

**905-887-8600** • highlandfuneralhome.ca/markham



**PAUL  
ZAMMIT**

REAL ESTATE LTD., BROKERAGE

905-881-2181

WWW.ZAMMIT.COM



**KNIGHTS  
OF COLUMBUS**

Become an Online Member kofc.org/joinus

Roque Pinto 416-662-6573

stlukekoc4393@gmail.com

**MORRISON AND PAYNE**

Barristers and Solicitors

**John D. Morrison**

Parishioner

Corporate/Commercial

Commercial Litigation

Commercial & Residential Real Estate  
 Wills and Estate Planning & Administration

505 Consumers Rd, Suite 1005

416-224-9968

www.morrisonandpayne.com

**THE PERFECT**



**SPOT  
TO  
ADVERTISE**

TO ADVERTISE IN THIS SPACE

PLEASE CALL

**1-800-268-2637**



**ST. MICHAEL'S  
COLLEGE SCHOOL**  
 Under the direction of the Basilian Fathers

Grades 7 to 12  
 University preparatory

**APPLYSMCS.COM**



**Desjardins**

Insurance

Dan Vacca

Agent

Save up to 30% on insurance

905-707-1600



www.danvacca.ca