35.3

St. Luke's Parish

39 Green Lane, Thornhill, Ontario L3T 6K5 Telephone: 905-881-2786

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



Epiphany of the Lord



The journey of the Magi reflects the spiritual pilgrimage of many people. Under the guidance of a star, they set out from the far corners of the earth, travelled over mountains, desert and sea and discovered Jesus in the most unlikely of places. They blazed a trail for pilgrims to follow on their journey to God in Christ. For most of us, our pilgrimage towards God is as uncertain and as faltering as the journey of the wise men to Bethlehem. The light of Christ is in the world, but moving towards it is the work of a lifetime. We follow the light, which is sometimes bright but which can flicker and fade when our minds become clouded with doubt and darkness. The **Feast of the Epiphany** is about the breakthrough of eternity into our passing world and the light that draws us all to God.

MASS INTENTIONS	
Monday	Soul of Joseph Yeh
Tuesday	Soul of Loretta McCann
	Soul of Anthony D'Souza
	Soul of Baby Luka Giliberto
	Soul of Lucio Cappelletti
	Soul of Jeffrey Smith
Wednesday	Intentions of Anna Sofia Chen
Thursday	Intentions of Lucia Won
Friday	Soul of Lutz Weichmann

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

SEEKING and FINDING GOD

At times we can feel stuck with others and God, regarding our relationships as static or regressing rather than growing and we are not sure why. During such moments we often plea for some sort of guidance and we feel a wave of relief when whatever it is, is resolved. The clarity that we receive is something being revealed to us – a type of epiphany.

It is common to hear the word "epiphany" thrown around – it can be used to describe anything from someone declaring that they have some great insight about their future to something as simple as discovering a quicker route home. As with anything, the word can lose its meaning when constantly used in such a variety of circumstances. In any instance, we use the word to acknowledge that we have received some sort of newfound clarity.

In the case of The Epiphany, which the Church celebrates this weekend, the three Magi received a sign that they were to go and worship the newborn Jesus. In that moment, God revealed Himself to the Magi in a very real way and they were never the same. This event that transpired some 2000 years ago means one very important thing for us: God is continually revealing Himself to us.

The reality of Epiphany gives us the privilege of seeking God, just as the Magi sought (and found!) Him so many years ago. Although most of us will never receive a bright star in the sky, we all have a Saviour who not only came to us as a baby, but from the beginning of His life chose to reveal Himself to all who choose to seek Him.

Part of the beauty in the story of the Magi is that they were forever changed because they chose to not only follow the path that had been set out for them, but they were willing to let the presence of God change them, and these promptings we receive from God are always made clearer when brought to God in prayer.

Everyday epiphanies are meant to remind us that God is working in a real way not only in our lives, but also in our world. And just as the Magi travelled in a pack of three, we will find these everyday epiphanies with the companionship of others. God uses whatever He can to show us His will for our life, and this great feast of the Church is proof that the Christian life is often clearer when walked with other people.

The challenge for us is to go forward as the Magi did – not following a star, but choosing to seek and find God in every part of our lives. By actively searching out these everyday epiphanies, we will receive that clarity we so desire and let God's Light illumine our paths.

John Humphries.

SL ShareLife

Helping the whole community through Catholic agencies

Our 2023 parish goal - \$149,000.00 Raised to date - \$129,517.80

Live the Gospel by supporting ShareLife

Indigenous Reconciliation Fund Update

On December 12, 2023 the Archdiocese of Toronto announced the first phase of funding as part of our \$6 million commitment to the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund (IRF). Through the tremendous generosity of parishioners throughout the archdiocese, including our own parish, more than \$2.7 million has been directed through the IRF to organizations and projects committed to promoting healing and reconciliation for communities and families.

Recipients include **Aboriginal Legal Services** located in Toronto, Ontario, that will receive \$538,000 to help fund their Indigenous family dispute resolution program called *Giiwedin Anang*.

Thank you for your continued prayers and ongoing support as we journey together on the path of healing and reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples of this land. To learn more, visit www.archtoronto.org/healingandreconciliation



CONTACT INFORMATION

Once again, tax receipts will be mailed out and you can expect delivery early in February. Please be sure we have your most current mailing

information on our files. If you have moved or even changed your email or telephone number in the past few years, please let us know at stlukesth@archtoronto.org Thank you.

York Catholic District School Board Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration begins **January 8, 2024** in all York Catholic schools. We look forward to welcoming your child into our schools, where we emphasize academic success using a curriculum that is infused with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. For more information visit the YCDSB website at www.ycdsb.ca/adminissions



To all of you, I would like to wish you a Happy New Year and many blessings in the year ahead. Let us look forward, trust in God and pray for God's blessings in 2024. On this Feast of the Epiphany, may Jesus fill us with grace and blessings.

Happy New Year. God bless you all. Fr. Mark

2021 DONATION ENVELOPES

Please arrange to pickup your 2024 assigned donation envelopes. They will soon be removed from the narthex. Please contact the office at ext. 221 to arrange for pickup. Thank you.

SENIOR DRIVERS & THE LICENCE RENEWAL PROCESS Thursday, January 18, 2024 2:00 pm

Our neighbors at Glynwood Retirement Living will be hosting a presentation for senior drivers & the licence renewal process. Melissa Brabant from the Ministry of Transportation will share information on trends & statistics for older drivers, along with driving tips and some more recent rules of the road.

To register please call 905-881-9475 or email: gina.cook@cogirseniorliving.ca



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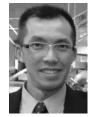


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