

# 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. 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**

**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 mass & 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.

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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 ☐



Today's readings have a lot to say about the **Call of the Lord** and the meaning of discipleship. The question, "What are you looking for?" was asked not just of Andrew and Simon Peter, but is asked of each one of us today. It is couched in many forms: What is the purpose and centre of your life? Are you happy? Do you know where you are going? Whose voice and values are you following? How genuine is your discipleship? We will only find answers to these questions if we heed the advice of the old priest Eli, to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak Lord, your servant is listening.'"

#### MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	Soul of <b>Bernard Hannan</b>
Tuesday	Soul of <b>Anthony D'Souza</b> Soul of <b>Francis &amp; Delfina D'Souza</b> Soul of <b>Sylvster &amp; Adelina Rebello</b> Soul of <b>Doris Kanhert</b> Soul of <b>Joseph Yeh</b>
Wednesday	Intentions of <b>Susan Hannan</b>
Thursday	Intentions of <b>Ray Bursey</b>
Friday	Mass of Thanksgiving – <b>Mary &amp; Leonard Sandrasagra</b> – 50 <sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary

#### ***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, Nolito Reyes and Ed Tan**

#### **Prepare to Be Dazzled**

Bart Simpson has a catchphrase he frequently uses on the TV show: 'Prepare to be dazzled.' It's a phrase we could use as we move from the feast of the Epiphany last week to the start of Jesus public ministry this week.

It is an exciting time with a new liturgical year joining Andrew and a fellow disciple as they encounter the most amazing person who ever lived for the first time. We can only imagine how they felt in Jesus' presence. They were prepared for this moment by John the Baptist who points to Jesus saying: "Look, here is the Lamb of God."

The two disciples trust John's acknowledgement and decide to follow Jesus. When Jesus turns and sees them following he says to them: 'What are you looking for?' They reply: 'Rabbi where are you staying?' Jesus says: 'Come and see.' So they came and saw.

Jesus presents the same question to each of us: "What are you looking for?" Do we respond with the familiar lyrics of a U2 song: "I still haven't found what I am looking for" or do we respond with Mary Magdalene: "I have seen the Lord." The key for the first 2 disciples and for us is taking the time to see or abide with Jesus. Experience is of little value until it is reflected upon. Until we take the time to fully see Jesus active in our lives our faith has little chance of growing for the old adage holds true, seeing is believing.

Once we develop a prayer life, it is truly dazzling for we see more and more how God is with us in every encounter and interaction. It is one of my greatest joys witnessing God's response to my petitions and prayers. As Paul aptly summarizes: "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."

The more we witness God's masterpiece unveiling in our lives the more trusting we will become and consequently the stronger our faith. Our prayer life will become less intercessory and more contemplative, uniting our will with God's and as St. Andre Bassett suggests: "Instead of trying to avoid hardships, we can ask God for the grace to bear them well."

It's not that we should stop sharing our hopes, fears and intentions with God as these are all essential parts of an intimate relationship and voicing our petitions with God is self revelatory in and of itself, but in voicing our concerns we hold an appreciation that God's ways aren't our ways and God's thoughts aren't our thoughts. So let's humbly approach the altar this weekend with eyes opened wide and prepare to be dazzled.

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: **Embrace Life Council** located in Iqaluit, Nunavut who will receive \$250,000 over five years. The funds will be used for grief care packages to assist those mourning the loss of a loved one by suicide; **Native Peoples' Mission** located in Toronto, Ontario will receive \$150,000 over five years to expand programs and outreach of the mission and **Indigenous Spirit Fund**, a branch of Native Child and Family services of Toronto will receive \$400,000 over four years to enrich their *On the Land* culture camp program curriculum. This is in addition to \$100,000 from Catholic charities earlier this year via its ShareLife allocation.

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](http://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 [stlukes@archtoronto.org](mailto:stlukes@archtoronto.org). Thank you.

### **York Catholic District School Board Kindergarten Registration**

Kindergarten registration began **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/admissions](http://www.ycdsb.ca/admissions)



### **Tuna Casserole Program**

A gentle reminder to all the kind and generous parishioners who volunteered to donate a tuna casserole or a lasagna for the homeless at the Good Shepherd Centre, **Sunday, January 28th** is the deadline for your donation. Please place your casserole or lasagna in the parish kitchen freezer by then. **The hungry need our help. Thank you.**

### **2024 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 recent changes to rules of the road.

To register please call 905-881-9475 or email:

[gina.cook@cogirseniorliving.ca](mailto:gina.cook@cogirseniorliving.ca)

### **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS- ST. LUKE'S COUNCIL 4393**

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a **"Social Dance"** on Saturday, January 27 in the parish hall beginning at 7:30 pm. For a \$15.00 admission donation, enjoy an assortment of ballroom and Latin dance music as well as line dancing. Reservations are encouraged, as admission is limited. Light refreshments will be served.

Contact Luis Santalla at [gk4393@ontariokofc.ca](mailto:gk4393@ontariokofc.ca) for more information.



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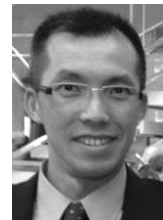
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