

St. Luke's Parish

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

Website: stlukesth.archtoronto.org

Email: 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

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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

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 ☐



The Transfiguration is not just a tale of long ago but also an event of significance. Jesus knew that the apostles would not be able to cope with his death and disgrace on Good Friday. What they had seen and heard on the mountain was a spiritual boost to arm them against the horror of his passion and help them walk towards Jerusalem in his company. His Transfiguration was something that would strengthen their faith for those dark days on the rocky road to Calvary. On our own pilgrim journey, we come to realize that magic moments of great light, or peak experiences are rare. However, we can all recall treasured happenings that had a transforming influence on our lives – little things that tipped the balance, turned sadness into joy, made us feel valued, restored our faith in humanity or gave us the strength to persevere and stay on the right road. It may have been nothing more than a smile, a word of praise for our work, or the words “I love you”, but at the time, it made the difference and everything fell into place. When our lives are in the valley of darkness, precious memories of golden moments can be the tonic that sees us through our time of suffering.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	Soul of Isabel Shaw
Tuesday	Intentions of Jessie Schmoll Soul of Alan Yuk Moi Cheng Soul of Marlene Sorrenti Soul of Cletis Castolino Soul of George Pinto
Wednesday	Soul of Yuk Yin Teresa Kong
Thursday	Soul of George Pinto
Friday	Soul of Timothy Wing Yee Au

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, Maria DiRienza, Nolito Reyes, Ed Tan, Carl Rampersad, Elizabeth Liversidge and Fra. Michael G-Mariam**

Dreaming to the Max

This weekend in the scriptures, we encounter one of my favourite readings, the Transfiguration. Whenever I sit with this passage in prayer, it never fails to be fertile ground. It is the climax of Jesus’ public ministry and self-revelation as the disciples get a glimpse of his hidden identity. An experience that would carry them through future difficulties.

Like Peter, James and John God is constantly giving each of us divine glimpses of his hidden identity and at times I find the veil between us becoming shockingly thin. More and more I find myself echoing Peter’s timeless words: “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here.” Whenever I enter St. Luke’s and experience the peace the world cannot give, I ask myself: ‘what would I do without my faith?’ What a blessing it is to gather each Sunday with my brothers and sisters and receive the Eucharist. I can fully appreciate Peter’s desire to remain on the mountaintop for I feel the same way. It is hard for me to leave the church, much to the chagrin of my family who frequently lament: “Dad, do you need to talk so much?”

God gives so much but recently I have been reflecting on whether my faith correlates with God’s providence. Are my dreams big enough? As Fr. James Mallon asks in his book *Divine Renovation*, ‘do I believe that when I stare at my paltry loaves and fish and hear the Lord speak in my heart, “You give them something to eat,” he will multiply the little I have?’

Jesus tells us in John 14: 12: ‘Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.’ How scandalous Jesus words are, not only can we match his works but do even greater things. Is this the faith I have?

In Jesus words I hear an invitation to remain on the mountaintop, invited to make God present and share his glory in all aspects of my life, as Peter says: ‘we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty.’

US pastor Steven Furtick says that if our vision is not big enough that it scares the living daylights out of us, it may be insulting to God and Our Blessed Mother herself said, ‘The Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.’ What great things does God have planned for each of us this Lenten Season. How is God inviting us to transfigure the world through our own transfiguration. ‘Rabbi, it is good for us to be here, enkindle in us the fire of your divine love. Amen.’ John Humphries.



40 Days for Life is an internationally coordinated 40-day campaign that aims to end abortion locally through prayer, fasting, community outreach, and a peaceful all-day vigil in front of abortion businesses.

This year, St. Luke's is participating in the 40 days for Life campaign. The goal is to have a minimum of two St. Luke parishioners praying peacefully 50 meters from the abortion clinic between the hours of 7am-7pm on **SATURDAY MARCH 9, 2024**. This peaceful witness will occur in front of the parking lot of St. Charles Borromeo Church located at 811 Lawrence Ave West, North York.

Please consider committing to 1 hour. To sign up for a spot, please register on the 40 days for life website:

www.40daysforlife.com/en/toronto.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

You are invited to join in praying the Stations of the Cross each Friday morning during Lent beginning at 9:30 am following mass.



St. Vincent de Paul EASTER FOOD DRIVE March 9-10 and March 16-17

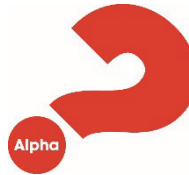
"When I was hungry you gave me to eat, when I was thirsty you gave me to drink....." (Matthew 25:35).

You can help feed the hungry by bringing non-perishable food (canned foods, cereals, pasta, rice, baby food, etc.) to the church the weekends of March 9/10 or March 16-17. Your donations support the Georgina Food Pantry. Every month, they distribute hundreds of food hampers to the needy in their community. **THANK YOU!**

LENTEN CONFESSIONS



**Tuesday, March 5th - following 7:00 pm mass
Wednesday March 6th - 9:30 am - 10:30am**



CURIOUS ABOUT FAITH?

Join a series of group conversations that freely explore the Christian faith in an open, friendly environment. At each **ALPHA** session, you watch an episode on a different question of faith – then have a chance to share your thoughts and hear what others think. You can say anything you like or nothing at all. Everyone's welcome. You're invited, no matter your background or beliefs. It's free and there's no pressure to come back. **Questions?**

StLukesAlphaSeries@gmail.com

Date: Mondays from March 18-June 3

Time: 6:30pm-8:30 pm

Location: Parish Hall

(1 Day retreat at L'Arche Daybreak Centre)

Details: See the Parish Website

GUEST REGISTRATION: <https://linktr.ee/stlukesalpha>

THORNHILL MINISTERIAL ECUMENICAL LENTEN SERIES 2024



For 54 years, the Christian churches of Thornhill have been celebrating our common belief in our one true Father, God, and Jesus Christ His Son, our Saviour. The services that we have shared over the years

during the Lenten Season have enabled us to enjoy wonderful fellowship with our Christian neighbours. This year you have an opportunity to participate in this Ecumenical outreach in the services that are taking place on Sundays beginning at 4:00. The celebration is about 45 minutes and there is a lovely social time after.

The theme for this year is **"The Faithful Christian"**. The second service of the series is next **Sunday, March 3** at Holy Trinity Anglican Church and our own John Humphries will be sharing his thoughts on ***"The Importance of Being Faithful Christians."***

The final time that we all come together is right here at St. Luke's on **Sunday, March 17**. The Reverend Leigh Olson from Thornhill United Church will give us her insights on ***"The Joys of Being Faithful Christians"***. This is also the service where, for the last 15 years or so, all the churches bring their choirs to us and collectively we raise the roof in joyful, powerful song!

You are all invited to these celebrations of our common faith, and, like any celebration, the more that attend the more memorable the event will be!

Good Shepherd casseroles/lasagnas are due at the parish Sunday, Feb 25th for pickup Monday morning. Thank you!

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