

Living the Gospel

ShareLife Sunday Collection: March 16/17

Your gift brings hope to those served by 40
Catholic agencies in our community and beyond!
Please give at our parish or sharelife.org/donate

 **ShareLife**

St. Luke's Parish

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

Website: stlukesth.archtoronto.org Email: stlukesth@archtoronto.org



It is difficult for us to imagine what it is like to be blind and to live in an isolated world of overpowering darkness. In today's gospel, we meet a man doomed to darkness since birth. Imagine the joy he felt at seeing color and shapes and becoming aware of human behavior for the first time. Such fascinating and surprising discoveries! He also discovered that while he had been physically blind he soon learned the Pharisees were spiritually blind in their willful refusal to believe in Christ. Spiritual blindness surrounds us today. When we chose to see only what suits us, we develop blind spots and miss the richness and blessing of the ordinary.

There are none so blind as those who do not wish to see.

We are reminded during Lent to walk in the light of Christ by living in complete goodness and truth. Every step in our pilgrimage is a journey of faith, discovery and understanding, leading us to the fullness of that light. Jesus has made us sharers in his life-giving work and we are presented with daily opportunities of radiating this light in acts of acceptance, tolerance and love. There are a variety of charitable works that can be carried out within our immediate ability - helping the homeless seeking shelter, the hungry begging for food and the lonely hoping for recognition. Particularly during Lent, let us rise up, overcome our spiritual blindness, put the darkness of sin behind us and live in the light of Christ.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	Soul of Lidia Chivilo
Tuesday	Soul of Marika Schmoll
	Soul of Stephen Y. L. Chua
	Soul of Joan Braendel
	Soul of Bianca Reggi
	Soul of Vernon Chaves
Wednesday	Soul of Loretta McCann
Thursday	Soul of Leo Ceolin
Friday	Soul of Maria Mazzucco

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**

Which group are you drawn to?

An excerpt from 'The Ascension Lenten Companion:

Walking with Jesus to Jerusalem: "As we begin this third week of Lent, I would like to lead you in a guided meditation.

Imagine that Jesus's journey to Jerusalem has brought him to a tall hilltop. As you enter the scene, you can feel a particular intentionality in his presence. He seems poised to teach today, and you can sense that the message that will soon pour forth from his lips has been anchored in his heart for quite some time. As he beholds a massive crowd that has gathered for today's teaching, he sees much more than their outward appearance. Jesus sees their longing and needs. He knows their mistakes and pain. He stands in the midst of their sin and suffering. Immediately around Jesus, sit the 12 apostles. What is happening within their hearts? On the one hand, they feel honoured to be part of Jesus's inner circle. On the other hand, they are still in the early stages of their own conversions. They longed to follow Jesus with complete dedication, but they are still dealing with their own ingrained patterns of self-sufficiency and self-centeredness. Surrounding the apostles are the scribes and Pharisees. They know a lot about God and can recite all the right texts about his love. But many of them are unable to experience the Lord's love in their own heart. Their constant theological inquisition is a subtle form of resistance to Jesus' message of mercy. Surrounding them are the 72 disciples. These men and women have a great desire to know Jesus better and learn from him. They have not yet chosen to abandon their former way of life, but they have an authentic desire to go deeper with the Master. They often wish that they are able to be as close to Jesus as the Apostles are. In the outer circle are the tax collectors and sinners. Who also want to listen to Jesus. They have heard of him. Some are here because they are curious to see what "the new guy" his preaching. Others are there because they heard Jesus tell the story of the Good Samaritan. The outcasts on the outer fringe are innately intrigued with the purity of love and mercy that radiates from Jesus' heart and words. Thousands have gathered to hear Jesus. Everyone is here because they want to listen to what Jesus has to say. And you are here too.

Which group of people you do you find yourself drawn to on this journey. Which circle feels most comfortable to you? As you place yourself in the scene, which group do you identify with the most? And, most importantly, why do you identify with that group? What is in your heart as you are sitting here with the others? What do you long to hear Jesus say to you?"

Alan Lee Hoy



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!**

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>

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES & FUNERAL SERVICES

This weekend, we welcome Frank Jannetta from Catholic Cemeteries & Funeral Services to our parish. Catholic Cemeteries are a vital part of the Catholic Church. Operated under the auspices of the Archdiocese of Toronto, each Catholic cemetery and funeral home reflects our Catholic beliefs. If you have any questions, Frank will be in the narthex and will be happy to speak to you.

ShareLife

*Helping the whole community
through Catholic agencies*

Our 2024 parish goal - \$140,000.00

Raised to date - \$366.00

Inspired by God’s love: Support ShareLife’s mission

Today, as we contemplate God’s boundless generosity, may we too be moved by this same spirit of generosity. May this inspire all of us to be kind, compassionate, and move us to share our blessings with our brothers and sisters in need. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website or at sharelife.org/donate.

ShareLife Sunday is March 17.

Thank you for living the Gospel!

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”**.

Please join us next Sunday - March 17th right here at St. Luke’s Parish for the final Sunday in the series. 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 the choirs from all participating church’s come together to 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!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS – St. Luke’s Council 4393 2024 Easter Drawing Contest

Christ’s Resurrection on the first Easter morning

This year the Knights of Columbus are collaborating with our Youth Ministries in presenting the 2024 Easter Drawing Contest to enrich the awareness of this Christian celebration in our youth. Application forms are located on the information table or on the website:

stlukesth@archtoronto.org

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

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

Jo Carroll
Sales Representative
Parishioner



People come first & it shows!

Cell 416-805-4479
carroll_jo@hotmail.com

Your Community
Realty, Brokerage

ROYAL LEPAGE

PRESIDENT'S GOLD AWARD

DIRECTOR'S PLATINUM AWARD

THE AWARD OF EXCELLENCE




Experience Inspired
Senior Living

Book Your Tour Today!
(905) 738-0905

FOUR ELMS
RETIREMENT RESIDENCE

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



M&M
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

Because family matters!
905-887-8600 • highlandfuneralhome.ca/markham

Arbor Memorial Inc.

THE PERFECT



SPOT
TO
ADVERTISE

TO ADVERTISE IN THIS SPACE
PLEASE CALL
1-800-268-2637

PAUL ZAMMIT
REAL ESTATE LTD., BROKERAGE
905-881-2181
WWW.ZAMMIT.COM






 **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

Become an Online Member kofc.org/joinus
Rogue Pinto 416-662-6573 stlukekoc4393@gmail.com

Peter Drabik - Parishioner
Sales Representative


Call me on my **SELL** phone
416.399.5587

 **RE/MAX**  **REALTRON** Realty Inc.
Independently Owned & Operated




IT'S WISE TO ADVERTISE!




 **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