

# St. Luke's Parish

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

Website: [stlukesth.archtoronto.org](http://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 ☐



Most of us can readily understand the disappointment of Martha and Mary when Jesus, who was their close friend, failed to show up at the sick bed & burial of their brother, **Lazarus**. Martha was annoyed at his absence and her reproach was straight from the heart when she said, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died.' Then, at the sight of Mary in tears, Jesus was troubled and wept. We watch Jesus consoling the sisters, then proceeding to their brother's grave, and giving orders for the stone covering the entrance to be rolled back. To their utter astonishment, he commands Lazarus to come out of the tomb.

This miracle is not just about Jesus performing the impossible by bringing a man back to physical life. The real focus is on belief. It is a "*sign*" of God's promise to raise up all who have died in Christ to everlasting life. Jesus wants to enter our hearts and bring his life-giving presence to those places of darkness, shame and even death. The good news is that he sets free those who are bound by sin and can bring back people to life no matter how long they have been dead to the things of the spirit. He is calling us to face the shadows, to come into the sunshine and walk in the fullness of life.

#### MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	Soul of <b>C. M. Thomas Maliekal</b>
Tuesday	Intentions of <b>Jessie Schmoll</b>
	Soul of <b>Avelino Millora</b>
	Soul of <b>Bianca Reggi</b>
	Soul of <b>Remedios Pena</b>
	Soul of <b>Baby Thervaratnam &amp; Rev. Fr. Prince Bastiampillar</b>
Wednesday	Soul of <b>Richard Jean</b>
Thursday	Soul of <b>George V. Pinto</b>
Friday	Intentions of <b>John Lee</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, Maria DiRienza, Nolito Reyes, Ed Tan, Carl Rampersad, Elizabeth Liversidge and Fra. Michael G-Mariam**

### It's A Beautiful Day

I will never forget the Superbowl halftime show in February 2002. Widely considered the best half time performance of all time, it was just 5 short months after the September 11 tragedy and U2 was performing. The band started the show off with their upbeat hit *It's a Beautiful Day* and then things quieted as they sang MLK an elegy to Martin Luther King as the names of the 9/11 victims began rising on a screen behind the stage. As MLK slowly ended, they started what is considered their greatest song: *Where the Streets Have No Name* as Bono, the lead singer says a prayer saying: 'Oh Lord, open my lips, So I might show forth thy praise, Oh Lord, open my lips, So I might show forth thy praise' and then says 'America' before letting out a carnal scream that touched me and I'm sure the millions watching to the core.

I was so moved by Bono's scream because it so perfectly captured the situation. A tragedy of epic proportions, too complex to be dismissed as a simple matter of good vs. evil. Within the whole 9/11 event laid the eternal struggle, the war that has been raging since the fall.

Reading the Gospel from this weekend we see Jesus letting out a similar carnal scream 2000 years earlier as he witnesses the effects of sin on the lives of the people he loves so deeply. This occurs after Mary falls at his feet and says to him: "Lord, if you had been here my brother (Lazarus) would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who had come with her weeping he became 'perturbed and deeply troubled' but the actual Greek word in this instance is more like Jesus snorted in anger. Likely he was angered and deeply distressed over the ramifications of sin on the world.

Perhaps in this moment Jesus is revealing God's great compassion for his people and answering the question that has been on every human being's mind for time eternal: 'God, do you really care?' Rather than simply dismiss their tears and tell them not to worry as he would soon raise Lazarus, Jesus enters into their suffering and stays there weeping with them. Consoling them and us that yes I do care and I'm about to show you just how much as he raises Lazarus, giving Life and confirming his own fate simultaneously.

At the end of U2's performance Bono opens his jacket to reveal an American flag knitted into the fabric, a beautifully symbolic gesture telling the American people that he cares and suffers with them. He was sure to open the left side of his jacket, the side with his heart just as Jesus heart was opened and pierced by the Roman soldier following his death. Let us do the same and open our hearts and lives to the needs of those around us this Lent and enter into their suffering with them knowing the answer, the Resurrection dwells and shines brightly within. John Humphries.



## 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

**Ends this weekend - 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 this weekend March 16-17. Your donations support the Georgina Community 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](mailto: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



The Ecumenical Lenten series **wraps up this Sunday beginning at 4:00 pm here at St. Luke’s Parish.**

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 celebrate our common faith & join us for a reception in the parish hall following the service.

## SL ShareLife

*Helping the whole community  
through Catholic agencies*

**Our 2024 parish goal - \$140,000.00**

**Raised to date - \$366.00**

ShareLife Sunday marks the first collection for our parish’s annual campaign. Every day, young people in our community need a helping hand due to homelessness, trafficking, or violence. ShareLife agencies ensure the safety of youth fleeing violent homes and provide them a supportive place to stay. This is all made possible thanks to amazing people like you who choose to support ShareLife.

We thank you for your kindness and generosity.

**This weekend is ShareLife Sunday**

Thank you for living the Gospel!



## Palm Sunday Mass

Saturday, March 24th

5:00 pm

Sunday, March 25th

8:45, 10:30 am & 12:15 pm

## Holy Thursday Mass of Our Lord’s Supper

Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup>

7:00 pm

*Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until 10:00 pm*

## Good Friday Service

Friday, March 29th

*Children’s Way of the Cross*

10:30 am

*Liturgy of the Passion of Our Lord*

3:00 PM

## Holy Saturday Easter Vigil Mass

Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>

8:00 pm

*(includes Baptism, 1<sup>st</sup> Communion & Confirmation of adult candidates)*

## Easter Sunday Mass

Sunday, March 31st

8:45, 10:30 am & 12:15 pm

**Easter Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup>**

9:00 am

(Office Closed)

**The Catholic Women’s League** invites you to  
Pray the Stations with Mary the Mother of Jesus on  
Friday, evening March 22nd at 7.00pm.  
All are Welcome!



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