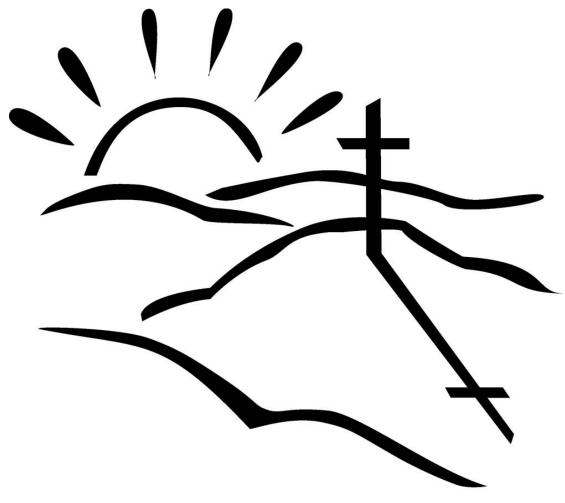
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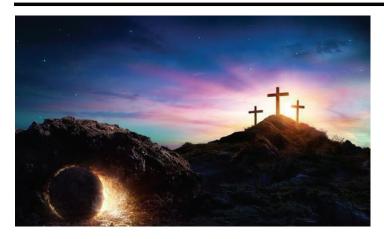
St. Luke's Parish

39 Green Lane, Thornhill, Ontario L3T 6K5 Telephone: 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



Rejoice! For the Lord is truly risen!



Easter is a remarkable day. It is a time of new life and is a celebration of God's love that brings light into darkness, hope into despair and peace into our souls. Like the three women, we are invited to joyfully proclaim that Jesus is risen from the dead and told to share this good news of the resurrection with others. The message of the Risen Christ, which is the source of the great happiness in our hearts, has to be announced to the whole world. Easter proclaims that nothing good shall perish, that death does not have the last word and that our lives will be changed.

The message of Easter is that, just as Christ conquered all, so too can we, provided we place all our trust in him. Easter proclaims that our deepest human hungers can be satisfied for there is a purpose to our living and more to life than the wrappings and trappings of earthly existence. All we have to do is to open our hearts to the Risen power of Jesus.

MASS INTENTIONS	
Monday	Soul of Robert Lacquaniti
Tuesday	Soul of Steven Huta Soul of Marika Schmoll Soul of Rino Salvador Soul of Alcides Batista Intentions of Mark Anthony Pena
Wednesday	Soul of Leo Ceolin
Thursday	Soul of Doy Pineda & Milvia Roque
Friday	Soul of Stephen Y. L. Chua

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

Cultivated by Living Hands

"On the third day the friends of Christ coming at day-break to the place found the grave empty and the stone rolled away. In varying ways they realized the new wonder; the world had died in the night. What they were looking at was the first day of a new creation, with a new heaven and a new earth; and in a semblance of a gardener God walked again in the garden, not in the cool of the evening, but in the dawn." –G.K. Chesterton

Celebrating Easter, it is interesting to look back at the first person to encounter the Risen Lord, Mary Magdalene and see that she mistakenly identified him as a gardener. At first, we may just dismiss this but upon further reflection we realize that perhaps Mary was not mistaken after all.

For Jesus was buried in a garden on Good Friday, a place where seeds take root and new life is found just as Jesus points to a few days prior to his death when he says: "Unless a seed falls into the ground and dies it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit." (John 12:24) On Holy Saturday Jesus extends his roots deep into the soil as he descends even into the depths of Hell.

Then on Easter Sunday the garden brings forth the first fruits of the resurrection as we hear from Paul in 1 Corinthians 15:20 "But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died." The first seed raised by God in the garden of resurrection became the gardener. When Mary Magdalene "supposed him to be the gardener," she was exactly right. Jesus is now the gardener of resurrection, cultivating new life in all who believe.

The first Adam was a gardener as we see in Genesis 2: 15 'the Lord took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it', but Adam failed in his task and the world fell into sin and darkness. Jesus is the second Adam, who remains faithful and restores the ruined garden. A gardener works intimately with the soil working it with his hands. From dust we were made and to dust we shall return. Humans are created from the humus. Gardeners handle living things with living hands and work to cultivate the harvest just as Jesus worked to cultivate Mary Magdalene and us into a new creation.

Throughout Easter let us welcome the Divine Garderner into our lives and allow him to prune away our dead leaves and branches that inhibit our growth and open ourselves to his living and tender hands leading us beside the still waters of the Eternal Garden. Let us invite our brothers and sisters to join us as we walk together with our loving God, morning, noon and night.

John Humphries.

SL ShareLife

Helping the whole community through Catholic agencies

Our 2024 ShareLife Campaign is now underway.

2024 PARISH GOAL - \$140,000.00 Raised to date: \$24,621.00

Embrace Jesus' love and compassion through giving Jesus' love and example inspire us to extend a helping hand to others, especially those facing the greatest challenges. ShareLife agencies continue to reach out to the most vulnerable members of our community, offering essential services made possible by your compassion and generous contributions.

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website or at sharelife.org/donate

Thank you for supporting ShareLife!

OLEG SAMOKHIN PIANO CONCERT SATURDAY APRIL 27, 7:30 PM

Tickets are now available. Please see details at olegpianoconcert.eventbrite.com. If you have questions contact Greg Benoit at 647-296-6851 or greg.benoit@rogers.com



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS-ST. LUKE'S COUNCIL 4393

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a "**Spring Social Dance**" on Saturday, April 13th in the parish hall beginning at 7:30 pm. For a \$15.00 admission donation, enjoy a variety 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 <u>gk4393@ontariokofc.ca</u> for more information.

GOOD SHEPHERD casseroles/lasagnas are due at the parish this Sunday, March 31st for pickup Tuesday morning. If donating store prepared food, please add your name as the donor & not the store of purchase. Thank you for helping feed the hungry!



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS St. Luke's Council 4393

EASTER DRAWING CONTEST 2024

Time is running out for entries for The Knights of Columbus – St. Luke's Council 4393, Children's Easter drawing contest. The contest is designed to create awareness of this Christian celebration in our young parishioners. Submission deadline is Sunday, April 14th.

Entries must be original, in colour, drawn or painted on 8.5X11 paper and illustrate some aspect of Christ's Resurrection on the first Easter Morning.

The top entry in each of the 3 age categories will receive a \$50. gift card. The winning drawings will appear on the St. Luke's website!

More details can be found on our website and on the information table in the Narthex.

The Catholic Women's League & Knights of Columbus invite you to:

SATURDAY AT THE MOVIES

Featuring "FATIMA"

In the parish hall on Saturday, April 6th beginning at 6:00pm

Popcorn & Pizza will be served

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