

Living the Gospel

ShareLife Sunday Collection: April 27/28

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 **ShareLife**

St. Luke's Parish

39 Green Lane, Thornhill, Ontario L3T 6K5 Telephone: 905-881-2786
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Throughout the gospel readings we come in contact with the image of **Christ, the Good Shepherd** and it carries a message of reassuring love that has comforted, consoled and inspired people down through the centuries. It is one of the most endearing images of Jesus who presents himself as the Good Shepherd promised by God – one who is willing to get to know us, protect us and make the ultimate sacrifice of his life, as an example of his love for humanity.

As the Good Shepherd, Jesus reaches out in loving care towards the weak, the helpless and the marginalised. He bandages the wounded, brings back the stray and seeks out those who have wandered off course and lost their way. His expressed desire is that everyone should be saved and come to a knowledge of the truth.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	Soul of Meyrick D’Sylva
Tuesday	Soul of Marika Schmoll Soul of Lucio Cappelletti Soul of Mary Tissanayagam Mass of Thanksgiving – Honesto & Yolanda Pena
Wednesday	Soul of Odilia Yiu Intentions of Matthew Beltrano
Thursday	Soul of Jerry Ambrozic
Friday	Soul of Pamela Papa Pacla

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, Fra. Michael G-Mariam and Danny Cheung**

Letting Myself be Reborn

Easter is a wonderful time to reflect upon the new life we receive through our relationship with Jesus. However, celebrating Easter is not just thinking about new life, but it is about experiencing new life. There are 2 questions: 1) where am I not feeling "alive" or not fully alive? and 2) what would it mean for me to let myself become fully alive, in Jesus?

When Jesus talked with Nicodemus about being born again, Nicodemus misunderstood him. Jesus clarified the phrase, explaining what he meant. We must be born "from above." [John 3:3] What is this distinction Jesus is making between being born "again" and being born "from above." Jesus is talking about where life comes from. It's from him. The "new life" is a gift and it is from God.

When we are feeling tired and discouraged, we know we aren't happy, even if it is difficult to admit it. But, the desire for healing,- new life - is the first step to being open to receive the gift. And, this is not a "once and for all" realization. Various deadly things go on in our lives all the time. We need to stay attentive to what's happening in us all the time. It's like when a blood clot blocks blood flow to our heart or our brain, something dies. When something blocks the flow of life to any part of our spiritual reality, something dies in us. Jesus is telling us that there is relief and new life - from above. We just need to be attentive.

When we let his life course through us, we come to life again. It is all about the connection, the communion, the way we make our home in him and allow him to make his home in us. When we become branches connected to the Vine of life, then we can live again and can bear much fruit. When he restores life to parts of us that were not very vital, the new life often means change. We feel different, and when we begin to act differently, it can feel not only "new" but "strange" or "awkward." It means that old habits and patterns need to be let go of and new ones need to be practiced.

When we experience new life, two things are very clear. 1) It is rarely, if ever, a solitary experience. We need the support of others to grow and we grow best in a community of others who are also growing. Celebrating Easter is always best done in community. 2) An Easter community is on fire with growth. The Holy Spirit comes to us and gives growth with renewed vitality and splendor.

So, let's let our longing for new life fill us this Easter Season. Let's look for what needs a new vitality in us. Let's talk with the Lord about how we can stay better connected, and rooted in him. Let's ask for the graces of a new beginning, a fresh start which will bring us to life in a new way -for our own happiness- and for our vitality for others. Creighton Online Ministries.

April 21, 2024

ShareLife

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2024 PARISH GOAL - \$140,000.00

Raised to date: \$26,759.00

Invest in our Church's future by giving to ShareLife

Your kindness and devotion enable St. Augustine's Seminary, along with the Office of Vocations and Redemptoris Mater Missionary Seminary to provide an excellent formation for our seminarians as they pursue a life of service. This past year, you invested in our Church's future by supporting 58 seminarians.

This Sunday, April 21st, we celebrate the 61st World Day of Prayer for Vocations. There has never been a better time to support and pray for our seminarians, wherever they may be on their journey.

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

Thank you for living the gospel through ShareLife!



BREBEUF COLLEGE SCHOOL

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Brebeuf College School is celebrating its 60th anniversary and invites alumni back to the school for a Pub Night Reunion on Friday, May 3 from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. On Sunday, May 5 there will be a Mass, Barbecue, and Open House for alumni, students, staff, and their families. The Mass Celebrant is Archbishop Terence Prendergast, S.J. For more information or to RSVP, please email fmacgrath@gtigolf.com

QUEEN OF APOSTLES RENEWAL CENTRE

Women's Day Retreat – Saturday May 9th

Where: Queen of Apostles Renewal Centre
1617 Blythe Road, Mississauga

Theme: *Attitude with Gratitude*

Time: 8:30 am – 3:00pm

Cost: \$45.00 includes lunch

For more information: contact: Jean 905-2785229 or office@qoa.ca

Totus Tuus is coming in July!

Registrations will be opening very soon. For information about some of the details, please see the posters on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Our parish website will have more information available in the following week.

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



Vespers Celebrating St. Gregory of Narek as "Abbot and Doctor of the Catholic Church"

St. Gregory of Narek, a revered saint in the Oriental Orthodox Church, has recently come into our Roman Catholic liturgical calendar. Join Archbishop Francis Leo and Bishop Abgar Hovakimyan (Primate of the Armenian Diocese of Canada) who will co-preside at a jointly prepared Armenian vespers to celebrate this remarkable event on Saturday, April 27, 2024 at 6 pm., hosted at Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church on 920 Progress Ave., in Scarborough.

A wide representation of church leaders in the Greater Toronto Area is expected at this event.

A feature will be an ecumenical exchange of gifts.

Liturgical vessels entrusted to us from Armenians fleeing Genocide during the last century will be returned and an icon of St. Gregory of Narek will be received.

There will be an opportunity for photographs with Archbishop Leo at a light reception following Vespers. This milestone commemoration is part of the "receptive ecumenism" series that is taking place during a yearlong "Festival of Prayer" sponsored by the Archdiocese in 2024 in the GTA. It witnesses the beauty of Holiness that is ours in Jesus Christ (1 Peter 1:15-16) as well as marking the 60th anniversary of the Decree on Ecumenism that continues to invigorate our commitment to seek the unity will by our Lord for the Church for the life of the world. (John 17.21).

For reserved seating please contact ecumenical@archtoronto.org



Join us Monday, April 22nd at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary for an evening of Praise & Worship. All are welcome!

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