

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. Sávio Antonio Bruto da Costa - 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

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 Gospel of Luke today gives us the words of the John the Baptist: **Prepare the way of the Lord**, make straight his paths. John the Baptist proclaims a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

Our God loves us and promises us everlasting life in the world to come. He promises us that in spite of our suffering and trials in this world we can achieve a deep inner joy and peace if we live in faith. Advent reminds us to purify ourselves from all that is not of God. John the Baptist points the way for us in Advent: purify, repent, forgiveness. Yet we know that this message is to prepare us for the coming of One who loves us beyond all we can imagine and who wants us to share His life forever.

Let us walk the way of the Lord in this Advent and know the presence of the Savior in our lives. Come, Lord Jesus.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	Soul of Antonio Carvalho
Tuesday	Soul of Marika Schmoll Soul of Trafford S'Sylva Soul of Leo Ceolin Soul of Philomena & Vincent D'Souza Soul of Rosalba Jaramillo Ramirez
Wednesday	Soul of Lucy Kok Moey Chin
Thursday	Soul of Teresa Cummings-Vermeulen
Friday	Soul of Brian Lynch

Scar Borne Hands

I while ago a heard a true story about a married couple that really touched me. The husband had passed away and four years later his wife was spending her last few hours with her family in the hospital getting ready to go to her eternal home after a rich and eventful life.

As the family was sharing stories and past memories one of the daughters asked her mother if she was looking forward to seeing Dad when she gets to heaven. The mother didn't reply, and her daughter asked her if she was concerned that her husband would not be there? Her mother responded: "No it isn't that I am sure he will be. It is just that your father was not a perfect man and had many defects. Over the years I became more and more familiar with his defects and began to love and cherish them as a part of him. I know that when I meet him in heaven he will have been perfected by God's grace and I think I may miss those defects I came to love so much." The family was very touched by her reflection, and it left her children with much to ponder.

It is something I have been pondering too. Often in my own life rather than trying to love and accept the defects of the people I know my natural inclination is to try to change or fix them. Yet no matter how hard I try, usually there is little change which leads to great frustration. But statistics back my experience as studies reveal that only about 30% of conflict between people is correctable. 70% of what we disagree on is unlikely to change regardless of the effort made. Consequently, for any relationship to remain healthy a lot of acceptance is necessary. Not only did this amazing wife accept her husband's defects but she went one step further and loved and cherished his brokenness as Jesus does.

Moving into the second week of Advent let us reflect on how Jesus can enter our relationships and help us to love the defects we see in others and ourselves? How can God help to transform our perspective, so we see defects as opportunities to grow in holiness and sanctity rather than causes of division.

It is interesting that after his resurrection Jesus' Body still carried the scars of his crucifixion and suffering. In fact, it was through his scars and his participation in them that Thomas was able to identify the Risen Lord.

And it is no different with us. We discover Jesus in the wounds and defects of our neighbour. God's grace is enough for us, and his power is made perfect in our weakness. A shared appreciation of mutual brokenness leads to a shared appreciation of a needed Saviour. A Saviour who continues to offer us his Body and Blood to cover our defects and make us whole once again. Amen.

John Humphries.

Please pray for the sick in our community.
May the healing power of God touch their hearts and ease their burdens, especially:
Elizabeth and Tonya Liversidge,
Chantal Soriano, Wilfredo Soriano and Ann Bozabalian

December 8, 2024

ADVENT RETREAT

Join us for our Parish Advent Retreat as we prepare to encounter Emmanuel!

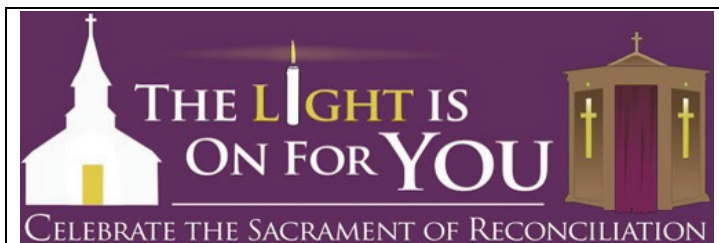
Date: Sat. Dec 15

Time: 9 am - 3 pm

Location: Parish Hall

Questions: kshanthakumar@archtoronto.org

Registration: <https://linktr.ee/stlukesthym>




ADVENT CONFESSIONS

The Sacrament of Reconciliation for Advent will be celebrated at the parish on:

Tues. December 10 following the 7:00 pm mass

Wed. December 11 following the 9:00 am mass

St. Luke's ADVENT CONCERT SATURDAY DEC 7th - 7:00 PM



Once again, the choirs of St. Luke's will be ringing in the Christmas season as only music can. Come join us as the 4 choirs (yes the kids are included) of our parish sing both individually and together the delightful songs of the season to help prepare your hearts for the celebration of the birth of our Lord Jesus. The concert is free but a basket will be available for a free will offering. Light refreshments will follow in the parish hall.



Youth Christmas Choir

Students in grades 2-12 are invited to sing in the Youth Choir for the Advent concert and Christmas Eve mass.

Choir practice has started with more information at <https://tinyurl.com/yx6w7243>

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GENERAL MEETING

There will be a Knights of Columbus general meeting on Wednesday, Dec 11th in the upstairs meeting room beginning at 6:30 pm. New members welcome!

SL ShareLife

*Helping the whole community
through Catholic agencies*

Our 2024 parish goal - \$149,000.00

Raised to date - \$124,713.00

Live the Gospel by supporting ShareLife



St. Vincent De Paul Christmas Baskets

As we prepare to enter the Christmas 2024 season and face the end of another very challenging year for so many, we are reminded of the less fortunate and how we can make a difference in their lives. Specially marked envelopes are available in the narthex and pew pockets for donations to the **St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Basket** program. Your generous donations assist in providing gift cards to needy families in our community, enabling them to participate in this joyous season. Donations will be accepted until Sunday, December 8th with distribution of gift cards to our needy families during that week. Thank you for your continued support of this program.

* Tax receipts will be issued by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul

NEW YEAR'S EVE POT LUCK PARTY

Help us ring in New Year 2025 with a variety of delicious food, music, dancing & good company!

Where: Our parish hall

Bring: Family & friends

Your favourite dish to feed a few people

Your favourite dance song requests

Dress: As you wish

Time: 7:00 pm

Cost: \$10.00 per person for decorations

There will also be a cash bar

More details to follow next weekend.



Praise & Worship

Join us Monday, December 9th at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary for an evening of Praise & Worship. All are welcome!

Jo Carroll
Sales Representative
Parishioner



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