

Living the
Gospel

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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



Everyone in this church has had the experience of crushing disappointments. The hurt is painful and the ache will not go away. A time when our defences are down and we have no will to put up a fight. With failure staring us in the face, we lose our confidence, retreat within ourselves and seek comfort in false securities. Like the apostles in today's gospel, we sink into the darkness of night where nothing is happening. When we live in a depression as if the resurrection never took place and are sorely in want of encouragement, we need to listen out for the sound of a voice coming from the shores of eternity beckoning us to try something new, to take a different direction and search for a new dawn.

The good news of Easter is that Jesus is alive, watching over us and is more interested in our future prospects than in our past failures. The daily challenge is to move forward, recognise the Lord in the ordinary events of our lives and stop trying to find contentment, peace and happiness in the wrong places. We can reach out to others because the Risen Lord reached out to us. We can be generous to the poor and the oppressed, to our neighbours and to the old, simply because Christ has been so kind to us who have deserved nothing. Ours is a life made new by the Risen Lord. We are children of the resurrection.

MASS INTENTIONS

May 5 – May 9

Monday	Soul of Daisy Suero
Tuesday	Soul of Leo Ceolin
	Soul of Marika Schmoll
	Soul of Ina Maher
	Soul of Philomena & Vincent D'Souza
	Intentions of Jessie Schmoll
Wednesday	Mass of Thanksgiving – Caroline Chu
Thursday	Soul of Ina Maher
Friday	Soul of Lutz Wiechmann

Please pray for the sick in our community.

May the healing power of God touch their hearts and ease their burdens.

Sleeping with Bread

During the bombing raids of World War II, thousands of children were orphaned and left to starve. The fortunate ones were rescued and placed in refugee camps where they received food and good care. But many of these children who had lost so much could not sleep at night. They feared waking up to find once again they were homeless and without food. Nothing seemed to reassure them. Finally, someone hit upon the idea of giving each child a piece of bread to hold at bedtime. Holding their bread, these children could finally sleep in peace. All through the night the bread reminded them: "Today I ate, and I will eat again tomorrow."

We see a similar thing occur in our Gospel this weekend. After all the trauma of Jesus' passion, death and resurrection Peter and the other disciples were confused, scared and unsure of what to do so they returned to something that was familiar and comforting to them, fishing. An activity they didn't have to think about, paid their bills and assured that they would eat today and again tomorrow or so they hoped.

Jesus aware of the apostles' fears and reluctance to move from fish to faith appears to them from the shore just after daybreak after a night of catching nothing. He multiplies the fish yet again assuring them they can have faith that he will always take care of their physical and spiritual needs with fish for the physical and bread for the spiritual.

When I struggle and feel myself resorting to past comforts to ease my anxiety, I try to find Jesus at work in my life and I never have to look very far. A simple reflection on the previous day reveals God's presence in numerous ways. One special feast I will draw on for a long time is the recent Easter Vigil at St. Luke's. A marathon of sorts with all the essential readings and psalms of our faith history enriched with the shining glory of more than 20 newly baptized it was an extraordinary taste of the heavenly banquet.

One encounter comes to mind was with a parishioner who was baptised just last year. Chatting with him following the Mass his eyes shined so brightly, and he was so full of happiness. I thought to myself where else do you find such unbridled joy in a person. He hadn't won a lottery, taken a fancy vacation or been promoted at work, he simply had sat on a hard wooden bench for 3 hours, yet his ineffable glow was otherworldly.

Thomas Wolfe was right 'we can't go home again', unless our home is the Holy Mass where heaven and earth intersect with God making all things new time and time again feeding us with fish and bread. Yes Lord, we love you, humbly bless us with the grace to feed your lambs and sheep forever. Amen. John Humphries.



Knights of Columbus
St. Luke's Council 4393
2025 Children's Easter
Drawing Contest

It is time for the 5th^d Annual Children's Easter Drawing contest to create awareness of this Christian celebration in our young parishioners. Entries must be original and illustrate some aspect of **Christ is Risen, Hallelujah!**

Submission deadline is noon May 18, 2025.

Pickup an entry form with more information in the narthex and share your expressions of our faith.

The chosen entries in the three categories will appear on our website & in our bulletin.



CHALICE is here!

This weekend, Canada's largest Catholic Child Sponsorship organization will provide you the opportunity to begin a relationship with a child in the developing world

through the benefits of Child sponsorship. These are children in extreme poverty, who need your support to excel in their education and fulfill their God-given potential.

Please stop by the Chalice display in the narthex or visit chalice.ca for more information about Chalice and its mission.

SL ShareLife

*Helping the whole community
through Catholic agencies*

Our 2025 parish goal - \$174,000.00

Donations received to date: \$50,867.50

Living the Gospel by providing for those in need

On this **second ShareLife Sunday**, we call upon your compassionate hearts to support your vulnerable brothers and sisters in need. More people than ever are turning to our agencies for help. The kind-heartedness of ShareLife supporters like you enables access to essential programs and services such as the treatment program and transitional housing at St. Michael's Homes. For Jack, your help was transformative. After starting a physically demanding job, he suffered a knee injury, which ultimately left him unemployed and addicted to pain medication. Thanks to your empathy, Jack had a safe space to overcome his addiction and gained power to build himself back up. We ask you to share your blessings at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, stlukesth@archtoronto.org or at sharelife.org/donate.

Thank you for living the gospel!

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK

To read a message from His Eminence Frank Cardinal Leo go to the website below

<https://www.archtoronto.org>



JUBILEE YEAR EVENT

The Rosary Apostolate seeks those who love the Mother of God & children to teach the Rosary monthly in our Catholic Schools from October 2025 to May 2026.

Training & materials will be provided. Please visit us in the narthex following each mass this weekend for more information.



Tuna Casserole Program

Mathew in Chapter 25 quoted Jesus as having said *"for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me to drink.....whatsoever you do for the least of my brethren, you do for Me"*.

It is in that spirit; we remind you that casseroles are due on the **last Sunday of each month**. Your generosity helps to feed the homeless and many needy families out of the Good Shepherd Centre in downtown Toronto. If you would like to contribute or donate to this program, please contact Debbie Araujo at 647-884-3744, or Margaret Hanley at 905-881-1837 for further information. Thank you.



UP COMING EVENTS

The Knights of Columbus – St. Luke's Council 4393 have a number of events coming up.

- This weekend is another collection of refundable cans & bottles. You can deposit them in the designated area in the narthex.
- The May general meeting is Wednesday, May 14th at 6:30 pm in the upstairs meeting room where the election of the Board of Officers will be held for the 2025-2026 Fraternal Year.
- Saturday, May 31st is their Spring Social Dance in the parish hall beginning at 7:00 pm.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The parish is looking for volunteers to assist on a variety of ministries. Assistance is currently required for yardwork, the altar society & counting, to name a few. If you are interested in serving at the parish, please contact the office at 905-881-2786 x 221. All volunteers are required to complete the volunteer screening process.

Jo Carroll

Sales Representative
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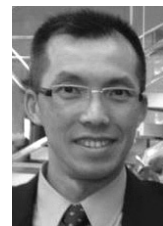
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