

St. Thomas the Apostle Church

14 Highgate Drive, Markham, Ontario L3R 3R6

(2 blocks north of Steeles at Birchmount)

905-474-1224 / fax 905-474-1277

stthomastheapostle@bellnet.ca

website: <https://stthomastheapostlema.archtoronto.org>



PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Pastor - Fr. Allyn Rose (ext. 222)

Associate Pastor - Father Patrick Gnanapragasam (ext 224)

Deacon - Everis Munroe (ext. 223)

Deacon - Sarfaraz Pinto (ext. 226)

Youth Minister - Hill Roshan Arulnesam (ext 225)

Secretary - Jackie Mackenzie (ext. 221)

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 9:00, 10:30 and 12:00 noon

Ask ushers for listening - aid devices

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday through Friday 12:10 and 7:00 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. (at Convent)

Thurs. evening Mass is in Latin - *forma ordinaria*

ADORATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Thursdays and Fridays after noon Mass until

Benediction at 6:45 p.m.

CONFESSIONS

By appointment only: 416-799-0407

DEVOTIONS TO

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

Wednesdays before & after evening Mass.

BAPTISMS

Will be the Second and Fourth Saturdays
of each month at 9:30 a.m.

An information package should be picked up
at the Parish Office before meeting with the deacon.

MARRIAGES

An information package should be picked up at the Parish
Office before meeting with the priest.
One year advanced planning is required.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Families should notify the Parish Office
in the event of serious illness.

“Dominus meus et Deus meus”

SCHOOLS

St. Benedict

905-475-9646

St. Francis Xavier

905-470-2225

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PARISH GROUPS

Altar Boys	Father Allyn Rose	Parish Office
Lectors	Anna Torres	416-335-9142
Ushers	Alex Ho-Shue	905-479-2543
Children's Liturgy	Winnie Thien	905-940-1059
Screening Coordinator	Liz Pinto	905-889-5755
R.C.I.A.	Juliette Huang	416-495-1067
Legion of Mary Sr.	Amy Rebeiz	647-643-2232
Legion of Mary Jr.	Juliette Huang	416-495-1067
Prayer Group	Al Jacob	416-697-7179
Society of St. Vincent de Paul		905-474-1224 ext. 230
Knights of Columbus	Philip Lee	905-475-6776
Youth Group	Hill Arulnesam	647-281-0062

PARISH MUSICIANS

Organists

Christopher Ku/Kevin Ku 416-298-2541

DAY CARE

St. Mary of Leuca 90-475-2536

St. Mary of Leuca CONVENT 905-475-2350



Monday	12:10 p.m.	Deceased members of the Chan and Lam Families (Family)
Monday	7:00 p.m.	In Thanksgiving and for the intentions of Juliet Thambibiaiah
Tuesday	12:10 p.m.	+Mary Kamala Nicholas and Family +Rosaline Thirchelvam and Family (Family)
Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Ayesha Navarro (Family)
Wednesday	12:10 p.m.	+Francis De Rose (Pucyk Family)
Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	Intentions of Amanda Ahwai (Mark and Juliette Huang)
Thursday	12:10 p.m.	+Bob Hassan (Family)
Thursday	7:00 p.m.	+Francis D'Souza (Family)
Friday	12:10 p.m.	In Thanksgiving and for the intentions of Virginia and JP Chan (Chit and Josephine Szeto)
Friday:	7:00 p.m.	+Robert Sequeira (Family)
Saturday	9:00 a.m.	+John Harry Fernandez (Family)
Saturday	5:00 p.m.	For the People of the Parish
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Living and Deceased family and friends of Jean Pucyk
Sunday	10:30 a.m.	+Mary Rohib Elias (Family)(Family)
Sunday	12:00 Noon	+Luiza Pinto (Deacon Sarfaraz Pinto)
Sunday	7:00 p.m.	Souls in Purgatory

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY DECEMBER 6, 2020

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Eric Maddan, Giuseppina Sala, Anna Starkiewicz, Fitzroy James, Joyce D'Souza, Lilia Tiongson, Edilberto Claveria, Rowen Lee McBride, Margaret Carter, Elizabeth Wong, Domenic D'Souza, Samantha Fernandes, Marcus Rodrigues, Jerry Wang, Agnes Yuen, Jack and Pat Wilson, Phillip Kong, Theresita Siao, Angelo Drago and for all those who are sick with the Covid - 19 Virus.

PRAY FOR THE DEAD: For those who have died from the Covid - 19 Virus and for those who have no one to pray for them.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
6:00 - 7:00 p.m. every Friday before the evening Mass

LIVESTREAMING MASSES ON FACEBOOK
DAILY 12:10 MASS AND SUNDAY 10:30 MASS

ANYBODY EXHIBITING SYMPTOMS OF
THE COVID VIRUS

Are to remain at home. They are dispensed from coming to church.

PLEASE REGISTER EACH WEEK ON THE WEBSITE FOR THE SUNDAY MASS YOU WISH TO ATTEND.

REGISTRATIONS FOR THE CHRISTMAS MASSES WILL BE ON THE WEBSITE.

Masses: Christmas Eve: 8:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve 5 and 12:00 Midnight are already full
Christmas Day at 9:00, 10:30 and 12:00 Noon

All Confessions will have to be by appointment
Father Allyn Rose: 416-799-0407 (except Tuesday)
Father Patrick: 647-799-1774 (except Thursday)

THE ANNUAL COLLECTION FOR THE WORKS OF THE SOCIETY OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL for Christmas and throughout the new year will be collected December 12/13. Envelopes will be at the exits December 5/6. Please drop the envelopes in the weekly collection baskets by the exit door December 12/13.

PARISH OFFERTORY

Weekly goal \$7,500.00 (to meet our expenses)
We received \$6,719.65 (November 29, 2020) (Includes PAG, Donate now, etc.)

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5 9-11 - Commentary

Advent is a time of preparation. We prepare to celebrate Christmas when we commemorate the first coming of Christ at the incarnation some 2000 years ago. In that, we focus on the great and profound mystery of our faith that God became man. We also prepare for the Second Coming of Christ at the end of time. In fact, the word “Advent” means “coming.” We are reminded during this season that Christ is coming back and we look forward to that time with great anticipation and hope, while also doing our diligence to prepare well. The first reading today from Isaiah takes us back to the time of the Exile in Israel’s history. The Israelites were conquered and taken into captivity by the Babylonians. This was a low point in the Old Testament narrative of the history of Israel. Yet, today’s reading offers great hope. We hear in this passage the promise of the coming of the Lord. The people are called to “prepare the way” for His coming. God is coming to rescue His people and reign among them. This passage has dual meanings. First, in its original context, it refers to God saving His people from their exile and captivity and restoring them to the land of Israel with its great Temple in Jerusalem. Second, it points to the advent of Jesus Christ, when God would come to dwell with His people in the flesh. We see that second reference fulfilled in today’s Gospel.

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3-8-14 - Commentary

Today’s second reading focuses us on the Second Coming of Christ at the end of time. Christ’s return is imminent. We believe “He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,” as we say in the Creed. But what does that mean? At the end of time there will be a final reckoning in which all people will be held accountable for how they lived on this earth. There are consequences for our actions and those consequences can even be eternal. God wants us to repent and turn to Him in love, but He also gives us the freedom to reject Him. God is patient with us, He does not want anyone to “perish but that all should come to repentance.” Still, it is up to us to decide whether or not we will follow Him. God went so far as to become one of us and die on the cross in order to save us. He has given everything we need to have new life in Him and get to Heaven. Yet, He won’t force us to accept that free gift. It is our choice. As Christians, He has poured out His grace upon us throughout the sacraments. We also must do our part. We are called, especially during this Advent season, to prepare to meet the Lord. This second reading reminds us to do this by “conducting (ourselves) in holiness and devotion.” We are to let the grace of God transform us and make us holy so we will be prepared for “the day of the Lord,” whenever that may be.

Gospel Reading Mark 1: 1-8 - Commentary

In today’s Gospel, we hear the words from the first reading quoted. We see the ultimate fulfillment of those words in John the Baptist and the person of Jesus Christ. God’s full presence has come to dwell with His people through the Incarnation. John the Baptist was the precursor to Jesus, the Messiah. He prepared the way for His coming. In particular, we see Him announcing the coming of the Messiah and helping people prepare their hearts to meet Him by “proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.” What follows this passage is the baptism of Jesus by John, which began Jesus’ public ministry. Thus, we see here John preparing the people to encounter the living God as He would walk among them and minister to them through His preaching and healing. So, too, we are called to prepare to encounter Jesus. We are to open our hearts everyday to receive Him and let Him be the king of our lives. How do we do this? Just like in the Gospel, the first step is repentance of our sins so that we can receive God’s forgiveness.

TAKING IT HOME:

- **During Advent, in particular, we are called to prepare to encounter the Lord. Reflect on what you can do this Advent season to grow in “holiness and devotions.”**
- **Take the opportunity this Advent to heed the call of today’s readings to repentance by visiting the Sacrament of Reconciliation. God is waiting there to offer you His forgiveness.**

(Commentary – St. Joseph’s in Marion)

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