

St. Thomas the Apostle Church

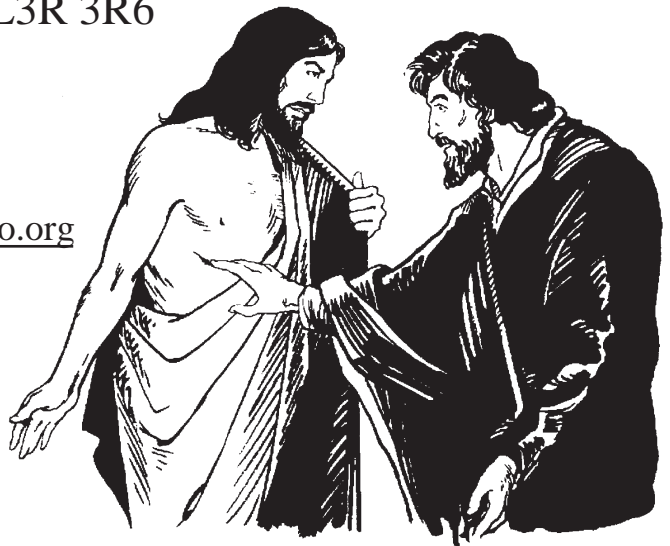
14 Highgate Drive, Markham, Ontario L3R 3R6

(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
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DAY CARE

St. Mary of Leuca	90-475-2536
St. Mary of Leuca CONVENT	905-475-2350

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

SUNDAY JANUARY 10, 2021

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

PRAY FOR THE DEAD: Marcus Rodrigues, Norma Guerrero, and for those who have died from the Covid – 19 Virus and for those who have no one to pray for them.

THERE ARE NO PUBLIC MASSES
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

LIVESTREAMING MASSES ON FACEBOOK

ALL MASSES ARE OFFERED FOR THE PEOPLE
AND FOR THOSE SICK WITH COVID

Monday to Friday: 12:10 p.m.
Saturday: 9:00 a.m.
Sunday: 10:30 a.m.

All Confessions are by appointment

Father Allyn Rose: 416-799-0407 (except Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday this week)

Father Patrick: 647-877-1774 (except Thursday)

Envelopes are ready to pick up.

Appointments are needed to come to the office.

PARISH OFFERTORY Weekly goal \$7,500.00 (to meet our expenses)

We received \$6,315.85 (December 31, 2020) (Includes PAG, Donate now, etc.)

COMMENTARY ON THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

John preached a baptism of penance for the remission of sins. Many people flocked to him to listen to his words and fulfil this penitential sign, with the desire to start a new life after the rite of purification. Jesus comes with the other people as one more among them. But how is it possible that Jesus does so? He has no sins in need of forgiveness! The Baptism – like us – is disconcerted by Jesus' behavior and says: "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" (Mt 3:14). But Jesus replies: "Let it be so now; for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness" (Mt 3:15). In the cultural context of the Judaism of that time, "righteousness" was viewed as the faithful fulfillment of the Torah, as the full acceptance of the divine will. The deep meaning of what is now taking place is manifested only at the end of Christ's earthly life – in His Death and Resurrection.

By coming to receive John's baptism, Jesus begins to manifest himself as the one who fulfills the saving plans of God to bring His people to the promised homeland of Heaven. Jesus begins His public life when He rises from the waters of the River Jordan. Moses had died, after contemplating the Promised Land from Mount Nebo, just before crossing the same river in which Jesus was baptized. Now Jesus begins His preaching on leaving the Jordan, which was where the life of Moses had ended. It is Jesus who truly brings to fulfillment what Moses had begun.

Moreover, the words heard by the people signal quite clearly that everything that had been announced by God has begun to be fulfilled. The phrase "This is my beloved Son" (v.17), pronounced by a voice from heaven, is an echo of God's words addressed Abraham when asking him to sacrifice his son Isaac: "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love" (*Gen* 22:2). Thus, a parallel is established between the dramatic scene in Genesis, where Abraham is willing to sacrifice his only son Isaac who accompanies him without resisting, with the drama consummated on Calvary, where God the Father offered His Son in a sacrifice accepted voluntarily for the redemption of the human race.

The next phase, "with whom I am well pleased" (v.17), recalls the beginning of the Canticles of the Servant of the Lord in the Book of Isaiah: "Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights" (*Is* 42:1). It is in the fourth of these canticles that we see clearly delineated everything the Servant of the Lord will need to suffer in order to redeem mankind: "But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; upon Him was the chastisement that made us whole, and with His stripes we are healed" (*Is* 53:4-5).

As the Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches: "The Spirit whom Jesus possessed in fullness from His conception comes to 'rest on him.' Jesus will be the source of the Spirit for all mankind. At His baptism 'the heavens were opened' (v. 16) – the heavens that Adam's sin had closed – and the waters were sanctified by the descent of Jesus and the Spirit, a prelude to the new creation." {1} From this moment on, the redeeming and sanctifying action of the Most Holy Trinity will be manifested ever more clearly in Jesus' life, in His teaching and miracles, and in His Passion, Death and Resurrection.

(Opus Dei)

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