

St. Thomas the Apostle Church

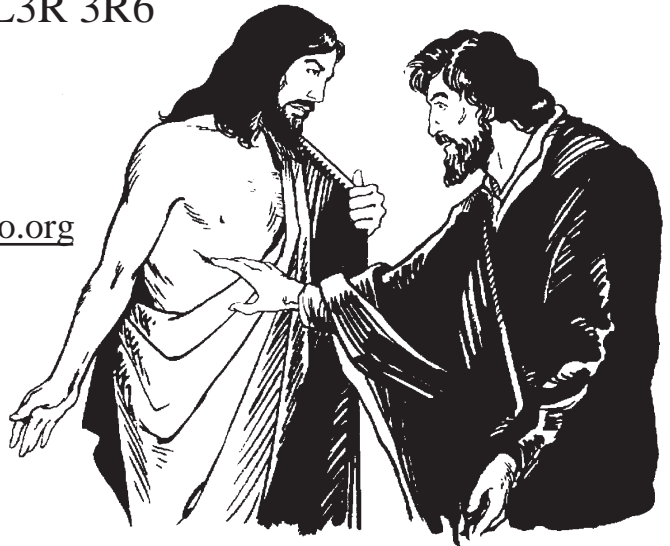
14 Highgate Drive, Markham, Ontario L3R 3R6

(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 8:00, 10:00 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 from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

CONFESSIONS

By appointment only.

Father Allyn Rose: 416-799-0407

Father Patrick Gnanapragasam: 647-877-1774

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

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SUNDAY MAY 9, 2021

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Eric Maddan, Giuseppina Sala, Fitzroy James, Joyce D'Souza, Lilia Tionson, Edilberto Claveria, Margaret Carter, Elizabeth Wong, Domenic D'Souza, Samantha Fernandes, Jerry Wang, Agnes Yuen, Jack Wilson, Phillip Kong, Marien Pereira, Gloria Pereira, Sam Di Blasi, Teresa Cheung, Jessica Kong, and for all those who are sick with the Covid – 19 Virus.

PRAY FOR THE DEAD: Carol Fernandes, those who have died from 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: **10:00 a.m.**

All Confessions are by appointment

Father Allyn Rose: 416-799-0407

Father Patrick: 647-877-1774

The Parish Office will be closed for the duration of the Shutdown.
Messages on phone and internet will be checked once a day.

PARISH OFFERTORY **Weekly goal \$7,500.00 (to meet our expenses)**
We received \$4,620.04 – April 30, 2021 (Includes PAG, Donate now, etc.)

HOLY COMMUNION ON SATURDAYS

FROM 3:00 – 7:00 P.M.

SIGN UP ON OUR WEB PAGE, GO TO SIGN UP GENIUS.

THE SIGN UP CLOSES AT 1:00 P.M. ON FRIDAYS.

Commentary on The Gospel from John 15: 9 - 17

It is only a few weeks since Good Friday when we commemorated the agonizing death of Christ on Mount Calvary. This was an excruciating, shameful death even for hardened criminals who deserved it. But for our loving Savior, the innocent Lamb of God, one who had never offended God or neighbor, it was something of which the whole human race should be ashamed forever. What caused Christ that torment and death on the cross was our sins, the sins of all mankind and not the spite and hatred of his Jewish opponents, who were only instruments in the tragedy. Atonement had to be made to God for the sins of the world, so that men could reach the eternal inheritance which the incarnation made available to them. However, not all the acts of the entire human race could make a sufficient atonement to God. A sacrifice, an expiation of infinite value was needed. The death of the Son of God in His human nature was alone capable of making such an expiation.

That Christ willingly accepted crucifixion for our sakes, that He gave the greatest proof of love which the world has ever known, by laying down His life for His friends, did not make His sufferings any less, did not ease any of the pains of Calvary. His agony in the Garden before His arrest shows this: He foresaw all the tortures and pains which He was to undergo and sweated blood at the thought of what awaited Him. But He was to keep His Father's commandment "not my will but thine be done." We Christians must have hearts of stone, hearts devoid of all sense of gratitude, when we forget what Christ has done for us and deliberately offend Him! Alas, this is what all of us do sometimes, and many of us do all of the time. Christ died to bring us to heaven but we tell Him, by our sins, that He was wasting His time. We do not want to go to heaven, we are making our happiness here!

How far can human ingratitude and thanklessness go? Christ told us, through the disciples on Holy Thursday night, that He had made us His friends, His intimates. We are no longer servants in the household, who merely earn their daily wage and have no intimacy with the family and no hope of ever sharing in the family possessions. Instead, we have been adopted into the family by Christ becoming man, we have been guaranteed all the rights of children intimacy with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and the future sharing in the eternal happiness of that divine household. Christ's incarnation made us God's children; Christ's death on the cross removed sin. Sin is the one obstacle that could prevent us reaching our eternal inheritance.

Because God gave us a free will we can in a moment of folly, a moment of madness really, deprive ourselves of the privileges and possessions which Christ has made available to us. We can choose to exchange an eternity of happiness for a few fleeting years of self-indulgence on earth. We can fling Christ's gift of love back in His face and tell Him we don't want it. God forbid that we should ever act like this, that we should ever forget God's purpose in creating us. It is a marvelous thing to be alive, if we have hope in a future life. If nothing awaited us but the grave, then to live on this earth, which is a valley of sorrow and tears for the vast majority, would be the cruelest of jests. But of this we need have no fear. Life on earth is but a short prelude to our real existence. If we use this brief period as Christ has told us how to use it, death for us will be the passage into the eternal mansions. Be grateful to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit; love the Blessed Trinity; prove your love by loving your fellowmen. By doing this you are fulfilling the whole law and the prophets; and you are assuring yourself of the place in heaven which Christ has won for you.

Excerpted from the Sunday Readings by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.

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