

# St. Thomas the Apostle Church

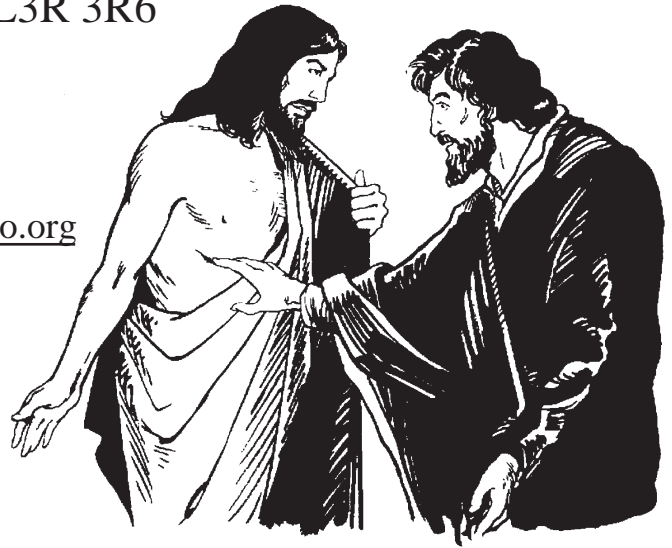
14 Highgate Drive, Markham, Ontario L3R 3R6

(2 blocks north of Steeles at Birchmount)

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

[stthomastheapostle@bellnet.ca](mailto: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

### YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

[www.ycdsb.ca](http://www.ycdsb.ca)

### 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



THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

(LAETARE SUNDAY)

SUNDAY MARCH 27, 2022

Monday 12:10 p.m.  
Intentions of Harry Ramadhin and Family  
(Ramadhin Family)

Monday 7:00 p.m.  
Souls in Purgatory

Tuesday 12:10 p.m.  
+Amanda Ahwai  
(Teresa Tang)

Tuesday 7:00 p.m.  
+Conchita Verzosa  
(Family)

Wednesday 12:10 p.m.  
+Chang Ken Chiu  
(Society of St. Vincent de Paul Conference)

Wednesday 7:00 p.m.  
+Anto Rayan  
(Jacob Family)

Thursday 12:10 p.m.  
+Theresa Sui Ing Lim  
(Family)

Thursday 7:00 p.m.  
+Steven Cheng  
(Lam Family and Friend)

Friday 12:10 p.m.  
+Una Bergin  
(Alice Slattery)

Friday 7:00 p.m.  
Intentions of Giuseppina Sala  
(Family)

Saturday 9:00 a.m.  
+Maria Hing-Lan Leung  
(Family)

Saturday 5:00 a.m.  
For the People of the Parish

Sunday 8:00 a.m.  
For the living and deceased members of the  
Daughters of St. Mary of Leuca and for their  
living and deceased families.  
(Jackie Mackenzie)

Sunday 10:00 p.m.  
+Tyrone Wong  
(Family)

Sunday 12:00 p.m.  
+Mrs. Lai-Ying Poon  
(Jefferson Tse)

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Eric Maddan, Giuseppina Sala, Fitzroy James, Edilberto Claveria, Margaret Carter, Domenic D'Souza, Samantha Fernandes, Jerry Wang, Agnes Yuen, Jack Wilson, Phillip Kong, Marien Pereira, Sam Di Blasi, Teresa Cheung, Jessica Kong, Gloria Pereira, Dorine Coulture, John Yuen, Theresa Snider, Wing Yuen, Betty Chan, Irene Tsang, Sherwin Wong, Everest D'Souza, Aloysius Carvalho and for all those who are sick with the Covid – 19 Virus.

PRAY FOR THE DEAD: Father Antoni Mendrela and for those who have died from the Covid – 19 Virus and for those who have no one to pray for them.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS EVERY FRIDAY DURING  
LENT AFTER THE 7:00 P.M. MASS

THE FIRST FRIDAY OF APRIL

**Occurs this week. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
will take place until Benediction at 11:45 p.m.**

2000 HAIL MARY DEVOTION DAY OF PRAYER

The Legion of Mary is hosting the Annual 2000 Hail Mary Devotion on May 7, 2022. We are inviting all to join us at St. Thomas the Apostle Church any time from 6:00 to 4:00 p.m. You can also join us by praying at home. Please contact Winnie Thien @416-889-0659 or [winthien@rogers.com](mailto:winthien@rogers.com) to sign up for a time slot and petition. God Bless and thank you. (Winnie)

DO YOU OR ANYONE YOU KNOW WANT TO LEARN  
MORE ABOUT THE REAL PRESENCE OF OUR LORD  
IN THE EUCHARIST?

You are invited to attend a Zoom program on Jesus in the Eucharist: the source and summit of Christian life. The program runs from April 26 onwards for two hours once a week. Registrations can be made at [JesusInTheEucharist@gmail.com](mailto:JesusInTheEucharist@gmail.com) Capital J,I,T and E. For more information, please see the poster at the entrance of the Church.

SHARELIFE “Vulnerable members of our community are relying on you and me to ensure ongoing access to the care they so desperately need. This is why it’s crucial we meet our parish campaign goal of \$13.8 million. Our goal can be met, but only if we each do our part.” – Cardinal Thomas Collins

Our Parish goal is **\$85,000.00** We have received **\$10,696.10**

PARISH OFFERTORY

**Weekly goal \$7,500.00 (to meet our expenses)**  
**We received: \$5,514.01 (March 20, 2022)**  
**Includes Pag, Donate Now, etc.)**

## ALL PARISHIONERS SHOULD BE REGISTERED

and are asked to support the parish and the needs of the Church by using Sunday Offertory Envelopes and making up for any absence during vacation. New parishioners are asked to register in the parish office. Also, on the website you can arrange to use PAG

**For those who did not receive envelopes or are using plain envelopes,  
please come to the office after Mass to receive offering envelopes.**

## BUNDLE UP FOR THE SOCIETY OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

Collection date is April 9 – 10 We accept clothes, shoes, boots, towel, bedding etc.

We do not accept appliances, baby or regular furniture, books, mattresses, dishes, construction material or Video tapes For more information visit [www.ssvptoronto.ca](http://www.ssvptoronto.ca)

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT - LAETARE SUNDAY

### **Gospel Reading – Luke 15:1-3,11-32**

#### **Jesus teaches about forgiveness in the parable of the Prodigal Son.**

The parable Jesus tells in today's Gospel is unique to the Gospel of Luke. Jesus has been teaching the crowds as He journeys to Jerusalem. As He teaches, the Pharisees and Scribes complain and challenge Jesus because He is welcoming sinners at His table. Today we hear the third of three parables that Jesus tells in response to His critics. These three familiar parables – the lost sheep, the last coin and today's parable of the prodigal son – invite us to consider the depth of God's mercy and love.

The Pharisees taught a scrupulous observance of Jewish Law. In their interpretation and practice, observant Jews who shared table fellowship with sinners would be made unclean. Like Jesus, the Pharisees hoped to lead sinners back to God. The Pharisees, however, required that sinners first become ritually clean – observant of the Pharisees' interpretation of Jewish Law – before sharing table fellowship. This appears to be one of the major differences between the Pharisees and Jesus. Jesus reaches out to sinners while they are still sinners, inviting them to conversion through fellowship with Him. Jesus is God acting among us; by befriending us, He is inviting us to return to friendship with God. Through friendship with Jesus our sins are forgiven and we, in turn, bear fruit for God. Recall last Sunday's Gospel and the barren fig tree.

Our familiarity with today's parable risks dulling us to its tremendously powerful message. We call this the parable of the son or the prodigal son. Any focus on the younger son, however, must also be balanced by an examination of the unusual behavior of the Father.

First, we must imagine our first response to the audacity of a son who asks for his inheritance before his father has died. Indignation would certainly be a justifiable response to such a request. Yet the father in this parable agrees to honor the son's request and divides his property among his two sons. How might we describe such a father? Foolish comes to mind, but so does trusting. Without property of his own, the father must rely upon his sons to provide for his well-being.

The younger son takes his inheritance and leaves home. The older son remains, continuing to provide for the father and the household. Having been disgraced by the younger son, the father spends some time watching the road for the return of the lost son. When he eventually sees his wayward son returning, the father not only welcomes him but runs out to greet him and then honours him with a party. We see that this father is loving and forgiving. Yet these adjectives only begin to describe the depth of love and mercy that characterize the father.

We find no surprise the anger of the older son. Yet the father appears sad and even confused by the older son's indignation. He says in reply that they should celebrate because the lost son had returned. The father is filled with gratitude and love for the older son's faithfulness. This love is in no way diminished by the father's rejoicing at the return of the younger son. Yet the older son's jealousy reveals his limited understanding of the depth of his father's love.

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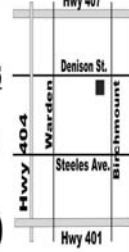
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