# 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.

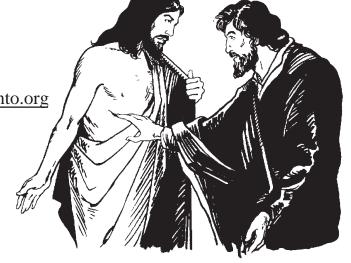
An information package should be picked up at the Parish Office before meeting with the deacon.

#### **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

#### YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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 905-4	74-1224 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.

Intentions of Chin Szeto and Kenneth Ng (Chit and Josephine Szeto)

Monday

7:00 p.m.

Souls in Purgatory

**Tuesday** 

12:10 p.m.

+Mary Kamala Nicholas and Family +Rosaline Thirchelvam and Family (Family)

**Tuesday** 

7:00 p.m.

Souls in Purgatory (Alicia Lyn)

Wednesday

12:10 p.m.

+Pearl Perera (Shiranee and Family)

Wednesday

7:00 p.m.

Souls in Purgatory

**Thursday** 

12:10 p.m.

+Anna Kazimierz Starkiewicz (Ramsay Family)

**Thursday** 

7:00 p.m.

Souls in Purgatory

**Friday** 

12:10 p.m.

Souls in Purgatory

**Friday** 

7:00 p.m.

+Mr. Chung-Yuen Tse (Jefferson Tse)

Saturday

9:00 a.m.

+Christine Lee (Family)

Saturday

5:00 a.m.

Intentions of Edward Ho (Eda Ho)

Sunday

8:00 a.m.

For the People of the Parish

Sunday

10:00 p.m.

Souls in Purgatory

Sunday

12:00 p.m.

+Ramesh Machado (John Machado)

## THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT SUNDAY APRIL 3, 2022

#### **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:** Varghese Varambinakath, Wong Lum Shee, Junny Hung 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

#### 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 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 <u>from April 26</u> on wards for two hours once a week. Registrations can be made at JesusInTheEucharist@gmail.com

Capital J,I,T and E. For more information, please see the poster at the entrance of the Church.

**SHARELIFE** Today's Gospel shares the parable of the woman accused of adultery. Jesus admonishes the gathered scribes and Pharisees. They want her stoned, and Jesus says "Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." Our Lord's message is one of great love, forgiveness and respect for all of God's people. Social Services agencies funded by ShareLife have an 'open intake policy' and provide help based on need – not on lifestyle, gender, ethnicity nor the faith beliefs of those they help.

Our Parish goal is \$85,000.00 We have received \$12,991.10

#### PARISH OFFERTORY

Weekly goal \$7,500.00 (to meet our expenses) We received: \$5,699.76 (March 27, 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

#### 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

#### **FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

#### **Gospel Reading – John 8:1-11**

#### Jesus does not condemn the woman caught in adultery

In John's Gospel, the conflict between Jesus and the scribes and Pharisees occurs much earlier than in the Synoptic Gospels. Jesus' cleansing of the Temple in Jerusalem is reported at the beginning of John's Gospel. Even after this event, Jesus continues to teach in the Temple. After returning to Galilee for a time, Jesus again enters Jerusalem and cures a man on the Sabbath. From this point forward in John's Gospel, the Pharisees are described as making plans for Jesus' arrest and seeking His death.

In the chapter preceding today's Gospel, Jesus was teaching in the Temple area. Feeling threatened by His teaching and His actions, the chief priests and the Pharisees are already sending guards to arrest Jesus. The guards return, however, without arresting Jesus because they have been impressed by His words. Even more than this, some among the crowds are considering the possibility that Jesus is the Messiah. The chief priests and the Pharisees change their plan. Before making an arrest, they seek to gather more evidence against Jesus by posing a question intended to trap Jesus.

Today's Gospel begins by reporting that Jesus is again teaching the crowds in the vicinity of the Temple. The scribes and the Pharisees approach Jesus, bringing a woman who has been caught in the act of adultery. They put to Jesus the question of what ought to be done in this case.

The Pharisees state clearly that according to the Law of Moses, those caught in the act of adultery were to be stoned to death. Under Roman occupation, however, the Jewish people did not have the authority to execute people; this is cited in John's passion narrative. To answer the Pharisees' question, Jesus must propose an action that will either contrary to the Law of Moses or contrary to Roman law. The purpose of the question appears to be similar to the question about paying taxes found in Mark 12:13-17. Either answer, yes or no, will support the Pharisees' case against Jesus.

Jesus avoids the trap, however, by offering an answer that was not anticipated by those who posed the question. Jesus, after writing on the ground with His finger, addresses those who stand before Him and suggests tht the one without sin cast the first stone. Jesus then returns to His writing. Yet there are no specific details about what He wrote.

We can easily imagine the scene as the Pharisees and the elders disperse, one by one. Jesus has eluded the trap they had prepared. We might also give credit to the elders and the Pharisees who do not, in the end, claim to be sinless and worthy of passing judgment. These Pharisees are not as self righteous as the portrait found in the parable of the pharisee and the tax collector (See Luke 18:9-14).

Left alone with the woman, Jesus asks where the accusers have gone. With no one remaining to condemn the woman, Jesus (the one who truly is without sin) sends the woman on her way, refusing to pass judgment on her and exhorting her to avoid future sin.

Jesus' response to those who accuse the woman is more than a caution to us about making judgment of others. It is a profound lesson in divine mercy and forgiveness. As sinners, we are all unworthy to judge the sins of others and we would stand convicted by God for our transgressions. Yet Jesus, the one without sin and thus our judge, offers us who are sinners His mercy and forgiveness. Redeemed by Jesus' compassion, we are sent to sin no more and to live in God's love and peace.

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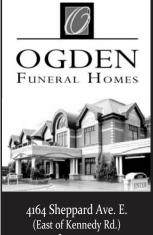
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