

St. Thomas the Apostle Church

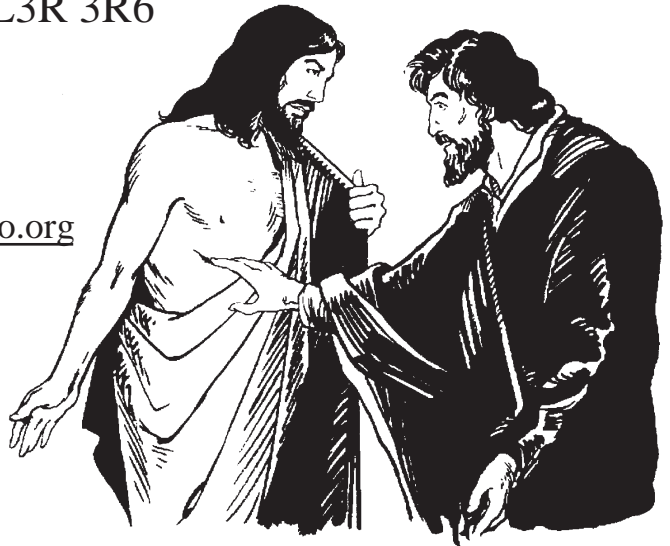
14 Highgate Drive, Markham, Ontario L3R 3R6

(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)

Secretary - Jackie Mackenzie (ext. 221)

Part Time Secretary (Thursdays) - Maureen Daunt

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 Church)

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

ADORATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Thursday & Fridays after the 12:10 Mass to
7:00 Evening Mass.

CONFESSIONS

Before all Weekend and Weekday Masses

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 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	416-302-1823
Legion of Mary Sr.	Amy Rebeiz	647-643-2232
Legion of Mary Jr.	Juliette Huang	416-302-1823
Prayer Group	Al Jacob	416-697-7179
Society of St. Vincent de Paul		905-474-1224 ext. 230
Knights of Columbus	Neil Ishmael	905-477-3129
FNE Explorers	Maurice Chang	416-889-0183

PARISH MUSICIANS

Organists

Christopher Ku/Kevin Ku 416-298-2541

DAY CARE

St. Mary of Leuca 905-475-2536

St. Mary of Leuca CONVENT 905-475-2350

Mass for the Intentions Week

Monday March 13 12:10 p.m.

Intentions of Patricia McKenna
(Jackie Mackenzie)

Monday March 13 7:00 p.m.

Intentions of Eda Ho
on her Birthday

Tuesday March 14 12:10 p.m.

+John Fritz Bock
(Family)

Tuesday March 14 7:00 p.m.

Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday March 15 12:10 p.m.

+Philomena Rodrigues
(Anthony Pereira and Family)

Wednesday March 15 7:00 p.m.

+Senia Vera Cruz
(Family)

Thursday March 16 12:10 p.m.

+Philomena Bong
(Pearlie and Molly Tan)

Thursday March 16 7:00 p.m.

+Winston Nugara
(Carrillo Family)

Friday March 17 12:10 p.m.

+Bellian Chua, Gregory, Eric, Jin Sim,
Jin Imm Tan
(Tan Family)

Friday March 17 7:00 p.m.

Souls in Purgatory

Saturday March 18 9:00 a.m.

Souls in Purgatory

Saturday March 18 5:00 p.m.

+Maxime, Marie Anne
and Joseph Yves Chan-Yan-Fong
(JP and Virginie Chan)

Sunday March 19 8:00 a.m.

For the People of the Parish

Sunday March 19 10:00 a.m.

Living and Deceased Family and
Friends of Chit and Josephine Szeto

Sunday March 19 12:00 p.m.

+David Cloutier
(Family)

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT SUNDAY MARCH 12, 2023

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Eric Maddan, Giuseppina Sala, Fitzroy James, Edilberto Claveria, Margaret Carter, Jack Wilson, Phillip Kong, Aloysius Carvalho, Nicholas Marshall, Tony Romero, Al Jacob, Bruce Crepe, Romana Pena, Godofredo Pena Jr., Priscilla Lumanlan, Paul Giallonardo, Liza Chan, William Lee Ah-Chong, Amy Tsang, Grace Chan, Mary Foo, Lynn Demers, Edwin Quiambao, Mary Josephine Albert, Betty Chan and William Yung

PRAY FOR THE DEAD: Anthony Mascarenhas 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

COME AND SEE - DISCERNMENT WEEKEND

The Office of Vocations will be hosting a Come & See Weekend Discernment Retreat for men 18 years and older, at St. Augustine's Seminary on Friday, March 17 (6:30 p.m.) until Sunday March 19 (2:30 p.m.) This Retreat offers a way for men to discern a possible call to priesthood at our seminary. Registrations must be done online www.vocationstoronto.ca/comesee

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT - March 12, 2023

"But the one who drinks of the water that I will give will never be thirsty." Do you thirst to know where God is leading you? Could you be thirsty for an understanding of your purpose? If God is calling you to serve Him as a priest, deacon, brother or sister, contact Father Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto 416-968-0997. Email: vocations@archtoronto.org www.vocationstoronto.ca

14th ANNUAL - DYNAMIC WOMEN OF FAITH

Catholic Women's Conference on Saturday March 25, 2023

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Old Mill Toronto Event Venue
21 Old Mills Road, Toronto, ON M8X 1G5

**Opening Mass celebrated by Most Reverend Robert Kasun, CSB,
Auxiliary Bishop of Toronto
Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord.**

Speakers and Topics:

Sister Deirdre Byrne

The Heroes of My Life Lead Me to Our Lady

Dr. Josephine Lombardi

Healing and Forgiveness

Diana Filipiak, Kasia Ryba, Sandra Wojcik

Journeying with Mother Mary

Dorothy Pilarski

Why minister to moms? How to start a Catholic Mom's Group

Limited Seating! Register at www.dynamicwomenfaith.com

Questions? Contact: 416-907-1042

PARISH OFFERTORY

Weekly goal \$7,500.00 (to meet our expenses) We received, \$6,011.72 (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.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Gospel Reading: John 4:5-42 Jesus reveals Himself to the Samaritan woman at the well.

On this Sunday and the next two Sundays, we break from reading the Gospel of Matthew to read from John's Gospel. The Gospel of John is the only Gospel not assigned to a particular Liturgical year. Instead, readings from John's Gospel are interspersed throughout our three-year Liturgical Cycle.

In today's Gospel the dialogue between Jesus and a woman from Samaria is among the most lengthy and most theological found in Scripture. The most startling aspect of the conversation is that it happens at all. Jesus, an observant Jew of that time, was expected to avoid conversation with women in public. The animosity between the Jews and the Samaritans should have prevented the conversation as well. The woman herself alludes to the break from tradition: "How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?" Yet, Jesus not only converses with the woman, He also asks to share her drinking vessel, an action that makes Him unclean according to Jewish Law.

The initial conversation between Jesus and the woman is better understood if we consider the importance of water, especially in the climate of Israel. At first, the woman understands Jesus' promise of "living water" in a literal sense: "Sir, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." With no running water, the daily trip to the well by the women of the community was of paramount importance. The woman of the town would have traveled to the well in the early morning, but this woman came to the well at noon, the hottest time of the day. The timing of her visit is a clear sign that she is an outcast within the Samaritan community. We learn in her conversation with Jesus that she is an outcast because of her "many husbands."

Behind the conversation lies the animosity and rivalry between the Jews and the Samaritans. Samaritans shared Jewish ancestry, but Samaritans had intermarried with foreigners when they lived under the rule of the Assyrians. Samaritan religion included worship of Yahweh, but was also influenced by the worship of other gods. When the Jews refused Samaritan help in the building of the Temple at Jerusalem, the Samaritans eventually build a temple for themselves at Mt. Gerizim (the same mountain mentioned by the woman at the well). Like the Jews, the Samaritans believed that a Messiah would come.

The high point of the conversation is when Jesus reveals Himself to her as the Messiah. His answer to the Samaritan woman's questions about worship is meant to predict a time when worshiping in truth and spirit will become the way to worship.

After the conversation, the Samaritan woman becomes a disciple. Even though she is an outcast and not a Jew, she returns to her town to lead others to Jesus and to wonder whether she has found the Messiah. The Samaritan townspeople return with her to meet Jesus for themselves, and many are said to come to believe in Him.

The significance of the encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan woman has many levels. The first is personal: The woman is herself converted to belief in Jesus as Messiah because He knows her sin but speaks with her just the same. The second is social: Having come to know Jesus as the Messiah, the Samaritan woman becomes an evangelist to her own people.

The third level of the story is educational: Jesus uses His encounter with the Samaritan woman to teach His disciples that God's mercy is without limit. The disciples return from their shopping quite confused to find Jesus talking with a Samaritan, and a woman at that! But the conversion of the Samaritan townspeople is a foretaste of the kingdom of open community that will be created among those who believe that Jesus is the Messiah.

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