

St. Thomas the Apostle Church

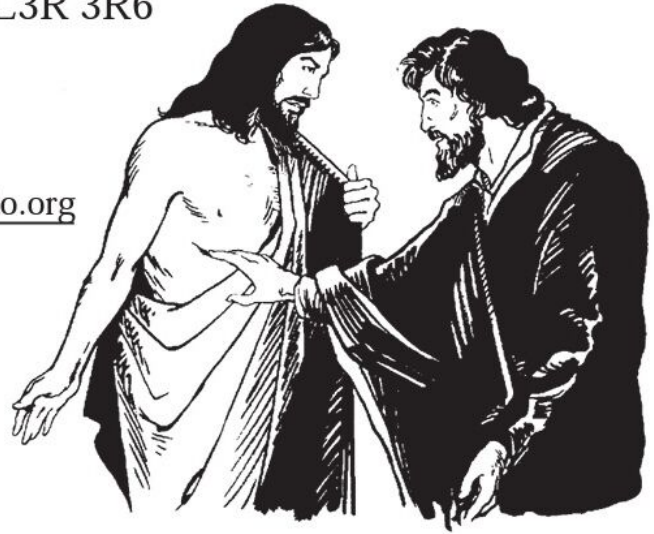
14 Highgate Drive, Markham, Ontario L3R 3R6

(2 blocks north of Steeles at Birchmount)

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

stthomastheapostlema@archtoronto.org

website: <https://stthomastheapostlema.archtoronto.org>



PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Saturday: Office Closed

Pastor - Fr. Allyn Rose (ext. 222)

Associate Pastor - Father Patrick Gnanapragasam (ext 224)

Deacon - Everis Munroe (ext. 223)

Secretary - Jackie Mackenzie (ext. 221)

Part Time Secretaries: Maureen Daunt, Mary Carbery

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
Seniors	Les Rodrigues	905-479-6023
Society of St. Vincent de Paul		905-474-1224 ext. 230
Knights of Columbus	Herwin Shillingford	416-824-3347
FNE Explorers	Maurice Chang	416-889-0183

PARISH MUSICIANS

Organists

Christopher Ku/Kevin Ku	416-298-2541
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DAY CARE

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

MASS INTENTIONS

- Monday December 4 12:10 p.m.**
Deceased Members of the
Dinglasan and Alday Families
(Allan Dinglasan Family)
- Monday December 4 7:00 p.m.**
+Enrico Nardozi
(Family)
- Tuesday December 5 12:10 p.m.**
+Mary Kamala Nicholas and Family
+Rosaline Thirchelvam and Family
(Family)
- Tuesday December 5 7:00 p.m.**
Souls in Purgatory
- Wednesday December 6 12:10 p.m.**
+Antonietta Iacobelli
(Salvatore and Rosalia Di Blasi)
- Wednesday December 6 7:00 p.m.**
Intentions of Kimberly Lefko
- Thursday December 7 12:10 p.m.**
In Thanksgiving and for the intentions of
the Beltrano Family
(Bernardine Cheung)
- Thursday December 7 7:00 p.m.**
+K.C. Joseph and Tony Joseph
(James Joseph)
- Friday December 8 12:10 p.m.**
+Glenda Lobo and Vivian Lobo
(Family)
- Friday December 8 7:00 p.m.**
+Rocco Sala
(Sala and Comacomando Families)
- Saturday December 9 9:00 a.m.**
Deceased Family and Friends of the Pucyk
Family
- Saturday December 9 5:00 p.m.**
Intentions of
Angelyn and Christine Ah-Chong
(Patricia Ah-Chong)
- Sunday December 10 8:00 a.m.**
Deceased Members of the friends of the
Suffering Souls
(Rosa Lim)
- Sunday December 10 10:00 a.m.**
Deceased members of the
Fernandez Family
- Sunday December 10 12:00 p.m.**
For the People of the Parish

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT **SUNDAY DECEMBER 3, 2023**

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Giuseppina Sala, Fitzroy James, Edilberto Claveria, 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, William Yung, Agnes Yuen, Rowena Poon, Emilia Cabral, Jessica Kong, Dorine Couture, Maryann Redoblado, Veronica Small, Annette McIntosh, Kevin Ramoutar, Benedict Maraj and Mimi Borromeo, Erlinda Petfield, Ching Lan, Elsie Lin, Chiu Jung Lin, Anthony Small, Maryann Redoblado and Jonrick Carlo Bautista.

PRAY FOR THE DEAD: For those who have no one to pray for.



Confirmation



**First Holy
Communion**

REGISTRATION PACKAGES FOR THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

For students in Grades 7 and up are available in the parish office. Students of St. Francis Xavier and St. Benedict will receive the registration package through their school. First Communion grades 2 and up. Packages at school and at parish office for those in other schools.



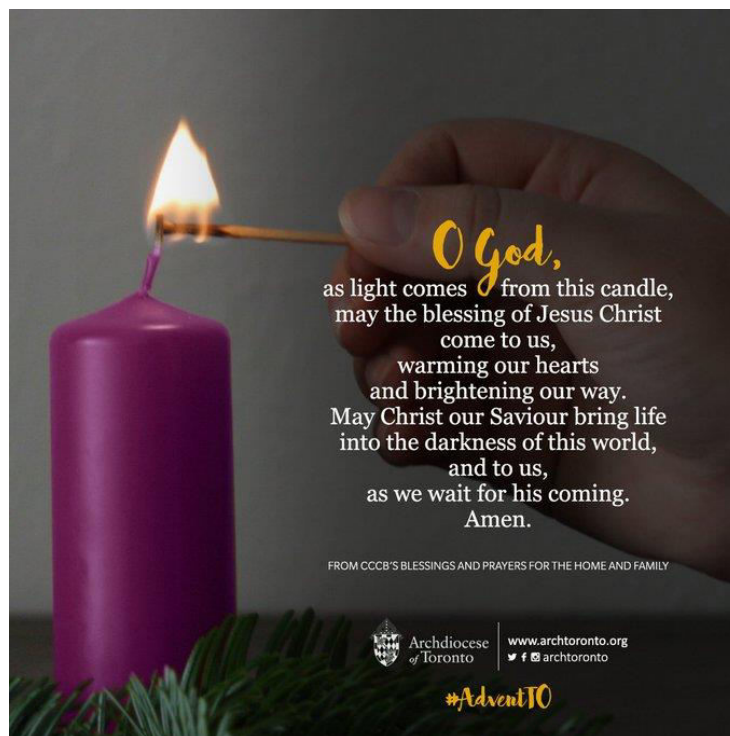
MATCHING GIFT PROMOTION FOR SHARELIFE

Between now and December 31, gifts to ShareLife will be matched up to \$500,000. Our office has been receiving calls from parishioners asking if we will have a matching campaign this year, and we are grateful for the generosity of the anonymous donor who is making this possible.



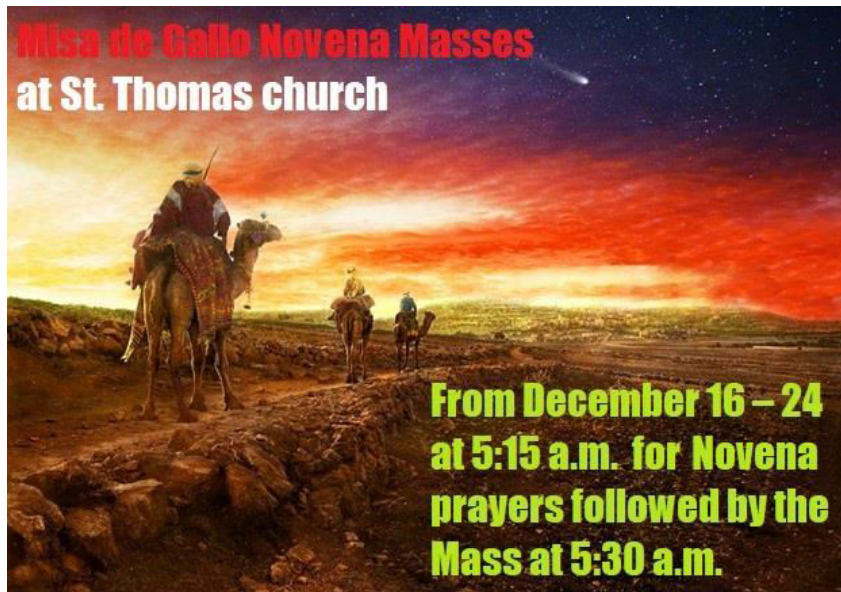
YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED FOR THE OASIS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Tuesday, December 19 in the parish hall, from 12:30 to 3:00 p.m. Buffet lunch starts at 1:00 p.m. Bring your own beverage. Only water is available. Karaoke, Carol singing, games. Tickets \$20.00 Early bird \$15.00 before November 30th. To reserve your tickets, contact your OASIS member, or email oasis.stthomas@gmail.com or text Les 905-479-6023 or Russell 647-898-6480. Tickets will be available after all weekend Masses, December 3 and 4 and 9 and 10. All proceeds go to the St. Vincent de Paul.



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The season of Advent calls us to be vigilant in anticipation of the Master's return so that we live each day according to the teachings of Christ. Could God's "particular task" for you be a call to a Church vocation? If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997. Email: vocations@archtoronto.org Website: www.vocationstoronto.ca



MISA DE GALLO

The traditional Misa De Gallo previously held at the Daughters of St. Mary of Leuca convent will now be held at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish starting **December 16 until December 24. Novena prayers start at 5:15 a.m. followed by Mass at 5:30 a.m.**



PARISH OFFERTORY

Weekly goal \$7,500.00 (to meet our expenses). We received \$8,967.22 (Includes Pag, Donate Now, etc.).



THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The KOC continue to fundraise by collecting **EMPTIES**, such as the following: Beer cans or bottles, wine bottles, spirits such as (vodka, rum, or whiskey, etc.). **Drop off location for empties, downstairs by the washrooms.** All proceeds will go to St. Thomas the Apostle and the Charities of the KOC.



**ALL ARE INVITED TO THE ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION
ON SUNDAY DECEMBER 31 IN THE PARISH HALL FROM 6:00 P.M. TO 1:00 A.M.**

Buffet dinner will be served at 7:30 p.m. Liquor licensed – bring your own beverage. Only water available with dinner. Children dinner 7:00 p.m., followed by children's countdown at 8:00 p.m. There will be party favours, prizes and games. Tickets \$40.00. Early bird \$35.00 before November 30th. Children's tickets \$15.00. To reserve your tickets, contact an OASIS member, or email: oasis.stthomas@gmail.com or text Les 905-479-6023 or Russell 647-898-6480. Tickets will be available after all weekend Masses, December 3 & 4 and 9 & 10. All proceeds to St. Thomas the Apostle Church.



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Gospel Reading - *Mark 13:33-37*

Jesus warns His disciples to be watchful so that they will be ready when the Son of Man comes.

Today we begin the season of Advent, which marks the start of a new Liturgical Year for the Church. The readings for Sunday Mass are arranged on a three-year cycle. Each year features a different Gospel – Matthew, Mark, or Luke. Readings from the Gospel of John are interspersed throughout all three years. With this year's first Sunday of Advent, we begin Cycle B of the Lectionary, which focuses our attention on the Gospel of Mark. This week and next week, our readings from Mark's Gospel present two important Advent themes: The Lord's return at the end of time and John the Baptist's preparation for Jesus.

Today's Gospel is taken from the end of Mark's Gospel, the chapter that immediately precedes Mark's account of Jesus' Passion. Having been questioned repeatedly by the scribes and the Pharisees, Jesus is now questioned by

His disciples – Peter, James, John, and Andrew – who want details about His prediction of the destruction of the Temple. Jesus answers with many warnings about the difficulties that the disciples will face.

Today's passage comes at the conclusion of Jesus' warnings to His disciples. Jesus emphasizes the need for watchfulness. The Son of Man will come without warning; only the Father knows the exact hour. The disciples must not be caught unprepared when this time comes.

Scholars believe that Mark's Gospel was written around the time of the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in A.D. 70. Mark's audience consisted of Christians who were living in difficult social and political times, time of conflict. They were likely beginning to face persecution as followers of Jesus. In this difficult time, it helped to recall that Jesus had foretold of such difficulties. Early Christian communities took courage from Jesus' warning to remain alert and watchful, and they found in His words a way to persevere through suffering.

Today's Gospel reminds us that Advent is about more than our preparations for the Church's celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas. Advent is also about preparing ourselves for Christ's return in glory at the end of time. Like the disciples and the faithful in Mark's community, we must also stay alert and watchful. Our faithfulness to God, through the good times as well as the difficult times, shows us to be ready for the coming of the Son of Man.

Loyola Press

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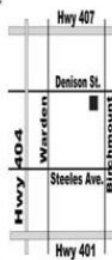
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