

# 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](mailto:stthomastheapostlema@archtoronto.org)

website: [stthomastheapostlema.archtoronto.org](http://stthomastheapostlema.archtoronto.org)



*“Dominus meus et Deus meus”*

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Saturday: 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Pastor - Fr. Allyn Rose (ext. 222)

Father Patrick Gnanapragasam (in residence) 647-877-1774

Deacon - Everis Munroe (ext. 223)

Secretary - Jackie Mackenzie (ext. 221)

Part Time Secretaries: Maureen Daunt, Geraldine Rocha

## 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.

## 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	John Yu	416-828-9711
Screening Coordinator	Liz Pinto	905-889-5755
R.C.I.A.	Juliette Huang	416-302-1823
Legion of Mary	Winnie Thien	416-889-0659
Legion of Mary Sr.	Seth Bueler	905-474-9981
Men's Group	Lloyd Mascarenhas	647-461-2464
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

## DAY CARE

St. Mary of Leuca 905-475-2536

St. Mary of Leuca CONVENT 905-475-2350

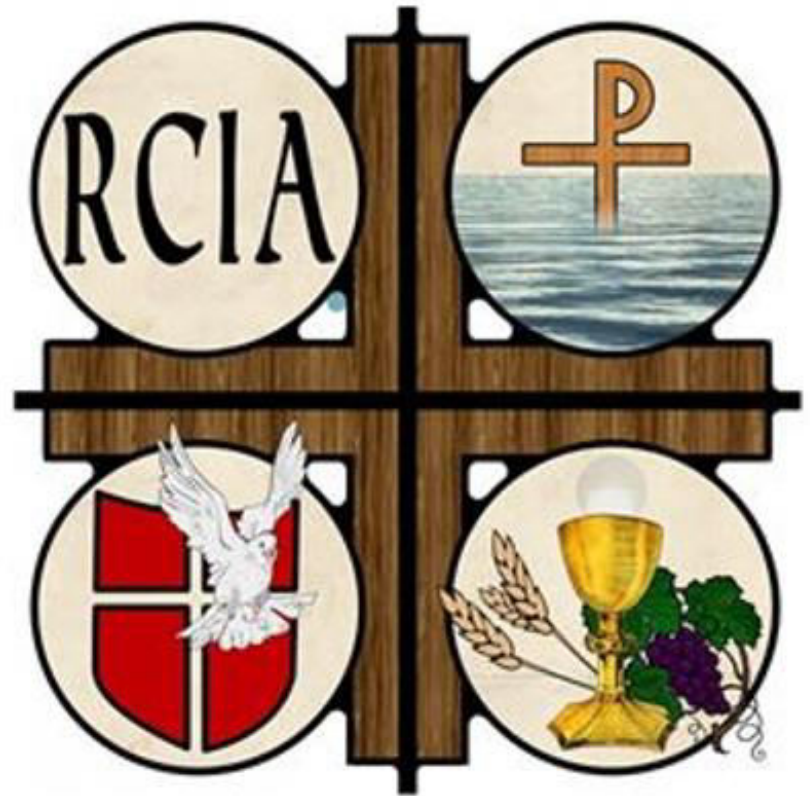
# Mass for the Intentions Week

## **TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY** **IN ORDINARY TIME** **SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 8, 2024**

- Monday September 9 12:10 p.m.**  
+Matthew Joseph Pereira  
(Anthony Pereira and Family)
- Monday September 9 7:00 p.m.**  
+Mei Lan Leung  
(Yu Family)
- Tuesday September 10 12:10 p.m.**  
+Mary Holland  
(Jackie Mackenzie)
- Tuesday September 10 7:00 p.m.**  
+Marsell Bryan
- Wednesday September 11 12:10 p.m.**  
+Dominic Ferri  
(Family)
- Wednesday September 11 7:00 p.m.**  
+Ferdinand Moo Choy  
(Family)
- Thursday September 12 12:10 p.m.**  
In Thanksgiving  
(Patricia Stuart)
- Thursday September 12 7:00 p.m.**  
+Ciriaco Bulaon  
(Bulaon and Tionson Family)
- Friday September 13 12:10 p.m.**  
Souls in Purgatory  
(Maria Lim)
- Friday September 13 7:00 p.m.**  
+Mr. and Mrs. Sinnadurai  
(Jesuthasan Family)
- Saturday September 14 9:00 a.m.**  
+William Lapan, Sr.  
(Family)
- Saturday September 14 5:00 p.m.**  
+Diane Germain Demers  
(Atkins Family)
- Sunday September 15 8:00 a.m.**  
+Anna Choong and Lim Seok Chew  
(Cheng Family)
- Sunday September 15 10:00 a.m.**  
+Joseph Jacob  
(Family)
- Sunday September 15 12:00 Noon**  
For the People of the Parish

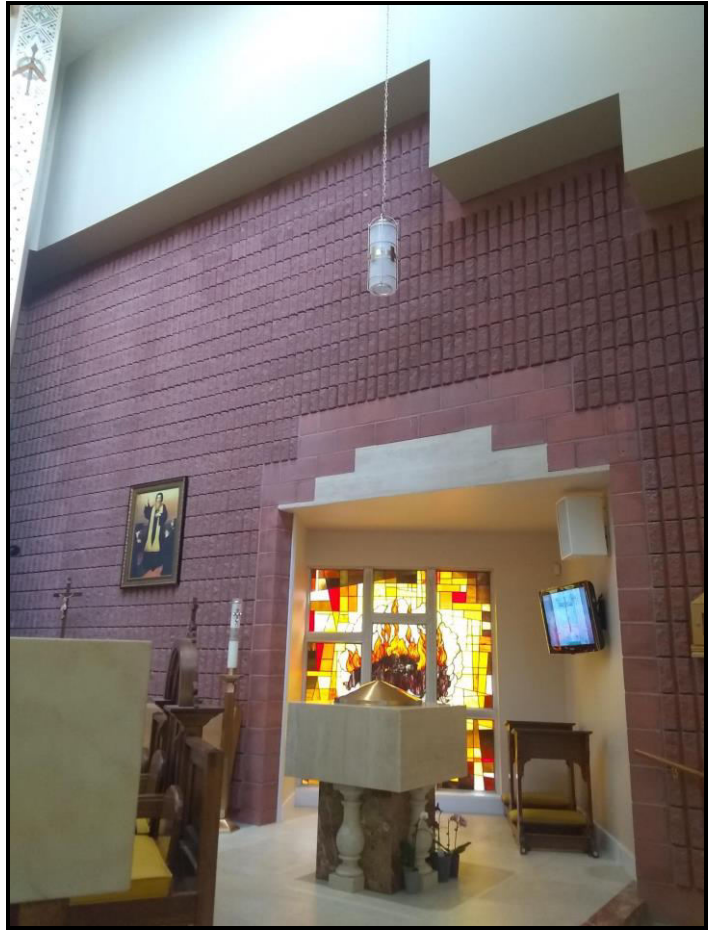
**PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Fitzroy James, Edilberto Claveria, Jack Wilson, Phillip Kong, Teresa Kong, Aloysius Carvalho, Nicholas Marshall, Al Jacob, Bruce Crepe, Romana Pena, Godofredo Pena Jr., Priscilla Lumanlan, Paul Giallonardo, Liza Chan, William Lee Ah-Chong, Amy Tsang, Grace Chan, Lynn Demers, Edwin 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, Anthony Small, Jonrick Carlo Bautista, Luchie Redoblado, Audrey Carb, Gregorio Cardelli, Francis Castor Jr., Kevin Caleb, Wenyuen Song, Kelly Smith, Collin Pereira, Thomas Chan, Linda Hustins, Yeran Kasardjian, Yeran Artine and Anna Azimi

**PRAY FOR THE DEAD:** Don and Marlene Steele and for those who have no one to pray for them.



### **RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS**

If you or anyone you know is interested in becoming Catholic, please call Juliette at 416-302-1823. Classes start in October.



**PHOTOS OF RECENTLY INSTALLED BAPTISMAL FONT LIGHT - SEPTEMBER 3, 2024**

Link to album [Photos of installation of baptismal light - September 3, 2024](#) on our parish Facebook page.



## **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.



### **PARISH OFFERTORY**

Weekly goal \$7,500.00 (to meet our expenses).  
We received \$5,841.39 - Includes PAG and Donate Now.



### **GOOD SHEPHERD MINISTRIES THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE**

**Thanksgiving Food Drive, September 2 – October 7. Please place items by the downstairs washrooms.**

**Items Needed:** Tuna and Canned Meat, Coffee and Tea Bags, Soup and Stews, Condiments (e.g. Soy Sauce, Barbecue Sauce, Ketchup, Mayonnaise, Mustard, etc.) Peanut Butter and Jams, Canned Tomatoes, Corn, Vegetables, Beans & Chickpeas, Pasta Sauce, Granola Bars and Pancake Mix, Dried Meals, Bagged Rice.

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# OASIS Lunch and Learn

**Who:** We invite all parishioners, family, and friends.

**Where:** St. Thomas the Apostle Church Hall,  
14 Highgate Drive, Markham.

**When:** Every second Tuesday of the month  
from September 2024 to March 2025.

**What:** Insights on Wellness and Mental Health Workshops.

**Program:** Mass at 12:10 pm, followed by workshop  
from 12:45 pm to 2:30 pm. **Registration needed.**

Lunch will be served with free will giving.

**How to register:** Text or call Les (905-479-6023),  
Russell (647-898-6480) or Fran (647-787-5771).

## OASIS (Older Adults Sharing In Service)

"We provide a little something for the mind, body and soul."

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## INSIGHTS ON WELLNESS

SENIORS MENTAL HEALTH WORKSHOPS

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Let us learn, share, and feel good together!

Finding Purpose and Living a wholehearted life – Sept 10  
Chronic illness and Mental health (isolation/depression) - Oct 08  
Self-care: a Life skill for Healthy living – Nov 12  
Healthy Fences: Conflict and problem-solving skills: Dec 10  
Mending and repairing relationships with family/friends – Jan 14  
Love is in the air / communicating love and connection – Feb 11  
Living/ending well – handling pain and suffering– March 11

### Catholic Family Services of Toronto

Nathalie Bedros 416-921-1163 ext.2251



### OASIS LUNCH AND WORKSHOPS

Lunch and Learn workshops: Insights on wellness and mental health, hosted by OASIS every Second Tuesday of the month from September to March. Learn about isolation, depression, dementia, grieving, self care, fitness, etc. First workshop Tuesday September 10th: 'Finding purpose and living a wholehearted life'. Mass at 12:10 pm followed by lunch (free will giving) and workshop.

**More details on bulletin board. Reservation is a must for organizing lunch.**

**Please call Les Rodrigues @ 905-479-6023**

**Below is a brief talk by Les Rodrigues after all Masses on the weekend of August 31/September 1, 2024 in which he promoted the upcoming OASIS Lunch and Learn series.**

In today's second reading, St. James says, "be a doer and not a hearer". I have had the privilege of volunteering with many of our doers in this parish from 2007 until the dawn of COVID, in serving the marginalized and the elderly, every week, at various venues across the GTA.

These two short stories will summarize our experience: Jack a 70+, young at heart, gentleman lived in the west wing of a retirement home. Every evening in the dining hall, he would see Jane equally young at heart, prancing around, moving from table to table, socializing with her friends and some days she would even sit besides Jack before retiring to her room in the East wing. Jack was in love with Jane. He wanted her as a constant companion, someone to talk to, hold hands with. One evening Jack proposed to Jane and she accepted and they went about their way merrily, one to the east wing the other to the west. Next morning Jack couldn't remember if Jane had said yes so, he phoned her. Jane said 'of course I said yes, and I meant it. I am glad you called because I couldn't remember who I had said yes to'. The sense of belonging, dementia, loneliness, forgetfulness – can you relate to that?

Second story. Once a month we would visit a retirement home to play bingo with the residents. I didn't know her name, nor did she mine, but she would always be waiting for me. She would hold my hand and say something in Mandarin. I thought that she needed help to play. I would tell her that I would return to help her as soon as I had said hello to all the residents. It soon became evident, when she wouldn't let go of my hand, that she had much more to say. She could have been telling me of her isolation, depression, abuse, chronic pain, grieving while I spoke to her in English telling her about a cricket match in India. It was not the spoken words but the gesture. TO 'reach out, to touch, to listen. That's all she wanted. Can you relate to that?

**OASIS** its an acronym for **O**lder **A**dults **S**haring **I**n **S**ervice, our senior's group at St. Thomas. We know your challenges. I can testify to that. For the past 19 years, I have been a single parent and for majority of those years I have been a 24/7 chauffeur, crisis manager, food supplier and the bank. I couldn't wait for the kids to fly the coop and when they did, I came crashing down. Behind the façade and that smile, we all hide our pain. I know your challenges, they are real.

We are working with Catholic Family services which is funded by ShareLife in addressing your concerns. From isolation to depression, dementia, grieving, self-care, mental health, broken relations, chronic diseases, etc. Every second Tuesday of the month we will host a lunch and learn session after the noon Mass. The speaker practiced nursing for 24 years before she went on to obtain her Masters. She is now a professor, a counsellor and a professional speaker. You don't have to talk about your personal challenges, should you need, private counselling services are available. The number is on the flyer in the lobby.

Some Tuesdays you will enjoy the talk and not the lunch and other Tuesdays you will enjoy the lunch and not the talk. Should you have any questions, concerns, I will be with some of my **OASIS** friends in the lobby. Come and register so we can cater for your lunch and your needs. Howard University spent millions of dollars on an 85-year study to conclude that it's not smoking or drinking, money or career, the biggest contributing factor for longevity and happiness is social connection. Join us, alone you can talk but together we can converse. Alone you can smile, but together we can laugh. Alone you can enjoy, but together we can celebrate.

# ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH



**AFTER EVERY MASS IN THE PARISH HALL**



Knights of  
Columbus

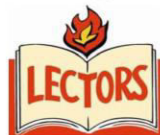


Society of St. Vincent de Paul

OASIS



OFFERING  
COUNTERS



Extraordinary Ministers  
of Holy Communion



Decorating  
Ministry



Funeral  
Ministry



Federation of North-American  
EXPLORERS



CHURCH  
CLEANING



Rosary Makers  
Ministry



SACRAMENT PREP

## **ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH MINISTRY FAIR**

**SEPTEMBER 28 AND 29 IN THE PARISH HALL**

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish welcomes all new, recent and long-time parishioners to our [Parish Ministry Fair](#) on **the weekend of September 28 and 29**. After the Masses, Ministry Fair tables will be on display downstairs in the Parish Large Hall for all to explore. The theme of our ministry fair is *“Let us serve God with joy and gladness of heart”*. There are some wonderful new ministries, as well as our tried-and-true ministries. There will be many opportunities for you to get involved. Take some time to reflect on how the Holy Spirit is calling you. How can you best share your gifts? Ministry leaders will be at the tables to answer any questions. Free refreshments will be offered. Parishioners of all ages are welcome!



## **TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Did not God choose those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the Kingdom? Count your blessings, then come and help others count theirs too, as a priest, religious or deacon. **If you feel you have such a vocation, call Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.**

**Email:** [vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org)  
**Website:** [www.vocationstoronto.ca](http://www.vocationstoronto.ca)



## **TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**Gospel Reading: Mark 7:31-37**

*Jesus restores a man's hearing and speech.*

Today we continue to hear the Gospel of Mark proclaimed. In today's reading, Jesus heals a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment. This is a story about Jesus' healing power, and in it we find clues about our understanding of Sacrament. We are struck by the physical means used to heal the man, the use of spittle and touch. The Church continues to celebrate the Sacraments using physical means. In the Sacrament of Baptism, water and oil are used to show the power of the Holy Spirit. In the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, we are anointed with Holy Oil on the forehead and the hands. In the Eucharist, bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ. We are a Sacramental people who believe that God's grace is given to us through these physical signs.

Some, however, see in this Gospel an image of the proclamation of the Good News of Jesus to the Gentiles. The geographic references tell us that Jesus is journeying through Gentile territory. Jesus had previously visited this region and healed a person possessed by a demon. Jesus was already famous there, which explains why people brought the deaf man to Him. The story that precedes this reading in Mark's Gospel sets the stage. Jesus encounters a Gentile, a Syrophenician woman who asks Him to heal her demon-possessed daughter. Jesus engages her in a dialogue about not feeding to dogs the food intended for children. Jesus is struck by the woman's great faith when she replies that even dogs eat the food that falls from the table, and He heals her daughter immediately. The faith of this Greek woman compels Jesus to respond to her plea.

Mark shows that Jesus' own mission affirms the early Church's mission to the Gentiles. This was a significant issue to the early Christian community, which found that the Good News of Jesus took root and spread quickly among the Gentiles. Yet there is an irony in the story of healing that Mark tells. Jesus gives the man the gift of speech, but then tells him not to use it. Jesus asks that the news of His healing power, which is evidence of His identity as the Messiah, not be spread. This is a recurring motif in Mark's Gospel and is sometimes called the "Messianic Secret."

[Loyola Press](#)



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