

# 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

- Monday September 16 12:10 p.m.**  
+Catherine & Vaughan Georges  
(Jacqueline Georges)
- Monday September 16 7:00 p.m.**  
Agnes D Sa  
(Jeanette D'Souza)
- Tuesday September 17 12:10 p.m.**  
+Alvin Smith  
(Jackie Mackenzie)
- Tuesday September 17 7:00 p.m.**  
+Hing Lan Maria Leung  
(Yu Family)
- Wednesday September 18 12:10 p.m.**  
Intentions of  
J.F. Deanna & Kaylee  
(Family)
- Wednesday September 18 7:00 p.m.**  
In Thanksgiving and Intentions of  
Claudine & Wade Mak  
(Pat Chong)
- Thursday September 19 12:10 p.m.**  
+Catherine Vaughan Georges  
(Family)
- Thursday September 19 7:00 p.m.**  
Intentions of Elizabeth Simmons
- Friday September 20 12:10 p.m.**  
+Lawrence Cheng  
(Family)
- Friday September 20 7:00 p.m.**  
+Agrisina Aldana Frialde  
(Family)
- Saturday September 21 9:00 a.m.**  
+John Garel  
(Family)
- Saturday September 21 5:00 p.m.**  
In Thanksgiving and for the Intentions of  
Andy and Jean Pucyk  
On their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary
- Sunday September 22 8:00 a.m.**  
In Thanksgiving and for the Intentions of  
the Ling Family
- Sunday September 22 10:00 a.m.**  
+Stephen and Patty Wong
- Sunday September 22 12:00 Noon**  
For the People of the Parish

## **TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY** **IN ORDINARY TIME** **SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 15, 2024**

**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:** Violeta Nicolas and for those who have no one to pray for them.



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

“Who do people say that I am?” Who do you think Jesus is? The depth of our faith is rooted in our answer. Is God calling you to be a priest, religious, or deacon? **If you think you are being called to be a priest, religious or permanent deacon, 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)



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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. Second workshop **Tuesday October 8th**: 'Chronic Illness and Mental health (isolation/depression)'. 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**

[Link to September 1, 2024 Facebook livestream Mass video presentation by Les Rodrigues for the OASIS](#)

**Lunch and Learn talks (at the 50:32 mark of the video).**

[Link to Lunch and Learn St. Thomas Sept 10 2024 Speaker Nathalie Bedros Facebook album](#)

[Link to Google Photos Lunch and Learn St. Thomas September 10 2024 Speaker Nathalie Bedros Album](#)

[Link to September 10 2024 - Nathalie Bedros "Living a wholehearted life, while dealing with chronic disease"](#)

[Lunch and Learn YouTube video](#)

**Video and photo credits: Michael Reyes [michaelreyes.com](http://michaelreyes.com)**

**Below is the abbreviated transcript of a brief presentation by Les Rodrigues after all Masses on the weekend of August 31/September 1, 2024 in which he promoted the 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.

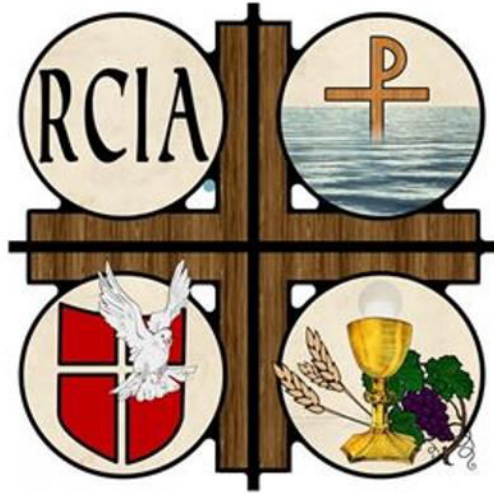
These two short stories will summarize our experience: Jack a 70+, young at heart, gentleman lived in the west wing of a retirement home. Every evening in the dining hall, he would see Jane equally young at heart, prancing around, moving from table to table, socializing with her friends and some days 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.



## **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.



### **PARISH OFFERTORY**

**Weekly goal \$7,500.00 (to meet our expenses)  
We received \$6,780.20 - 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.



# ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH



**AFTER EVERY MASS IN THE PARISH HALL**



Knights of  
Columbus



Society of St. Vincent de Paul

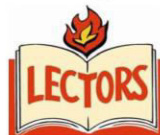
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LECTORS



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Federation of North-American  
EXPLORERS



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-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**Gospel Reading: Mark 8:27-35**

*Peter declares that Jesus is the Christ, and Jesus teaches that those who would follow Him must take up his or her cross.*

Today's reading is the turning point in Mark's Gospel. In the presentation of the life and ministry of Jesus found in the Gospel of Mark, the deeds of Jesus have shown Jesus to be the Son of God. Yet many, including Jesus' disciples, have not yet realized His identity. In today's Gospel, Jesus asks the disciples for a field report by asking what others say about Him. He then turns the question directly to the disciples and asks what they believe. Peter speaks for all of them when he announces that they believe Jesus to be the Christ.

The word *Christ* is the Greek translation of the Hebrew word for Messiah, which means "The Anointed One." At the time of Jesus, the image of the Messiah was laden with popular expectations, most of which looked for a political leader who would free the Jewish people from Roman occupation. Jesus does not appear to have used this term for Himself. As we see in today's reading, Jesus refers to Himself instead as the Son of Man, a term derived from the Jewish Scriptures, found in the Book of Daniel and in other apocryphal writings. Many scholars suggest that the phrase Son of Man is best understood to mean "human being."

Now that the disciples have acknowledged Jesus as The Christ, Jesus confides in them the outcome of His ministry: He will be rejected, must suffer and die, and will rise after three days. Peter rejects this prediction, and Jesus rebukes him severely. The image of Christ that Jesus is giving is not the image of the Messiah that Peter was expecting. Jesus then teaches the crowd and the disciples about the path of discipleship: To be Christ's disciple is to follow in the way of the cross.

We can easily miss the fear that Jesus' words must have evoked in His disciples. Death by crucifixion was all too familiar as a method of execution in Roman-occupied territories. It was also an omnipresent danger to the Christian community for whom Mark wrote. The path that Jesus was inviting His disciples to share meant tremendous suffering and death. This is the kind of radical commitment and sacrifice that Jesus calls us to adopt for the sake of the Gospel.

[Loyola Press](#)



## **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.



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