

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: 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

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

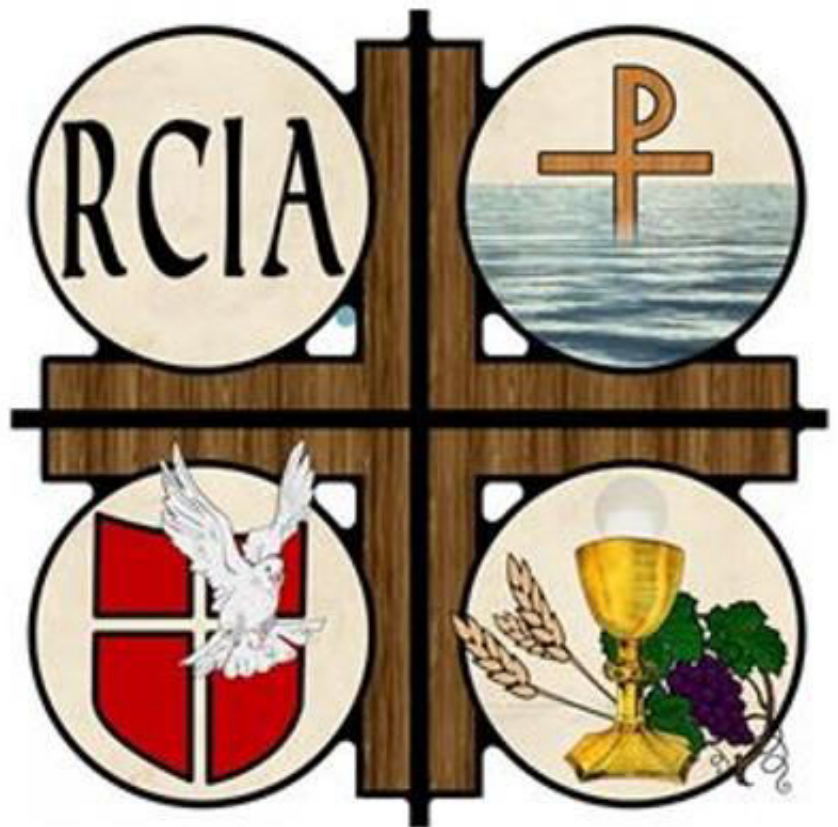
Mass for the Intentions Week

- Monday September 23 12:10 p.m.**
+Elizabeth and Vince Stellato
(Tino and Mary Sidoti)
- Monday September 23 7:00 p.m.**
Birthday and intentions of
Mitch D'Souza
(Jeanette D'Souza)
- Tuesday September 24 12:10 p.m.**
+Margaret Georges
(Jacqueline Georges)
- Tuesday September 24 7:00 p.m.**
+Eva Ho-Koon
(Family)
- Wednesday September 25 12:10 p.m.**
+Marie Smith
(Jackie Mackenzie)
- Wednesday September 25 7:00 p.m.**
+Theresa Oy Yu
(Yu Family)
- Thursday September 26 12:10 p.m.**
Intentions of
Noah and Owen Dinglasan Panlilio
(Allan Dinglasan)
- Thursday September 26 7:00 p.m.**
+Pat Dean
(Family)
- Friday September 27 12:10 p.m.**
+Leonard Georges
(Jacqueline Georges)
- Friday September 27 7:00 p.m.**
+John Chiu
(Jefferson Tse)
- Saturday September 28 9:00 a.m.**
In Thanksgiving and for the intentions of
Boris and Marietta D'Souza on their
Wedding Anniversary
- Saturday September 28 5:00 p.m.**
Intentions of Teresa Lin Shen Lan
- Sunday September 29 8:00 a.m.**
+Alfred Moo Choy
(Family)
- Sunday September 29 10:00 a.m.**
For the people of the parish
- Sunday September 29 12:00 Noon**
Intentions of
Crystal McTaggart on her Birthday
(Jackie Mackenzie)

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 22, 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, Mark Huang, and Anna Azimi

PRAY FOR THE DEAD: Father Bernard Cryer, 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.



TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” This life is the ministry of a priest, sister, brother or deacon. **If you feel God is calling you to one such vocation, call Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.**

Email: vocations@archtoronto.org

Website: www.vocationstoronto.ca



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 \$5,834.09 - Includes PAG and Donate Now.**

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."

INSIGHTS ON WELLNESS

SENIORS MENTAL HEALTH WORKSHOPS



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 \(at the 50:32 mark of the video\).](#)

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 is 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

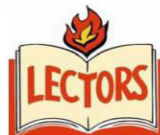


Society of St. Vincent de Paul

OASIS



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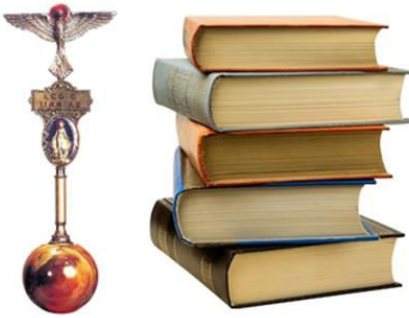
Rosary Makers Ministry



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!



THE LEGION OF MARY WILL HAVE A TABLE FOR THE BOOK BORROW AT THE MINISTRY FAIR ON SEPTEMBER 28/29

Parishioners can borrow at no cost, to read at their leisure and return the signed-out items when they are done with them. You can also keep the book(s) for reference. Legionaries will be available to assist you with your choice of books.



TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Gospel Reading: Mark 9:30-37

Jesus teaches His disciples that the greatest are those who serve all.

In today's Gospel, we hear Jesus again predict His passion, death, and Resurrection to His disciples. The setting here is important. Jesus and His disciples are preparing to journey through Galilee, a Jewish territory in which Jesus has already encountered problems with the Pharisees. Perhaps this is why Mark indicates that Jesus was trying to journey in secret. In predicting His passion, Jesus is acknowledging the danger they will face and is trying to prepare His disciples for it. Yet Mark tells us that the disciples did not understand what Jesus was saying and were afraid to ask what He meant. Such hesitation on the part of the disciples is not characteristic behavior. Peter had no fear about rebuking Jesus in last week's Gospel. Perhaps this is an indication that His disciples were aware that a new situation was emerging.

Mark paints a vivid picture in today's Gospel. Having arrived at Capernaum, Jesus and His disciples enter a house. In this private place, Jesus asks His disciples about the argument they had while they were journeying. Again, the disciples are uncharacteristically silent and afraid to answer. They have been found out. Jesus then summons the Twelve, whom Mark identified earlier in his Gospel as those chosen by Jesus to preach and to drive out demons. To this select group of disciples, Jesus teaches that those who would be first in God's Kingdom must be the servants of all.

Jesus then calls forward a child and teaches the Twelve that to receive a child in Jesus' name is to receive both Jesus and the One who sent Him. We might easily fail to understand the significance of this action. In first-century Palestine, children were without status or power, possessing no legal rights. In this action, Jesus is teaching His disciples and us that when we serve the least ones among us, we serve Jesus Himself. Who are the people without power or status in our society that Jesus is calling us to serve? Do we do so willingly? Jesus teaches that God's judgment of us will be based on this criterion alone.

[Loyola Press](#)



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.

NEAL and SMITH
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- ☎ Community Engagement

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