

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



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

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	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 INTENTIONS

- Monday December 2 12:10 p.m.**
+Glenda Lobo and Vivian Lobo
And living members of the Lobo Family
- Monday December 2 7:00 p.m.**
Deceased Members of the
Chong-Ah-Yan Family
(Pat Chong)
- Tuesday December 3 12:10 p.m.**
+Enrico Nardozi
(Family)
- Tuesday December 3 7:00 p.m.**
Souls in Purgatory
- Wednesday December 4 12:10 p.m.**
+Vaughan and Catherine Georges
(Family)
- Wednesday December 4 7:00 p.m.**
+Joyce and Leslie D'Souza
(Family)
- Thursday December 5 12:10 p.m.**
Deceased Members of the Alday Family
(Allan Dinglasan)
- Thursday December 5 7:00 p.m.**
Intentions of Ali Itayim
- Friday December 6 12:10 p.m.**
+Mary Kamala Nicholas and Family
+Rosaline Thirchelvam and Family
(Family)
- Friday December 6 7:00 p.m.**
Vocations to Priesthood
- Saturday December 7 9:00 a.m.**
Living and Deceased Members of the
Daughters of St. Mary of Leuca and their
Living and Deceased Families
(Jackie Mackenzie)
- Saturday December 7 5:00 p.m.**
+Olga D'Rosario
(Atkins Family)
- Sunday December 8 8:00 a.m.**
+Tony Mendonca
(Family)
- Sunday December 8 10:00 a.m.**
For the People of the Parish
- Sunday December 8 12:00 p.m.**
In Thanksgiving and for the Intentions of
Angelyn and Christine Ah-Chong
(Pat Chong)

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT **SUNDAY DECEMBER 1, 2024**

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Fitzroy James, Edilberto Claveria, Jack Wilson, Phillip Kong, Teresa Kong, Aloysius Carvalho, Nicholas Marshall, Al Jacob, Kelvin Ramoutar, Agnes Yuen, Jessica Kong, Dorine Couture, Wai Wong, Maria Francisco, Ronald Persaud, and Anna Azimi

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



THIS WEEK (DECEMBER 6)

IS THE FIRST FRIDAY OF DECEMBER

Adoration of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament after the 7:00 p.m. evening Mass until Benediction at 11:45 p.m.



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation, drunkenness and the worries of this life.” Are worldly cares dragging you down? Be a follower of the Master. **If 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



STAINED-GLASS WINDOWS AT ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH

Beautiful photos of full-sized and close-up images of all stained-glass windows in our church, including two very good photos of our church sanctuary as well as a panoramic photo of all windows.

Photo credits: Anna Torres

[Link to Google Photos photo album of stained-glass windows](#)

Additionally, this is a public request to any/all St. Thomas the Apostle parishioners/friends of our parish who might be able to assist in identifying the image symbols contained in all the windows. Those submissions will then be added as descriptions to the photos in the Google Photos album. Here is an email address to send your submissions: stthomassocialmediaphotos@gmail.com. Thanks in advance for your cooperative collaboration.



PARISH OFFERTORY

**Weekly goal \$7,500.00 (to meet our expenses).
We received \$5,717.39 - Includes PAG and Donate Now.**



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.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

14 Highgate Drive, Markham, Ontario L3R 3R6

You are cordially invited to the **Parish 2024 New Year's Eve Bash**

Music compliments of **DOMINGOS**

MENU

No Pomp, no pageantry, just
an old-fashioned Family
Event with friends you will
make.

Good food, warm hearts and
music to please all ages

Adult Ticket – \$45

Early Bird – \$40 before 30th November

Dinner: 7.30 pm, New Year's Count

Down Midnight

To reserve your tickets call or text

Les – 905-479-6023 or Russell – 647-898-6480 or

Jim – 416-432-9288

Online: e-transfer to fmartis51@gmail.com

Dinner Menu – 7.30 pm

Roast Chicken

Roast Potatoes

Beef Curry

Chick Peas

Fried Rice

Green Salad

Naan / Bread

Dessert

Coffee / Tea

Child Ticket – \$15 (Under 12 years)

Dinner: 6.45 pm, Games & Count

down 8.00 pm.

**Tickets if available will be sold after all
weekend Masses**

December 7 & 8 and 14 & 15

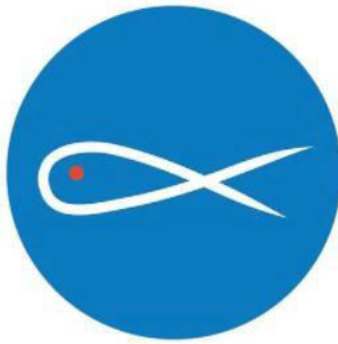
PARISH 2024 NEW YEAR'S EVE BASH

Tuesday December 31 from 6:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. No pomp, no pageantry, just an old-fashioned Family Event with friends you will make. Good food, warm hearts and music to please all ages. **Adults \$45.00 (\$40.00 for early bird until November 30)**. Children under 12 - \$15.00. Dinner at 6:45 (children first). Count down at 8:00 p.m. for the children. Bar – Water. People can bring their own beverages. Licensed. Dinner Menu: Roast Chicken, Roast Potatoes, Beef Curry, Chickpeas, Fried Rice, Green Salad, Naan/Bread, Dessert, Coffee and Tea.

Tickets will be sold after all Masses on December 7/8 and 14/15.

To reserve your tickets call or text Les 905-479-6023 or Russell 647-898-6480 or Jim 416-432-9288

Online: e transfer to fmartis51@gmail.com



THE ANNUAL COLLECTION FOR ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
WILL BE TAKEN UP NEXT WEEK

Envelopes are in the Bulletin. Envelopes will be given out to those who do not take a bulletin.



Misa de Gallo

at St. Thomas the Apostle Church



From December 16-24, 2024
Novena prayers at 5:15 a.m.
followed by the Mass at 5:30 a.m.

Monday, December 16, 2024 - Day One of Novena/Mass

Tuesday, December 17, 2024 - Day Two of Novena/Mass

Wednesday, December 18, 2024 - Day Three of Novena/Mass

Thursday, December 19, 2024 - Day Four of Novena/Mass

Friday, December 20, 2024 - Day Five of Novena/Mass

Saturday, December 21, 2024 - Day Six of Novena/Mass

Sunday, December 22, 2024 - Day Seven of Novena/Mass

Monday, December 23, 2024 - Day Eight of Novena/Mass

Tuesday, December 24, 2024 - Day Nine of Novena/Mass followed by Potluck in Parish Hall

1999-2024

*Come and help us
to celebrate the*

25th year

*of Misa de Gallo at
St. Thomas the Apostle*



THE MISA DE GALLO NOVENA AND MASSES WILL BE FROM DECEMBER 16 TO 24
AT ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH

- 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, 2024.**
- **Novena prayers start at 5:15 a.m. followed by Mass at 5:30 a.m.**
- After the final Novena Mass (**Tuesday, December 24**), there will be a potluck in the Parish Hall.

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**THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
ARE SELLING CHRISTMAS CARDS AND CAKES **AFTER ALL MASSES****



REGISTRATION PACKAGES FOR THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

For students in Grades 7 and up are available in the parish office. These are for students who attend other schools. Students who attend St. Francis Xavier and St. Benedict will receive the registration package through their school.



All Seniors welcome

OASIS Christmas Luncheon

Tuesday 17 December 2024

From 12:30 to 3:00 pm

St. Thomas the Apostle Church Hall

1:00 pm: Buffet lunch, dessert, water, tea and coffee
Bring Christmas cheers to share.
Karaoke, Carol singing, Line dancing.

Tickets: OASIS members \$15. All others \$20

To reserve your tickets contact
Les 905-479-6023 Or Russell 647-898-6480 Or Jim 416-432-9288
Online: e transfer to fmartis51@gmail.com

Tickets, if available will be sold after all weekend Masses, December 7/8 and 14/15

membership \$5.00. OASIS is registering as non-profit and will be applying for seniors funding.

ALL SENIORS WELCOME - OASIS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

TUESDAY 17, DECEMBER 2024 - FROM 12:30 TO 3:00 P.M.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH HALL

1:00 P.M.: Buffet Lunch, dessert, water, tea and coffee
Bring Christmas cheers to share. - Karaoke, Carol singing, Line Dancing

Tickets: OASIS member \$15.00 all others \$20.00

To reserve your tickets contact Les 905-479-6023 or Russell 647-898-6480 or Jim 416-432-9288

Online: e transfer to fmartis51@gmail.com

Tickets, if available, will be sold after all weekend Masses, December 7/8 and 14/15.

Membership \$5.00. OASIS is registering as non-profit and will be applying for seniors funding.



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Gospel Reading: Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

Jesus teaches His disciples to be vigilant so that they will be ready when the Son of Man comes in Glory.

Today is the First Sunday of Advent, which is also the First Sunday of the New Liturgical Year. The Advent season includes the four Sundays that precede Christmas. Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of the Lord. In this season, we recall two central elements of our faith: the final coming of the Lord in Glory and the Incarnation of the Lord in the Birth of Jesus. The key themes of the Advent Season are watchful waiting, preparation, and justice.

In this new Liturgical Year, the Gospel of Luke will be the primary Gospel proclaimed (Lectionary Cycle C). Today's Gospel is taken from the last chapter before the passion narrative in which Jesus is teaching in the Temple. We hear Jesus speak to His disciples about the need for vigilance and prayer as they wait for the coming of the Son of Man in Glory. This passage marks the conclusion of a lengthy dialogue in which Jesus predicts the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem, warns about the persecution and tribulations to follow, and identifies the signs that will signal the coming of the Son of Man in glory.

The community for whom Luke wrote his Gospel may have believed that they were already experiencing some of the events Jesus described. Most scholars believe that Luke's Gospel was written after the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in 70 A.D. At the time, many Christians interpreted this event as an indication that Jesus' second coming was near.

Though Jesus predicts a time of destruction and fear, Jesus indicates that others will be frightened; Jesus' disciples are not to fear but are to stand tall. Yet Jesus does not promise deliverance from anxiety or tribulations. He encourages His disciples to pray for strength. The early Christian communities did not find consolation in the promise of a utopia, nor should we. Instead, we find in our Christian faith the means by which we witness to God's unfailing love for us in all circumstances.

Jesus' predictions about the end times may sound dire, but in the next paragraph Luke tells us that people woke early to listen to Jesus' teaching in the Temple area. In His person and in His message, those who heard Jesus found strength and consolation. Like the first Christians, we may encounter events and circumstances that could lead us to despair. Through prayer, however, we find strength and consolation in Jesus' words and in His continuing presence with us to endure all things and to witness to the action of God in our world.

[Loyola Press](#)

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