

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 16** 12:10 p.m.
Intentions of Lilia Victorino
(Lilia)
- Monday December 16** 7:00 p.m.
Good Health of the
Leung and Yeung Families
(Aaron Leung)
- Tuesday December 17** 12:10 p.m.
Intentions of Brendan D'Souza
(Family)
- Tuesday December 17** 7:00 p.m.
+Jesuthasan
(Family)
- Wednesday December 18** 12:10 p.m.
In Thanksgiving and for the intentions of
Chantal Wong
(Pat Chong)
- Wednesday December 18** 7:00 p.m.
+Teresa Vermeulen
(Pat Lynch)
- Thursday December 19** 12:10 p.m.
+Mrs. Lai-Ying Poon
(Jefferson Tse)
- Thursday December 19** 7:00 p.m.
Good Health for
Carling Yung and the Yung Family
(Aaron Yeung)
- Friday December 20** 12:10 p.m.
Souls in Purgatory
(Maria Lim)
- Friday December 20** 7:00 p.m.
+Rafael Buenaobra
(Zamora Family)
- Saturday December 21** 9:00 a.m.
+Marcus Cheng
(Family)
- Saturday December 21** 5:00 p.m.
In Thanksgiving and for the
intentions for Rex, Margaret,
Jefferson and Giovanna Tse
- Sunday December 22** 8:00 a.m.
For the People of the Parish
- Sunday December 22** 10:00 a.m.
+Mary and Rohib Elias
(Family)
- Sunday December 22** 12:00 p.m.
+Eva Ho-Koon
(Family)

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (GAUDETE SUNDAY) **SUNDAY DECEMBER 15, 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, Kenneth Chin-Loy and Anna Azimi

PRAY FOR THE DEAD: Marianna (Ramulu) Naddi, Karl Lukas and for those who have no one to pray for them.



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.



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Could God be calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother, or sister and announce the Good News to His People as John the Baptist did? **Contact 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.



2024 CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

- Christmas Eve Masses: 5:00 p.m. and 12:00 a.m.
- Christmas Day: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 Noon.
- Confessions before and after the 9:00 a.m. Mass on December 24th and also from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve.
- New Year's Eve Mass: 5:00 p.m.
- New Year's Day Masses: 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 Noon
- Confessions before and after 9:00 a.m. Mass on December 31st. Also, confessions from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on New Year's Eve.

DAILY MASSES

Thursday December 26 – 9:00 a.m. only.
Friday December 27 – 9:00 a.m. only.
Saturday December 28 – usual 9:00 a.m.
Monday December 30 – 9:00 a.m. only
Tuesday December 31 – 9:00 a.m.

January 1, 2025 Solemnity of Mary,
Mother of God (**Holy Day of Obligation**)

2024 CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE



**OUR FNE EXPLORERS WILL SING CHRISTMAS CAROLS
AT 4:30 P.M. AT CHRISTMAS EVE MASS (DECEMBER 24)**

For our 5 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass (December 24), join our [FNE Explorers](#) at 4:30 p.m. to sing Christmas carols as we await the birth of our saviour, Jesus Christ. All are welcome and encouraged to sing along with the FNE timberwolves, explorers, and leaders. We hope to see you there!

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.** 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.

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



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 TOMORROW,
(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.



PARISH OFFERTORY

Weekly goal 7,500.00.

We received \$5,916.50 - Includes PAG and Donate Now.



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Gospel Reading: Luke 3:10-18

John the Baptist teaches the path of repentance and announces Christ.

This Sunday's Gospel continues last week's focus on John the Baptist and his role in preparing the way for Christ. Recall that last week's reading described John's appearance in the desert and established his connection with the prophetic tradition of Israel. If we were to read Luke's Gospel continuously, we would learn about John the Baptist challenging the crowds who came to him and calling upon them to show evidence of their repentance. John tells his listeners that they cannot rely on their lineage as Israelites because children of Abraham can be raised up from stones. Repentance, rather, must be observable in one's actions. Here, Luke is continuing to set up two important themes of his Gospel message: the Christian faith is expressed in one's actions, and the call to salvation is extended to everyone. Jews and Gentiles.

In today's Gospel reading, the crowds ask John the Baptist for specifics. What evidence of repentance is required? John replies by naming concrete actions: crowds should share their food and cloaks; tax collectors should be just; soldiers should act fairly. The concern for justice is a hallmark of Luke's Gospel.

When the crowd begins to wonder if John the Baptist might be the Messiah, John interprets his baptism and makes it clear that his ministry is in preparation for the Messiah. John the Baptist knows his place and role in God's plan of salvation. By encouraging the crowd to act similarly in accordance with their stations in life, John's teaching suggests that each person has a role to play in God's salvation. It is the great mystery of our salvation that God permits and even asks for human cooperation in His Divine plans.

The Third Sunday of Advent is also called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is a Latin word that means "rejoice." This name is taken from the entrance antiphon for Sunday's Mass, which is also echoed in today's second reading from the Paul's letter to the Philippians. Some people mark this Sunday by lighting a pink candle instead of a purple one on their advent wreath. It is a reminder that the Advent Season is a season of joy because our salvation is already at hand.

[Loyola Press](#)



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