

# 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)



## 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](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
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### DAY CARE

St. Mary of Leuca	905-475-2536
St. Mary of Leuca CONVENT	905-475-2350

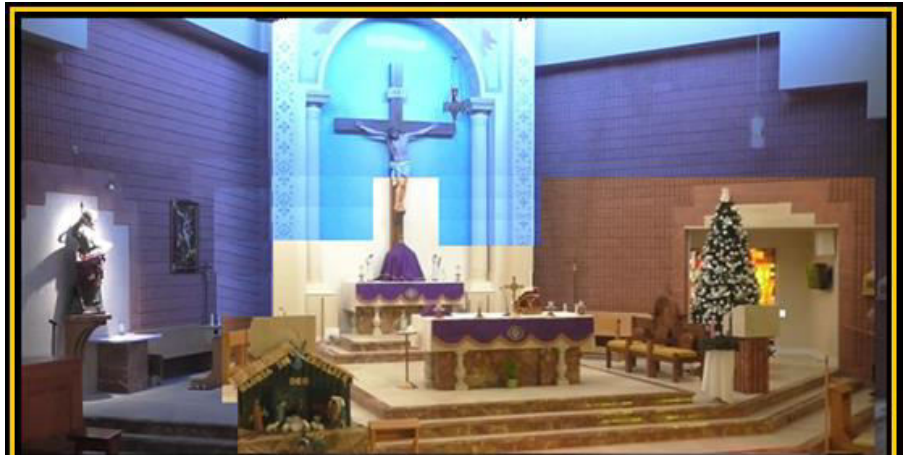
## **MASS INTENTIONS**

- Monday December 23** 12:10 p.m.  
Intentions of Carrie Ho  
(Eda Ho)
- Monday December 23** 7:00 p.m.  
+Betty Olaes  
(Family)
- Tuesday December 24** 9:00 a.m.  
For Wayne G.J. Chow  
(Family)
- Tuesday December 24** 5:00 p.m.  
Christmas Eve – For the People
- Tuesday December 24** 12:00 a.m.  
Christmas Eve – For the People
- Wednesday December 25** 8:00 a.m.  
Christmas Day – For the People
- Wednesday December 25** 10:00 a.m.  
Christmas Day – For the People
- Wednesday December 25** 12:00 p.m.  
Christmas Day – For the People
- Thursday December 26** 9:00 a.m.  
+John and Violet Patel
- Thursday December 26** 7:00 p.m.  
**No Evening Mass**
- Friday December 27** 12:10 p.m.  
In Thanksgiving and for the  
intentions of Margaret Tse  
(Jefferson Tse)
- Friday December 27** 7:00 p.m.  
**No Evening Mass**
- Saturday December 28** 9:00 a.m.  
Deceased Legionaries
- Saturday December 28** 5:00 p.m.  
+Ernesto Baja Sombero  
(Family)
- Sunday December 29** 8:00 a.m.  
For the People of the Parish
- Sunday December 29** 10:00 a.m.  
+Simon Seck  
(Family)
- Sunday December 29** 12:00 p.m.  
+Rosalyn Ver  
(Family)

## **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT** **SUNDAY DECEMBER 22, 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:** Marita Salvosa, and or those who have no one to pray for them.



**Wishing all a Happy  
and Holy Christmas**

*From Father Allyn Rose, Father Patrick Gnanapragasam,  
Deacon Everis Munroe, and the parish staff:  
Maureen Daunt, Mark Huang,  
Jackie Mackenzie, Geraldine Rocha  
and our volunteers, Marylou Papa, Pat McKenna,  
Juliette Huang, Winnie Thien, etc. etc.*



## **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Are you called to follow in the footsteps of Mary as a priest, deacon or religious to carry the Good News of God's great Love? **Contact 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)



## 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**)

*Please note the Daily Mass changes for this week.*



## **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.



**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!



**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 have already received the registration package through their school.

# 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 30<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto:fmartis51@gmail.com)



## **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

*Gospel Reading: Luke 1:39-45*

*Mary visits Elizabeth, who sings praise to Mary and her child.*

On this last Sunday before Christmas, our Gospel reading prepares us to witness Christ's birth by showing us how Jesus was recognized as Israel's long-awaited Messiah even before His birth. The Gospel turns our attention from the ministry of John the Baptist to the events that preceded John the Baptist's birth. The story of John the Baptist and his parents, Elizabeth and Zechariah, are reported only in Luke's Gospel. Luke pairs the birth of John the Baptist and Jesus, establishing John's early connection to the Messiah.

Our Gospel reading recalls Mary's actions after the announcement of Jesus' birth by the angel Gabriel. Mary goes to visit Elizabeth, her cousin, who is also with child. Elizabeth greets Mary with full recognition of the roles that they and their unborn children will play in God's plan for salvation. If we were to continue to read the verses that follow in Luke's Gospel, we would hear Mary respond to Elizabeth's greeting with her song of praise, the Magnificat. Both women recall and echo God's history of showing favor upon the people of Israel.

In Luke's Gospel the Holy Spirit helps reveal Jesus' identity as God to those who believe. Elizabeth is filled with the Holy Spirit and sings Mary's praise because she bears the Lord. We sing these words of praise to Mary in the Hail Mary. Even John the Baptist, the unborn child in Elizabeth's womb, is said to recognize the presence of the Lord and leaps for joy.

It is appropriate in this season of Advent that we consider the role of Mary in God's plan of salvation. Elizabeth describes Mary as the first disciple, as the one who believed that God's word to her would be fulfilled. Mary's faith enabled her to recognize the work of God in her people's history and her own life. Her openness to God allowed God to work through her so that salvation might come to everyone. Because of this, Mary is a model and symbol of the Church. May we be like Mary, open and cooperative in God's plan for salvation.

[Loyola Press](#)



*To access this bulletin (with clickable links) on our parish website, simply scan the QR Code (to the left) with your cellphone.*

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