

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
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DAY CARE

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

Mass for the Intentions Week

Monday March 24 12:10 p.m.
+Lawrence Pullen Jr. and Ruth Pullen
(Jackie Mackenzie)

Monday March 24 7:00 p.m.
+Alroy Jacob
(Daunt Family)

Tuesday March 25 12:10 p.m.
Intentions of Justin Goulbourne

Tuesday March 25 7:00 p.m.
Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday March 26 12:10 p.m.
+Anna Lilina and Wulansari
(Family)

Wednesday March 26 7:00 p.m.
+Bill Bennett
(John and Yoke Seck)

Thursday March 27 12:10 p.m.
Intentions of Molly McLeod
(Rose Family)

Thursday March 27 7:00 p.m.
+Bastiampillai Gnanapragasam
(Family)

Friday March 28 12:10 p.m.
Intentions of Davian Joshua Chau
(Jason and Genevieve)

Friday March 28 7:00 p.m.
Deceased Members of the
Fernandes Family
(Pete and Teresa)

Saturday March 29 9:00 a.m.
+Conchita Verzosa
(Family)

Saturday March 29 5:00 p.m.
For the People of the Parish

Sunday March 30 8:00 a.m.
Souls in Purgatory

Sunday March 30 10:00 a.m.
+Jimmy Chung
(Stephen and Bysshe Chung)

Sunday March 30 12:00 Noon
Intentions of
Theresa and Charles Chen and Family
(JP and Virginie Chan)

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT SUNDAY MARCH 23, 2025

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Al Jacob, Kelvin Ramoutar, Nicholas Marshall, Kevin Caleb, Agnes Yuen, Jessica Kong, Dorine Couture, Wai Wong, Maria Francisco, Ronald Persaud, Ronald Chung, Lynn Demers, Grace Li, William Lee Ah-Chong, Rowena Poon, Jim Coutts, Fanny Chow, Alison Wong, Chris Yeung, William Yung, Jonrick Carlos Bautista, Donald Winterton, Fitzroy James, Anna Azimi and Pope Francis

PRAY FOR THE DEAD: Father Casimir Krystkowiak, Al Jacob, Julian Potian, Jr., and for those who have no one to pray for them.



THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS
WILL TAKE PLACE AFTER MASS
ON FRIDAYS DURING LENT



WE'LL BE HAVING A NEW PASTOR AT ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE THIS COMING JUNE

Last weekend, Father Allyn announced after all Masses that as of June 25 he will be reassigned to [St. John the Evangelist Parish](#) in Caledon, Ontario. On the same date, Father Joseph Chandrakanthan will take over as Pastor of St. Thomas the Apostle. Fr. Chandrakanthan is currently the Associate Pastor at [Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish](#) in Scarborough.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION REGISTRATION

Students at St. Benedict and St. Francis Xavier Schools have received their registration forms. If your child does not go to these Schools, please come to the parish office and pick up a registration form. **Registration forms** have to be handed in, along with a **photocopy of your child's Baptismal Certificate** and **\$35.00** to cover the cost of the catechism book. **Holy Communion will take place June 21 at 5:00 p.m. or June 22 at 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 Noon.** *March 29th is the last day of registration.*



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

The Lord is kind and merciful and calls us to proclaim His Name. Consider service in the priesthood or consecrated life. **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



CANADIAN FOOD FOR CHILDREN

Please join our Lenten Food Drive for Dr. Simone – Canadian Food For Children. They need iodized salt, canned meats and fish and bars of soap. This will begin March 8/9 until April 5/6. Thank you.

OASIS.ST Presents

Lenten Retreat

Insights into the Mystery

Begins with Mass at 12:10pm

Tuesday, April 1, 2025

St. Thomas the Apostle Church

14 Highgate Drive, Markham, ON L3R 3R6

Please Register



905.479.6023 (Les)
647.898.6480 (Russell)



oasis.st@outlook.com

Special Guest Speaker:
Deacon Sarfaraz Pinto

A MYSTERY TOPIC
FOR YOUR SPIRITUAL RENEWAL

Light Lunch Provided
(Free will giving)

Concludes with Divine Mercy at 3:00pm

OASIS LENTEN RETREAT: INSIGHTS INTO THE MYSTERY

TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 2025, 12:10 PM

For seniors and all those who can't attend the evening retreat. Join us for our Lenten retreat on **Tuesday, April 1, 2025, 12:10 pm Mass**, followed by lunch and retreat conducted by Deacon Sarfaraz. Concludes with Divine Mercy by 3:00 pm.



PARISH OFFERTORY

Weekly goal \$7,500.00 (to meet our expenses).
We received \$6,167.94 - Includes PAG and Donate Now.



**PLEASE CONSIDER REMEMBERING ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH
WHEN PREPARING YOUR WILL**

[Pre-Authorized Giving Plan page on our parish website](#)

Resources on the Archdiocese of Toronto website:

[\(Overview page\)](#)

[Planned Giving](#)

[Current & Personal Giving](#)

[Gifts of Securities](#)



**PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH DURING LENT.
FLOWERS CAN BE BROUGHT ON THE FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH
AND ON THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD.**

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH, MARKHAM

14 Highgate Drive, Markham, ON, L3R 3R6

LENTEN PARISH MISSION 2025

**WATCH YE, AND PRAY THAT YE ENTER NOT INTO TEMPTATION.
THE SPIRIT INDEED IS WILLING, BUT THE FLESH WEAK**

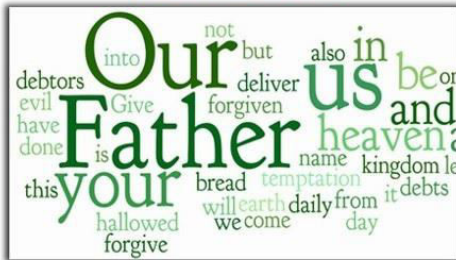
**Mission Director: Fr. Chris Czapla (Society of Christ)
Associate Pastor Our Lady Queen of Poland Parish**

Date: April 1-3, 2025 (Tue, Wed, Thu),

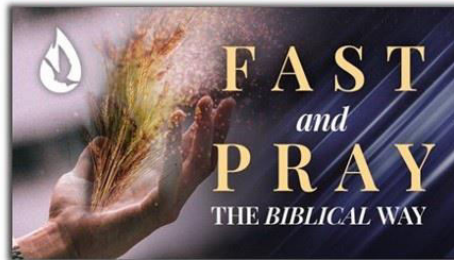
Time: 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Venue: St. Thomas the Apostle Church

**DAY 1: PRAYER – “LORD, TEACH
US TO PRAY”
(OUR FATHER)**



**DAY 2: FASTING –
“BUT THIS KIND IS NOT CAST OUT
BUT BY PRAYER AND FASTING”**



**DAY 3: ALMSGIVING –
“PRAYER IS GOOD WHEN ACCOMPANIED BY FASTING,
ALMSGIVING, AND RIGHTEOUSNESS”**



LENTEN PRAYER MISSION 2025

**WATCH YE AND PRAY THAT YE ENTER NOT INTO TEMPTATION.
THE SPIRIT INDEED IS WILLING, BUT THE FLESH WEAK.**

**Mission Director: Father Chris Czapla (Society of Christ)
Associate Pastor Our Lady Queen of Poland Parish**

Date: Tuesday April 1, Wednesday April 2, Thursday April 3

Time: 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at St. Thomas the Apostle Church

Day 1 – Prayer – “Lord, Teach us to Pray. (Our Father)

Day 2 – Fasting – “But this king is not cast out but by prayer and fasting”.

**Day 3 – Almsgiving – “Prayer is good when accompanied by fasting, almsgiving and
righteousness”**



FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE BOYS/GIRLS

FNE EXPLORERS GROUPS AT ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

The founding FNE Explorer group is based right here at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish. To learn more about the program opportunities for your son or daughter, please get in touch with us at info@fneexplorers.com or call Maurice Chang at 416-889-0183.

FNE 2025 Promo Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6hvTOpH8dH8>



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Gospel Reading – Luke 13:1-9

Jesus preaches a lesson on repentance.

Now into the third week of the Season of Lent, our Sunday Gospel prepared us to hear Jesus' call to conversion and repentance. Today's reading is found in the chapters of Luke's Gospel that describes Jesus' journey to Jerusalem. During this journey, Jesus teaches and heals. He must also respond to those who question and challenge His authority and actions. There is no parallel in Mark's or Matthew's Gospels for today's reading from Luke. While Mark and Matthew describe an incident in which Jesus curses the fig tree, today's reading makes the barren fig tree the subject of a parable.

Luke tells us that some among the crowds' report to Jesus a massacre of Galileans by Pilate. The intention of the crowd seems to ask Jesus to explain why these people suffered. It was commonplace to render people's suffering as evidence of their sinfulness. Jesus challenges this interpretation. Those who were massacred were no more or less sinful than the ones who report the situation to Jesus. Jesus replies that even a fatal accident, a natural disaster, ought not to be interpreted as punishment for sin.

Jesus' words at first appear to have a fire-and-brimstone quality. Jesus says in essence, ***“Repent or perish as these people did; all are sinful before God and deserving of God's punishment.”*** The tone changes, however, in the parable that follows. The parable of the barren fig tree contrasts the patience and hopefulness of the gardener with the practicality of the property owner. When told to cut down the fig tree because it is not producing fruit, the gardener counsels patience. If properly tended, the barren fig tree may yet bear fruit.

Throughout His journey to Jerusalem, Jesus has been teaching about the Kingdom of God. In this parable, we find an image of God's patience and hopefulness as He prepares His Kingdom. God calls us to repent, and it is within His power to punish us for our failure to turn from our sinfulness. And yet God is merciful. He delays punishment and tends to us so that we may yet bear fruit He desired from us.

This, then, is our reason for hope: Not only does God refuse to abandon us, but He also chooses to attend to us even when we show no evidence of His efforts. Next week's Gospel will give an even clearer picture of the kind of mercy that God shows to us.

[Loyola Press](#)

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