

St. Thomas the Apostle Church

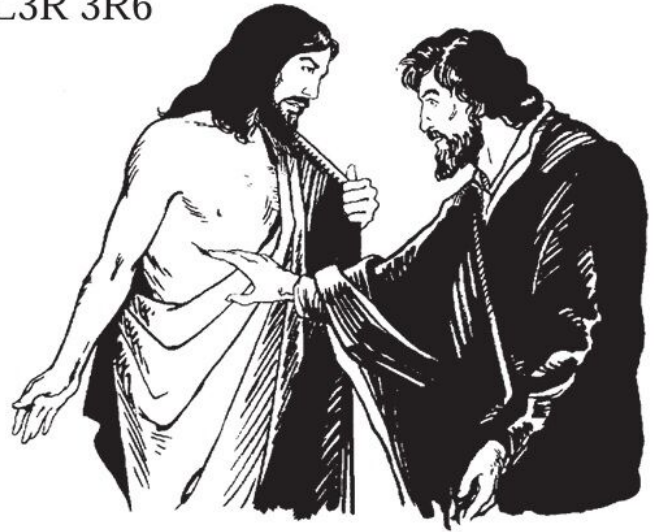
14 Highgate Drive, Markham, Ontario L3R 3R6

(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 31** 12:10 p.m.
+William Seck
(Family)
- Monday March 31** 7:00 p.m.
+Lai-Ying Poon
(Jefferson Tse)
- Tuesday April 1** 12:10 p.m.
Intentions of
Paul Fabros and Family
- Tuesday April 1** 7:00 p.m.
Souls in Purgatory
- Wednesday April 2** 12:10 p.m.
For Wayne G. J. Chow
(Family)
- Wednesday April 2** 7:00 p.m.
+Hing Lan Maria Leung
(Family)
- Thursday April 3** 12:10 p.m.
+Ken and Una Nathaniel
(Pat Stuart)
- Thursday April 3** 7:00 p.m.
+Felicidad Cantos
(Family)
- Friday April 4** 12:10 p.m.
+Smith Mackenzie
(Jackie Mackenzie)
- Friday April 4** 7:00 p.m.
Vocations to Priesthood
- Saturday April 5** 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 April 5** 5:00 p.m.
In Thanksgiving and for the intentions of
Clara Menezes and Family
(Clara Menezes and Family)
- Sunday April 6** 8:00 a.m.
For the People of the Parish
- Sunday April 6** 10:00 a.m.
+Judith Flora D'Souza
(Family)
- Sunday April 6** 12:00 Noon
+Joyce and Leslie D'Souza
(Family)

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

(LAETARE SUNDAY)

SUNDAY MARCH 30, 2025

PRAY FOR THE SICK: 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, Fitzroy James, Anna Azimi, Colin Pereira and Pope Francis.

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



THIS WEEK (APRIL 4)

IS THE FIRST FRIDAY OF APRIL

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



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Like the forgiving father of Luke's Gospel, God welcomes us home in spite of our sinfulness and calls us to a life of holiness. Where are you at home? **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



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



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.



PARISH OFFERTORY

Weekly goal \$7,500.00 (to meet our expenses).
We received \$6,104.24 - Includes PAG and Donate Now.



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.

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 April to October 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.

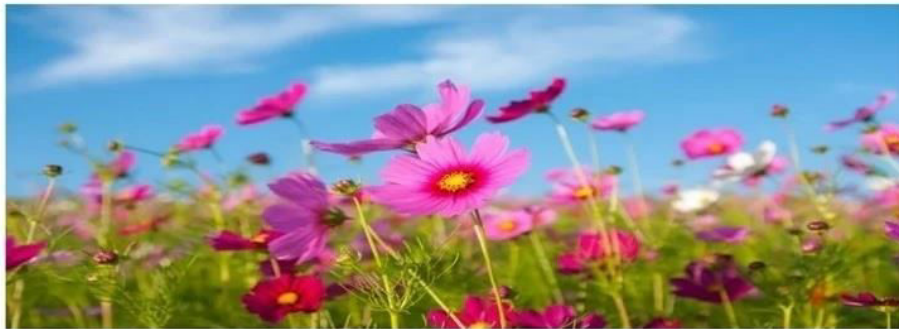
How to register: Text or call Les (905-479-6023),
Russell (647-898-6480) or Fran (647-787-5771).

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!

Living/ending well: Handling Pain and Suffering - April 8

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. Learn about isolation, depression, dementia, grieving, self care, fitness, etc. 12:10 Mass followed by lunch (free will giving) and workshop. **Next workshop Tuesday April 8, 2025.** **Talk: Living/Ending Well: Handling Pain and Suffering.** More details on bulletin board. Reservation is a must for organizing lunch. **Please call Les Rodrigues @ 905-479-6023.**



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT - LAETARE SUNDAY

Gospel Reading – Luke 15:1-3,11-32

Jesus teaches about forgiveness in the parable of the Prodigal Son.

The parable Jesus tells in today's Gospel is unique to the Gospel of Luke. Jesus has been teaching the crowds as He journeys to Jerusalem. As He teaches, the Pharisees and Scribes complain and challenge Jesus because He is welcoming sinners at His table. Today we hear the third of three parables that Jesus tells in response to His critics. These three familiar parables – the lost sheep, the last coin and today's parable of the prodigal son – invite us to consider the depth of God's mercy and love.

The Pharisees taught a scrupulous observance of Jewish Law. In their interpretation and practice, observant Jews who shared table fellowship with sinners would be made unclean. Like Jesus, the Pharisees hoped to lead sinners back to God. The Pharisees, however, required that sinners first become ritually clean – observant of the Pharisees' interpretation of Jewish Law – before sharing table fellowship. This appears to be one of the major differences between the Pharisees and Jesus. Jesus reaches out to sinners while they are still sinners, inviting them to conversion through fellowship with Him. Jesus is God acting among us; by befriending us, He is inviting us to return to friendship with God. Through friendship with Jesus our sins are forgiven and we, in turn, bear fruit for God. Recall last Sunday's Gospel and the barren fig tree.

Our familiarity with today's parable risks dulling us to its tremendously powerful message. We call this the parable of the son or the prodigal son. Any focus on the younger son, however, must also be balanced by an examination of the unusual behavior of the Father.

First, we must imagine our first response to the audacity of a son who asks for his inheritance before his father has died. Indignation would certainly be a justifiable response to such a request. Yet the father in this parable agrees to honor the son's request and divides his property among his two sons. How might we describe such a father? Foolish comes to mind but so does trusting. Without property of his own, the father must rely upon his sons to provide for his well-being.

The younger son takes his inheritance and leaves home. The older son remains, continuing to provide for the father and the household. Having been disgraced by the younger son, the father spends some time watching the road for the return of the lost son. When he eventually sees his wayward son returning, the father not only welcomes him but runs out to greet him and then honours him with a party. We see that this father is loving and forgiving. Yet these adjectives only begin to describe the depth of love and mercy that characterize the father.

We find no surprise in the anger of the older son. Yet the father appears sad and even confused by the older son's indignation. He says in reply that they should celebrate because the lost son had returned. The father is filled with gratitude and love for the older son's faithfulness. This love is in no way diminished by the father's rejoicing at the return of the younger son. Yet the older son's jealousy reveals his limited understanding of the depth of his father's love.

[Loyola Press](#)

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**

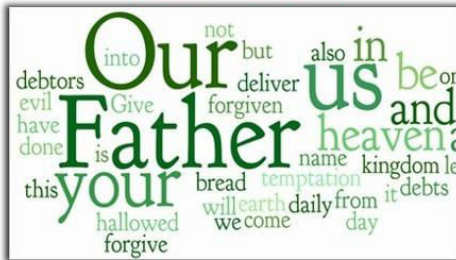
**Mission Director: Fr. Chris Czapla (Society of Christ)
Associate Pastor Our Lady Queen of Poland Parish**

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

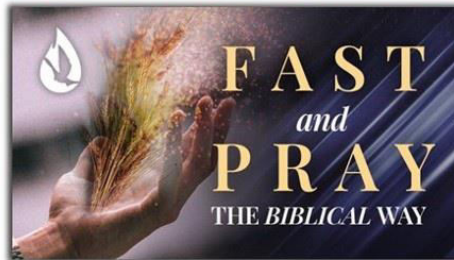
Time: 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

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”



APRIL 2025 HIGHLIGHTS

NEAL and SMITH
 BARRISTERS-SOLICITORS-NOTARIES
 3443 Finch Ave. E., Ste. 300
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 416-494-4545

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