FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday November 30 **12:10p.m.**
40th Anniversary of Our Church
Mass for all Parishioners

Monday November 30 **7:00 p.m.**
Mass for all the Departed of our Parish

Tuesday December 1 **12:10 p.m.**
+Deceased Members of Fernandes Family
(Family)

Tuesday December 1 **7:00 p.m.**
+ Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday December 2 **12:10 p.m.**
+Glenda, +Vivian Lobo, Living Members of the Lobo Family

Wednesday December 2 **7:00 p.m.**
+Theresa & St. Joseph
(Mary Augustine)

Thursday December 3 **12:10 p.m.**
+Intentions of Claudine & Wade Mak
(Pat Chong)

Thursday December 3 **7:00 p.m.**
+Intentions of Genco Family
(Family)

Friday December 4 **12:00 p.m.**
Souls in Purgatory
(Maria Lim)

Friday December 4 **7:00 p.m.**
Vocations

Saturday December 5 **9:00 a.m.**
Sisters

Saturday December 5 **5:00 p.m.**
+Deceased Members of the Alday Family
(Allan Dinglasan)

Sunday December 6 **8:00 a.m.**
+Intentions of Virginie & Jean Phillipe
+Chan Yan Fong
(Pat Chong)

Sunday December 6 **10:00 a.m.**
+Intentions of Chantal Wong
(Pat Chong)

Sunday December 6 **12:00 p.m.**
+Intentions of Angelyn & Christine Ah-Chong
(Pat Chong)



THE CANDLE OF HOPE
O Lord, as we light the first candle of Advent, we pray for hope in our world. May this light remind us to prepare and watch for the coming of Christ our Savior.



MEMORIAL LAMPS & SPECIAL INTENTIONS
Red Lamps beside the Tabernacle in the Sanctuary are lit for a week in memory of a loved one or for a special intention. Please contact the **Parish Office** for more details.



Memorial Lamp Intentions for this Week
November 27th - December 3rd

+Lizette Wong Chan Chuk Yin
Requested by Virginie Chan

Corazon +William Lee Ah-Chong
Requested by Virginie Chan

+Deceased Family Members of Tavares, Rocha & Olaes
Requested by Geraldine Rocha

Chik-Hing Anthony Yu
Requested by Family

Hing-Lan Maria Leung
Requested by Family

Oi Ying Theresa Yu
Requested by Family

Let us pray for the sick & those in care homes or hospitals.

Nicholas Marshall, Lynn Demers, William Lee Ah-Chong, Cecile Isaacs-Garel, Andy Pucyk, Dennis Remedios, Eva Lemanac, Conrad Poon, Yvonne Lamanna, Joe Agosta, Audrey Carb, Giuseppe Greco, Joe Cherian, Shamsa Khan, Pauline Thian, Veronika Greif, Ian Mamuhewa & Jackie Mackenzie.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS
Please take note of the CHANGES in Parish Office hours

Monday & Wednesday: 10:00 am. - 3:00 pm.
OFFICE IS CLOSED ON TUESDAYS
Thursdays 10:00 am. – 7:00 p.m.
Fridays 10:00 am. – 3:00 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday: 9:00 am. – 2:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2026

AT OUR PARISH …

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION REGISTRATIONS

The Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, and Confirmation will be celebrated at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in **Spring 2027**.
All those interested are welcome to register by scanning the appropriate QR code below.
(*Communion **Top**, Confirmation **Bottom***.)

HELPING CHRISTIANS IN HOLY LAND



On the weekend of **December 5–6**, representatives of Handicraft Holy Land Christians will visit our parish to raise awareness of the challenges faced by Christian families in the Holy Land.

A selection of h**andcrafted olive wood religious items from Bethlehem, including crosses, rosaries**, and other devotional items, will be available for purchase **in the parish hall following all Saturday and Sunday Masses**.

Parishioners are encouraged to support this meaningful initiative, as their purchases will help sustain Christian families in Bethlehem and preserve the Christian presence in the Holy Land. Let us continue to pray for peace in the region.

KNIGHTS OF COLOMBUS CAKE & CARD



The Knights of Columbus will be selling Christmas cakes and cards in the church foyer following **Saturday and Sunday Masses.**

RCIA PROGRAM IS ON!

Our parish's **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)** program began this month. Those interested in joining are still welcome to register by completing and submitting a registration form available at the parish office. **Classes are held every Thursday from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

ENGRAVED IN THE BOOK OF LIFE.

All parishioners are invited to inscribe the names of their departed loved ones in the **Book of Life**, which will be available near the Baptismal Font throughout November. The book will be placed near the Altar during each Mass as we remember and pray for the faithful departed.

From Our Pastor …

40 Years of Word and Worship, Prayer and Service: Glimpses from the Memory Lane

This Sunday, our hearts are filled with gratitude to God Our Father, as we celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the dedication of our Church, St. Thomas the Apostle Parish. For four decades, this sacred place has been a home of prayer, worship, Communion, fellowship and service. Within these walls, countless faithful have gathered to celebrate the Holy Eucharist, receive the Sacraments, share in moments of joy and sorrow, and grow together in faith.

The story of our Church began on January 6, 1982, when St. Thomas the Apostle Parish was established by His Eminence Gerald Emmett Cardinal Carter who appointed Father Siro Lunardon as the Founding Pastor. He celebrated the first Holy Mass on January 13, 1982. On September 28, 1983, Fr. Basil J. Breen assumed Pastorship of our Parish. He was entrusted with the task of overseeing the construction of a new church building from its very foundations on a one-acre parcel of land. The architect, Mr. Domenic Amato, completed the preliminary studies on the suitability of the site, and within a short time, Mr. Vince Citriniti of A.M. Citriniti Co. Ltd. commenced the landscaping and excavation to lay the foundation for the edifice that proudly stands today as St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

The greatest pastoral challenge confronting Fr. Basil Breen was the monumental task of building a parish community in the absence of a parish church or a proper office. Preparing catechumens, administering the Sacraments of Baptism and Matrimony, and responding to the needs of a rapidly growing population, many of whom were new Canadians from diverse ethno-cultural backgrounds—was a daunting responsibility. The present church was officially dedicated on November 30, 1986, by Archbishop Cardinal Carter. Today, we give thanks for the faith and dedication of those who built this parish, the priests and religious who served it, and the generations of parishioners who have made it a living community of faith.

On this First Sunday of Advent, we begin a new liturgical year and prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ Our Lord. On this 4th year we are reminded that the true beauty of a church lies not merely in its architectural majesty, or sacred icons, but in the living faith and hope of its people, expressed through generous service, compassionate care and selfless neighborly love.

A church becomes truly sacred when its doors open to the lonely, its hands reach out to the needy, and its heart embraces the wounded and the forgotten. Our faith should be translated into action where worship blossoms into service, and love transcends all barriers mingling harmoniously our Word and Worship.

A particularly meaningful moment of today's celebration will be the unveiling of the Shrine and the solemn consecration of our parish to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus who is the centre of our parish, the strength of our families, the refuge of our suffering, and the source of our unity.

May St. Thomas the Apostle continue to guide us in faith, that we may always proclaim with conviction: "My God and My Lord. "Amen.

Fr. A. Joesph Chandrakanthan, Pastor