

2024

SHARELIFE CAMPAIGN

First of all, I am thrilled to announce that we as a parish community met our assigned parish goal last year. I would like to thank you all for donating so generously last year to our campaign. Thanks to your kindness, we were able to reach our parish goal and even surpass it. We know that with your unwavering support, we will again be able to meet and surpass this mark and this weekend marks the start of our annual Share Life Parish Campaign.

The ShareLife mission of "Living the Gospel by providing for those in need" combines with our Parish Mission "To bring God's love into the world through a life-changing friendship with Jesus" and reminds us that we too can be part of that mission.

Through the participation of the St. Patrick's community, positive changes are being made in the lives of poor and marginalized people here in Markham and around the world.

While we have made great strides in helping the marginalized, the needs of our community continue to rise. And so does our commitment to making a positive impact.

You may be asking yourself: What emerging issues does our community face and how are they affecting the most vulnerable? How are you, through your support of ShareLife responding to these pressing challenges and how are your contributions responding to these challenges?

You should know that because of you, ShareLife agencies annually help more than 150,000 people and here are just a few examples:

- The struggles of more than 13,000 people were eased by providing over 45,000 mental health services.
- Quality care and companionship was provided to over 2,800 vulnerable seniors.
- You invested in the future of the church by supporting 62 seminarians at St. Augustine's Seminary and Redemptoris Mater Seminary in the 2023-24 academic year.
- You helped sponsor 708 refugees in their journey to safety and freedom in Canada.

So again, we would like to thank you for living the Gospel by providing for those in need.

On April 20 and 21 we are inviting a spokesperson from the Office of Refugees at the Archdiocese of Toronto to speak to you about how this ShareLife agency helps to resettle refugees who are overseas and to assist them to come to Canada through the government's Private Sponsorship of Refugees Program.

A contribution to ShareLife is more than a financial gift – it is how we extend our love for our neighbour and bring the hands of Christ to those in need.

In a recent homily from Archbishop Leo, he shared: “...we acknowledge that we have received so much from the Lord’s goodness and have likewise been called to humbly recognize, diligently develop and generously share all that we have – for the sake of the Kingdom.”

As we approach our first ShareLife Sunday collection next weekend, we ask that you please reflect and pray on your ability to contribute to our campaign this year. There are many ways to donate besides the ShareLife envelopes. We again encourage you to consider a monthly amount that can be paid on a credit card or directly from your bank account. You can refer to the posters, e-newsletter, website or the parish office for other options.

Have a blessed day and thank you for changing lives through your support of ShareLife!

Mark Koyama (on behalf of the ShareLife Committee)

Sunday Collections

- **MARCH 17**
- **APRIL 28**
- **JUNE 2**

Living the
Gospel

To bring God’s love into the world through a life-changing friendship with Jesus.