



THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

21 Simonston Blvd.
Thornhill, ON L3T 4R6
905-881-1534

Pastor

Rev. Anthony Iacobelli

Deacons: Michael Gennaro
James Shaughnessy

Celebration of The Eucharist

Saturday: 4:30 pm
Sunday: 9:00 am, 11:00 am
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 8:30 am
Thursday: 12:00 noon

Eucharistic Adoration (First Friday - following the 8:30 am Mass and closing with Solemn Benediction at 12:00 noon)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:30 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.
Or by appointment.

Sacrament of Baptism

Second Sunday of the Month
By appointment only.

Sacrament of Marriage

By appointment only - Contact the pastor at least one year in advance.
An approved preparation course is mandatory.

Parish School

St. Michael Catholic Academy 905-889-4816

For more information on Catholic education in our community, or to reach your local school board trustee, contact the Toronto Catholic District School Board at 416-222-8282 or www.tcdsb.org or the York Catholic District School Board 905-713-1211 or www.ycdsb.ca

email: gspadmin@bellnet.ca

website: goodshepherdth.archtoronto.org

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT – DECEMBER 2, 2018



Dec 4th to Dec. 8th

- Tues. 8:30 am - Westley Moot †
- Wed. 8:30 am - Pietro Mollicone †
- Thurs. Noon - In Thanksgiving
- Fri. 8:30 am - Francis Kwong †
- Sat. 4:30 pm - John & Sylvia Lee and Family – Special Intention

READINGS FOR – December 9th

- 1st Reading: Baruch 5.1-9
- 2nd Reading: Philippians 1.3-6, 8-11
- Gospel: Luke 3.1-6



FIRST FRIDAY December 7th

Mass on First Friday will be at 8:30 am.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will start at the completion of Mass and continue until noon when the Blessed Sacrament will be reposed.

A sign-up sheet is available at the back of the church if you can commit to a specific time.



HAPPY ADVENT SEASON

A new beginning! Exciting words – a chance to start over with a clean slate. Who wouldn't relish the possibility of starting over and getting it right? The First Sunday of Advent is the Church's way of announcing the beginning of a new liturgical year. Today's readings give us a recipe for how to "get it right," not just for ourselves but for the whole world. Advent is a time of expectant preparation for the celebration of Christmas. We observe it as a season of prayer, fasting and repentance – the ways Christians "start over". In a sense it is also the beginning of the rest of our life. The readings give us the key for how to live in this moment and for all time in peace and harmony. Exciting? Indeed – a message of hope – the coming of a Saviour and the key to preparing for eternity.



THE WORD THIS WEEK

Advent opens with a great cry, and a great promise: "Oh that you would tear the heavens open and come down!" is the cry, of a people who need God. "...The master is coming" is the promise, not to breed fear, but to answer our cry. Advent begins, not with thoughts of the past, with the coming of the Lord we celebrate at Christmas, but with the future, and the promise that He is coming back. We are encouraged to treat every day as the day the Lord will come; we do not do this out of fear for a Master who beats his servants, but out of love of a Master who always treats us with love and mercy. Nevertheless we must always be watchful, because we can grow sleepy and complacent, saying that we can leave this prayer or that confession or the other change in the way we live to tomorrow. Even as we look forward to the tomorrow of the Lord's coming, we must remember that it might be today!



COLLECTION

FLOWERS FOR CHRISTMAS
December 8 & 9



DAY OF CONFESSION

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12th

TIMES: 9am-11:30am/1pm-3pm/7pm-9pm

This Advent, each parish in the Archdiocese of Toronto will be holding a Day of Confession. Here at Good Shepherd, a priest will be available to hear your Confession on Wednesday, December 12th, from 9am-11:30am, 1pm-3pm, and 7pm-9pm. This sacrament is also available every Saturday before Mass. Visit www.archtoronto.org/confession to find confession times at various churches across Toronto. To aid in understanding the sacrament, here is a link to a moving video on Confession by Dr. Scott Hahn: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8GCLa9ducvQ>

Advent Challenge: This Advent we are asking our parishioners to perform one act of kindness each day.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Boxed sets for 2019 envelopes are ready for pick up. If you are not currently using parish envelopes and wish to have a set issued, please take a moment and complete a form in the foyer today. Envelope numbers over "500" have been eliminated, parishioners with those numbers have been assigned a new number. We would also like to remind you **please DO NOT** use envelopes from previous years. This will ensure that tax receipts are accurate. You may wish to consider Pre-Authorized giving. If there is a change in address, phone number, etc., please inform the office in **writing**. Please email: gspadmin@bellnet.ca or drop off the changes at the office.



CHRISTMAS GIFT CARDS COLLECTION FOR THE LESS FORTUNATE

The Knights of Columbus will be collecting Food Basics/ No Frills/ Walmart Gift Cards after all Masses.

As we prepare for Advent, let us keep in mind those who are less fortunate and need assistance to get through the holidays. **Please place gift cards in the gift card baskets at the back of the church.** You can still donate gift cards even if you did not pick up a tag.



SHARELIFE UPDATE

Thank you for your generosity to the Sharelife Campaign this year!! Sharelife has released its annual Report to Donors, sharing the results of the 2018 campaign and demonstrating how your generosity is making a difference. Copies of the report are available at the parish or can be read online at www.sharelife.org. Once again, we thank our generous parishioners for donating to the 2018 Sharelife Campaign. You are truly "living the Gospel by providing for those in need!"



CHRISTMAS BAZAAR 2018

Check Your Numbers

Congrats to all our winners!! Please contact the office to pick up your prize and bring the winning ticket.

Winning tickets are:

1. 016634 – "Love" Pictures
2. 016697 – Glass Dish
3. 016475 – Snowmen
4. 016561 – Centrepiece
5. 016795 - Wrap/Snow Toiletries
6. 016761 – Picture "Holy Family"
7. 016454 – Gift Basket
8. 016716 – Knitted Painter Doll
9. 016379 – Silver Tea Set
10. 016588 – Nativity Set
11. 016671 – Cat in the Hat/Minnie Mouse

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT & CONCERT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9th at 3 pm

All parishioners are invited to come out and support our children and choirs.



The Ladies of the CWL would like to express their sincere thanks to the parishioners who so generously supported our Christmas bake sale and bazaar last weekend. The quality and variety of the baked goods donated was exceptional. If you baked, bought, or if you did both, a huge thank you! Thanks also who supported the knitted goods, Christmas boutiques and gifts as well. Your support is very much appreciated.

POINSETTIAS

Will be available for pick up on the weekend of December 8th and 9th.



LAST CALL FOR 2019 SUNDAY MISSALS



This will be the last weekend to purchase your Sunday Missal. We encourage parishioners to read the Word of God ahead of Mass; to savour the richness of the readings and to find healing through God's word.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PROTEIN FOR THE POOR

During Advent, the Knights of Columbus will be accepting donations with their annual "PROTEIN FOR THE POOR." Donations will go to the Good Shepherd Centre which provides food, clothing, and shelter for many of Toronto's homeless men. Please help alleviate their suffering.



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and he who abides in love
abides in God,
and God abides in him.

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