



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

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT – Dec. 15, 2019

MASS INTENTIONS

FOR THE WEEK



Dec. 17th – Dec. 21st

Tues. 8:30 am – Madeleine Paul †

Wed. 8:30 am – Mr. & Mrs. Kwan Wing †

Thurs. Noon – John Fung †

Fri. 8:30 am – Flory Chan †

Sat. 4:30 pm – Lee Family - In Thanksgiving

READINGS FOR – December 22

1st Reading: Isaiah 7.10-14

2nd Reading: Romans 1.1-7

Gospel: Matthew 1.18-24



FOUR HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION YOUR PARTICIPATION IS REQUIRED

The first precept ("You shall attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation.") requires the faithful to participate in the Eucharistic celebration when the Christian community gathers together on the day commemorating the Resurrection of the Lord.

– *Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) 2042*

www.vatican.va

*Christmas Eve/Christmas Day
Holy Obligation*

Tues., December 24th at 7:00 pm & 10:00 pm

(Carolling begins at 9:30pm)

Wed., December 25th at 9:00 am & 11:00 am

Holy Family - Holy Obligation

Sat., December 28th at 4:30 pm

Sun., December 29th at 9:00 am & 11:00 am

*Mary, The Holy Mother of God
Holy Obligation*

Tues., December 31st at 4:30 pm

Wed., January 1st at 9:00 am & 11:00 am

FEAST OF ST. STEPHEN (Boxing Day)

Thursday, December 26th Mass will be celebrated at 8:30 a.m. (Office is closed on this day.)



THE ROSARY

As part of our Advent Celebrations, the Rosary is being recited each Saturday at 4:10 pm before Mass.

Praying the rosary brings many graces into our lives. We invite all parishioners to participate.

CWL ANNUAL WINE & CHEESE CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

Ladies of the CWL are invited to our annual Wine & Cheese Christmas Social (Meeting) on Monday, December 16th, beginning with Mass at 7:00 pm. Please bring toiletries for women who are in need/living in shelters. All donations will be distributed in Markham shelters and Covenant House. Thanking you in advance for your kindness and support.



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.

FEED MY LAMBS

This weekend is the collection of frozen casseroles for the Good Shepherd Centre. We thank those who have been so committed to this program and invite all other parishioners to participate. Each tray provides a hot, nourishing meal for 10 underprivileged people at **The Good Shepherd Centre**.



DISPOSING OF SUNDAY MISSALS

The Word of God is to be disposed of properly since it is through God's word that the world was created. It is recommended that 2018 Sunday missals and *Living with Christ* monthly missals be burned and the ashes buried, ideally in a sacred place.



Toronto Serra Clubs

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.” Are you one to be sent? If God is calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother or sister, contact Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997 or email vocations@archtoronto.org

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 starting this weekend and will continue for the next several weeks. 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 without a tag.



2020 Youth Awards Program

For the Education component of Catholic Women's League of Canada Education and Health Committee, the 2020 Youth Awards Program is comprised for Grades 7 through 12

with the following contests:

- Mary Matthews Public Speaking for Grades 7 & 8
- Mary Dobell Pro-Life Essay and Poetry for Grades 7 through 12
- Jean McCann Youth Service Award for ages 15 to 18
- St. Michael's College Scholarship for Grade 12 females only

All registrations must be received by January, 20, 2020. Good Shepherd Parish contest for “Mary Matthews Public Speaking” will be held on Sun., Jan. 26, 2020 after 11:00 a.m. Mass. For information and to receive contest package, please email catherine.ger@outlook.com



“Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?”

Tis the season for runaway anticipation. Expending seemingly unlimited time and energy on preparing for the big day, it's easy to lose sight of what Christmas is all about. Then, when it's come and gone, we are left to wonder what all the bustling, buying and baking were for. What a let down!

That empty, disquieting feeling must have plagued John the Baptist as he languished in Herod's prison awaiting his execution. The Baptist sent word by the Disciples to Jesus, asking him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?”

John the Baptist had been sent to prepare the way for Jesus, the Savior. John anticipated the coming of the Messiah and he was confident that Jesus was that Messiah. So, why the lingering doubts? Jesus didn't really fit with John's preconceived notion of a Messiah who would come breathing fire and brimstone and take the unsuspecting and unrepentant world by storm.

Jesus sent a return message: “The blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised and the poor have good news brought to them.” Certainly not fire and brimstone – rather a genuine Christmas story of love and salvation. It's time that we too shifted our focus from unrealistic expectation to embrace the promise of Jesus as the true meaning of Christmas.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Please pick up your envelopes. A reminder for those who are currently using the PAG program that a set has also been issued for you which contains the special occasion envelopes.



LAST CHANCE

UNCLAIMED RAFFLE PRIZES

The following winning numbers have not been claimed. Please check your tickets and come pick up your prize.

233547 – 233400 – 233341 – 233531 – 233373

Thank You

ADVENT CHALLENGE

We are asking our parishioners to complete one act of kindness each day during Advent.

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