

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

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – JANUARY 17, 2021



Jan 19th - Jan 23rd

Tuesday - Angelo Iacobelli †
Wednesday - Joanne LaSita †
Thursday - Jacob Lee †
Friday - Jack Cassidy †
Saturday - Gerry & Rita DeSouza †

READINGS FOR – January 24th

1st Reading: Jonah 3.1-5, 10
2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 7.29-31
Gospel: Mark 1.14-20



TAX RECEIPTS

Tax receipts for donations made between January 1st - December 31st, 2020 will be available by the **end of February**. (Donations made on/after January 1st, 2021 will count towards next year's tax receipt.) As per the Archdiocese, donations for Masses offered are not tax deductible.



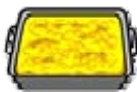
PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING



If you are currently signed up for the pre-authorized giving (PAG) plan please consider an increase in 2021. PAG is administered by the Archdiocese and donations to the church are taken directly from your bank account on a monthly basis. PAG saves time and administrative costs associated with processing donations. The PAG form is available in the foyer at the back of the church.

FEED MY LAMBS

With Covid-19 restrictions and the church being closed, our parish will continue to provide nourishment to those in need.



Frozen casseroles will be collected at the church on **Saturday, January 16th between 2:00 – 3:00 pm**. 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.

SUPPORT YOUR PARISH

Dear Parishioners,

In order to assist in limiting the spread of the COVID-19 virus and to adhere to the regulations of the Government of Ontario during this state of emergency, all churches in the Archdiocese of Toronto have limited attendance capacity at this time.



At a time like this it can be uncomfortable to talk about giving. Our primary concern is the health and well-being of our parishioners. However, these difficult circumstances show just how important the offertory is to the life of our parishes. The reality is that our parishes rely on the support of their parishioners to operate – parish salaries, programs and ongoing operating costs (heating, water, electricity, etc.) are funded through the generosity of its parishioners. It will be a challenge for a parish to maintain operations without the usual weekly offertory collection.

If you are unable to attend Mass at this time, there are several ways you can continue to support your parish at this time:

- Drop off or mail your regular weekly offertory contribution to the parish office.
- Contribute through pre-authorized giving if your parish offers it. You can obtain a form from your parish office. Contributions are withdrawn from your bank account on the 20th of each month.
- You can contribute to the offertory via on-line banking. To do this, we need to send you your unique account number. Please e-mail us at campaign@archtoronto.org. In the body of the email provide us with your name, address, parish name and municipality. We will email you your account information which you can use to set up the Archdiocese of Toronto as a payee in your on-line banking. Your gift will be forwarded to your parish. You can make a one time or recurring gift to your offertory.

If you have any questions we'll be pleased to assist in our Development Office at the Arch. of Toronto, 416-934-3400, ext. 540.

MESSAGE FROM FATHER ANTHONY

We want to thank all the parishioners of Good Shepherd Parish for their ongoing support during this period of great uncertainty. It has been wonderful to see so many of you at Mass since we re-opened in June. We are especially grateful to the volunteers who have helped ensure our church is a safe place to gather – they have done incredible work!

As you know, Premier Ford announced that emergency measures need to be taken in York Region. For this reason, as of Monday, December 14th, we must restrict attendance inside the church to 10 people, including priests hearing confessions or a staff member. Sadly, due to these measures, public Masses must be temporarily cancelled. I will continue to celebrate private Mass daily for the intentions of parishioners and for those suffering from Covid-19. Our church will remain open **TUESDAY THROUGH FRIDAY – 9:00 A.M. TO 11:00 A.M.** for private prayer and for the faithful to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Weddings, funerals and baptisms will now be restricted to 10 persons, including those who are involved in ministry (priest, cantor, etc.). First Holy Communion and Confirmations will need to be postponed at this time.

I recognize the significant spiritual suffering that these restrictions have placed both upon our clergy and the faithful that look to us for guidance and direction. As we have demonstrated our ability to safely worship together, I trust that we will soon be able to fully resume public worship.

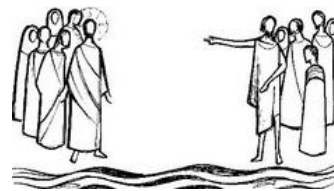
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION JUNE 2021



Given pandemic restrictions, sacramental guidance for children in Grade 2 or older will be available on-line and, situation permitting, in-person sessions/retreats to support preparation. First Communion will be planned for Sunday June 6th with additional dates depending on number of candidates and pandemic situation. Please contact Nisha Fernandes to receive the registration form at nisha.fernandes@medportal.ca. Completed forms can be returned via email or dropped off to the parish office or collection basket along with a copy of baptismal certificate and payment of \$30.00 (cash/cheques) to cover costs. If you have any questions please contact Nisha by email or at 416-567-3626.

THE WORD THIS WEEK

*"Samuel, Samuel!"
"Here I am!"*



What does it mean to be a follower of the Lord Jesus? Surely to listen and hear his voice, and to go where he leads us. Today, as we enter the ordinary season of the year, we begin our story of Jesus' life and ministry with the calling of the first disciples. John fulfills his ministry - pointing to the Lamb of God - and the disciples follow where he points. His word to them is simple and inviting: "Come and see." This echoes the calling of Samuel - a simple call, by name, which Samuel does not understand: discipleship is about trust, which Samuel shows simply by saying "Speak, Lord; your servant is listening." The Psalm also underlines this, as we (the disciples of the Lord) sing together: "Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will." We hear his call, and we freely go to him, to listen again to the words of the Master.

Parish Mass Live Stream

Sunday mass at the Good Shepherd Parish will be live streamed at 9:00 a.m. for your participation. Access is provided through the website under "News and Events". On the menu bar select "Parish Mass Videos" and follow the "View Parish Mass Videos" link. A video recording of the mass will also be available shortly after the completion of the mass.

We may pray this Act of Spiritual Communion when we are not able to be physically present at Mass:

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself. If wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen

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