

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

PALM SUNDAY – HOLY WEEK – EASTER



Mar. 23rd - Mar. 27th

Tuesday 8:30 -

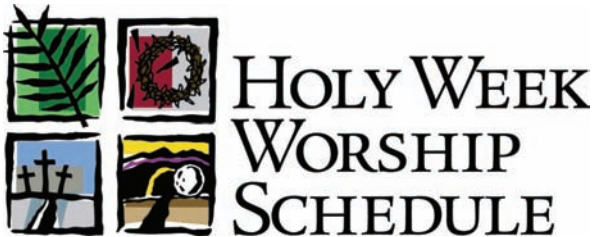
Wednesday 8:30 - Teresa Quigley †

READINGS FOR – April 4th

1st Reading: Acts 10.34a, 37-43

2nd Reading: Colossians 3.1-4

Gospel: John 20.1-18++



With Holy Week upon us, you must register your attendance online by visiting our parish website using the Eventbrite platform "REGISTER FOR MASSES". All public health protocols must be strictly followed at all times. Registration opens on Monday, March 29th at 10:00 a.m.

HOLY THURSDAY

7:00 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY

3:00 p.m.

EASTER VIGIL

7:00 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY

9:00 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

The Word This Week

"Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord."

What did Jesus cling to? Not to the fleeting glory of crowds shouting, "Hosanna!" Paul says Jesus didn't even cling to His divine position: He "did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself," becoming human. Jesus emptied himself of His divinity to become one of us in order to die on the cross for us. He accepted the suffering and pain of human life. He lived in vulnerability, God's Suffering Servant, not hiding his face "from insult and spitting." He simply acknowledges His true identity, submitting to mockery, crucifixion and death. But this confirms who He really was: when the centurion saw how Jesus died he said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

But he did not cling to suffering... he did not let it become the final word. Not even on the cross. He clung, instead, to his identity as God's beloved. He clung to his relationship with the Father. Even in his agony, he remembered who he was. His final heartbroken cry was nonetheless, a cry of faith, a prayer from Psalm 22: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" He clung to what he knew best: he was God's beloved, he trusted in God and God did not let him down. Paul assures us, "God highly exalted him."

This is the paschal mystery we celebrate at every Eucharist. Jesus gave his body and blood over to death so that we can have life. As we share the bread and wine, we remember that sacrifice and celebrate its effect in our lives today.

We need to be reminded that evil, hatred, suffering and death don't have the final word. Jesus gives us this gift. He shows us that life is stronger than death; love is stronger than hatred; faith and hope are stronger than fear and suffering. He shows us that we too, are God's beloved.

Today is also World Day of Youth. As young people gather to celebrate and reflect on their faith journey, let us give thanks for them and pray that they, like us, may be deeply inspired by the loving faithfulness of Jesus.



Love Your Neighbour. It's That Simple.

Each year in Canada, more than 2.7 million Canadians living with food insecurity don't know where their next meal is coming from. We have the potential to make a difference in their lives. On your next shopping at your local grocers, buy an extra food item and drop it in the food collection bin. Every time you give is an opportunity to love our neighbours in need.



CASSEROLE COLLECTION



GOOD SHEPHERD
MINISTRIES

FIFTY-SEVEN casseroles were collected!! This will provide many meals for those in need. For the April collection, we will revert to the pre-pandemic procedure of collecting casseroles. Pan/lid distribution will be available the weekend of April 10th and will continue for the week; inside the main entrance on the table. Frozen casseroles will be collected on the weekend of April 17th and 18th. Good Shepherd Ministries remain at the service of the poor and homeless of our City. Thank you to all who participate in this wonderful work of charity.



Supporting Mental Health in our Community

Our parish's ShareLife Campaign is now underway. In this time of Lent, please reflect on the great needs of our brothers and sisters who are helped through your generous support of ShareLife. Last year, generous ShareLife supporters enabled 21,000 people to receive affordable mental health care through family service agencies across the Archdiocese of Toronto, including our community.

Please give generously.

**ShareLife Sunday is
April 18th**

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the **LORD**.

Psalm 118:26



Parish Mass Live Stream

Easter Sunday Mass at 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 wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen"

2021 VIRTUAL ONTARIO PRAYER BREAKFAST

Monday, March 29

7:30AM to 8:30AM - A VIRTUAL EVENT

The 53rd Ontario Prayer Breakfast will be held virtually this year on Monday, March 29 from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. Join us at the beginning of Holy Week as we enjoy a time of prayer, musical reflection and hear from individuals whose faith has sustained and guided them on the frontline of care and ministry during the pandemic. The Ontario Prayer Breakfast is organized by the Christian community, bringing together a diverse group of professional, political, corporate and faith leaders from across our province. In past years, close to 1,000 attendees would gather together, regardless of denominational, political or ideological affiliations to join in a time of prayer for our leaders, our province and our communities. Registration and more information can be found at: www.ontarioprayerbreakfast.ca. Reserve your ticket early. Space is limited to 1,000.

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