

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. 12, 2021



Dec. 14TH – Dec. 18TH

Tues. 8:30 am – Ho Chee Kin †
Wed. 8:30 am – Winston & Christina Ferguson †
Thurs. Noon - Michael Chung †
Fri. 8:30 am - Edward Lopes †
Sat. 4:30 pm - J.&S. Lee Family – In Thanksgiving

READINGS FOR – December 19th

1st Reading: Micah 5.2-5a
2nd Reading: Hebrews 10.5-10
Gospel: Luke 1.39-45



The Word This Week

"Rejoice: the Lord is nigh." As Christmas draws near, the Church emphasizes the joy which should be in our hearts over all that the birth of our Savior means for us. The great joy of Christians is to see the day drawing nigh when the Lord will come again in His glory to lead them into His kingdom. The oft-repeated *Veni* ("Come") of Advent is an echo not only of the prophets but also of the conclusion of the Apocalypse of St. John: "Come, Lord Jesus," the last words of the New Testament.

Today is known as Gaudete Sunday. The term Gaudete refers to the first word of the Entrance Antiphon, "Rejoice." Rose vestments are worn to emphasize our joy that Christmas is near and we also light the rose candle on our Advent wreath.

"O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever."



Christmas Mass Schedule DECEMBER 24 CHRISTMAS EVE

NO 8:30 A.M. MASS

4:30 P.M.

07:00 P.M.

10:00 P.M.

DECEMBER 25 CHRISTMAS DAY

09:00 A.M.

11:00 A.M.

NO 4:30 P.M. MASS

DECEMBER 31 NEW YEAR'S EVE

04:30 P.M.

JANUARY 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY

09:00 A.M.

11:00 A.M.

NO 4:30 P.M. MASS

With attendance restrictions being relaxed, we will not require parishioners to "save their seat" by reserving on line or through the office. All Masses will be on a FIRST COME FIRST SERVED basis. We kindly ask to be mindful of social distancing, masks and hand sanitation. So many of the faithful rely on the reception of the sacraments and our churches to find solace, peace and support during this period of pandemic. We pray that you and your loved ones remain safe and healthy. May God continue to bless you now and always!



Third Sunday of Advent



A SPECIAL GIFT FOR OUR PARISHIONERS "FORMED"

We are excited to offer FORMED to our entire parish as a gift of thanks and gratitude. With award-winning studies and parish programs, inspiring audio content, movies, e-books, and family-friendly kids' programming, there is something for everyone on FORMED. To register for your free account and claim our gift to you:

1. Visit signup.formed.org
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3. Enter your name and email

We pray that this gift will bless you!



DISTRIBUTION OF 2022 OFFERTORY BOXES

Distribution of Offertory envelopes has begun. Please be mindful to socially distance when entering the hall; four at a time. We kindly ask parishioners to also pick up boxed envelopes for those they know that are not attending Mass during the pandemic. Once you have picked up your envelopes please exit through the back doors. Arrangements can also be made to pick up envelopes through the office during business hours. Envelope numbers over "400" 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 or other parishes.

CASSEROLE COLLECTION FEED MY LAMBS



Casserole trays and recipes will be handed out after Mass this weekend (Dec. 11&12). Frozen casseroles will be collected before each Mass on Saturday, Dec. 18th and Sunday, Dec. 19th. Good Shepherd Ministries remain at the service of the poor and homeless of our City. Heartfelt thanks to those who have faithfully supported this program.



CHRISTMAS GIFT CARDS COLLECTION FOR THE LESS FORTUNATE

The Knights of Columbus will be collecting grocery store gift cards after each Mass each weekend until Christmas. If you are not able to purchase gift cards your cash donation will be accepted. As we await the birth of our Lord during Advent, let us keep in mind those who are less fortunate and need our assistance through the holidays. **Please place your cards or donation into the gift card basket at the back of the church that will be attended by a member of the Knights.**

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE



The ladies of the CWL will be hosting a **BAKE SALE AND CRAFT BAZAAR** on December 11/12 for all parishioners. There will be delicious baked goods, home-made crafts, a lovely variety of knitted items, Christmas gifts and decorations, jewelry, locally made delicacies and pre-wrapped gift sets. Our sale will take place before and after the 4:30 Mass on Saturday and after the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday. Payment only with cash or cheque. Baked goods donations will be welcomed any time after 2:00 p.m. on Saturday or before the Sunday Masses. **Covid rules will most certainly be in place at all times.** Please come as we would love your support.

CWL MEETING

DECEMBER 13TH – 7:15 P.M. PARISH HALL

All C.W.L. Members and any women who would like to join us, are invited to our first in person meeting since Covid arrived. Our theme will be, "Welcoming at this moment and Waiting as together we embrace this Advent season". It will be a very enjoyable evening and we look forward to being with you again.



2021 CAMPAIGN

We met and surpassed our goal of \$123,000.00. This would not have been possible if not for the very generous support of our amazing parishioners. Thank you to everyone. You have made a bright future much easier for many of the most vulnerable in our communities by your contributions. Donations received after November 30, 2021 will be applied to ShareLife Campaign for 2022.

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