

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 LENT – MARCH 6, 2022



March 8th – March 12th

Tues. 8:30 am – Otilia Lee †

Wed. 8:30 am – Helen D'Souza - Sp. Int.

Thurs. Noon – Kim & Iris Chong †

Fri. 8:30 am – Andrea Park & Sylvia Kim †

Sat. 4:30 pm – Teresa Sun †

READINGS FOR – March 13th

1st Reading: Genesis 15.5-12, 17-18

2nd Reading: Philippians 3.17-4.1

Gospel: 9.28b-36



SEASON OF LENT

Just imagine that this Lent is going to be different from every other Lent we've experienced. Imagine that there will be many graces offered this year. Let's even imagine that God is going to transform our lives, with greater freedom, greater joy, deeper desires for love and service. There is really something coming that we can truly look forward to. If we get too focused on ourselves, and what we are going to do or not do, we risk missing the gift God wants to give us. This is about God's great desire to bless us. So let us prepare to receive what God wants to give us.



Attendance at parish Lenten devotions is a must.

The Stations of the Cross

Every Friday evening at 7:00 p.m. during lent.

SL ShareLife

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Soon we will be launching our 2022 ShareLife Campaign. ShareLife is LIVING THE GOSPEL by respecting and caring for life at all stages! You might not realize the impact of your donation to ShareLife. Your generosity supports over 40 agencies that help thousands of people in your community and beyond. As the 2022 Parish Campaign approaches, we thank you for your faithful support!

**ShareLife Sunday
March 27 2022**

The Word This Week

"Jesus was led by the Spirit through the wilderness and was tempted there."

As with each First Sunday of Lent the Gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the wilderness; as we begin the journey of Lent, during which we will consider our lives as members of the Church, we look to the example of Jesus when it comes to dealing with temptation. Choosing to follow God's path is the first characteristic of the Christian: this is underlined in the two other readings, which outline the two "creeds" or statements of belief - one of Israel and one of the Christian. Both of them emphasize "believing in the heart and confessing with the lips": both creeds underline the Salvation that God has achieved - for Israel it was freedom from Egypt, for the Christian freedom from death in Jesus.

Many people view Lent negatively – as a time of deprivation and denial. Today's Gospel reminds us instead that Lent is a time to become more solidly grounded in our faith. No matter what the devil said or offered, Jesus remained firmly rooted in God's word. The lure of comfort and wealth and power was not match for what Jesus knew to be ultimately true as revealed in Scripture.

The hardest challenge in life is to believe that every moment, whether joyful or difficult, is an occasion to deepen our relationship with God and one another. It is not enough to accept or tolerate reality. We are called to love reality in all its glory and messiness. Making more time for prayer and Scripture, fasting from things in our lives that keep us from giving ourselves in service to others: far from depriving us, these are the tools we can use to ensure that we are firmly rooted in the things of God.

As we continue our Lenten journey, may we be strengthened to follow in the footsteps of the One who unflinchingly stood up to evil and ultimately triumphed.





RESTRICTION UPDATE

Thank you to all our parishioners for your ongoing patience and co-operation over the past two years in adapting to the restrictions. We are pleased to share good news that as of Tuesday, March 1, 2022, Good Shepherd Parish will be back to 100% capacity with no physical distancing restrictions. Masks will still be required. Our church is a safe place to gather and we look forward to resuming public worship. God Bless!

Bereavement Support Group Virtual Sessions

If you or someone you know has lost a loved one, the Office of Formation for Discipleship is sponsoring Bereavement Support Group Sessions on Tuesdays from March 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29, 2022 from 7:00 pm to 8:30 p.m. Grieving with Great HOPE is a Catholic faith-based program that consists of a five-week grief support workshop using a video-on-demand format available on Formed. There is no cost to attend, but online registration is required. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/BS-RegisterMar2022> by February 22, 2022. CONTACT: Sally Amaral at samaral@archtoronto.org or 416-934-3400, ext. 518.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience

March 25 09:00 AM - March 27 05:00 PM

Virtual

Where are you in your marriage journey? Every marriage could use a boost. Learn easy-to-use communication tools to help enhance your relationship. Our proven program will guide you through practical and private exercises to refresh your wedding vows and to spark up your romance. Based on Catholic values, but married couples of all faiths are welcome. Are you ready to rediscover each other?

CONTACT: Gerard & Marge, 905-792-1925

Lenten Prayers and Devotions

- Begin each morning with the prayer: "Lord, I offer you this day, and all that I think, and do and say."
- Attend daily Mass often as possible.
- Pray the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary.
- Make the Stations of the Cross at home or in parish celebration.
- Read Scripture for 10 minutes every day.
- Pray the Seven Penitential Psalms (Psalms 6, 31, 50, 101, 129 and 142)
- Spend some time in quiet prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.
- Abstain from meat for an extra day or two each week.
- Listen to spiritual music or a spiritual speaker.
- Keep a Lenten journal with your spiritual insights, special intentions, people you want to pray for, hurts and disappointments that you want to offer up and progress reports on your Lenten resolutions.



Try to follow these actions, if you do, the rest will fall into place.

Ministry with Maturing Adults

Inviting men and women (50+)

Thursday, March 17 at 10:00 a.m.

"Falls Prevention"

We invite you to come and learn with our guest speaker Linda Ind:

- Risk Factors
- Helpful tips to prevent falls
- How to get up safely from a fall

Register: gspadmin@bellnet.ca or phone 905-881-1534

Clothing Drive



What's in your closet?

The Knights of Columbus will be holding a St. Vincent de Paul clothing drive on May 21st and 22nd. Please save any clothing or fabrics that you would like to donate. More information to follow.

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



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