



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: GoodShepherdTH@archtoronto.org website: goodshepherdth.archtoronto.org

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – FEB. 19, 2023



Feb. 21st – Feb. 25th

Tues. 8:30 am – Teresa Quigley †

Wed. 8:30 am – Special Intention

7:00 pm - Noreen Lobo †

Thurs. Noon – Calixta Garcia †

Fri. 8:30 am – John Ip †

Sat. 4:30 pm – Melvin Pereira †

READINGS FOR – February 26th

1st Reading: Genesis 2.7-9 16-18,
25; 3.1-7++

2nd Reading: Romans 5.12-19

Gospel: Matthew 4.1-11



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.

Lent begins this Wednesday.

Masses will be celebrated at 8:30

a.m. and 7:00 p.m. with Ashes being distributed at both

Masses. This is a day of Fast and Abstinence.

The Stations of the Cross

Every Friday evening at 7:00 p.m. during Lent, join us as we follow the path of



Christ.



THE WORD THIS WEEK

"Love your enemies."

"Love your neighbour as yourself." These are words we associate so clearly with the teaching of Jesus and the way of life the Gospel calls us to. But it may be a surprise to some people to hear that these words come first from the Old Testament, in the mouth of Moses himself. Moses was speaking the Lord God's instruction for the community; the community of the people of Israel in flight from Egypt in their long sojourn in the wilderness. God's instructions were about how that community had to work; without grudges, resentment or vengeance, but with love and forgiveness and tolerance. When Jesus comes with the message of the Kingdom of heaven, it is the same instruction for a perfect, God-guided society, which depends on how each of us lives with others. Life for many, if not for most people, has many dark, gloomy and despairing moments. The man or woman who is moved by true Christian charity can bring a beam of sunshine, a ray of hope, into the lives of these people. Fr. Faber in a booklet on kindness has a poem which we could all learn and practice with great profit for ourselves and for a neighbor in need of kindness. He says:

*"It was but a sunny smile,
And little it cost in the giving,
But it scattered the night like the morning
light*

*And made the day worth living.
It was but a kindly word,
A word that was lightly spoken,
yet not in vain for it chilled the pain
Of a heart that was nearly broken.*

*It was but a helping hand,
And it seemed of little availing,
But its clasp was warm, it saved from harm
A brother whose strength was failing."*

Try the sunny smile of true love, the kindly word of Christian encouragement, the helping hand of true charity, and not only will you brighten the darkness and lighten the load of your brother but you will be imitating in your own small way the perfect Father of love who is in heaven.





TURKEY & SYRIA EARTHQUAKE

Two devastating earthquakes and hundreds of violent aftershocks in Turkey and Syria have caused great destruction in both countries. The disaster began with a 7.8-magnitude earthquake early Monday morning, one of the strongest to hit the region in 100 years.

Those wishing to help may do so in the following ways:

Online through the Archdiocese of Toronto website – <https://www.archtoronto.org/en/contact-us/donations/donate-pages/donate-to-turkiye-and-syria-relief/>

By phone through the Development Office:
416-934-3411

Through the parish, making cheques payable to:
Good Shepherd Parish – Turkey and Syria
Earthquake – Humanitarian Relief

Ministry with Maturing Adults

Inviting Men and Women (50+)

Friday, February 24 at 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Safety for Seniors & Emergency Planning

Zoom Presentation by

Juanita Butler, CHATS Caregiver Counsellor

Topics you will learn about:

- Home Adaptations
- Kitchen and Bathroom Safety
- Fall Prevention
- Medic Alert and Lifeline

To register, please contact: Viola Athaide

Email: vathaide@rogers.com

Juanita Butler at CHATS:

Email: jbutler@chats.on.ca



C.W.L 2023 Youth Awards Program



The Catholic Women's League Youth Awards Program is a combination of contests which are intended to support Catholic youth to hone their skills in becoming people of faith dedicated to following in the footsteps of Christ to serve God and Canada. These contests are good confidence builders for the students and an opportunity for them to share their views and values on important Catholic teachings.

For the Education component of Catholic Women's League of Canada Education and Health Committee, one of the educational based projects that continue to be a major focus across the Toronto Diocese the program is comprised for Gr. 7 to 12 of the following contests:

- Mary Matthews Public Speaking Gr. 7 & 8
- Mary Dobell Pro-Life Essay & Poetry Gr. 7 to 12
- Jean McCann Youth Service Award age 15 to 18
- St. Michael's College Scholarship Gr. 12 (females only) due May 31, 2023

All registrations (besides St. Michael's College Scholarship) need to be received by Feb. 24, 2023. Good Shepherd Parish contest for Mary Matthews Public Speaking will be held on Sunday, Feb. 26, 2023 right after the 11:00 am Mass at church hall. For each contest package and any further questions, please reach parish contact, Catherine Ger at catherine.ger@outlook.com. May our Lady of Good Counsel guide us in all that we do.

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.



Catherine Ger
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you will likely get there."*

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

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