

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

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - JANUARY 7, 2024



Jan. 9th – Jan. 13th

Tues. 8:30 a.m. - Helen D'Souza Sp. Intention

Wed. 8:30 a.m. – In Thanksgiving Thurs. Noon – Teresa Fung Poon ♥ Fri. 8:30 a.m. – Sylvia Johnson ♥

Sat. 4:30 p.m. - Anthony & Cecilia Toscano ³

READINGS FOR – January 14th

1st Reading: 1 Samuel 3.3b-10, 19 2nd Reading: 1 Corin. 6.13c-15a, 17-20

Gospel: John 1.35-42





OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Please remember to pick up your box of envelopes. If you have not been assigned envelopes and wish to use them, please

complete a request form.

Please print your name and address for the first few weeks so that we can update our records. Thank you.

PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING

As a new year begins, we would like to encourage you to consider switching to the pre-authorized



giving plan. If you are currently signed up and you would like to increase your donation for 2024, please contact the office. Information and Authorization forms are available in the foyer of the church.

2024 MASS INTENTIONS

Please visit or call the office to book mass intentions for 2024. The donation for an announced Mass is \$20.00. This Mass is offered at Good Shepherd, the intention is printed in the bulletin and also mentioned at the start of the dedicated Mass. The donation for an unannounced Mass is \$10. This is a private Mass said offsite. Tax receipts are not issued for Mass offerings.

THE WORD THIS WEEK

"They knelt down and paid him homage."

Today the Church celebrates the **Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord**. "The Lord and ruler is coming; kingship is his, and government and power." With these words the Church proclaims that today's feast brings to a perfect fulfillment all the purposes of Advent.

Epiphany means manifestation. What the Church celebrates today is the manifestation of our Lord to the whole world; after being made known to the shepherds of Bethlehem He is revealed to the Magi who have come from the East: people of good will, open to God, ready to hear and follow God's call, ever-willing to follow a star wherever it might lead.

We must notice the star – the call from God that beckons us – and respond as they did. These wise men no doubt had busy and demanding lives, but they dropped everything and followed a star to something, to someone, beyond their imagining. At the beginning, they could not have known what the journey would hold for them, only that they should follow wholeheartedly. They must have made space in their hearts, to respond so fully. In the season of Advent, we were called to make space for Jesus to come. Not that Jesus was not already present, but to brush away the clutter and make space again for what – for who – is most important.

The star we follow today to the manger speaks to the mind and heart of each of us. The experience of the Magi reminds us that all who make the strenuous journey to the truth will finally encounter it and be changed in the process. They can never go back to "business as usual" in life. When we meet Christ and see who he really is, we will never be the same – and only then can we hope to begin to share in his mission.



COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

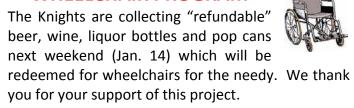


CASSEROLE COLLECTION

Casserole trays and recipes will be handed out after Mass next weekend (Jan. 13th & 14th). You can also visit the office during business hours

(Monday – Thursday from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm) to pick up pans. Frozen casseroles will be collected before each Mass on January 20th & 21st. 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.

WHEELCHAIR PROGRAM



This is the last month (January 2024) that The Knights of Columbus will be accepting aluminum pop cans. Beginning in February, we will only be accepting wine and spirits bottles and aluminum cans from drinks that contain alcohol, such as beer cans. We thank you for your continued support of this project.

USED POSTAGE STAMPS FOR THE LEPROSY MISSION OF CANADA



Effect Hope (The Leprosy Mission of Canada) is working towards global eradication of Leprosy. During the months of December and January, we are collecting used postage stamps, especially Christmas and international. The Leprosy Mission of Canada sells these stamps to collectors, using the monies collected for education, medicine and research. Please trim the stamps, leaving no less than ¼" and no more than ½" border. Deposit stamps in the bin on the welcome table in the foyer. Donation of stamp collections, first day covers or stamp sets are also very much appreciated. Thank you.



Celebration of Marriage Mass with Archbishop Francis Leo

Sunday, February 11, 2024 03:00 PM - 04:30 PM

St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica (65 Bond Street)

As part of Marriage Sunday 2024 celebrations, Archbishop Francis Leo will preside at a special Mass to honour married couples, with special recognition for those celebrating 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th and 60+ wedding anniversaries in 2024. All married couples will have an opportunity to renew their marriage commitment during the Mass. All are welcome to attend. Couples celebrating 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60+ anniversaries in 2024 may register for reserved seating. Reserved seating is limited, so please register early. All other seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. Those who are unable to attend at the Cathedral are invited to join the celebration via livestream Mass.

Registration and other important information can be found at www.archtoronto.org/marriage.

CONTACT: <u>formation@archtoronto.org</u> 416-934-3400 ext. 523

THE GENEROSITY OF GOOD SHEPHERD PARISHIONERS

The Knights of Columbus annual Advent "Protein for the Poor" collected a total of \$2,456.00. The Brothers at the Good Shepherd Centre will certainly put this money to good use. The total number of casseroles donated in 2023 was 370. This provided many meals for the less fortunate in our city. Our annual Christmas Gifting Tree raised \$3,300.00 in gift cards and cash allowing us to help so many in our community as well as through Rosalie Hall and Jean Vanier Secondary School. In addition to the non-perishables, your donations to clothing drives, disaster relief, diocesan and second collections never fall short. **God bless you all!**



JANUARY 20 AND 21

The Legion of Mary invite all to join them after each Mass for some light refreshments in the parish hall. A wonderful time to be in community, unite and welcome

new parishioners.

Catherine Ger Parishioner 416.904.7949

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