



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

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – JANUARY 21, 2024



Jan. 23rd – Jan. 27th

Tues. 8:30 a.m. – Msgr. John Weber †

Wed. 8:30 a.m. – Noel Vaz †

Thurs. Noon – Maria DePaola Sp. Int.

Fri. 8:30 a.m. – Ignatius Lee †

Sat. 4:30 p.m. – Raymond Reix †

READINGS FOR – January 28th

1st Reading: Deuter. 18.15-20

2nd Reading: 1 Corin. 7.32-35

Gospel: Mark 1.21-28



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 weekday Mass and during the Prayers of the Faithful on the weekend. 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

***“Follow me and I will make you
fishers of people.”***

In today's Gospel, we hear the familiar story of how Jesus called his first disciples to be fisher of people. If we fast forward today's Gospel into present day, we can imagine Jesus walking through an office complex and asking us to leave our desks. Do we drop everything and go?

Jesus came to announce to all men the good news of God's eternal plan for them. He spent his public life convincing the Jews of Palestine of the truth of this message, and he died on the cross because he claimed to be that he was God's divine Son, who had come in human nature to raise all men to the standing and status of adopted sons of God. That very death, cruel and unjust though it was, was part of the divine plan. He conquered death and was raised from the grave to prove that we too, if we accept his divine gospel and live by it, will be raised from the dead and reign with Christ in the kingdom of his Father forever.

We Christians should be the happiest people on earth. We know why we are here; we know where we are going and we know how to get there. There are trials and troubles which beset us on our journey; there are rough parts of the road and weaknesses in our human nature which often led us off the right road, but we are not left to our own human resources. We have help from above to strengthen and comfort us on our journey. We have divine aids in the Church which Christ set us and we have the guarantee of our Good Shepherd that he will keep us in his fold or bring us back should we foolishly wander from it.

The first disciples demonstrate such readiness and resolve: leaving behind their thriving business ventures, family and employees, they follow Jesus regardless of the cost. Their actions are not a counsel to shirk life's responsibilities, but to make God the priority.



**GENTLE REMINDER
FIRST COMMUNION
CLASSES BEGIN ON
JANUARY 27TH
AT 9:00 A.M.**



COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS CASSEROLE COLLECTION

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.



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP SIGN UP/RENEWAL

We would like to extend an invitation to the women of the Parish, who are interested in joining our community, to meet us in the foyer after Mass on the weekend of January 27th/28th. The CWL helps us to grow in faith, providing us with opportunities to serve others and giving us an awareness and ability to act on social justice issues. If you are a member of the CWL and have not renewed your membership for 2024, you may do so after Mass on the weekend of January 27th/28th or place an envelope in the collection basket. Please provide your name, address, phone number and email address and enclose either cash or a cheque for \$40.00 made out to "CWL Good Shepherd Parish".



TAX RECEIPTS

Tax receipts for donations made in 2023 will be processed by the **end of February**. All donations made on-line will be sent from the Archdiocese. As per the Archdiocese, donations for Masses offered are not tax deductible.



WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

**Sunday, January 21, 2024
04:00 P.M. - 06:00 P.M.**

**St. Mark Coptic Orthodox
Cathedral**

455 Ferrier Street, Markham

Join Archbishop Francis Leo and a wide representation of Christian leaders to pray for the restoration of full visible unity willed by Jesus Christ for the Church. In this annual celebration we are reminded that the unity of the Church is both a gift of the Holy Spirit and a task for all Christians. This event is jointly organized by the Office for Promoting Christian Unity and the Greater Toronto Area Council of Christian Churches. All are welcome to attend.

BIBLE STUDY AT GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH ON

**"FORMED"
Lectio: God**

The Mystery of the Trinity in the Bible

Start Date: Feb. 13, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

(9 Weeks)

What do we mean when we say "God"? This dynamic program combines an in-depth biblical study with insightful questions, an explanation of common misunderstandings regarding God, and personal reflections that will strengthen your faith in the one true God, who is a communion of three Divine Persons. The cost for the Study Guide is \$35.00. Please register the weekend of Feb. 3&4. Please call the office to get the Zoom link.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

The York Catholic District School Board is now accepting registrations for Junior Kindergarten for children born in 2020. York Catholic provides a Christ-centered, innovative Catholic Education in 102 schools across York Region. The YCDSB is consistently ranked as one of the top-performing school boards in the province. You can visit their website, www.ycdsb.ca, to register for classes starting in September.



Catherine Ger
Parishioner
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and he who abides in love
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and God abides in him.



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