



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

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – FEBRUARY 11, 2024



Feb. 13th – Feb. 17th

Tues. 8:30 a.m. – Berek Opler †

Wed. 8:30 a.m. – Alberto Albanese †

7:00 p.m. – Peter DiGiacomo †

Thurs. Noon – Amabel Robbins Sp. Int.

Fri. 8:30 a.m. – Olga Montenegro †

Sat. 4:30 p.m. – Mark Williams †

READINGS FOR – February 18th

1st Reading: Genesis 9.8-15

2nd Reading: 1 Peter 3.18-22

Gospel: Mark 1.12-15



To make the pilgrimage of Lent is to follow an itinerary of conversion. Lent affords every baptized Christian the opportunity to reenter the catechumenate, to undergo a “second baptism,” and thus to meet once again the mysteries of God’s mercy and love. For members of the Catholic Church, the laws regarding abstinence and fasting are as follows:

- **Abstinence** from eating meat is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays during Lent. This applies to all persons 14 years of age and older.
- **Fasting** on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday applies to all Catholics who have completed their eighteenth year to the beginning of their sixtieth year. A person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal.

Ash distribution at 8:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Masses.

The Stations of the Cross

Join us as we follow the path of Christ commencing this Friday at 7:00 pm.



THE WORD THIS WEEK

*“Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him
and said ... ‘Be made clean!’ “*

We see both the divine power and the divine compassion of Jesus in this act of healing. The divine power was necessary in all instantaneous cures. Even if the diseases were curable, the ordinary process of nature took time to fight off the causes and to return to normality. Therefore, where there was an instantaneous recovery some power above nature, some supernatural cause brought it about. But where the disease was incurable, as real leprosy then was, to remove it by a simple word of command was more emphatically still the result of divine power. This divine power Jesus had, for he was himself divine, the Son of God.

Thankfully, we do not encounter leprosy in our culture. It can therefore be difficult to enter into the real depth of today’s readings. We have to understand that leprosy meant exclusion, rejection and the end of “normal” life. For your leprosy to be cured would be like being given a second chance at life. What is the cause of exclusion and rejection in our society – or even in the Church? Who are those who must “live apart”? And how can we put into effect in our day those most touching of the words of Jesus, when asked if he wants to cure the leper: “Of course I want to!”?

This should be our approach too, if we have the misfortune to fall into serious sin. Jesus does will and does want our salvation. His incarnation, and death on the cross, proves that. The fact that he left the power to forgive sins to his Church is another proof of both his will and desire to help us. “All power has been given to me in heaven and on earth,” he stated. Part of that power which he left to his Church is in the sacrament of penance where the leprosy of sin can be washed away and the sinner restored to new and perfect spiritual health. What folly for any Christian then, to commit sin and isolate himself, like the unclean leper, from God. But it is greater folly still, to remain in this unclean state when the cure for his disease is so easily available to any sincere penitent.



Lent is a Season of many layers, but all are joined together in the idea of the Journey to New Life. Lent is a time to purify ourselves so that we

can renew the sense of Rebirth as new creatures, washed in the Blood and Water. This is why Lent, like Advent, is a "season looking forward" - our eyes are fixed on the road ahead, and especially on the Easter Triduum, when the Church, empowered by the Holy Spirit, makes the Paschal mystery. All our penance and devotions should be carrying us somewhere, all our prayers and hymns and sacrifices should be leading us onwards and upwards!

Youth Awards Program



The **CWL 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. The program is comprised of the following four 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, 2024

All registrations (besides St. Michael's College Scholarship) need to be received by Feb. 23, 2024. Good Shepherd contest for Mary Matthews Public Speaking will be held on Sun. Feb. 25 at 12:30 p.m. in the church hall. For each contest package and any further enquiries, please reach parish contact, **CATHERINE GER** at catherine.ger@outlook.com.

May our Lady of Good Counsel guide us in all that we do.

FEBRUARY 17 & 18

The Knights of Columbus 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.



Good Shepherd Parish extends heartfelt best wishes for a Happy New Year to our Asian parishioners who are such an integral part of our parish family.

新年快樂
Happy Chinese New Year

Ministry with Maturing Adults

Inviting Men and Women (50+)

Thursday, February 22

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Navigating the Health Care System

Zoom Presentation by

Juanita Butler, CHATS Caregiver

To register email Viola at vathaide@rogers.com



**2024 LIFT
JESUS
HIGHER
RALLY**

Saturday, March 2, 2024

8:00 am to 5:30 pm

Metro Toronto Convention Centre

255 Front St. W., Toronto

The theme of this year's rally is

"TAKE HEART: By His Wounds We Are Healed."

Featuring: Compelling Speakers: Fr. Mathias Thelen, Peter Herbeck, Debbie Herbeck and Fr. Alex Colautti; Holy Mass (with Sunday readings) - celebrated by Archbishop Francis Leo; Youth Mass (with Sunday readings) - celebrated by Bishop Scott McCaig at a separate adjacent youth event (13-18 years). Powerful Praise & Worship Music, Prayer Ministry for Healing & Empowerment and so much

more. Tickets can be purchased ONLINE at our Website: www.ljhr.ca

COST: \$30 for Adult and \$15 for Youth

CONTACT: Catholic Renewal Ministries

PHONE: 647-873-1753

EMAIL: contact@ljhr.ca

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



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