

## 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 RESURRECTION OF THE LORD



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# Apr. 2<sup>nd</sup> - Apr. 6<sup>th</sup>Tuesday- Anthony Kyoong ♥Wednesday- Ted Hanley Sp. IntentionThursday- Anthony Gomes ♥Friday- ♥Saturday- Helen D'Souza Sp. Intention

#### **READINGS FOR – April 7<sup>th</sup>**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Acts 4.32-35 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 John 5.1-6 Gospel: John 20.19-31





## The Word This Week *"I have risen and I am with you still."*

The season of Easter gives us opportunities to pause and reflect with joy on the gift of salvation. Like Mary Magdalene, we now no

longer have need to weep. We have been given a gift of hope through the death and resurrection of Jesus, who freed us from the chains of sin. We have been liberated through the love of God, who invites us to find freedom, peace and wholeness of being.

All this was intended by God—the basis of our Christian faith was proved beyond doubt. Christ, who had died on the cross on Good Friday, was raised from the dead by his Father on Easter morning. He returned to heaven in the full glory of the divinity which he had hidden while on earth, together with his human body, now also glorified. There (in heaven), as God and Man, he pleads for us at the right hand of the Father until the day when he who redeemed all men will come to judge them all.

Let us join together this Easter to be powerful witnesses of hope to our communities. More important, let us be renewed in the love of Christ who sustains us.

## Dear Parishioners: "Jesus Christ is risen today! Alleluia!

*Our Lord has conquered sin and death. The Good Shepherd is with us to guide us safely through this life to his Heavenly Kingdom.* 

Therefore, today we renew our baptismal promises. In doing so, we renew our commitment to Christ as our Lord and Savior and promise again to serve Him as a faithful member of His church.

As your pastor, I am grateful for all the hard work and dedication of so many people who make our Holy Week Liturgies so beautiful: Eucharistic ministers, lectors, ushers, altar servers, choir and musicians, the enhancement committee and those who assisted with the Easter Vigil flowers. The faith commitment of the people and families who make up Good Shepherd Parish bears witness to the reality of the resurrection. Truly, the risen Lord is with us and dwells among us.

On behalf of our Parish Administrators, Deacons Michael Gennaro & James Shaughnessy, I wish each of you a Blessed and Joyous Easter!

God bless you, Father Anthony

## FIRST FRIDAY April 5<sup>th</sup>



#### Mass will be at 8:30 a.m.

Eucharistic Adoration is a time to be with Jesus. We invite everyone to stay after Mass and experience being in the presence of Jesus. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will continue until noon when the Blessed Sacrament will be reposed. A sign-up sheet is available in the foyer if you can commit to a specific time.

## **Sl ShareLife**

Helping the whole communit through Catholic agencies

## Embrace Jesus' love and compassion through giving.

Jesus' love and example inspire us to extend a helping hand to others, especially those facing the greatest challenges. ShareLife agencies continue to reach out to the most vulnerable members of our community, offering essential services made possible by your compassion and generous contributions. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.



## CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE Italian Cuisine Night Monday April 15

Ladies join us for Mass at 7:00 p.m. followed by an excellent Italian meal. On the menu: Lasagna, Salads, Dessert, Wine, Tea and Coffee all for the bargain price of \$20.00. Tickets will be available after all Masses the weekends of April 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup>. Come and enjoy an evening of fun and camaraderie with your fellow members.

## CWL FUNDRAISER macgregors meat & seafood ltd.

The CWL is pleased to announce that they will be taking orders for MacGregors meats again this year. Their products are of excellent quality and come highly recommended. The ladies of the CWL will be at the back of the church on April 13/14 and April 20/21 with the order forms for you to complete and to answer any questions you may have. Order forms must be returned by May 4/5th. Delivery date will be announced later.

The office will be closed on Easter Monday.



# "He must rise from the dead."

"There but for the grace of God" we may say when faced with a human disaster or tragedy. What we say less often is how God's grace works through and in the midst of such catastrophes. Yet for the outsider, this is often the crux of the matter. How can a good God allow such dreadful things to happen to innocent people?

Our celebration of Easter puts us in touch with the saving power of Christ. We remember what he did for us, and we remember the truth the disciples faced: that he must rise from the dead for it all to make sense. When faced with the trails of life – light for some, burdensome for others – we are offered the same opportunity as the disciples.

Can we allow the risen Lord to accompany us through our sufferings to new life? Or will we fail to see his outstretched hand? There is always a choice. Most of us fortunately do not have to undergo the depths of suffering experienced by Jesus himself or those who underwent experiences such as the Holocaust. But we are asked to be open to believing in his power to transform our lives.

If we are open to his new life, then we in our turn can become like the good Samaritans who emerge in moments of crises and are there for others. It is a gift, a grace. Touched by it, we will no longer be saying "there but for the grace of God". The grace of God will be empowering us to walk simply alongside those in need. We will have become instruments of the risen Lord, offering his forgiveness and healing to all we meet. The world will be the landscape of God's infinite mercy, redeemed and brought to new life.



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