



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 OF ADVENT – DEC. 15, 2024



Dec. 17th – Dec. 21st

Tues. 8:30 a.m. – All Faithful Departed †
Wed. 8:30 a.m. - Protection of the Unborn
Thurs. Noon - Lily Chung †
Fri. 8:30 a.m. - Flory Chan †
Sat. 4:30 p.m. – S. & J. Lee Family Sp. Int.

READINGS FOR – Dec. 22nd

1st Reading: Micah 5.2-5a
2nd Reading: Hebrews 10.5-10
Gospel: Luke 1.39-45



Christmas Mass Schedule

DECEMBER 24TH CHRISTMAS EVE
07:00 P.M.
10:00 P.M.
DECEMBER 25TH CHRISTMAS DAY
09:00 A.M.
11:00 A.M.
DECEMBER 31ST NEW YEAR'S EVE
04:30 P.M.
JANUARY 1ST NEW YEAR'S DAY
09:00 A.M.
11:00 A.M.



FIRST COMMUNION 2025

Gentle reminder that registrations for children receiving their First Communion are to be submitted by January 31, 2025. Please drop off registrations at the parish office.

THE WORD THIS WEEK

“John proclaimed the good news to the people.”

This Sunday is called “Gaudete” Sunday — “Rejoice Sunday”. This comes from the readings we hear today, and it underlines an important point. In the Gospel, we hear John the Baptist telling different groups what to do - they must repent, and change their lives. We might think of this as a rather joyless thing - something which is hard and unrewarding. And yet there are three causes of rejoicing here that can transform our lives.

The first is the stirring of desire for a holy life from such unlikely characters as tax collectors, soldiers and well, *ordinary* people. The second is their humble, courageous and fearsome question: “What should we do?” They so longed for the forgiveness of their sins that wealth, power and position faced away before the promise of a clean heart. John’s response – his good news – was within their reach: act fairly and honestly. But the greatest cause for rejoicing is the glimpse John gave of the Savior coming to baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire: a baptism of holiness beyond their comprehension and beyond his own grace.

As we approach the Advent of our Lord into the very marrow of our humanity, washing away our sins and promising a baptism into his divinity, let us ask, “What must I do, to open my heart to this grace today?”

Today is known as Gaudete Sunday. The term Gaudete refers to the first word of the Entrance Antiphon, "Rejoice". Rose vestments are worn to emphasize our joy that Christmas is near, and we also light the rose candle on our Advent wreath.





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CHRISTMAS GIFT CARDS COLLECTION FOR THE LESS FORTUNATE

The Knights of Columbus will be collecting **grocery store gift cards** after each Mass until December 15th. For those who are not able to purchase gift cards your cash donation will be accepted. We kindly ask for \$25.00 denomination. As we prepare for the coming of our Saviour, let us keep in mind those who are less fortunate and need our assistance through the holidays. **Please place your cards or donation into the gift card basket at the back of the church that will be attended by a member of the Knights.** You can still donate gift cards even if you did not pick up a tag.

PROTEIN FOR THE POOR

During Advent, the Knights of Columbus will be accepting donations with their annual "PROTEIN FOR THE POOR." Donations will go to the Good Shepherd Centre which provides food, clothing and shelter for many of Toronto's homeless men. Please help alleviate their suffering.



C.W.L 2025 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, 2025

All contests' registration forms (except St. Michael's College Scholarship) **must** be received by **Friday, Jan. 17, 2025**. Good Shepherd Parish **Mary Matthews Public Speaking** will be held on **Sunday, Jan. 26, 2025 at 1:30 pm** in the Church Hall. For each contest package and any further questions, please e-mail parish contact,

Catherine Ger at catherine.ger@outlook.com.

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

POINSETTIAS



Your orders will be available for pick up this weekend (14th/15th) after all Masses.

PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING

Pre-Authorized is a way to give to our parish even if you cannot make it to church regularly. Especially during the winter months, you are still able to keep up your contributions when you cannot attend in person. Information and Authorization forms are available in the foyer of the church.



OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Please remember to pick up your box of envelopes. If you have not been assigned envelopes and wish to do so, please complete a request form.



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

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