

May the
Spirit of God
Lead You Through
the New Year



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 – JAN. 05, 2025



Jan. 7th – Jan. 11th

Tues. 8:30 a.m. – Helen D'Souza Sp. Int.

Wed. 8:30 a.m. - †

Thurs. Noon - Fernan Gomez †

Fri. 8:30 a.m. - †

Sat. 4:30 p.m. – William Neeson †

READINGS FOR – Jan. 12th

1st Reading: Isaiah 42.1-4

2nd Reading: Acts 10.34-38

Gospel: Luke 3.15-16, 21-22



THE WORD THIS WEEK

"They knelt down and paid him homage."

The Magi are the central personages in today's feast of Epiphany. They were pagans who did not know the true God of the Jews. Yet that true God revealed to them that the King he had promised the Jews had come. The expected Prince was born. They came to Jerusalem, the capital of Judah, expecting, of course, to find the city and the whole country rejoicing. Instead, they found suspicion and hatred in the reigning king—a hatred which in a few days turned to murder. Among the religious leaders they found knowledge of their past history, but utter indifference as regards the present and the future. These leaders knew the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem; they must have realized that the Magi were very sure of the truth revealed to them—they would not have come such a long journey on a "fool's errand." In spite of that, the thought of going to Bethlehem with the Magi never entered their minds. These were the leaders who some years later refused to listen to Christ and in spite of his miracles, refused to admit his claim that he was not only the promised Messiah, but the true Son of God. These were the men who rejected him because he had mercy on sinners, and spoke of a future life. What they wanted from their Messiah was political power and earthly freedom and prosperity. Like Herod they ended with murder—the crucifixion of the "King of the Jews." The pagan king was not much worse than the indifferent Leaders of God's Chosen People.

We too know the true facts concerning Christ, his mission, and his present and future kingdom. Like the leaders of the Jews of his day, we also could become absorbed in the affairs of this life and the quest for wealth, pleasure and power. We could become so totally absorbed in such things as to have neither the interest nor the time to pay our respects to Christ or to welcome him into our homes and our hearts, as our true Lord. God forbid it should ever be thus with us. Rather let us resolve this morning to make the Magi our models, to follow them to Bethlehem and offer him all that we have and are. He will accept our offering and we will return by another way, wiser and better men.



As we look back on our Christmas celebrations, I would like to offer our appreciation to all those who made extra contributions to enhance our many liturgies. We thank Catherine Ger and the Decorating Committee and the Knights of Columbus who worked to beautify our church, the Liturgical Ministries – Lectors, Communion Ministers, Ushers, Altar Society, Altar Servers, Choir Director Eugenie all our Choir Members.

At this time, Deacon Michael Gennaro, Deacon James Shaughnessy and I would like to wish each and every one of you all the very best for a most Holy and Happy New Year. May it continue to call us into a deeper union with our God and one another within the family of Good Shepherd Parish.

Peace,

Father Anthony



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.



OFFERTORY ENVELOPES 2025

Please remember to pick up your box of envelopes. For the first month of using your new envelopes we ask that you **CLEARLY PRINT YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS ON THE NEW ENVELOPES**. This helps us to make sure that your information is correct in the system. If you continue to use old envelopes, we cannot guarantee the donation will be properly processed as envelope numbers have changed over the year. If you have not been assigned envelopes and wish to do so, please complete a request form.

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.



TORONTO SERRA CLUBS

"On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh." God asks us to give our lives. What treasures have been given to you to share with others in Christ's name? If God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.

Email: vocations@archtoronto.org

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.



GOOD SHEPHERD
MINISTRIES

CASSEROLE COLLECTION

Casserole trays and recipes will be handed out after Mass next weekend (Jan. 11th/12th). Frozen casseroles will be collected before each Mass on Jan. 18th & 19th. 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

The Knights are collecting "refundable" beer, wine and liquor bottles next weekend (Jan. 11/12) which will be redeemed for wheelchairs for the needy. We thank you for your support of this project.




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



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