



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 BAPTISM OF THE LORD – JAN. 12, 2025



Jan. 14th – Jan. 18th

Tues. 8:30 a.m. – Gary Szeto †
Wed. 8:30 a.m. - Dino Menezes Sp. Int.
Thurs. Noon - Anthony & Cecilia Toscano †
Fri. 8:30 a.m. - Daphne Chung †
Sat. 4:30 p.m. – Joanne Lasita †

READINGS FOR – Jan. 19th

1st Reading: Isaiah 62.1-5
2nd Reading: 1 Corin. 12.4-11
Gospel: John 2.1-12



Jubilee Year 2025 Pilgrims of Hope

The Catholic Church worldwide will be celebrating a special Jubilee Year in 2025. This has been a tradition dating back to the year 1300 when Pope Boniface VIII announced the first Jubilee, which is also referred to as a "Holy Year". The frequency has changed over time, with a Jubilee year originally celebrated every 100 years, later every 50 years and, more recently, every 25 years or at the request of the Holy Father.

The Jubilee Year includes many celebrations within the city of Rome and also local initiatives in dioceses around the world. The theme of the 2025 Jubilee will be "Pilgrims of Hope". In the words of Pope Francis: *"We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us, and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision."*

May this Holy Year provide a grace-filled opportunity to nurture the seeds of faith for you and your loved ones, immersing ourselves as Pilgrims of Hope into a year-long journey of prayer, witness and service drawing on the example of Jesus, our Lord.

THE WORD THIS WEEK

"You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Today we celebrate the baptism of Christ in the Jordan. This is the second epiphany, or manifestation, of the Lord. The past, the present, and the future are made manifest in this epiphany.

The most holy one placed Himself among us, the unclean and sinners. The Son of God freely humbled Himself at the hand of the Baptist. By His baptism in the Jordan, Christ manifests His humility and dedicates Himself to the redemption of man. He takes upon Himself the sins of the whole world and buries them in the waters of the Jordan.

It may seem strange, but this is a Christmas Feast. Not if we think of Christmas only in terms of the Baby in Bethlehem, but if we have followed the ideas of the Feasts of Holy Family and especially Epiphany, and have seen the Season in terms of the growing manifestation or appearing of the Son of God: first to the shepherds and then to the wise men from the East. Now in the River Jordan, Jesus, Son of Mary, is revealed to all as the fullness of all God's promises: "This is my Son, the Beloved".

On this day we stand before the revelation of God's love for us, such that he would send his only Son into the world. Christmas without the Baptism of the Lord, and the words that are spoken from heaven, would be incomplete, since it is only in them that we fully see the wonder of what happened in Bethlehem. As we come to the end of Christmas today, and look forward to hearing the Gospels in Ordinary Time, we do so having been shown who it is we listen to: the only Son of God, the Beloved.

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.



OFFERTORY ENVELOPES 2025

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 pre-authorized giving for your donations to the parish.

You may also include your contribution to ShareLife, which spreads your donation monthly over the year. Donations may be either withdrawn from your bank account or charged to your credit card monthly. If you are currently enrolled in the program, please consider an increase for 2025. Information and authorization forms are available in the foyer and behind the last pews. You may also complete your enrolment through the Archdiocese of Toronto's website.

2025 MASS INTENTIONS

Please visit or call the office to book mass intentions for 2025. 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 Mass. The donation for an unannounced Mass is \$10. This is a private Mass said offsite. Tax receipts are not issued for Mass offerings.

JANUARY 18 & 19

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.



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.

THE GENEROSITY OF GOOD SHEPHERD PARISHIONERS

The Knights of Columbus annual Advent "Protein for the Poor" collected a total of \$1,716.15. The Brothers at the Good Shepherd Centre will certainly put this money to good use. The total number of casseroles donated in 2024 was 299. This provided many meals for the less fortunate in our city. Our annual Christmas Gifting Tree raised \$2,800.00 in gift cards and cash allowing us to help so many in our community as well as through Rosalie Hall and Jean Vanier Secondary School. In addition to the non-perishables, your donations to clothing drives, disaster relief, diocesan and second collections never fall short. **God bless you all!**



Celebration of Marriage Mass with Bishop Ivan Camilleri

Sunday, February 9, 2025
2:30 PM

St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica (65 Bond Street)

A special Mass to honour couples celebrating 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60+ anniversaries in 2025. You may register for reserved seating. Reserved seating is limited, so please register early. All other seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. Those who are unable to attend at the Cathedral are invited to join the celebration via livestream Mass www.stmichaelscathedral.com/live/ Registration and other important information can be found at www.archtoronto.org/marriage.

CONTACT: formation@archtoronto.org 416-934-3400 ext. 523



WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2025

Sunday, January 19, 2025
04:00 PM - 5:00 PM

North City Church, 377 Woodbridge Ave.,
Woodbridge

Theme: "Do you believe this?" (John 11:26)

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity this year holds special significance, as Ecclesial Communities across the Greater Toronto Area jointly commemorate the 1,700th anniversary of the First Ecumenical Council of Nicaea. We invite you to join Bishop John A. Boissonneau and Christian leaders from various traditions, as we pray together for the restoration of the full visible unity that Jesus Christ willed for His Church.

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